

CANNON IN FAVOR OF FREE LUMBER

Westerners Alarmed at Turn in Tariff Affairs and Will Make Hard Fight.

EAST ASKS DUTY REMOVED

Prairie States Join in Demand and Westerners Seek Support of the Southern Democrats to Combat Proposed Further Cut.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 18.—Western Congressmen who had entertained hopes of amending the tariff bill by restoring the duty on lumber to 22 are beginning to fear that they will be lucky if they hold the present provision of 21 per thousand.

Congressmen from the prairie states and others from the East are joining in the demand for free lumber, and today made a strong appeal to the Speaker, who is reported to be considering the advisability of calling a Republican caucus to determine whether the lumber duty shall remain at 21 or be removed altogether.

Westerners are much concerned over the apparent inclination of the Speaker to place lumber on the free list, and are further alarmed by the report that the advocates of free lumber will combine with the advocates of free hides. Such a combination, if broken, must be broken by the aid of the Southern Democrats, representing the lumber producing districts.

SAY RESTRICTIONS UNJUST

Filipinos Protest Against Limitations on Free Trade.

MANILA, March 18.—The proposals embodied in the Payne bill, for the revision of the tariff, have been unfavorably received here because of the limitations placed on sugar and tobacco. It is generally felt that, if there is to be an unrestricted admission of American products to the Philippines, it is only fair to admit freely Filipino products to America.

A prominent merchant here expressed the general attitude here when he said: "The proposed changes are unequal and unfair. It is a bad bargain for the Philippines. There is no danger of the islands producing enough sugar and tobacco to insure the American planters, for the natural increase in production there will easily and quickly absorb any increase. Accurate figures absolutely demonstrate this. The inevitable effect of the passage of this bill will be to discourage and retard development, already retarded many years by the failure of Congress to do justice to these islands. We appeal to the sense of justice of the American people to make a fair and equitable arrangement and to right the old injustice."

It is expected that the commercial bodies of the islands will meet and cable protests against the proposals in the Payne bill, which are considered objectionable here.

TEA IMPORTERS UP IN ARMS

Beverage a Necessity, Not Luxury, Says Lipton Agent.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Sir Thomas Lipton's representative in New York, W. A. W. Melville, has today considerably excoriated over the recommendations in the tariff bill as submitted to Congress yesterday, placing a tax of 8 cents a pound on tea imports from producing countries and 9 cents on imports from non-producing countries. Tea has become a necessity, Mr. Melville said, and has ceased to be a luxury. If the tariff should be imposed as proposed, he thinks that the cost to consumer will advance at least 10 cents a pound. As a result he predicts a cheaper tea and less of it will be used.

Tea importers generally declare that the new schedule will not stand. The National Coffee & Tea Association will take immediate steps to fight the proposal, and their main argument will be that the burden will fall on the consumer rather than on the producer. The market on all grades of teas advanced from 2 to 3 cents a pound yesterday.

SCHWAB IS AGAINST TARIFF

Declares New Schedules Too Drastic for All Interests.

DETROIT, Mich., March 17.—"The Payne tariff bill is too drastic. The iron and steel schedules should not have been altered," declared Charles M. Schwab in an interview here today. Mr. Schwab arrived here in his private car to address the Detroit Board of Commerce today at their monthly luncheon.

"Labor will itself adjust to the changed schedules," he continued. "The only cost that enters into manufacture is the cost of labor. Remove the protection from the tariff, and you reduce the status of the laborer. In European steel mills women wheel the coke. We can compete with the world on this basis, too. It is a question of labor in the end. No, I don't mean that the tariff should be raised. It should be left as it is."

"Then you don't agree with your friend, Mr. Carnegie?" he asked.

"Mr. Carnegie was like a father to me. I will not take issue with him on any question," replied Mr. Schwab.

VARIED VIEWS OF NEW TARIFF

Steel Men Much Alarmed.—Shoe Men Most Enthusiastic.

