

TARIFF BILL BEFORE HOUSE

Extensive Cuts, Maximum and Minimum Rates of Duty.

Large Reductions Made in Many Particulars and Increases in Others—Inheritance Tax Created—Steel and Lumber Cut One-Half—Coal Placed on Free List.

Washington, March 18.—Downward revision, maximum and minimum provisions which impose an average maximum duty 20 per cent in excess of the present tariff and numerous provisions by which it is estimated that the revenue to the government will be increased from \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000, are the salient features of the new tariff bill which was introduced in the house yesterday by Representative Seno E. Payne, chairman of the ways and means committee.

The recommendations made by President Taft that an inheritance tax be provided and that a limited amount of tobacco and sugar be admitted free from the Philippines are included in the bill. The measure also provides for the issuance of Panama canal bonds to the amount of \$40,000,000 to reimburse the treasury for the original purchase of the canal and re-enacts the provisions for the issue of treasury certificates, the amount being increased from \$100,000,000 to \$250,000,000.

While there is no duty imposed upon coffee, tea is taxed 8 cents when imported from the country where it is produced and 9 cents when from other than the producing country. The internal revenue tax on cigarettes is materially increased, while the tax on beer and whisky is undisturbed. A cut of 50 per cent is made in the steel and lumber schedules and iron ore, hides, tallow, cottonseed oil and works of art more than 20 years old are placed on the free list.

The tariff on boots and shoes is reduced 40 per cent, and on other leather manufactures in proportion. The pottery schedule remains about the same, but the duties on window and plate glass of the smaller sizes are increased, while the duties on the larger sizes are reduced. The tariff on wool of the first and second class, used in clothing principally, is not disturbed, but on wool of the third class, known as carpet wool, it is reduced on the cheaper grades. A 5-cent reduction is made in the duties on shoddy, and waste white wool tops are assessed 6 cents a pound more than the duty on scoured wool, which is unchanged.

The principal increases are made on lemons, cocoa and substitutes for coffee, coal tar dyes, gloves and coated papers and lithograph prints.

As was expected, the new tariff bill is made on a maximum and minimum basis, with the provision that the maximum rates are not to go into effect until 60 days after the passage of the bill. The reciprocity provisions are contained in the paragraphs assessing duties on bituminous coal and coke and agricultural implements, by which these articles are given entry free of duty when imported from countries which permit the free importation of these articles from America.

The inheritance tax provision of the bill is similar to the New York state law. It provides a tax of 5 per cent on all inheritances over \$500 that are collateral inheritances, or in which strangers are the legatees. In cases of direct inheritance the taxes prescribed are:

On \$10,000 to \$100,000, 1 per cent; on \$100,000 to \$500,000, 2 per cent; and on those over \$500,000, 3 per cent. It is estimated that \$20,000,000 annually will be derived from this tax.

The maximum and minimum provisions of the bill do away with the necessity of continuing the foreign trade agreements. The abrogation of these is provided for in a section which authorizes the president to issue notices of the termination of these agreements within 10 days after the bill goes into effect. The French agreement would therefore terminate immediately, while the German agreement would remain in force for six months.

Extent of Strike Hidden. London, March 18.—The demoralization of the Paris postal and telegraphic service is becoming a serious matter for the rest of the world. The French authorities, it is believed here, are trying to conceal the extent of the strike, which seems to be extending gradually to the large provincial towns, although many dispatches from places outside Paris are received in London with small delay. Paris itself was entirely cut off telegraphically.

Missouri After Negroes. Jefferson City, Mo., March 18.—The senate passed a bill today to provide an educational qualification for voters. Most of the Republicans voted no. The theory of the Democrats was that the bill would disfranchise more negroes than it would ignorant white foreigners.

SIEGE CONDITIONS PREVAIL.

Strike Ties Up French Capital and Food Becoming Scarce.

Paris, March 19.—Mi-Careme, the middle of Lent, usually celebrated with grotesque processions throughout France, and with particular gayety in Paris, found the capital today in a state of virtual siege.

