

COST OF LABOR, DETERMINING FACTOR

Any Correct Economic Theory Concerning Doctrine of Protection Must Hinge on Cost of Labor, Maintains George W. Burton, Who Illustrates Point by Observations of Commercial Conditions in Spain Where Capital and Labor in Most Simple Relationships, Engage in Production.

By George W. Burton. Malaga.—When, in June, 1908, the Republican party in national convention assembled pronounced in favor of a tariff on imports in which the protection aimed to be given to American industries should be measured by the difference between the cost of any given commodity at home and in the countries whence might come competition, it was a landmark stroke of policy and of statesmanship. The wisdom of the program may be seen in the ardent way in which the announcement was received by leading members of all political parties and by nearly all sorts of divergent views on tariff protection. Democratic and national standing were accorded in their commendation of the proposition as Republicans, and in the latter party the "insurgents" were loudest and most enthusiastic in their acclaim for the new idea.



Top—Gate of Purchena, Almeria. Bottom—Castle of Sagunto, near Valencia.

The general assumption was that the scheme was as easily put into practice as the casting up of a column of figures might be done by a competent accountant and that the general effect would be lower duties on almost all things bought and sold, with a substantial lessening of final cost to the consumer, and thus the effect on the nation's economy so much talked of, so anxiously desired by all, viz., lower cost of living to the average man. From a lifelong study of the subject of tariffs and of imports my mind was clear that the practical application of the plan would not be easy, and also that the effect would not be a universal lowering of the prices of commodities.

At the time I am writing these words here in Spain I have been 120 days in this country trying to get at the exact cost of producing many things that are sold in the markets of the world with similar things in the states of the Pacific coast. My mind is daily more clearly and fixedly made up that the plan will not be easy of application, that if our "statesmen" in congress (both branches) do not take care of the nation's interests, that the nation's mistakes will be made worse, that the interests of capital and labor in America, to producers, middlemen and consumers alike.

So Guesswork Here. The reason is easily discovered and soon told. What I am to say applies to things in Spain as well as to things on the coast of the United States from the Mexican boundary line to the Straits of Fuca, has an intimate interest in. Fruits make up the burden of my story. Spain embraces in the 500 miles or so from the Bay of Biscaya to the Mediterranean sea and from the same sea westward to the Atlantic all the climates found between Mexico and the British possessions along the shores of the Pacific. There is not an important fruit crop harvested in the states of our country that is not found in abundance in Spain. This is the great orchard of most of Europe, and the crops go out to all parts of the world. Our own home market is at stake for our fruit growers, and when the Panama canal is complete we may compete with Spain in the fruit markets of Europe. It is important to know the conditions that govern the industry here in its various branches. The apples of Washington and Oregon, the prunes of Oregon and California, the raisins, table grapes, nuts, walnuts, and all fruit crops of all the states of western America are produced here.

It cost them to produce a ton of raisins, not fix them. 'Costumbre' does that. They do not vary a 'perrito' in 100 'duros' in years. Do you think if I kept books and knew how much my goods cost to produce could demand any more for them in the market? I do not see how. I take going prices, pay going prices for my material. That is all there is to our political economy in Spain. What does it cost to produce the gallon of wine or oil? In money of any currency no one knows. No money is used in the transaction. The man makes his own tart, harness, and almost all his uses. In terms of labor the cost of production is every hour in every day in the year that the sun is above the horizon and some hours when he has gone to rest. I shall tell you later what they cost. He is a cheap worker and lives at a cost so low that it would produce a revolution in a day in America if any considerable number of our people are ever driven to live so cheaply. The puzzle is how we are to permit this man to compete with our fruit growers on anything like equal terms and yet make it possible for them to live on any dearer (that is any higher) plane than this peasant does. How is this to be done?

There are a few concrete examples. An American was going out from Malaga into the country in quest of just this sort of information. He became acquainted with two men of Spain engaged in the very pursuits he would inquire into. They were not ignorant peasants as most of the fruit growers here are, unable to keep accounts. They were educated, cultivated gentlemen. They were open of mind, frank of tongue, and their amazement knew no bounds when the American attempted to get at what

Oh, facts and figures are such inexorable things! They play such sad havoc with theories! Do I mean to say there is no getting at the root of this matter? By no means. I am writing about products of the soil. Now in all products of farm or factory the great expense is for labor. In those of the soil nearly all is labor. When the subject of transportation is approached is it not the same? What labor and wages is involved? The roadbed of the railroad, the rails, the rolling stock, the motive power, the coal and the operation of the train are held at least 75 per cent labor to 25 per cent capital. If this view is right then the measure of protection is well fixed by the difference in the cost of labor in each country we consider. If one orchard hand in the Pacific states is paid \$1.50 to \$2.50 per day and the same service is to be had in Spain for 18 cents to \$1, then the protection is in the same ratio as the labor. The average rate for orchard labor in the states of the Pacific coast is probably at least \$1.50 a day. The average wage in Spain is about 35 cents. Transportation from the Pacific states to eastern markets costs about one cent per pound, \$1 per 100 pounds. Fruit can be landed down in our Atlantic ports from Spain at a cost of 25 to 50 cents per 100 pounds.