CHICAGO, March 18.—The new tariff bill is welcomed as a blessing, and is also regarded as a menace in various industrial circles of Chicago. Eugene J. Buffington, president of the Illinois Steel Company, sees a blight for the steel industry if the measure is enacted with contemplated provisions. J. Harry Selz says the shoe industry will flourish like a bay tree if hides are put on the free list. The proposed reduction of tariff duties on lumber will not have any material effect on prices, according to local dealers. Wool dealers were not sanguine as to consumers getting any benefits from the scheduled changes in wool duties, and wholesalers were equally doubtful as to whether the measure as now formulated would increase the revenue.

Oil Duty Displaces California.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 18.—In the interests of the oil producers of this section, the Chamber of Commerce yesterday authorized the following telegram sent to Senator Flint: "We earnestly urge that the present duty

BATTLE ON RULES REVIVED IN HOUSE

MACVEAGH APPROVES BILL

Says It Fulfills Expectation of Genuine Revision.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh expressed satisfaction today with the general features of the new tariff bill. He said: "Reserving the expression of an opinion as to the particular rates adopted by the ways and means committee, it is a pleasure to note the manner in which the committee has responded to the general expectations of the people as to genuine revision of the tariff and the way in which it has undertaken to fulfill the pledges of the Republican party."

As to the amount of revenue that the operation of the bill would produce, I accept the conclusions of the committee itself. It must always, however, remain a matter of uncertainty as to what the revenue will be. The Treasury Department has no reason to question the expectations of the committee, it is wise for the committee to provide for the \$40,000,000 Panama bonds and the increase of the three per cent certificates to \$250,000,000 and guard against possible disappointment in the expected revenue."

FIGHT IS FREE FOR ALL

(Continued From First Page.)

for two cents a pound if admitted free from the islands. This, they say, would ruin the rice industry in this country.

Try to Keep Up Lumber Duties.

A number of Democrats will join with some Republicans in an effort to keep the duty assessed by the Dingley bill upon lumber. The fight for free lumber will be handled by Clark, it is understood. He has frequently expressed himself in bitter terms regarding the lumber situation in this country. During the tariff hearings he arraigned the lumber magnates and delved deep into the intricacies of stumpage and railroad land grants.

It is thought there will be no serious opposition to the tariff on sea.

Outlook for Reciprocity.

Great Britain and France probably will be the first countries to receive the benefit of the minimum rates named in the Payne bill. According to the committee's report made today, Great Britain has been unable to receive the benefits of reciprocal trade agreement provided for by the Dingley bill, although she has treated this country fairly in her customs acts. As the French trade agreement with the United States contains no provision for its continuance for any time after it has been abrogated by either Nation, France may receive the benefit of the minimum rates of the Payne bill as soon as it is enacted, the matter being entirely in the hands of the French Government. France is now revising her own tariff on a maximum and minimum basis.

Deficit of \$10,000,000 in 1910.

The ways and means committee estimates that the entire revenues to the Government for the fiscal year 1910, will be \$862,065,885. As the amount for which revenue will be required for 1910 is estimated at \$872,227,761, it is claimed the deficit for 1910 will be about \$10,000,000.

LEAD IN ORE NOT REDUCED

Change at Last Moment in Favor of Lead Miners.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Payne tariff bill continues the present duty of 1 1/2 cents per pound on the lead in all lead-bearing ores. It had been reduced by the committee to 1 cent a pound, but at the last minute before the introduction of the bill the old rate was restored. This was done after Mr. Payne's statement had been prepared and this fact accounts for a misstatement regarding the duty as it stands in the new bill. Lead dross, lead bullion or base bullion, lead in pigs, in bars, refuse lead run into pigs and bars and old scrap lead are assessed the same duty. The latter is a reduction of 5/8 cent a pound. The duty on lead in sheets, pipe and lead wire is reduced 1/2 cent per pound.

SENATE COMMITTEE AT WORK

Will Begin Consideration of Tariff Bill Today.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Senate committee on finance will hold sessions daily beginning tomorrow. A variety of expert work, which will be necessary for a consideration of the tariff schedules, will be begun at once. The effect of some of the countervailing provisions of the House tariff bill upon the export trade of this country will be considered. There are now four Republican vacancies on the committee, Aldrich, Burrows, Penrose and Hale being holdovers who will attend the meetings until the Senate adopts the report of the committee on the countervailing provisions of the House tariff bill. The vacancies will be filled by the appointment of Lodge, Flint, Smoot and Cullom and all the Republican members will probably meet next Monday.

