

WOOLGROWERS' TREATY  
Would Bring Serious Reduction  
of Duty on Wool.

NO DIRECT MOVE COUNTERANCED

Woolgrowers Make Protest Against  
Such Action—Not to Be Endured  
From McKinley Administration.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The woolgrowers of the West are just waking up to the fact that the so-called reciprocity treaty with the Argentine Republic, if ratified, would work a great hardship to their industry, and are taking steps to thwart the purpose of the treaty. Many of the woolgrowers have addressed petitions to senators and representatives in this matter, but in most cases the parties addressed are keenly alive to the true situation, and ready to use their best efforts to defeat the treaty.

Representatives of the following wool-growing districts in California, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Alaska, have been organized into a national association, and are making every effort to prevent the ratification of the treaty.

The American wool industry is menaced with very serious injury by the proposed reciprocity treaty with the Argentine Republic, as it proposes to reduce the Dingley tariff wool duties 20 per cent, and other wool duties 10 per cent, which was the same as the McKinley rate, from 11 cents per pound to 8.8 cents per pound, and this reduction is to be made before the Dingley tariff act has had a chance to fairly act.

Up to this time only 75 per cent of the price-lifting effect of the Dingley tariff act has been felt. American wool must still be 25 per cent higher than today's quotation to equal the cost of foreign wool imported under the present tariff act. The reason why the present tariff act is not yet in full force is that the wool is not yet all consumed, and yet the wool industry is assailed by a proposition emanating from the McKinley administration to reduce wool duties 20 per cent.

A measure thus leaning one-fifth of the way towards free wool, emanating from this administration, and inflicting serious injury to the woolgrowing industry, would not possibly become a law through the vote of the representatives of the people in congress, if both branches were given an opportunity to legislate upon the interests of their constituents.

If this reduction of duties is legally sneaked through under more or less obscure treaty provisions, its effect will be injurious and will be offensive to the very best friends of the McKinley administration.

In view of the fact that this reduction in wool duties could not possibly be accomplished through a vote of both branches of the present congress, while the same result is arrived at by means of a treaty, it would be regarded by the woolgrowers as a most serious and would be justly so regarded, as an insidious method of injuring them, and its accomplishment in this manner gives them no chance to defend themselves against such an injurious measure.

How is this to be defended by the present administration of its friends? President McKinley stands above all others as the champion of protection, and particularly and especially of protection for the woolgrowing industry, which of all others has sustained most cruel and crushing injuries at the hands of Grover Cleveland's administration.

The recent action against President McKinley, if this wool-reduction treaty is successfully enacted, would be greater than that against Cleveland among agricultural classes, for Cleveland believed that he was elected to put wool on the free list, while McKinley, so far as the woolgrowers are concerned, was elected to restore the McKinley rates upon wool; yet if his treaty goes through the McKinley administration reduces the wool duties before the present tariff has had a chance of a fair trial.

Imagine the revulsion of feeling toward the administration and toward President McKinley himself, who is the embodiment of the principle of protection, and if this pernicious act is accomplished through his sanction and approval.

A very moderate change in the popular vote in the United States would carry Maryland, West Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky, and Oregon would have carried the electoral vote for Mr. Bryan. Our party could never have succeeded in 1896 but for the change, by the cutting loose from their old allegiance of many democratic woolgrowers in these states, who voted to McKinley's support. If those who had cast their vote for McKinley had voted for Bryan, the latter would now have been president of the United States.

The petitioner then goes on to point out that the ratification of this treaty would be a serious embarrassment to McKinley in his coming campaign, while with the treaty defeated, there is a chance of carrying Wyoming, South Dakota, Montana, and Idaho all great wool-producing states. Continuing, he says:

"One of the objectionable features of this treaty is that it bears cruelly upon one class of agriculturists, and would be indirectly injurious to all of them. It is an attack upon the American farmer. This reduction on wool would be indefensible, because the reduction falls upon the latter alone, and not upon the manufacturer of wool, as the Argentine is not a wool-manufacturing country."