STORIES OF FAMOUS POEMS

"The Dream of Eugene Aram." "Two sudden blows with ragged stick, And one with a heavy stone. One hurried gash with a hasty knife— And then the deed was done: There was nothing left at my feet But lifeless flesh and bone. "Nothing but lifeless flesh and bone, That could not do me ill, And yet I feared him all the more, For lying there so still; There was a manhood in his look, That murder could not kill. And, lo! the universal air Seemed lit with ghastly flames; Ten thousand thousand dreadful eyes Were looking down in blame. With breathless speed, like a soul in chase, I took him up and ran:— There was no time to dig a grave Before the day began. In a lone wood, with heaps of leaves, I hid the murdered man: And all that day I read in school, But my thought was other where; Again—again with a hazy dawn, In secret I was there; And a mighty wind had swept the leaves, And still the corpse was bare! "Then still I cast me on my face, For I knew my secret then was one That earth refused to keep; Or land or sea, though he should be Ten thousand fathoms deep. "O, God! that horrid, horrid dream Besets me now again, As I awake with dizzy brain, The human life I take; And my right red hand grows raging hot Like Crammer's at the stake. —Thomas Hood.

THOMAS HOOD'S poem, "The Dream of Eugene Aram," is one of the greatest poems in the English language of its character. It is entirely too long to be presented here, but the verses used are among the most striking and tend to show its graphic style, and particularly refer to the crime depicted. The poem first appeared in an annual called "The Gem," of which, in the year 1829, Thomas Hood was editor. It was later republished, with drawings by Harvey, an intimate friend of the poet.

While residing at Camberwell the poet received a letter from his old friend Mr. De Franck, which contained two copies of a German translation of the poem, one rendered into prose by Mr. De Franck, and the other had been verified; both as literally as possible. Upon their receipt Hood was so much pleased that he sent his royal highness, Prince Albert of England, one of these copies, accompanied by the following letter: "May it please Your Royal Highness. "The greatest literary honor that can befall a poem is its translation into a foreign language, particularly the German. That such a distinction had been conferred on any verses of mine, has only just been made known to me by the receipt of a volume from Bromberg, with a request to forward the poem, which accompanies this, to its high destination. "Under other circumstances, I should have shrunk from such an intrusion; but being this unexpectedly brought under your princely notice, let me crave permission to offer the respectful homage and loyal congratulations of the English author of 'Eugene Aram.' "THOMAS HOOD." The story which called out the poem is as follows: Eugene Aram (1704-1759), a famous murderer, was the son of a poor gardener in York. He was a man of high aspirations above his station, he applied himself unremittingly to study, and mastered a number of languages. He married and became a schoolmaster in Knaresborough. Here he formed an intimate acquaintance with a shoemaker named Daniel Clarke, who, in 1745, mysteriously disappeared after purchasing certain goods on credit. Aram was suspected of being his accomplice in an attempt to defraud and a portion of the goods were, in fact, dug up in his yard and he was arrested, but the evidence was insufficient to convict him. Aram then left Knaresborough and traveled through England collecting materials for a projected dictionary of the Celtic and other languages. In 1759 some indiscreet remarks of Mrs. Aram led to the arrest of a man named Houseman, who confessed that he was present at the murder of Clarke by Aram. The latter was tried, the principal witness against him being Houseman, and in spite of his elaborate and ingenious defense, he was convicted. He confessed his guilt after condemnation. The night before the execution

FIVE ACRES ADDED TO STATE FAIR CAMP FIELD (Salem Press of The Journal.) Salem, Or., May 20.—Ample accommodations for all campers and all campers' horses on the Oregon State Fair grounds are now provided. Five acres have been added to the camp grounds, making about 20 acres in all, and the board last night authorized the erection of additional sheds. George Chandler of Baker City was elected vice president of board and the board adjourned to meet at the call of the president. Journal Want Ads bring results.

Showing of Fine Cut Glass Both the Goods and the Price Will Attract Portland's Prudent, Discriminating Buyers

—Unique, beautiful—fairly shimmering in its dewy freshness, our fine cut glass will appeal to the artistic eye. There's value, too, in every piece. Cut glass, like diamonds, never depreciates. Nothing will give your dinner table a more elegant, artistic finish than a few well-selected pieces such as we have on display for your gratification. Every piece absolutely flawless—every facet gleaming with light. We invite you to visit our Cut Glass Section on the third floor and have the pleasure of a look at the many beautiful pieces. The following medium priced lines are on sale at a marked reduction: \$3 handled Sugars and Creamers, cut in good designs, \$1.95 \$8 handled Sugars and Creamers, heavy and finely cut, \$4.95 \$4.50 clear, heavy Tumblers, set of 6, uniform cutting, \$2.75 \$2.50 Spoon Trays, 8 inches long, deep cutting, \$1.75 \$1.75 handled Nappies, 5 inches, beautifully cut, \$1.75 7c each imported Salts and Peppers, porcelain tops, ea., 45c \$1 each imported Salts and Peppers, porcelain tops, ea., 55c \$7 Fern and Fruit Dishes, 7-inch, silver plated lining, \$3.95 \$8 Fern and Fruit Dishes, 8-inch, silver plated lining, \$4.95 \$6 and \$7.50 Pitchers, 8 1/2 inches, beautiful designs, \$4.95