ATLANTIC LUMBERMEN KICK

North Carolina Pine Association Sees Peril in New Tariff.

NORFOLK, Va., March 18.—M. C. Foeberg, president of the North Carolina Pine Association, controlling a majority of the mills in Eastern Virginia, Maryland, North and South Carolina, declared here today that the 50 per cent reduction on lumber proposed by the new tariff bill will be ruinous to the lumber industry and mills generally in the entire Atlantic Coast region.

NO NEW CALHOUN JURYMEN

Twelve Talesmen Examined, but All Fail to Pass Tests.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—Vital issues in the trial of Patrick Calhoun were lost to view for a considerable portion of today's session, and the discussions and strife of society's devotees were substituted as a topic of discussion. Herbert S. Bonfield, a real estate dealer, was passed by the defense after an unusually brief examination, and was immediately subjected to a severe cross-examination by Assistant District Attorney Henry. It developed that the talesman was well acquainted with two of the defendants, and while he had but a vague recollection of the matters to which the former Supervisors had testified before the grand jury, he had some very positive opinions relating to the last strike of the streetcar employees. Without an addition to the partially completed panel of jurors, 12 talesmen were examined and excused during the day. Tomorrow (Saturday) will positively be the last day for discussion on East Side gas bills. Read "Gas Tips."

BATTLE ON RULES REVIVED IN HOUSE

De Armond Stirs Up Payne to Accuse Democrats of Ignoring Duty.

YIELD TO ONE-MAN POWER

Census Bill Passed After Skirmish. Point Is Conceded Which Caused Roosevelt to Veto Measure Last Session.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The census bill in its amended form was passed by the House today after a lively attack on the rules by De Armond, of Missouri. The bill was passed at the last session, but was vetoed by President Roosevelt, because of his objections to the provision taking from the Civil Service Commission the power of appointing the clerks. De Armond objected to a consideration of the bill unless in committee of the whole.

Cannon Foils De Armond.

At a hint by the Speaker, Payne moved a recess for 30 minutes. This motion prevailed. Upon the House reconvening, a rule was reported making it in order to consider the bill in the House itself. This afforded De Armond an opportunity to attack the rule and to advocate selection of a committee on rules by the members and not by the Speaker as at present.

In criticizing the method of concentrating power in the Speaker, De Armond declared the appointment of Democrats on the committee on rules was not satisfactory to the Democratic side. De Armond said that he was satisfied that Broussard had been selected for the committee without any intention of representing the sentiment of the Democratic side.

Payne Prods Opponents.

Payne, in replying, said De Armond had given an impression of unreasonableness by his objection. He charged the Missouri member with trying to "carry on the lost battle of Monday last." He said that the democratic decision in regard to accepting committee appointments.

Payne contended that there were some men on the Democratic side who had remained loyal and enough sense to see the possibility to their constituents, "yes, and regard for the oath they took well and faithfully to discharge their duty, to serve upon committees unless excused by the House."

He said he did not think some of the Democrats "so servile that they will yield to the imperious demands that come to them and even violate the oath of their office by refusing to serve on committees."

"You are trying to turn away from the folly of the committee of 15," he said, "and concentrate the whole of that side in the hands of one man, who was not selected by the House, but by a caucus. Talk about your one-man power! What explanation can you make of that course?"

Under Civil Service Law.

When the members finally got to considering the bill again, an amendment by the Illinois side was agreed to, providing that the appointments shall be made in conformity with the law of apportionment among the states under the civil service act.

In order to prevent the spread of tuberculosis among Government clerks, the House agreed to an amendment by Bennett of New York, requiring that each census applicant furnish with his application a certificate of good health.

As amended the bill was then passed. The measure gives to the Civil Service Commission jurisdiction over appointments and provides for the printing of the reports by the Government printer. As enacted at the last session, the bill stripped the Civil Service Commission of such authority and there was a provision allowing some of the printing to be done by private firms. President Roosevelt vetoed the bill.

