The Oregon Statesman

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BUILDING AN ALTER-"And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there; and make there an altar unto God. Gen. 35:1.

WHERE IS THE CONSISTENCY?

A few days ago, an editorial paragraph in the Portland Journal complained bitterly about the plight of a farmer powered robbery; grand larceny on a gigantic scale near an eastern Oregon town. This farmer had taken to his local merchant some potatoes. The merchant would not buy the farmer's potatoes, but he had on display potatoes from Idaho. The same farmer offered to his local merchant eggs he had hauled in from his ranch. The merchant could not buy the eggs, because he was stocked up with Idaho eggs.

In the same issue, or one near it, the Portland Journal editor was bitterly denunciative of the American protective tariff-

And where is the consistency?

Without the protective tariff there would be no sale at remunerative prices of even Idaho eggs. They would be driven out of the market by cheap Chinese eggs; and even so, with high protective duties, Americans are buying quantities of Chinese eggs. The linen industry in Oregon could not be built up without the protective tariff. Our cherry industry cannot flourish as it should without adequate protection from the cheap cherries of Spain, Italy and France. So on down through every single agricultural industry we have here; to say nothing of our manufacturing industries, present and prospective.

ROBBED OF \$34,523,227.20

In this column several days ago there was reference to lies in the Willamette valley will be increased very much.

some of the propaganda matter of the Wall Street sugar trust, owning the refineries along the Atlantic coast and owning or controlling most of the Cuban cane fields and

And the malicious lies of this propaganda were shown up; the meanest of the lies being told with a view to trying to convince the American people that the beet sugar mills and sugar beet growers of the United States are the sugar trust of this country.

The Wall Street sugar barons imported raw sugars from Cuba last year to the amount of 3,923,094 tons. Reduce that to pounds and multiply the result by 44 cents a hundred pounds, and you will find that these Wall Street sugar barons robbed the United States treasury last year of \$34,523,227.20.

How did they do it?

This way: After the United States had freed Cuba from the domination of Spain, a 20 per cent preferential was granted to all dutiable goods sent to this country from Cuba. That still stands. The full duty on raw sugars is 2.20 cents a pound. The 20 per cent taken off amounts to a reduction of 44 cents a hundred pounds-

And the Wall Street trust gets the benefit of this.

No one else is helped; not even the impoverished farmers and laborers of Cuba who grow and work up the sugar

It is sheer robbery of the United States treasury; high

And it is growing fast. The increased importations of Cuban raw sugars of the Wall Street barons of 1925 over 1924 were 206,000 long tons. A long ton is 2240 pounds. Figure up for yourself the additional robbery of last year over the year before.

Almost no sugar pays full duty into the United States. It amounted to only 40,202 tons last year; mostly from Central America and Mexico, with a little from Java and Peru.

The sugar of Hawaii comes in mostly raw, and free, to California refineries. The sugar of the Philippines of course also comes in free. We received 492,774 tons of sugar from the Philippines last year.

The United States is now on a basis of consuming nearly 6,000,000 tons of sugar a year. Of this about 1,000,-000 is our own beet sugar. Almost 4,000,000 tons is raw Cuban sugar, and this is increasing very fast.

What sense is there in allowing the robbery of around \$35,000,000 a year by the Cuban sugar barons?

Worse than this, the preferential gives these commercial corsairs an advantage over our beet sugar men that they are not entitled to.

They are obtaining money under false pretenses, for Cuba gets no benefit.

Stop this robbery, and the chances for beet sugar factor-

32,000 cases. That last year there was packed in Salem mreo than 900,000 cases of fruits and berries, with good prospects of the output exceeding 1,000,000 cases in Salem this canning season. R. I. McLaughlin, representing

Daker, Kelly & McLaughlin, said that for barreling purposes, his firm preferred the Oregon and Marshall varieties of strawberries. In the general discussion, many facts were brought out of practical value to those interested

RURAL DEPARTMENT

TALKS CULTIVATION

strawberry growing. Notwithstanding the unfavorble weather, the auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce was filled to its utmost capacity with strawberry growers from all parts

of the county.
One grower remarked: "I drove 18 milts to this meeting and I feel fully repaid as I learned many facts that will be of practical value

The meeting was called to order by George H. Grabenhorst, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Oregon's farm area increased 577,725 acres from 1920 to 1925.



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