

THE JOURNAL

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INCREASED COST OF LIVING.

THE JOURNAL reprinted Saturday an article from the Boston Globe, founded on government statistics, showing that the cost of living has gone on increasing right up to the present year, notwithstanding the reduction of wages in many cases, and the throwing out of employment of hundreds of thousands of men.

What is the reason? Principally, it appears probable, because so many of the necessities of life are controlled by trusts, that fix prices to suit themselves. A monopoly can suspend the law of supply and demand, for it can at any time limit the supply and so make a demand for the amount put on the market at its own prices.

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So with a great number of more common necessities; the tariff protected trusts keep up the price without the "times," and we the people have to "pay, pay, pay." That a great many people are seeing this who did not see it formerly is the reason why we hear few of them hurrahing for a protective tariff these days.

But it may be said that if consumers have to pay more, farmers and other producers have been getting better prices. This is largely illusory. The wheat growers have been getting good prices, but the tariff does not have any effect one way or the other on the price of wheat, or other cereals of which we raise a surplus to send abroad.

TAFT AND THE TARIFF.

MR. TAFT was unfortunate in making in his acceptance speech the statement that some duties should be raised, without specifying what they were nor why they should be raised, and without at the same time stating that not only some duties but most duties should be reduced, and that in no case should duties be so high as to permit the formation of a trust and the monopolization of a product.

Mr. Taft is unfortunate, too, in agreeing with the Republican platform on this subject, which declares not only for such protection as will equalize the labor cost of products here and abroad, but that will afford "a reasonable profit to manufacturers." As has often been shown, very low schedules of duties would accomplish the former purpose, but as to the latter who are to decide what profits manufacturers and other protected interests should have?

make? They will of course insist on deciding this themselves, and in writing the tariff schedules, as they have done in the last two tariff laws, at least. The profits of some of the trusts run from 20 to 40 per cent, and this perhaps on heavily watered stock. Of course they think this "reasonable."

Mr. Taft in a speech Saturday said that the protective system, rightly carried out, would encourage competition and reduce prices. This is merely "academic." The theory never works out in practice. It was with this same theory, along with a lot of other sophistry and claptrap about the benefits of protection to farmers and workmen, that millions of voters have been fooled these many years, but they are getting their eyes open lately.

It is probable that if Mr. Taft had the job entirely in his own hands he would make a beneficial revision of the tariff, that he would revise it a little in the right direction. He would not be controlled by the trusts as much as some others. But his position is necessarily weak, because he declares for nothing positive and specific, he advances a theory that everybody knows utterly fails in practice, he manifests a desire to avoid giving offense or alarm to the protected interests, and he stands committed to a hearty indorsement of the last and preceding congresses, that refused to revise the tariff in any particular.

So on this question the people of the country who are earnestly in favor of a revision of the tariff, not upward but downward, have nothing to hope for in the election of Mr. Taft. He has said the last congress was all right, and so he is committed to an approval of the next congress if it makes a like record. The protected interests are all for him, and he cannot forget this if elected.

Nobody can reasonably expect a Republican congress to revise the tariff so as to hurt any trusts or help the people, for there is its long record of ever-increasing duties, and refusal to lower any, and Republican success this fall will be excusably construed as an indorsement of this policy by the people. True, the platform promises revision, but the party has never considered itself at all bound by platform promises, and then revision upward instead of downward would be revision, and revision upward has been the invariable rule under the Republican party.

HASKELL—AND OTHERS.

ADMITTING all that is charged against Haskell; assuming that he is guilty of everything of which he has been accused—what then? He is one; in the Republican camp are a thousand—worse. We all know most of their names; they have been reprinted until they are familiar—Aldrich, Cannon, Elkins, Daize, Crane, Payne, Hopkins, Sherman, Du Pont, Tawney, Penrose, Lorimer, Hemenway, Fordney, Burrows—the list is too long to take space for—who have run this government for the past four or more years, and who will continue to do so unless Bryan and a Democratic congress are elected.

The gang is fighting for its life. It finds a chance in Haskell to divert attention from the real game. Every one of these and a hundred other tools of the "interests," are supporting Taft. Not that Taft is a bad man, but they fear Bryan. Roosevelt never feared them. He is beholden to them. He belongs to and with them, parasitically. Bryan is independent of them. They would have to begin to scurry if he were elected.

Admit, if you please, all that is said against Haskell—and kick him. Then turn around and you will need a thousand-toed boot to kick worse fellows who are attacking him.

THE GREATER OREGON.

THE JOURNAL believes Oregon is going to grow from this on much faster than ever. Men are frequently heard to regret the opportunities they have lost by not doing this or that, or making such or such an investment, long ago, but there are more opportunities in Oregon than ever, and the number and variety of them will increase for years to come.