WESTERN SENATORS TO FRONT

Leaders Yield to Younger and Insurgent Element.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The work by the committee on committees of filling Republican vacancies on Senate committees was today, resulting in giving to Western Senators, very greater representation on important committees.

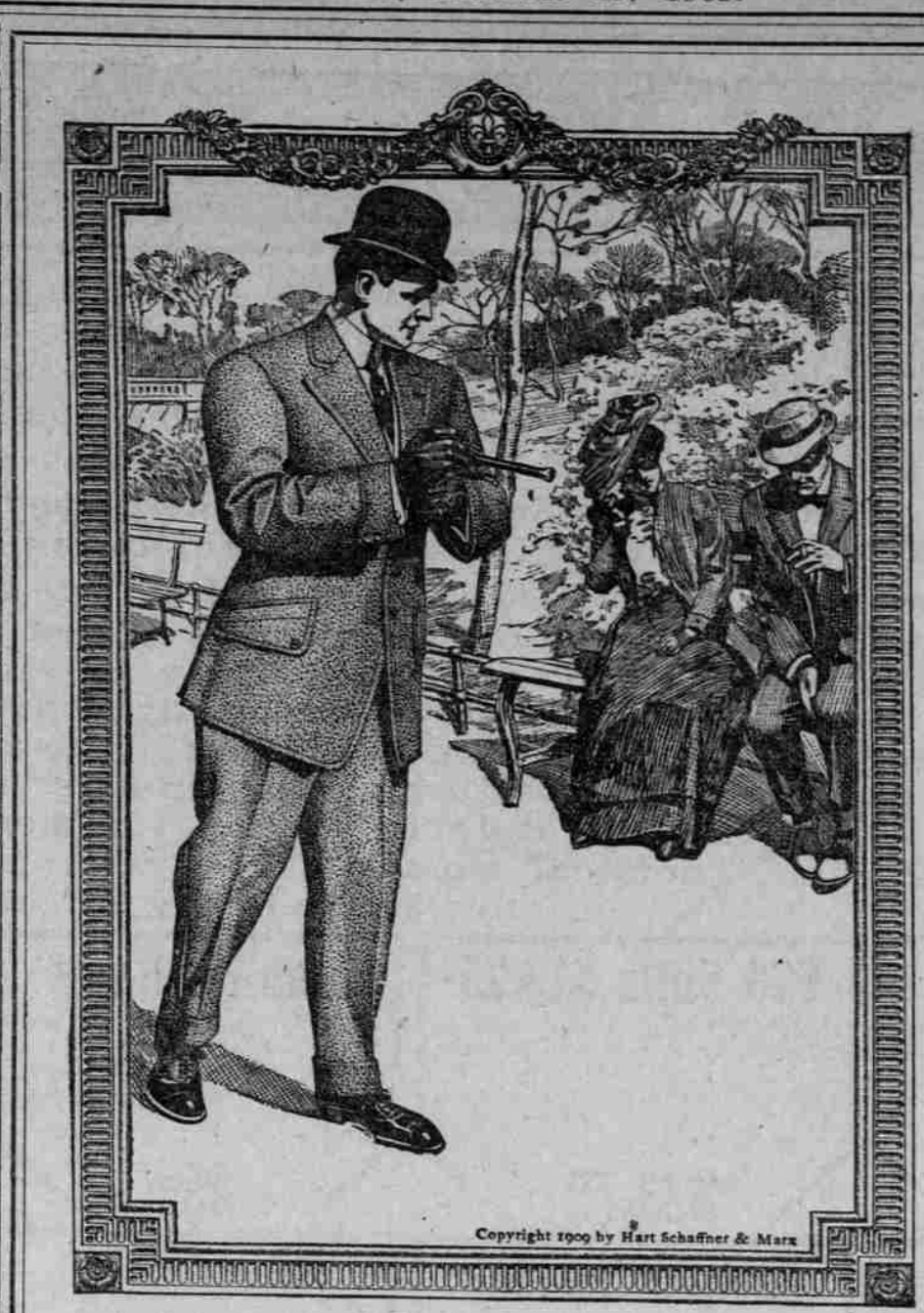
This is regarded as the direct result of the campaign that has been carried for a long time by the "insurgents." It is asserted that never before in the history of the Senate have the Western States been so fully represented on the important committees. There had been suggestions of a refusal on the part of some Western Senators to go into Republican caucuses Monday to confirm the assignments unless the distribution was satisfactory.

