

THE TWO TARIFF REPORTS.

The difference between the reports made by the minority and the majority of members of the ways and means committee concerning the Wilson tariff bill is great, says the Inter Ocean.

The report of the majority was, in its greater part, an essay in defense of the theories of the antique classical school of European economists.

The report of the minority bears upon the conditions, not upon the theories, of trade, commerce, arts, manufactures and agriculture, and upon the relations of past and present tariffs to such conditions, and upon the plain effect of the Wilson bill upon future conditions.

It was said that the McKinley bill protected manufacturers to the detriment of every other industry. But what shall be said of a bill that takes every vestige of protection from the mining and wool-growing industries, and under the name of "free raw material" makes a large gift to the manufacturer, while continuing to him protection on the finished product of such material?

But the bill is not consistent in its gifts of free raw material. The juices of cane, beet roots and sugar are the raw materials from which sugar is made. These are protected by a bounty.

The bill is protective in theory and destructive in practice. The measure of protection offered is too tight for encouragement of home industries, and the duties levied are too high to insure cheapness to the consumer of imported goods.

The certain evil of diminution of wages is predicted by the minority, and the country is apprised in plain terms of the danger that lies before it in the event of the passage of the bill.

the extent in other localities where factories have shut down and thousands have been thrown penniless on the street. The means of support in the northwest are principally wool, fish, forest and farm products and commerce, and, while the past season has witnessed depressing influences upon these, there has not been the widespread suffering experienced that there would have been if manufacturers were the only means of employment.

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Editor Stead is not in the habit of using ambiguous language when talking on subjects in which he desires to inaugurate reform. He did not in London, when in plain Anglo-Saxon he laid open to the public the nasty lives of the nobility of that metropolis, and even proved by actual demonstration that girls of tender age could be procured for immoral purposes, and for which—although done for the sole object of raising the standard of morality in the English capital and breaking up the infamous dens of lustful vice then existing in London—she suffered a term of imprisonment.

It is unquestionable that Mr. Stead made the great mistake of his life-time in the address he delivered before the woman's clubs of the great western city, at the meeting held to consider plans for aiding destitute women and children, and one which he will never be able to retrieve.

THE BRANCH ASYLUM. The following from the Hood River Glacier contains a deserved compliment for The Dalles as the proper place for the location of the branch asylum, and coming as it does from one who has no interest in this city, should receive more attention than it was published by the local press.

THE SILEM BOARD OF TRADE HAS done the proper thing in passing the resolutions, published elsewhere, denying the statements made in the open letters of Governor Penney to President Cleveland that two-thirds of the population of Oregon are out of employment and one-third of these are in actual destitution.

It was the evident intention of the chairman and Democratic members of the ways and means committee to submit the Wilson tariff bill in congress almost as soon as it met in regular session, says an exchange.

Why this delay? It was certainly not out of courtesy to the Republican minority on that committee. On the contrary, the ordinary amenities and decencies even of committee proceedings were disregarded.

Undoubtedly President Cleveland and Chairman Wilson have run the bow of their boat against snags in the current of their own party of which they had no conception.

EDITORIAL NOTES. In these dreary days of winter it is out of season to start a boom for Hermann for governor.

Pendleton and Heppner are determined to have scouring wills. What is the matter with The Dalles that annually handles more wool direct from the producer, than both these towns?

Canada raises a great deal of barley. Under the McKinley law they had to pay 30 cents per bushel duty when shipped to the United States.

Now that the testimony is all heard in the customs frauds in Portland, the government has not made out a very strong case against those implicated by the confession of Blum, and it is doubtful if more than two or three convictions will be made.

Parents may not fully realize the effect of allowing their children to run on the streets all hours of the day and night; but it is debasing in the extreme, and does not tend to the betterment of the public exhibition of indecency, vulgarity and obscenity.

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WILL FIGHT THE BILL. WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The prospects are that persons opposing free raw materials in the Wilson bill—coal, iron and lead, lumber, etc.—will concentrate their efforts to secure changes in the bill in the senate.

OREGON FARMERS MET ASSEMBLED. CORVALLIS, Dec. 26.—In the courtroom, jammed with the labor and supply creditors of the Oregon Pacific, Judge Fullerton, this afternoon set aside the sale of the property made the 15th inst.

ESTON BY CANNIBALS. LONDON, Dec. 26.—An officer of the British gunboat Boomerang, writing from Sydney, N. S. W., gives an account of the punishment inflicted on Pentecost island cannibals.

OUR CASH GROWING SHORT. WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The prospects are that during the present week the available cash balance in the treasury will be low.

A CRISIS AT HAND. WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Minister Mendonça believes a crisis in the Brazilian republic is at hand, and the decisive stroke will be made this week.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 26.—Judge Upjohn today fixed the bond of J. K. Emmon, president of the suspended Walla Walla savings bank, at \$20,000.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Doonan, the Crank. WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—It is stated at the secret bureau that there are several charges on Doonan that he had been in case his sanity can be proved, namely that he was sending threatening letters through the mails, and that he had been in the hearing of the case in the police court.

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Resolved, That we, the board of trade and business men of Salem, most earnestly deny the section of the act, and aver that, notwithstanding the prevailing depression, there is no widespread destitution or actual want in Oregon, and that the governor, in claiming that two-thirds of our people are without employment, and that there are semi-pauper stricken masses of sustenance, and we request our representatives in congress to present resolutions to the president of the United States, and to deny in both senate and house the truth of the governor's statements.

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TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Blitz Near to Madrid. MADRID, Dec. 27.—A large audience gathered in the Royal opera house last night. While waiting for the performance a rumor began to circulate that anarchists were present and intended to commit a bomb outrage.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Editor Stead today threw a bombshell into the Women's Club that is likely to blow him to pieces before the matter is over.

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