Because of the postal strike no mail deliveries were made, banks held up payments on checks because of their inability to receive advices from their correspondents, stamps were not on sale, telegrams were refused acceptance, and the prices of provisions were soaring, while eggs, milk, butter and other country produce were painfully scarce.

Over a million letters are stacked in the postoffice awaiting sorting and dispatch, as the postal employees in the other branches besides the telegraph service have gone on a sympathetic strike. The last American mails have not yet been removed from their sacks, and practically no letters have left the country.

Three thousand telegrams are piled on the dispatching hooks, awaiting transmission, as the military telegraphers pressed into service, are unfamiliar with the postal instruments, and cannot use them. The government has threatened to call upon the army to furnish men to deliver the mail, but as yet has not taken this step. Business is at a standstill, and conditions are grave in all lines that depend upon the postal activity for their daily continuance.

PENNY LUNCH AT SCHOOLS.

Poor Boys and Girls to Be Fed at Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, March 19.—An innovation in the form of penny lunches to the public school children attracted much interest today. It was started by the Civic Federation, and the large Ann street school in the poorer quarter of the city was the first to benefit. Eventually all are to be included, and served every school day in the year.

Large airy dining rooms are provided, and there was a great rush today at the opening, hundreds gathering at the tables. Each one was given all the soup, fruit and buns he or she could eat for one cent. Each lunch costs the association about four cents. The charitable public helps in maintenance. Other departures, such as half an hour of story-telling at lunch time, are to be made. This is in line with the agitation going on the country over because children of poor parents are sent by the thousands to school without having had proper food.

PLANT BLOWS UP.

Explosion in Coeur d'Alene Powder Works Kills Inventor.

Spokane, Wash., March 19.—The Coeur d'Alene Powder mills near Wallace, Idaho, were almost totally destroyed yesterday evening by sparks falling in the mixer. The loss will aggregate thousands. The secret of making the powder died with J. Skalberg, the maker, whose death occurred in the explosion, and may end the manufacture of powder in the Coeur d'Alenes. His powder exploded without smoke or poisonous gases and was very valuable to mining. Pete Pico and Alvin Nelson were also killed. J. K. Ogilvy, an engineer, was badly hurt. Windows were broken for miles around, and trees were torn to shreds.

Lead Miners Object to Cut

Denver, March 19.—Following information that the new tariff bill provides for a reduction in the rate on lead contents of ores from 1 1/2 to 1 cent per pound, comes the announcement of the determination of Western mining men to fight this reduction, which they declare will have the effect of closing nearly all the low grade producing mines in the United States. To this end Secretary J. F. Callbreath, of the American Mining Congress, today issued a call for a meeting of operators to be held in Salt Lake City next Monday.

West Will Fight.

Washington, March 19.—Congressmen from the Pacific Northwest will unite in a fight for the restoration of the duty on rough lumber to \$2 per thousand. After the tariff bill was introduced all members from Oregon, Washington and Idaho were interviewed, and all announced their purpose to oppose the lumber schedule as fixed by the ways and means committee, and to join with members from other lumber producing states to get the old duty.

Kerens New Ambassador.

Chicago, March 19.—The following is a special cable to the Daily News from Vienna: The new American ambassador to Austria will be Richard Kerens, of St. Louis. The State department has asked the Austrian government if he is persona grata, and an affirmative reply has been sent.

Big Union Depot Burns.

Louisville, Ky., March 19.—The Louisville union depot, valued at \$400,000, was destroyed by fire tonight. Half an hour after the building collapsed, the Commercial club had decided that the city must have an elaborate new station at once.

Germany Backs Up Austria.

Paris, March 19.—According to latest information, Austro-Hungary, with the support of Germany, has fully resolved to send an expedition into Serbia, unless that country changes its present attitude.

A BRIEF DAILY REPORT ON THE WORK OF CONGRESS

Friday, March 19.

