

THE JOURNAL

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The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well, and doing well whatever you do.—Longfellow.

TARIFF REVISION THROUGH A COMMISSION.

NOT MUCH faith or reliance is to be placed in the scheme of tariff revision by a commission, to be appointed next year, or some year thereafter.

In the first place, all a commission could do would be to investigate and report, making recommendations. It could of course enact no new tariff law, nor change a schedule.

All this would take a good deal of time. A commission selected next year would want a year, perhaps longer, for its work.

We admit that a complete and symmetrical revision of the tariff, especially if the "principle of protection" is to be retained, is not an easy job, to be done in a day or a week, but a good, fair beginning in the right direction could be made in a short time, if the leaders in congress really wanted to legislate in the interest of the many instead of the few.

We suppose some advocates of the investigating commission plan are sincere revisionists. Probably the president is so. But revision professions through the medium of a commission, on the part of many, are to be distrusted.

ORGANIZATION DIFFICULT. DELEGATES FROM precinct Republican clubs could not agree in a "mass meeting" as to the advisability of holding a county convention before the primaries.

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make a slate not the best men would be nominated—that, in brief, as this speaker said, the latter state of the party would be worse than the former state.

One difficulty with effecting and maintaining an organization, and yet adhering strictly to the primary law, is that the clubs are not truly or fully representative of the masses of the party or even its better elements, in a political sense.

The true object of the masses, and of the better element in a political sense, is to secure officeholders—and, first, of office-seekers, or men who will accept office—whose sole controlling aim and purpose are to serve the interests of the whole people with absolute integrity, fidelity and even with unselfishness.

But what are the states done that is unreasonable or unjust? Some of them have passed 2-cent fare laws, but it is at least doubtful if these have injured the railroads.

An important fact is that the railroad men cannot longer be trusted to run the railroad business, with the people, through congress, the legislatures and commissions, having nothing to say. In fact, the people, when sufficiently informed, must have all to say, for railroading, as we have often shown and maintained, is their business rather than that of a few private individuals or corporations.

It seems to The Journal that real precinct mass meetings—Independent of organized and officered clubs that intend to be parts of a machine—might be held for the purpose of casting about for suitable candidates who might be induced to run for office; these meetings could select committees who would confer together, and through a general or central committee, men in whom everybody would have confidence.

The question presents real difficulties to honest and patriotic men and reasonable partisans, and the primary system of nominations can easily be criticised; but we think it is important nevertheless for the people to insist on adherence to the primary law and resist all the efforts being made by politicians to destroy, nullify or evade it.

THE ALBANY DEMOCRAT remarks: "Never before has there been displayed such an independent spirit among voters. Men registering frequently state that they belong to such a party, but vote as they please. Old-timers declare that the old political bars have fallen, and that it is now more a question of character than ever before, and that men are playing a big part in the political battle. At the same time there are matters of principle, and men do well to consider what is closest to the masses."

There is a good deal of truth in these statements, and the truth is significant of a very desirable change, one that will ultimately work greatly for the country's welfare, and for far higher ideals in public service.

We do not say that the time is approaching when there will not be political parties; there will be parties always, and probably, as now, two principal parties, the others cutting but little figure in elections and public service; but the time is coming, and indeed now is, when men will not be so tied and habituated to party; when men will change parties easily, not out of mere pique or for any petty motive, but as they conscientiously believe in the public interest.

This is well, because when this becomes certainly and patently true, a party that wins, that becomes an instrument of legislation and administration for the people, will be more inclined truly and purely to serve the people rather than selfishly and corruptly to serve itself and its leaders and favored men. For unless it does so it will know that at the first opportunity the people have they will change this party for the other.

Party is little; the people's welfare is much, is indeed all. Neither party has so far been true to the people, as much as it should. The people are becoming more intelligent, more critical, hence more independent. They are demanding higher political standards, and better, purer, more unselfish service in return for honors bestowed.

NEVER SATISFIED. M. R. B. FOAKUM, president of the Rock Island railroad, said recently in a published article: "On the question of restrictive legislation, I believe I voice the

views of the railroad interests of this country when I say that it is the ill-considered and unfair legislation by states rather than enactment by national congress which makes reasonable and legitimate railroad operation a well-nigh impossible problem."

Mr. Yoakum has shown indications of being reasonable and broad-minded, but this statement seems to lack sincerity and candor. During all the long months that the administration and congress were struggling with a regulation law, a rate bill, the railroad presidents and attorneys fought it, and sought if not to defeat to render it worthless. The president and his supporters were denounced, and accused of destroying business interests, and are so yet, largely on account of this measure.