"This reciprocity treaty would be especially offensive to the domestic wool grower, as it actually makes a present to the woolen manufacturer of an unneeded 20 per cent reduction in the duties upon his raw material, at the cost of the wool-grower, without any compensatory benefit to him of any kind whatever. It disarranges and throws entirely out of balance the principle upon which schedule K was built, namely, that the compensatory duty upon a pound of cloth should be four times the duty upon one pound of the unwashed wool. This treaty reduces the duty upon wool, and makes no corresponding reduction in the compensatory duty upon a pound of cloth, and the practical effect of it is that it actually increases the compensatory duty and increases the compensatory duty upon manufacturers of wool from four times the duty intended to impose to five times the duty upon a pound of unwashed wool, and the months of this administration justify that? Would not the woolgrower of the United States have just cause to feel outraged, and if he feels outraged, how can his support for the republican party be looked for? A woolgrower would really have the right to feel that he was injured in the house of his friend, that the compensatory duties that are dependent upon wool are against free-wool enemies actually assist those enemies through the lines and into the woolgrowers' camp."

"This is the situation, and the view of it that will be taken by the woolgrowers of the United States. Can the McKinley administration, at one moment permit such a situation?"

"The friends of the reciprocity measure claim that they have knowledge of the president's personal approval of the treaty—openly declared, and that they intend to bring it to the senate with the request for a body vote for its confirmation. This the