Washington, March 19.—Senator Frye of Maine presided in the senate today in the absence of Vice President Sherman, who is at his home at Utica, N. Y. A new senator, Oliver of Pennsylvania, was sworn in and took his seat. A number of nominations from President Taft and a message from the house announcing the passage of the census bill, were received, and following that, an adjournment was taken to Monday morning.

Washington, March 19.—Representative Seno Payne at 12:30 o'clock this afternoon moved that the house go into committee of the whole for the purpose of considering the tariff bill. The motion was adopted. Olmstead of Pennsylvania was called to the chair and the clerk then began the four-hour job of reading the bill.

Before the house became a committee of the whole, a motion was passed that when the house adjourns today it will reconvene on Monday.

Thursday, March 18.

Washington, March 18.—The census bill in its amended form was passed by the house today after a lively attack on the rules by DeArmond, of Missouri. The bill was passed at the late session, but was vetoed by President Roosevelt, because of his objections to the provision taking from the civil service commission the power of appointing the clerks.

In order to prevent the spread of tuberculosis among government clerks, the house agreed to an amendment by Bennett of New York, requiring that each census applicant furnish with his application a certificate of good health.

Wednesday, March 17.

Washington, March 17.—Making smashing reductions in duties on many of the principal products of American industry, the Payne tariff bill was today introduced in the house. It has already become the target of a cross fire from the manufacturers on whose rates of duty the assault is made and their supporters in congress on the one hand and from those Democrats who maintain that the knife did not strike deep enough on the other hand. The champions of the iron and steel and the paper industry have already declared themselves and other industries will doubtless soon be heard from.

General debate will be postponed until Monday, if Payne's present program is followed. After that the measure probably will be before the house from 10 days to two weeks.

Tuesday, March 16.

Washington, March 16.—The reading of the president's message to congress in favor of revising the tariff was the chief business before the senate today. The message received careful attention. The senate adjourned to next Friday.

Washington, March 16.—The house ways and means committee, having anticipated Mr. Taft's recommendation of promptness, has prepared a bill which will be submitted to the house tomorrow. It would have been reported today but for the addition of Cushman, of Washington, to the committee. In order to secure his approval and thus secure party unanimity, the Republican members of the committee held a special meeting and submitted the bill to him. They made several changes and ordered it reprinted ready for submission to the house early tomorrow.

Monday, March 15.

Washington, March 15.—The senate session today was brief, the chief business being the reading of the president's proclamation calling an extra session of congress and the appointment of a committee formally to notify the president that the senate was ready to receive any messages. Senator Stephenson was sworn in.

Washington, March 15.—After one of the stormiest sessions in its history, the house of representatives today, regardless of party alignment, adopted by a vote of 211 to 172 a resolution by Fitzgerald, Dem., New York, whereby the rules were amended in several important particulars. Joseph G. Cannon was re-elected speaker.

Crum Goes Out of Office.

Washington, March 18.—The contest over the appointment of a collector of customs of Charleston, S. C., which was waged for so long a time over the selection of Dr. William D. Crum, was terminated today by the appointment by President Taft of Edward W. Durant. Mr. Durant is a white man, and as the only objection to Crum was based upon the fact that he is a negro, it is presumed that Mr. Durant's nomination will be confirmed.

O'Brien Remains Ambassador.

Washington, March 19.—Thomas J. O'Brien will remain as ambassador to Japan under the Taft administration, according to a statement by Senator William Alden Smith, of Michigan, after he had held a conference with the president.

Conference on Immigration.

Washington, March 20.—Italy, through Ambassador Desplanches, today submitted to the State department a proposition having in view the calling of an international conference on immigration.

Secretary Meyer to Tour Coast.

Washington, March 17.—For the purpose of inspecting the navy yards of the Pacific coast and looking into naval conditions generally in the West, Secretary Meyer informally announced today that he was making plans for a visit to the Pacific slope. It is understood that he will visit Mare Island and Bremerton and may also go on to San Diego to inspect the proposed site for a naval station, though congress recently refused to appropriate money for a survey for a navy yard.

The secretary will visit the Union Iron works at San Francisco, and the Moran works at Seattle, to inspect their facilities for government construction work.

