

THAT SHOPPING BILL

Amended Measure Favorably Reported by Grosvenor.

REPUBLICAN COMMITTEEN JOIN

He Recites the Advisability of Having Our Trade in Our Own Hands in All Respects.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Representative Grosvenor, of Ohio, chairman of the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries, reported to the House yesterday the amended shipping bill...

"Our abundant natural resources and our industries and increasing population make it of great value to increase the means of profitably disposing of our surplus productions, and as our export trade is increasing, so will be home consumption and employment."

"Our exporting competitors have for a long time been devoting themselves to increasing their export trade and getting possession of the markets. Africa is an example of the methods pursued in partitioning territory or recognizing spheres of influence."

"China may be left open to fair and equal competition with respect of trade with the United States, in which case the committee believe one of the largest, if not the largest field for the trade and commerce of other nations will be open to those possessing the facilities of taking advantage of the opportunities."

"The nation first in the field, with its own productions and its own means of transportation, will achieve the largest success for which it must first remove the barriers which now almost entirely exclude foreign intercourse. Other parts of the world in which our commerce holds so small a share would repay particular study."

"The need of establishments for the construction, docking and repairing of ships, and adequate navy and agricultural marine arsenals, all in readiness for any exigency," is asserted by the report to be a self-evident proposition.

"On these grounds other nations have fortified themselves by increasing their facilities in all of the ways referred to, with the double object of strengthening their facilities and power for carrying on their foreign commerce."

"After giving the statistics on the extent of tonnage the world over, the cost of subsequent building, wages, etc., Grosvenor's report sums up the cardinal purposes of the bill as follows:

"1.—To aid in a practical way, and, no doubt, under existing conditions, the only possible way, in bringing to the greatest extent possible the resources of our own country annually what now goes to increase the wealth of other nations, more than \$100,000,000."

"2.—To greatly increase the exportation and sale of all kinds of our superabundant productions, and especially in the vast regions of Asia, evidently very soon to be opened to the world, in which it is a trade that the nation best prepared to engage in will necessarily get the greater proportion of its own ships under its flag and the greater facilities for its own commercial establishments for the disposal of its productions."

"3.—To bring into existence at the earliest possible time a great American fleet of American vessels, built in our own country, with our own material and by our own labor as a necessary means of National aid and National safety in times of international emergency, and to reduce the probability of which is unhappily not small, even now."

"4.—To increase the number of citizens who will be engaged in the work and who will thus have the skill and be better able to defend the honor and integrity of our country on the seas, however suddenly the need may happen."

"5.—The bill, we think, will, if the proposed compensation is large enough, accomplish these great and important purposes."

General Grosvenor's report concludes: "It will, of course, take a considerable time to reach the desired end, but the sooner the policy is entered upon the sooner the desired end will be reached."

"The means proposed are open to the capital, the enterprise and the skill of our citizens alike, and on equal terms. There is no ground for the charge of monopoly. There is absolute safety to the Treasury in the fact that no payment can be made until in each and for each voyage the work is actually performed. As we have before stated, it is certain that the vessel, large or small, fast or slow, in the list can afford to make a single voyage without also having a large commercial business income from the same voyage, and that the commercial business she is fulfilling the great purpose of the bill."

In view of the foregoing considerations, we earnestly recommend the speedy passage of the bill.

The bill and amendments have been made public heretofore. The anti-trust amendment has been changed, so that in case of a combination of parties operating for years in Southern New Mexico, and one of his followers have been captured by the Sheriff of this county. Ruiz has made a confession, implicating a number of settlers along the Rio Grande."

THE KENTUCKY TRIALS.

Term of Court Will Begin Today—Move for Change of Venue.

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 1.—The convening of the April term of the Franklin County Court tomorrow, with Judge Cantrell sitting, marks the beginning of the final legal proceedings against the alleged assassin of the late Governor Goebel, and on this account makes it the most important day in the history of the trials in this state in many years.

The grand jury will probably get its working order Tuesday, and of course, the examination cases will be the first matter taken up. It is understood that Colonel Monmouth's Attorney Franklin, who will conduct the prosecution on the part of the state, has had subpoenas issued for numerous witnesses in rotation, and others will be issued as soon as the court gets down to work. If the prosecution makes good its claim, the investigation will involve a large number of others against whom indictments will be returned. The general impression prevails that none of the trials will come up at the present term, and it is expected that the defense probably in every case will move for a change of venue to some other county.

Ex-Secretary Finley Stays Away.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 1.—Charles Finley, ex-Secretary of State of Kentucky, was seen at the Plaza Hotel tonight and informed of the opening day of the court a warrant for his arrest for alleged connection with the conspiracy to kill Goebel, and was asked what action he intended to take. He said:

"I came away from Kentucky before I had any intimation that such a thing had or would be done. After I learned of it, the return was made, and I was treated of Powers and Davis after their arrest and their abduction from the Lexington jail, and decided I had no desire for such a frank to be played upon me just at present. Besides, I believe I can attend to some private affairs that interest me just now more expeditiously and satisfactorily from the pleasant City of Indianapolis than from a cell of the Franklin County Jail."

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During the five fiscal years, 1894-1898, the agricultural imports of the United States had an average annual value of \$387,746,457. Sugar, coffee, hides and skins, wool, silk, vegetable fibers, fruits and tea were the articles imported most extensively. Measured in value, these articles formed over four-fifths of the total imports. The agricultural products for the period mentioned, their combined value averaged about \$300,000,000 a year.

