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The Chronicle is the Only Paper in The Dalles that Receives the Associated Press Dispatches.

**THE M'KINLEY BILL.**

When the McKinley bill was being discussed last year, the main argument against it was that it would restrict our foreign trade; that the levying of increased protective duties would keep out foreign goods and that, as a result, foreigners would buy less of our agricultural and manufactured products. This was the argument and the public was asked to wait and see if results did not justify it. Now, as to the results: The official statement issued by the bureau of statistics at Washington, comparing exports and imports for the seven months ended July 31, 1891, under the operations of the McKinley bill, with the corresponding seven months of 1890 under the operations of the old tariff law, has just been printed. Figures are dry reading but it is necessary to understand them in order to comprehend results and we ask our readers impartially to review the figures and base their own judgment upon them. They show that during the seven months ended July 31, 1891, under the McKinley bill, this country imported \$11,000,000 more of merchandise than during the corresponding seven months of the preceding year under the operations of the old tariff law. During the seven months of this year fifty per cent, or one half of the merchandise imported was admitted free of duty; while during the corresponding seven months of 1890, under the tariff law, only thirty-three per cent. of the total imports was admitted free of duty. So that the McKinley bill, during the seven months of its operation for which we have official statistics, resulted in increasing the volume of imports by \$11,000,000 and admitting seventeen per cent. more of foreign imports free of duty than were admitted under the operations of the former tariff bill. Are these statements denied? Foreign trade, so far as imports were concerned, was increased. How was it with our export trade? The passage of the McKinley bill, it was said would not only cut down our imports, but would also cut down our exports, because foreign nations would only buy from us if we bought from them? Official figures for the seven months mentioned show that during that period in 1891 the exports of domestic merchandise were increased by over \$34,000,000 beyond those of the corresponding seven months in 1890 under the operations of the old law. None can dispute these figures. They prove that the McKinley bill has not injured American trade with foreign countries. On the other hand, a little more than half a year's experience with the McKinley bill has increased our foreign trade nearly forty-three and a half million dollars over what it was during the corresponding period while the old tariff law was in operation. We have said before that partisanship should not be mixed up with the discussion of the tariff question. We should all be good enough Americans to support any policy which helps our business interests, no matter whether or not there is a partisan outcry against it. The results of the McKinley bill justify the arguments in its favor. If they had been otherwise we should not have hesitated to say so.—*Frank Leslie's.*

Mugwumps and free traders would be happy if they could only satisfy themselves and others that it is impossible to produce tin and make tin plate in the United States, and also that the consumer of sugar as well as the grower of sugar beets is benefitted, directly or indirectly, by the bounty paid. They determined to oppose any such enterprises, but time will determine their success. Meanwhile the work of preparation for the making of tin goes on, and the longer the people enjoy cheap sugar the better they appear to like it.

No one has as yet, says the *Astorian*, fathomed the reason for Mr. Bogue's summary dismissal as impracticable of the one side of the portage railroad question, but there is a pretty general belief that somewhere concealed is "a nigger in the fence." That he should oppose building on the Oregon side because the road would in some places parallel the Union Pacific, is certainly not a valid reason, and calls for a fuller explanation of the supposed difficulties which at present are invisible to all but Mr. Bogue himself.

**BRIEF STATE NEWS.**

Benton county is well represented at the Industrial Exposition. It has one of the best displays of fruits and cereals ever collected in the state.

A daily paper called the *Effort* has been started at Lebanon by William M. Drais. As the days roll by the editor will discover how appropriately named is his paper.

John McIntosh, of Pendleton, who has been putting in the summer umpiring base ball games, has just fallen heir to \$10,000 by the death of his father in St. Thomas, Canada.

According to official reports tobacco is raised in fourteen counties in Oregon, Linn being the banner one. In point of average value per acre Oregon stands third among the states.

The Echo Milling Company are building and have nearly completed two warehouses with a capacity of 150,000 bushels. The mills have a daily output of from 125 to 140 barrels, and have contracted for 100,000 bushels of wheat from the Walla Walla valley.

There are a great many deer being killed in the Coast range, along the line of the Oregon Pacific, and taken to the Portland market for sale. The passenger train brings out from six to eight nearly every morning, and occasionally the carcass of a big black bear adorns the baggage car.

The *Corvallis Times* says: "There is only one vacant residence in Corvallis waiting for an occupant, and this is not a very desirable place—it is the county jail. This speaks volumes for the law and order of a thrifty community. Every available corner is rented, and others would locate if they could find a place to live."

Umatilla county farmers were obliged to abandon their intention to have a day of jubilee and speech making at Pendleton, October 15. President Polk of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, is ill at his home in Washington, D. C., and will be unable to fulfill the appointments made for his intended visit to Oregon and Washington.

Grace Bradley, the little daughter of the Union Pacific depot agent at Athena, the other day found a check, payable to bearer and signed by the Oregon state treasurer, for \$3500, in the north part of town. It was turned over to the bank. Who it belongs to or how it came there is a mystery, says the *Athena Press*. It is more than likely the check is a clumsy attempt at a forgery, as checks by the state treasury are not usually made out to bearer.

A few weeks ago a man visited Pendleton, giving his name as H. H. Downs and business as representative of the World's Fair Publishing company. He wore good clothes and was a man of persuasive address. He proposed to illustrate Pendleton in his paper. Several business men gave orders for cuts of their buildings at \$15 each, and paid the money. Mr. Downs called on the city council and so impressed that body with the beauties of his scheme that cuts were ordered for a bird's-eye-view of Pendleton and public buildings at a cost of \$75. The next morning Mr. Downs left the city. Telegrams to Chicago obtained replies disclosing the fact that a very slick swindler had been among them. Other towns are warned to look out for him.

**Historical Reminiscences.**

A Boston man was pricing an old sofa in an auction-room. "This sofa," said the auctioneer, "came over in the Mayflower, and is full of reminiscences." "Yes, pa, there is one now crawling up the back of the sofa," observed the would-be purchaser's little boy. "Yes, it seems to be alive with historical reminiscences," remarked the gentlemen, punching the corner of the sofa with his cane.

**The Eight-Hour Law Carried.**

SYDNEY, Oct. 16.—The government yesterday opposed the motion to the effect that the government bill, regulating mining laws, be returned to the committee in order that the eight-hour labor clause, which it contained, might be eliminated. The motion carried by a vote of 49 to 41. It is understood in consequence of the defeat of the government the cabinet will resign.

**Business of the Pan-American Congress.**

St. Louis, Oct. 16.—The only business done by the executive committee of the Pan-American congress yesterday afternoon was the appointment of an inter-continental committee representing Mexico, Brazil, Guatemala, Nicaragua, British North America, British West Indies, Spanish West Indies, Argentine Republic, Chili and Uruguay.

S. L. Adams, one of the proprietors of the *Silverton Appeal*, recently purchased a \$40 interest in a shell game at the state fair at Salem. Served him right. A country editor with \$40 in his pocket should have better sense than to go monkeying around a state fair. He should buy a railroad or a bank with it.

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