Brass Goods Attractively Priced

—From, the Czar's domains come the strange men that fashion these beautiful things. From father to son is the craft handed down. Artistic in a high degree is the product of their handiwork. —Our hand-hammered brass was personally selected by our art buyer, a rare judge of these goods. To illustrate our ability to please your artistic sense without giving offense to your purse, let us quote just these two items from the many that we offer: \$5 brass Umbrella Stands, 23 inches high, brass lion head ornaments, ring handles \$2.99 \$2.75 brass Jardinieres, 11 inches wide, 8 1/4 inches high, solid brass ball feet. \$1.75 —Much more could we say of the beauties of our Cut Glass and Art Sections, but really we would prefer to delight your eyes with the reality rather than your mind with the anticipation. Gladly would we have you linger over these treasures. Select and buy if you will—but without insistence—without urging on our part.

Woodard, Clarke & Co. Washington and Fourth Streets —All purchases carefully packed and prompt delivery guaranteed, without breakage.

SUPERFLUOUS HAIR

Should Never Be Removed With Poisonous, Pasty Compounds, Because They Are Dangerous and Increase the Growth. The preparations above referred to are invariably in the form of creamy pastes. These are easily recognized by their pale grayish or rosy color. They are spread upon the skin to remain until they are dry. These contain Sulphide of Barium, an insoluble chemical, which cannot be dissolved, therefore cannot be absorbed by the skin. The very fact that you are told to leave these pasty compounds on the skin until they are dry and then lift off with a knife is proof positive that they are not absorbed. If they were they would remain on the skin. The most they can possibly do is to remove the surface hair, which in consequence will grow back stronger and each removal. There is only one logical and scientific way to remove hair and that is by means of a liquid containing soluble ingredients which can be absorbed by the skin. Dr. Miracle, known all the world over as the only real superfluous hair remover, just such a preparation. It is easily and quickly absorbed and after you have used it you will note there is nothing left on the skin. It is free from irritation, and what is more to the point, it is absolutely non-poisonous, therefore it will not produce eczema or blood poisoning. Remember, no matter what claims are made to the contrary, no poisonous, pasty compound will destroy a single hair root, and we can prove it.

PROF. PENROSE WILL TALK TO YOUNG MEN

Another big mass meeting of men in the Hellig theatre will be conducted by the Young Men's Christian Association this afternoon at 3 o'clock. The speaker will be Dr. Stephen E. L. Penrose, president of Whitman College. This will be second of a series of Sunday meetings for men at the Hellig. The speaker last week was President Foster, of Reed College, and next Sunday the address will be delivered by Dr. W. B. Hinson, pastor of the White Temple. Dr. Penrose's subject will be "Modern Progress."

The music this afternoon will be furnished by the boys' choir of Trinity Episcopal church, under the direction of W. H. Boyer. This is one of the best known singing organizations in Portland, and the announcement that it will appear will probably be sufficient in itself to fill the theater. All men in the city have been invited to attend the meeting.

GRAVES MUSIC CO

111 FOURTH STREET SALE Talking Machines At Less Than Factory Cost Slightly used instruments will be sold by us at prices never before offered to the public. While they last, you may have your choice of any used instrument in stock at a great saving. Make a selection from the list. REGULAR \$10.00 ..... \$5.00 REGULAR \$17.00 ..... \$12.50 REGULAR \$25.00 ..... \$17.00 REGULAR \$30.00 ..... \$20.00 REGULAR \$40.00 ..... \$28.75 REGULAR \$55.00 ..... \$42.50 REGULAR \$75.00 ..... \$50.00 Every machine is as good as new, and the opportunity to secure the greatest home entertainer of the age at so great a saving will be welcomed by many, so come early and secure an outfit—cash or easy payments. Graves Music Co. 111 FOURTH STREET

MR. MANUFACTURER

We call your attention to the RELIABILITY of our 24-hour ELECTRIC SERVICE for both light and power, and advance the following reasons: Because we have three hydro-electric generating stations in operation, developing 30,000 H. P. Because we have ready for emergencies SEVEN steam-generating stations, ready to produce on short notice 24,000 H. P. Because we will have in operation October 1 another hydro-electric station which will develop 16,000 H. P. Because we are doing preliminary work on still another hydro-electric station which will develop 45,000 H. P. to take care of your future needs. Because our facilities for furnishing everything "ELECTRICAL" are unsurpassed, and our organization in point of skill, experience and familiarity with electrical problems is second to none. Because our experts are at your service. PORTLAND RAILWAY LIGHT & POWER CO. Phone Main 6688 or A-6131 SEVENTH AND ALDER STREETS