Portland Loses Decision.

Washington, March 19.—All members of the Washington congressional delegation today united in a letter to the secretary of war protesting against the removal of the headquarters of the department of the Columbia from Vancouver barracks to Seattle or elsewhere. They insist that the headquarters should remain where now located. Senator Jones this morning had a talk with the secretary of war about the proposed removal, but found the department not ready to act. He was given to understand that if the headquarters are moved, it will be to Seattle, rather than to Portland.

Zelaya Mobilizing Forces.

Washington, March 18.—Extraordinary military and naval activity on the part of Nicaragua prevails, according to dispatches received at the State department today from Mr. Gregory, the retiring secretary of legation at Managua. According to his advices, about 6,000 Nicaraguans are now near the Honduran frontier. The chief activity is in the neighborhood of Corinto, where also are concentrated four gunboats and other auxiliary craft. It is manifest that Zelaya's doings are being to cause considerable feeling against him.

Both Senators Protest.

Washington, March 16.—Senator Chamberlain called at the War department today and filed a protest against the reported transfer of the Department of the Columbia headquarters to Seattle. He also protested against the practice of purchasing supplies for Pacific coast posts in the Eastern market. Senator Bourne has filed a written protest with President Taft against the removal of the headquarters from Vancouver. It is expected no definite action will be taken until after the new secretary of war takes office.

Logan Not Badly Damaged.

Washington, March 17.—A brief dispatch received at the War department today regarding the condition of the transport Logan in Honolulu harbor, says the accident was the fault of the pilot, and that no damage was done to the vessel. The Logan was in charge of a pilot, and a civilian being thus in command, no responsibility attaches to army officers. The accident will be investigated by a board of army officers and a report made to the War department.

Denver Rates Not Fair.

Washington, March 20.—It was held by the Interstate Commerce commission today that the present adjustment of the freight rates from Missouri river points to Denver and to Utah common points were discriminatory against Denver in favor of Kansas City and other Missouri river crossings, and that the class rates from Chicago and St. Louis to Denver were excessive and unreasonable and should be reduced.

Mitchell to Leave Army.

Washington, March 16.—First Lieutenant Hiram E. Mitchell, son of the late Senator John H. Mitchell, today telegraphed his resignation from Denver to the War department, asking immediate acceptance. Friends of Mitchell are asking the department to accept it at once. His reason for desiring to relinquish his commission are not given out. The department is naturally disinclined to accept without knowing more about the case.

Must Use True Names.

Washington, March 17.—As many packers put up "humpback" and "dog" salmon under fancy names and sell them to consumers who believe them to be superior varieties, the Department of Agriculture today ordered that these fish, when canned, be labelled with their common names. The decision also says that the fish commonly known as lake herring and cisco should be so called and not designated "white fish."

Wilson Refuses to Change.

Washington, March 16.—A movement is on foot to induce Secretary Wilson to modify or reverse his recent decision that flour bleached by nitrogenous peroxide is an adulterated product under the food and drugs act. Hundreds of letters are being received daily by the secretary asking him to refer his ruling to the referee board of scientific experts for decision. The secretary will stand by his ruling.

Treasury Outlook Better.

Washington, March 18.—Declaring the treasury outlook now is better than in months, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Coolidge authorized a statement today giving figures to show a marked improvement, so far as government receipts were concerned.

TARIFF REVISION NEEDED.

Taft's Message Asks Congress to Do Nothing Else.

Washington, March 17.—The message of President Taft recommending prompt and thorough revision of the tariff and its consideration at the extra session of congress, to the exclusion of all other subjects, was received with loud and prolonged applause in both senate and house. The message is brief and to the point and is as follows:

"To the senate and house of representatives:—I have convened the congress in this extra session in order to enable it to give immediate consideration to the revision of the Dingley tariff act. Conditions affecting production, manufacture and business generally have so changed in the last 12 years as to require a readjustment and revision of the import duties imposed by that act. More than this, the present tariff act, with the other sources of government revenue, does not furnish income enough to pay the authorized expenditures. By July next the excess of expenditures over receipts for the current fiscal year will equal \$100,000,000.