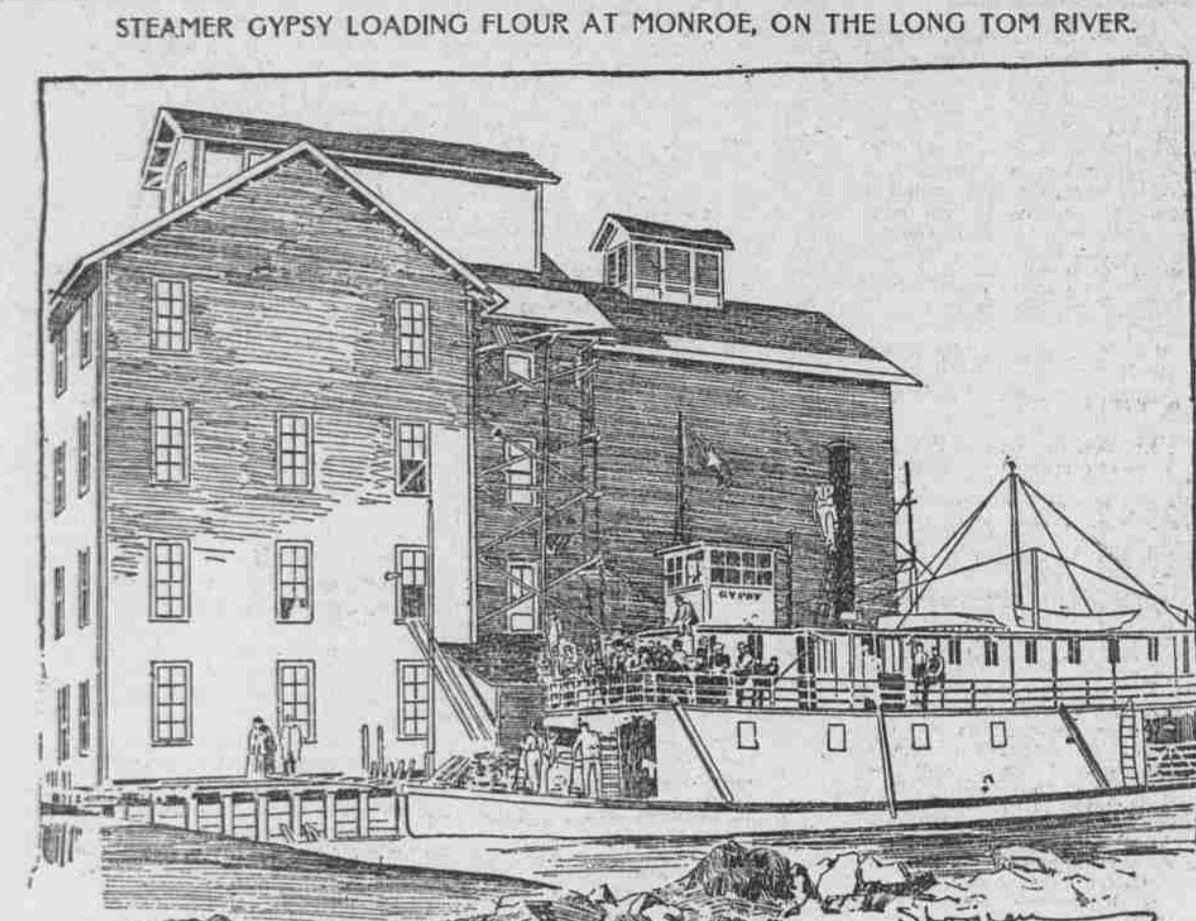
FORTUNES MADE IN HEMP

PHILIPPINE WAR ENRICHES MEN IN  
CORDAGE BUSINESS.

Peoria Man Said to Have Made \$1-  
000,000 by the Rise in Price of  
the Manila Product.

It is said by those who are in a position to know, says the Peoria correspondent of the Chicago Record, that Martin Kingman, of this city, head of the company which has agricultural implement houses in Omaha, Kansas City and other points in the West, and who is connected in a similar way with the company owning and operating the Peoria cordage works in that city, has made over \$1,000,000 out of deals in Manila hemp within the last year. While Mr. Kingman is not talking about his private affairs and while

THE OPENING UP OF THE LONG TOM  
STEAMER GYPSY LOADING FLOUR AT MONROE, ON THE LONG TOM RIVER.



The opening up of the Long Tom and the subsequent trips of river steamers to Monroe proves very conclusively that many of our smaller streams can be used for the purpose of transporting farm and garden produce to outside markets. Government work on the Long Tom was commenced last September, continued for three months, and embraced a distance of nine miles, yet the total amount expended was not \$3000. However, where before a wharfed could be reached only by a small boat, carrying 15 tons of freight, makes the trip in comparatively low water. This speaks a great deal for the efforts of Mr. Dunn, who had the work in charge.

Another like appropriation by congress would put this stream in fine shape, and it would thus become of great benefit to the hundreds of farmers living in this vicinity.

wools that contained the skirts. This industry cannot bear the slightest reduction in the duty upon skirted wools, it would be more equitable to increase it, were it practicable, which experience has shown it is not.

"Many former democrats voted with the republicans at the election because of their disgust with Cleveland's free-wool experiment. A great many more, and many of whom had once been republicans, voted for Bryan because they believed the inflation of the dollar would come through the free coinage of silver would raise prices for wool more rapidly and more permanently than any tariff could do."

Senator Teller, and those who followed his teachings, used this argument with good effect in the former republican wool-growing states of Colorado, Montana, Idaho and Nevada, with the result that the electoral vote of these states was given to Bryan. The substantial benefits already apparent to the wool industry through the Dingley tariff act, although the latter has exerted only 75 per cent of its price-lifting effect, have opened the eyes of many of these people, and if the present Dingley tariff act is permitted to continue until it has a moderately good trial, it will be a moderate benefit to the McKinley administration, the probabilities are that a very large number of these woolgrowers who voted for silver inflation in 1896, if given an opportunity to do so, would vote for McKinley, and if this treaty is not permitted to go through, if this administration is known as his champion, the republican party will lose a very important and a very necessary vote in the latter day of the McKinley administration, and if this pernicious act is accomplished through his sanction and approval.

"A very moderate change in the popular vote in the United States would carry Maryland, West Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky, and Oregon would have carried the electoral vote for Mr. Bryan. Our party could never have succeeded in 1896 but for the change, by the cutting loose from their old allegiance of many democratic woolgrowers in these states, who voted to McKinley's support. If those who had cast their vote for McKinley had voted for Bryan, the latter would now have been president of the United States."

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