Of this sum more than one-half was paid for two commodities—sugar and coffee. The average yearly value of the sugar imports for 1894-1898 amounted to \$94,418,685, and coffee, \$83,570,190. Brazil, which furnishes about two-thirds of the sugar imports, ranked first among the sources of agricultural products for the period mentioned, its value for 1894-1897, of our agricultural imports from the island amounted to \$77,465,322, or 82 per cent of the total. After sugar, the most important items were tobacco and fruits. Under normal conditions our imports of agricultural produce from Cuba are much larger than is indicated by the figures for the period mentioned, there was a remarkable falling-off, the import value for 1898 amounting to only \$12,153,350, as compared with \$72,521,267 in 1897. After sugar stood foremost among the sources of our agricultural products, the products received from the island during that year exceeded in value those from Brazil.

The agricultural imports from the United Kingdom averaged annually \$21,864,955, a large part being produce of British dependencies, re-exported by the mother country. Wool and hides were the leading articles from Germany, the average annual imports were \$22,904,787, beef sugar forming the principal item; from China, \$17,728,849, tea and silk being the principal items.

Of all the tea imported more than half came from China. From Japan, the imports were \$16,822,735, silk being the most important item. Japan also furnished over a third of the tea imported. From France, rice, coffee, bananas and hides, \$16,606,847. Among the imports from other countries were: Italy, \$14,677,238; Mexico, \$13,094,462; Hawaiian Islands, \$12,072,440, sugar forming the principal part, and after that, coffee, hides and wool. The agricultural imports from the Philippine Islands consist chiefly of Manila hemp and sugar, averaging \$4,625,095.

Although the total value of the agricultural imports amounted to only \$314,521,796 in 1898, as compared with \$364,433,521 in 1894, a considerable increase was recorded from several of the leading sources of supply. Japan, China, and the Hawaiian Islands were the most striking instances of a growing trade. The value of the agricultural products imported from Japan rose from \$14,955,837 in 1894, to \$23,528,849 in 1898. From China, the imports rose from \$13,346,741 to \$17,728,849. Of the sources from which products of agriculture were received in diminished quantities during the five years mentioned, the most conspicuous was Australia. As a result of the disturbed conditions that prevailed on the island, our agricultural imports from Cuba declined in value from \$72,521,267 in 1897, to \$12,153,350 in 1898, a loss of nearly \$60,000,000.

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The new liquor license introduced in the town meeting a resolution to make the license fee \$100,000, and the measure was adopted. The town is a small one, but it can afford to go into the liquor business in Philadelphia, and most of the millionaires of that town of 2000 inhabitants are otherwise engaged.

Corn Growing in Egypt.

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PREPARING FOR VICTORIA

The British Channel Squadron Is at Queenstown.

Dublin Is Filling With Enthusiastic People—Counter Demonstration Has Been Planned.

DUBLIN, April 1.—The British Channel Squadron has arrived off Queenstown for the Queen's visit, which is awaited with intense and even glowing enthusiasm. Dublin is filling rapidly. Already the hotels are crowded and trainroads are arranged to accommodate a vast throng. Grandstands have been erected in the streets, which are profusely decorated, and it will be difficult to find space for hanging round the flag. The general holiday has been proclaimed, for Wednesday throughout the County of Dublin.

As a last attempt at a counter-attraction, the extremists have placarded the city with invitations for citizens to join a monster procession of Nationalist Societies, which, according to the programme, is to start from the Travellers committee rooms in the city for Majesty's arrival. It is probable that the demonstration will be forbidden.

Speculation Has Been Overdone.

Such is Conviction of Germans—Consolidation in American Property.

BERLIN, April 1.—The monthly settlement was characterized by unusual activity, and was due to the collection of leaders that speculation has been much overdone. The correspondent of the Associated Press finds this conviction general in high financial circles, where it is pointed out that coal shares have risen beyond all proportion to coal. Iron shares are also regarded as excessively high, considering the increase of the wages and the scarcity of material. Notwithstanding the rising of money rates all last week, industrial shares were very strong, and American railways in great demand. The German market is characterized by the continuance of American property. The rise of London exchange is explained by the heavy German purchases of Americans in London.

In the money market, prospects are not encouraging. The relaxation this month is not expected to be great. The pressure at the Reichsbank at the end of last week attracted attention in the money market. Numerous municipal, state and other loans are coming upon the market soon. Banking circles believe that the downward movement in Government funds has not ended.

The coal famine is not relieved, despite the phenomenal arrival from England. The iron consumers complain that they are unable to place orders for pig iron in the United States.

The Hamburg American Steamship Company reports an extraordinary business. Emigration from North German countries has been better than for many years previous, and the company has ordered two more steamers for its East African service. The German East Africa line has declared a dividend of 10 per cent. A steamship line will be established connecting the Carolines with the North German Lloyd service at Hong Kong.

THE NEWS OF JAPAN.

Sympathy With British in South Africa—Agassiz's Visit.

YOKOHAMA, March 31, via San Francisco, April 1.—The Emperor's message of congratulation to Queen Victoria, and the reply thereto have awakened lively satisfaction in all quarters of the empire, and have emphasized the sympathy already existing between the British in the South African struggle.

The death of Professor Toyama, an ex-Minister of Education, removes one of the best-known scholars of the realm. He will attract attention in the West, especially in the United States, where his abilities were known.

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