Whoever favors and desires direct election of United States senators by the people will insist on candidates for the legislature positively pledging themselves to Statement No. 1.

Senator La Follette is not at all averse to fighting in a good cause and in his own way, which is the reason why he doesn't like being sidetracked to the committee on military affairs.

The jurymen will believe what they please of Evelyn's story. Portions of it are no doubt true.

Small Change. The fleet called at the river of January at the right time of year.

Perhaps it is more curious that there is so much good in the world than that there is so much evil.

Even people who don't like Grover Cleveland politically hope he will live comfortably for years yet.

The jury will probably not lay it up against Thaw that his lawyer nominated Parker for president in 1904.

It was bad enough for Colonel Vischer to carry an overload of whiskey, but to carry a gun was even worse.

Mr. Bryan's married daughter may have supposed that if she didn't like her husband any more she could leave it.

Cheerfulness is said to be a remedy for grip. But it is not easy for a man with the grip to get and hold onto cheerfulness.

Maybe the only way for the Republicans to succeed is to become the minority party. This is the logic of some arguments made.

much as the people of that state could expect. They still have a recourse—ultimately to get a court with the majority on their side.

Money is plentiful and easy again in New York, the financial condition being in sharp and pleasing contrast to that of a few weeks ago. This being the case, can't Mr. Harriman and the other big railroad financiers put thousands of really needed men to work again soon?

We still think that some men who are opposing the parcels post plan of Postmaster-General Meyer are not fully informed concerning its provisions, or misapprehend its results.

Why is Mr. U'Ren so persistently assailed and flouted and mocked at? Because by great efforts he did something for the benefit of the masses? This has always been a great crime in the opinion of many public voices.

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Tax Reformer Answers Dixon. Portland, Jan. 16.—Mr. George W. Dixon, Publisher of the Tribune, Canby, Oregon—Dear Sir: We note with pleasure your earnest interest in what you believe to be truth and right. Principle is the highest of motives—the common good the realm of its widest scope. It is this same principle that moved us to abolish if possible the taxation of industry, production and improvement and place taxation on those values which the public produce. We believe the moral law is applicable to taxation—that our present system is in defiance of the law of justice. Our present system is the product of the injurious effects (which invariably result from the violation of that law) the taxation of production instead of the value of the product of an individual in his alone and entirely, and the conjoint product of society as a whole. Land values are produced by society as a whole. Take the people away and the land value would be zero. Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's. Society produces land values. They belong to society. Individuals produce wealth—belong to the individuals. "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's." Tax land values, exempt individual wealth. Look at the consequences of its violation under our present system which renders unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's. The burden of taxation will fall on the farmer. You admit that under our present system the burden of taxation now falls on the farmer. It was drawn in the year 1890. We will show you that our amendment will relieve the farmer. The land values of the city of Portland and other large cities are higher than the value of all the farming lands in the state. Consequently the burden of taxation will fall on the vast values of the cities. The good for the city is worth \$5,000. One block in Portland is worth \$1,000,000. The proportion is 5 to 1,000. The burden so borne will be just and equitable as to the farmer. It is distributed in unjust and unequal. You admit that "if the land is worth a certain value, this value is paid in tax." Our amendment will compel its taxation accordingly. Do you agree we are right?

Those farmers who thought that our amendment was drawn in the interest of farmers and small property owners were right. It was drawn in the interest of all producers, and every producer should be interested in the welfare of every other producer. For the more wealth the more labor employed, and the more employed the greater the demand for products. The greater the demand for products the greater the demand for labor. The labor and the higher the wages the greater the demand for goods and the greater the circulation of money. By exempting manufacturers we encourage the production of such goods as are needed for the farmer, create more demand for goods, cheapen production by taking the tax off it and tend to raise wages by making labor scarce. All laborers eat, and manufacturers use the products of such industries the greater the benefit to the farmer and every other producer. I said, let us look at the results of our present system. The reasoning is as follows: Let us look at the results of the tax on improvement. The less the improvement, the less the labor employed; the less the labor employed, the less the demand for goods; the less the demand for goods, the less the demand for labor. The greater the discouragement of industry the less the demand for the products of the farmer and other producers. The more tax on industry and improvement the less the tax on land values which enables speculators to hold land which prevents use, which discourages production, which makes the farmer poorer, and the goods of every producer. Our proposed amendment will tax land values, will discourage the holding of land for speculation, will create demand all along the line, benefiting every producer, and will mean the more wealth the more labor, the more labor the more demand for goods, the more goods the more wealth. Our measure would "shift the burden on the owners of city real property who are almost every instance the owners of the buildings the most of which are not tax wealth, for it is true. We would not tax wealth, for it employs labor. Vacant lots do not employ labor. The value of such lots as we have shown, the law of morality dictates it because it is just and this justice, as shown, brings about employment, labor and demand for the products of labor.