The Democratic steering committee is still at work, endeavoring to make the position of Democratic vacancies. The Republican committee on committees will accept without question these Democratic recommendations.

The work of distributing the Republican assignments has been a complete concession to the younger and western members. Most of the vacancies have gone to the Far West. One new committee, that on conservation of natural resources, has been created.

The committee on finance, as reorganized, contains one more Senator from the Far West. Of the eight Republican members four are now from the West and two from west of the Missouri River. Vacancies were caused by the death of Allison and by the retirement of Platt, Hambridge and Hopkins. These vacancies have been filled by the appointment of Lodge of Massachusetts, Flint of California, Smoot of Utah and Cullom of Illinois. The holdover Republicans are Aldridge of Rhode Island, Burrows of Pennsylvania and Hale of Maine.

Cullom gives up his membership on the committee on appropriations to take the place formerly held by his colleague, Hopkins, who has not yet been re-elected by the Illinois Legislature. The Democrats will designate Simmons of North Carolina to take the place formerly held by Teller, the other Democratic members of the finance committee being Danley of Virginia, Money of Mississippi, Bailey of Texas and Tallaferra of Florida. The three vacancies on the committee on appropriations will be filled by the appointment of Senators Curtis of Kansas, Burket of Nebraska and Keefe of New Jersey. The one Republican vacancy on the committee on foreign relations has been given to Root, ex-Secretary of State, who takes the place of Foraker. Sutherland and Borah will go on judiciary and Dixon of Montana and



Brown of Nebraska will go on military affairs. Crane will become chairman of the committee on rules, and Perkins will become chairman of the committees on naval affairs. Flint of California will become chairman of the committee on interoceanic canals and La Follette will go to the head of the census committee. These are both rapid promotions to the heads of important committees. Flint being sixth member of interoceanic canals, while La Follette occupied the same relative position on the census committee. Burnham of New Hampshire will become chairman of the committee on claims, while Borah will go to the head of the committee on education and labor. Carter of Montana becomes chairman of the committee on irrigation and arid lands, while Smoot of Utah becomes head of the printing committee. Daniel succeeds Teller as chairman of the committee on private land claims. BENNETT FOR CHEAP POSTAGE New York Congressman Would Have One-Cent Rate. WASHINGTON, March 18.—One cent postage is provided in a bill which Representative Bennett of New York has introduced. The measure provides that, beginning January 1, 1910, the rate of postage on all letters mailed within the United States for domestic points, including drop-letters, shall be 1 cent per ounce or fraction. Another bill introduced by Bennett provides for the consolidation of third and fourth class mail matter under the title "merchandise," for the establishment of a parcels post, and for the insurance of all mail matter against loss or damage. Under the terms of this bill the rate on an 11-ounce package of merchandise would be 25 cents, with a series of charges for packages under that weight. On all unregistered prepaid matter on which value has not been declared, an indemnity up to \$50 would be allowed for actual loss or damage through the fault of the postal service. On registered packages on which a value had been declared and on which the charges for registration, insurance and postage have been paid, the Postoffice Department would pay full value for loss or damage resulting through the fault of the department. The fees for registration and insurance up to \$25 would be 2 cents. MacVeagh Picks Assistant. WASHINGTON, March 18.—Charles D. Norton, general agent of the Northern Mutual Life Insurance Company, to be First Assistant Secretary of Treasury. Mr. Norton, it is understood, is the personal selection of President MacVeagh, the new Secretary of Treasury, and will be MacVeagh's right hand man. CONFERENCE ON IMMIGRATION Italy Proposes All Nations Consider Important Question. WASHINGTON, March 18.—Through Ambassador Desplanches, submitted to the State Department proposition having in view the calling an international conference on immigration.

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