The long predicted and waited-for era of railroad building is at hand, and this alone will within a comparatively short time double the population of Oregon. Not only Mr. Harriman will build, but Mr. Hill, and the St. Paul road is certain to build a line of its own to Portland. These great railroad building enterprises, announced and talked of throughout the country, will bring tens of thousands of people here to live. They will settle up Central Oregon, will spread along the coast, will swell the population of the Willamette valley and Southern Oregon. The colonist rates are helping to bring thousands of them now, but we may expect a far heavier tide of immigration next year.

Electric lines are being built, and more of them will be built. Farming will become more systematized and intensified. Industries to which various sections of the state are especially adapted will develop rapidly. Manufacturing will increase

greatly. Oregon will gain added fame yearly for its fruits, its lumber, its livestock, and its dairy products. The Journal is glad to be here to observe and record this era of development, and to help it along. Most people can help it along, at least a little. Talk up Oregon on every occasion. Write letters praising Oregon. Treat the immigrants well. Divide up the big tracts of land and sell them at reasonable prices. Buy Oregon made goods. Patronize home industry. Raise more poultry and hogs. Get rid of the fruit pests. Build good roads.

The time of larger things is at hand. Get into the spirit of it, and be a part of it. So it is chiefly the people who are "dissatisfied with themselves" who will vote for Mr. Bryan, we are told. Well, we suppose few people are entirely satisfied with themselves, so perhaps Mr. Bryan's majority will be very large. But we have heard or read somewhere that a good many voters, whether dissatisfied with themselves or not, were considerably dissatisfied with the way the government has been conducted during the past few years. Some are dissatisfied with the Roosevelt policies, and some are dissatisfied with the Republican leaders for rejecting them. Some are dissatisfied on account of the tariff, some on account of the panic, and some on account of the panic, and others for various reasons. To sum it all up, Bryan will be elected, if at all, not by men who are "dissatisfied with themselves," or on that account, but by men, and a great number of them Republicans too, who are dissatisfied with the Republican party.

Collier's Weekly uses a little of its supposedly valuable editorial space to remark: Mr. Roosevelt is a Republican. He has, from time to time, ventured, nevertheless, to express his views of other gentlemen on whom the Republican label is also found. Take, for instance, this opinion: "We cannot escape from the fact that it was no credit to the Republican party of the house that Mr. Cannon should be one of its leaders."

Mr. Roosevelt speaks thus before his position in the party was so high. Possibly his opinion in the intervening years has remained the same. Yet during the last few years, when Mr. Cannon was exercising his baleful power, more and more, Mr. Roosevelt has never ventured to repeat publicly this opinion, and on the adjournment of the last and worst congress, Mr. Roosevelt complimented it and necessarily Cannon) on its excellent work.

Oregon Sidelights

A Dallas melon weighed 44 pounds. The Clatskanie school has 200 pupils. The Salem public schools employ 51 teachers. Up in Yamhill county Jim Fruit raises lots of fruit. The pupils in the Newberg public schools number nearly 900. All Yamhill county towns are good towns but it would be difficult to find one showing the business activity now manifested in Sheridan, says the Sun-Record. The county has the largest contentment in both broad and long. Some of the large alfalfa growers in the Merrill county have made a reduction in the price of hay, which has resulted in several large sales, 3,000 head of beef cattle, and the present 4,000 head of beef cattle that will be taken to the Merrill alfalfa fields soon.

Marshall News: Colonel Grimm receives a present from E. H. Harriman of a house in the city. He is warranted to tree anything in the country. It would be a good joke if the city would buy the house and let him until he agreed to build the Drain-Ocos Bay road. Salem Statesman: Last spring the influx of eastern people was becoming so great that the necessity of new houses was being felt. During the summer 300 houses went up. Easterners still flock here to the university, public school, business and normal schools have opened and the demand is as great as it was last spring.

What has always been considered the impossible has practically happened. Pendleton's tenderloin district has all the character of the Tenderloin of San Francisco. The mayor has ordered the women to move from the quarters they have long inhabited, but it was supposed they would find others, but the consequence is that most of them have left town. While on his way east, being compelled to stop over at Ogden for a time, Milton Newlin of Newberg was asked to give a message to the people of Newberg and inquired if Milton Newlin had ever been in Newberg. Of course Milton said he had and then a hard story was told and a loan of \$100 was made and the money was for an hour or so. Falling to meet with a hearty response he dropped in his last request to \$30, but Milton did not bite.

G. Holtkemper, Jr., formerly of Portland, now living in Falls, who has been visiting San Francisco, and on his return tells the Herald: "You would be surprised how well known the Falls is better known in San Francisco than any of the large cities in the United States. It is a more interesting knowledge for the young women concerning some of the things to which the ordinary girl is not exposed. It is doubly the duty of women to make the lives of working women easier. The women of Portland, if in the effort, could make a successful demand for a better wage for the shop girls even at the expense of a few more hours of their own time. It is a noble and commendable plan for them more comfort, some hours free from toil, a room very simple, where they can receive their friends, without seeking the streets and the impure and questionable places, because there is no one in the home where they can invite a friend. 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