Objects to Bank Names. Portland, Or., Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal.—As a citizen in passing through the city of Astoria, I saw the inscriptions where it says Scandinavian-American bank, the other German-American bank. Why not better say American-Scandinavian and American-German bank. I think it would sound better to have the word American first on these banks. If I take the word American out of our bank name, it is not our own country flag second. Then, why do we have the word American on the American bank? If these Scandinavian and German people have made money in this country, why do they start back to their own countries? I think the word American should lead on their inscription. American in America. We do not want Scandinavian or other fatherland to take the lead here. CITIZEN.

In Lighter Vein. Where It's Dear. "Politeness," he mused, "costs nothing." The waiter splashed a few drops of sauce on his white waistcoat, and he gave the man another quarter, to be regarded with a sneer and a surly nod of the head.

Uncle Rooster's Philosophy. If you don't want it to be known, don't do it. There are two things that have never been improved upon—the crowbar and the kiss.

Where there's a will there's a way—for the lawyers to make a pot of money. Some men are so concerned that they remain unmarried because great men's sons never amount to anything.

Owns 35,000 Sheep Dogs. "You talk of Pierpont Morgan's colles," said a Russian, "what do you think of the man who owns 35,000 sheep dogs?" "Impossible."

Queer Questions. The "answers to correspondents" man, favorably rumpled in the hair, his duties had too soon made gray-tossed a letter on the table.

Sir Charles Pelletier's Birthday. Sir Charles Alphonse Pantaloon Pelletier, one of the best known public men of Quebec, and at present a judge for the Superior Court of that province, was born at Riviere Ouelle, January 2, 1837. He was educated at Laval University and admitted to the bar in 1860. He was for several years major of the ninth battalion, which he commanded during the Fenian raid in 1866. He was a prominent figure in the Quebec legislative assembly and in the house of commons, becoming minister of agriculture in 1877. He was president of the Canadian commission to the Paris universal exhibition of 1878 and speaker of the senate from 1896 to 1901. In 1905 he resigned his seat in the senate to accept a place on the bench in recognition of his long and important political career he was knighted in 1894.

The Pennsylvania supreme court has decided that the 2-cent fare law in that state is unconstitutional, because unreasonable and confiscatory, but as in the case of so many important decisions the court was as evenly divided as possible, three out of the seven judges holding the law constitutional. This is quite as

The REALM OF FEMINE

You say you "do not believe the state should subsidize" manufactories. Neither do we. Nor do we believe the state should fine them. Our proposal is to let the state release industry from an unjust taxation.

You say that "to get at the root of the matter we should begin with the tax assessor." We think the root of the matter lies in unjust laws. If we change the laws we can disregard the assessor. You admit that our assessor will assess the property on land values and special privileges which are, in basic, land values. You say we can remedy the withholding of land values. The constitution is law. We will change the law. This is the sane and sane way to proceed. We will not assault and injure none, while it will prevent injury of the people by the now complacent and tyrannical monopoly.

You ask "why don't the assessors get busy?" We answer, because they don't have to or are unable to do so. The prevailing practice in the east to "operate manufactories on a minimum wage scale" yields results in an unnumbered manhood and womanhood. That is true. Land monopoly reigns there. The populations are crowded into the cities. The rural population is being looked for one job. Let us abolish monopoly of land and create a condition of activity in which there are two jobs for every man and woman. Labor, which you rightly deplore, will not then be necessary. Parents will be able to earn enough to take care of their children.

You state "that land is the source of all natural wealth. Monopoly of it is a bad thing." The rural population will make us rich and happy. You say "if our farmers were proprietors of their own land and the laborer were the hand of oppression as the landlords of Europe, you would do all in your power to secure some such measure." The rural population is being looked for one job. Let us abolish monopoly of land and create a condition of activity in which there are two jobs for every man and woman. Labor, which you rightly deplore, will not then be necessary. Parents will be able to earn enough to take care of their children.