"The successful party in the last election is pledged to a revision of the tariff. The country and the business community especially expect it. The prospect of a change in the rates of import duties always causes a suspension or halt in business because of the uncertainty as to the conditions to be made and their effect. It is therefore of the highest importance that the new bill should be agreed upon and passed with as much speed as possible consistent with its due and thorough consideration. For these reasons, I have deemed the present to be an extraordinary occasion within the meaning of the constitution, justifying and requiring the calling of an extra session.

"In my inaugural address I stated in a summary way the principles upon which, in my judgment, the revision of the tariff should proceed, and indicated at least one new source of revenue that might be properly resorted to in order to avoid a future deficit. It is not necessary for me to repeat what I then said:

"I venture to suggest that the vital business interests of the country require that the attention of the congress in this session be chiefly devoted to the consideration of the new tariff bill, and the less time given to other subjects of legislation in this session of congress, the better for the country."

PREHISTORIC CITY FOUND.

Settler Stumbles Upon Massive Ruins in California.

Los Angeles, March 17.—In the San Jacinto mountains, near the edge of the Coachella valley, B. P. Bond, of Long Beach, has just made California's most important archaeological discovery, and one that will be of widespread interest. While rambling up from his desert land claim, he found the ruins of a prehistoric city containing from 700 to 1,000 well preserved stone houses. Evidences of well paved streets, strange earthenware of fine type scattered about and to general aspect of the place shows that it was no mean community, but savored of civilization.

Bond arrived here today, and after conferring with Charles F. Lummis and other scientists, arranged to place accurate information concerning his remarkable find before the Smithsonian institute. He already has assurance by wire that an immediate and thorough exploration will be conducted from Washington, and has been asked in the meantime not to divulge the exact location of the ruins, lest relic hunters and others strip them of probable valuables. He states the silent city lies within 15 miles of Indio and not over five miles from the old Los Angeles-Yuma road.

Sharp Fight With Moros.

Manila, March 17.—A belated dispatch from Lake Anao reports that a band of hostile Moros attacked Lieutenant Furlong's detachment of constabulary at Bordong, on March 8, and after a sharp fight eight Moros and two members of the constabulary were left dead on the field, while two soldiers and one civilian were wounded. A company of the 25th infantry and a detachment of scouts have gone to the aid of Furlong's force. The day after the fight a constabulary soldier deserted, after stealing five rifles.

Los Angeles to Bar Sick.

Los Angeles, March 17.—At a meeting of 50 persons of the chamber of commerce today, representing all of the prominent charitable associations and institutions of the city and county, a resolution was adopted asking charitable associations of the United States to refrain from sending any more consumptives to Los Angeles and reciting that if they were continued to be sent, that necessity would compel the local associations to return them at once.

Hadley Will Fight Rate.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 17.—That he would exhaust all the powers of the state before he would permit the railroads to return to the 3-cents a mile passenger rate, was the declaration of Governor Hadley, today. His statement followed the action of a railroad conference in Chicago yesterday at which the decision to restore the old rate was taken.

Million for Good Roads.

Stockton, Cal., March 17.—San Joaquin county voted today to issue bonds to the sum of \$1,890,000 for the building of 238 miles of macadam road. This is the largest county bond issue ever voted in the United States for good roads in proportion to wealth and population.

FRENCH SERVICE BADLY CRIPPLED

Telegraph Operators Go on Strike and Tie Up System.

Pretest Against Methods of Director—Is Under Direction of Postoffice Department—Telephone Lines Are Also in Bad Shape—Electricians Threaten to Go Out.

Paris, March 16.—A general strike of the telegraphers of the postoffice department was declared tonight, following a meeting of the general association of post telegraph employees, at which 5,000 were present. A resolution to strike was voted without a single dissenting voice and orders were issued for the withdrawal of all operators employed in the department.

The resolution says the strike is ordered as a protest against the arbitrary administration, and that the decision was precipitated by an insult addressed by M. