

The Oregonian

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Portland, Sunday, May 31, 1914.

TARIFF AND FOREIGN TRADE.

The Foreign Trade Convention recently held in Washington attracts attention once more to the new phase on which the tariff question has entered. It is no longer purely a question of preserving our home markets for home producers; it has become a question of developing foreign markets for our surplus manufactures...

All this has now changed. Our grain exports are diminishing to the vanishing point and we have become importers of grain, meat, wool and other animal products. India and Egypt are making inroads on our practical control of the market for raw cotton, and China has become a dangerous rival in that field.

The time has come to decide on a tariff policy which shall expand our foreign trade in manufactures. In order both to capacity and to compensate for the shrinkage in our food exports. The choice is between the Republican policy of protecting home industry and of lowering the bars to imports only when other nations lower their bars.

We are now trying the Democratic policy, and its result is the reverse of that predicted by its advocates. They promised increased exports which would more than counterbalance the increase of imports...

The Republican party will probably have an opportunity to set forth its policy for gaining the same end, as to foreign trade, with better success when the next Congress meets...

It is not necessary to take up the work which has been done, for public opinion has made great progress since his death. The people would sanction revenue duties or no duties on food products the protection on which afforded by higher duties would be assented to...

The statement has frequently been published that the total of appropriations authorized by the 1913 Legislature was \$6,416,607. This total, however, includes numerous continuing appropriations made by special Legislative committees...

There are men in the Republican party capable of putting in definite shape and carrying out in detail the policy here outlined. Those men are to be found among the old guard, which is responsible for the political disaster of 1910 and 1912.

Without going into an elaborate calculation, it appears that the Governor would have had about \$1,500,000 in appropriations to work on in saving a million with the item-veto. But included in that \$1,500,000 are the salaries of all the deputies, secretaries and clerks in numerous state offices...

Psychological. President Wilson generally informs the uninformed world that the stagnant times throughout the Nation are purely psychological, and that there is no substantial reason for them. Clearly the President doubts their reality. They are not a purely psychological figment of an alarmed imagination...

FOR PEACE AND FREE TOLLS. It will be observed with satisfaction by the people of Oregon that Senator Lane, after a long search for evidence and information, has finally become convinced that it is his patriotic duty to vote against the bill to repeal canal tolls exemption on American coastwise vessels.

It is proper to welcome Senator Lane to the ranks of the majority as the return of a lost sheep to the fold. His letters, while asserting an open mind, had left no doubt as to his earlier inclination. But this inclination was possibly due to his misunderstanding of the geographical location of recent history as exposed in one of his communications.

It is a rather ambitious programme that Senator Lane offers in conjunction with his definite conversion to free tolls. He is reported as willing to order to clear the way for a settlement of questions with a more important country, to "arbitrate our differences with Panama."

WHERE IS PROSPERITY? Within the dull pages of the current Congressional Record is the full text of a speech by Smoot-Senator Smoot of Utah, who is old-fashioned ideas about the tariff, the tariff and the full dinner pail, and the like, and still preaches them. A year or two ago they were not popular, but just now there is a reawakened belief that after all they mean something.

Minister Doesn't Need Auto. HOOD RIVER, May 30.—(To the Editor)—Friday's item in regard to the Epitaphian article in regard to the musical director contains the suggestion that the minister has not yet bought this wide-awake church will include this among its many interesting projects...

Changes in Congressmen. Washington (D. C.) Star.—"So you think a member of Congress ought to have more salary?" "Yes, sir," said the plain person. "Time was when all he had to do was to shake hands, send around garden seeds, and tell funny stories. Now he's got to sit down and study and try to understand things."

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