United States census shows that the average working farmer's buildings, fences, orchards, livestock and machinery are worth far more than the value of his land. If his land were his property would be exempt and as I have shown the ratio of his land value to his city value tax would be 1 to 1,000. On the other hand the figures show that three-fourths of the values of Portland would still be taxable. The tax would be throughout the state would still be taxed. All special privileges would bear their proper burden. We believe that you are not aware of the fact that the tax on land values is almost identical with attacks made in the past by the privileged interests. We feel certain that you will not fail to see the great and universal benefit that will flow from the adoption of our amendment and we believe it is well to say that our petition has been favored with over 10,000 signatures and many of these have come from the rural districts.

For a cream nut fudge use two cups of granulated sugar, a cup of milk, a teaspoonful of butter and a large cup of nuts. Cook the mixture in a double boiler for 15 minutes. Stir until the fudge is thick and then add the nuts and stir until the syrup granules.

For a delicious white fudge, boil two cups of granulated sugar and a cup of milk until the syrup forms a soft ball when dropped into cold water. Then add a teaspoonful of butter and a cup of nut meats, dates, figs and raisins that have been run together through the chopper. Beat until the candy is nearly stiff and then turn onto a buttered tin and mark off in squares.

This is the way they make marshmallow fudge at Wellesley: A pound (two cups) of granulated sugar and a cup of milk are heated together. Two squares of chocolate are stirred in and the mixture boiled until it is waxy when rolled into balls. The balls are then coated with a thin layer of chocolate. The fudge is good, but still better are the butter-nut ones which grow up the state and which are not often brought to this market. Cook the milk and sugar to the soft stage and then add the nuts and butter and stir until the syrup granules.

Blanching as a Cooking Process. BLANCHING, which in cookery is entirely different from the blanching or blanching of green vegetables in the garden, is a cooking process often used with vegetables, since it removes the strong or acid taste and improves the quality. It is also convenient, since blanching may be done any time, and the cooking completed in a very short time when the dish is to be served.

Have a large steppan half full of rapidly boiling water. Add a table spoonful of salt for every quart of water. Have the vegetables washed and well drained. Drop them into the boiling water, and bring the water back to the boiling point as quickly as possible. Boil rapidly, with the cover partially or wholly off the steppan, five to ten minutes, depending upon the vegetable. Drain the water off, and if the cooking of the vegetable is not to be finished at once, pour cold water over them, drain and set aside until needed. If the cooking is to be continued at once it will not be necessary to rinse them with cold water. To complete the cooking the vegetable should be put in a small steppan with butter or dripings and the other seasonings and cooked together until done. A few spoonfuls of liquid will be required for every quart of very juicy vegetables, and half a pint of liquid for dry vegetables. The steppan is to be covered, only slight opening being left for ventilation. All vegetables cooked in this manner should be eaten as quickly as possible after or after the blanching.

Waste in Preparing Vegetables. In preparing vegetables for the table there is almost always a larger or smaller loss due to inedible matters, skins, roots, seeds, etc., and also a waste of good materials, which is caused by careless paring, etc., and these losses being grouped together and referred to as waste under the name "refuse." The amount of refuse varies greatly in different vegetables, as shown by a large number of analyses of American food materials. The amount may be very small (7 per cent) in such vegetable as string beans, medium radish, per cent to 15 per cent) in such vegetables as onions, cabbage, leeks, lettuce, cucumbers or high (50 per cent) in such vegetables as beans in pod, pumpkins and squash. "With tubers, such as potatoes the average amount of refuse is 20 per cent, and with such roots as turnips, 3 per cent."

In preparing vegetables for the table the careful cook will remove all the inedible parts, and will reduce to the total amount of refuse is as small as is consistent with good quality. The refuse of potatoes and other vegetables is an economy which it is worth while to practice, and is an easy way of decreasing useless loss.

What the Women Did. THE Equal Suffrage club of Detroit had an animated discussion not long since, with an able corporation lawyer, and according to the Detroit News, the women of the club won a signal victory over their able opponent. "They did not bow meekly," according to the News, "to his convenient definitions of government, as many men have done." When he told them the initiative was a bit of mere sentimental froth, they asked him if it had not been adopted and used in Oregon. When he said the initiative was in restraint of a republican form of government and that the federal government had a right to interfere with any state that adopts it, they asked him why the federal government should not interfere with Oregon. "It was a rout, all along the line," says the News. To his technical wicker-trickery, she uses to make a democracy fundamental and fair before the "republic" was opposed the knowledge of women who know the root sources and the significance of both these terms." And the News editorial concludes with the statement that the rout of Henry M. Campbell by the Suffrage club was an event with Oregon. It has been influenced by the specious arguments that are obstructive of progress.

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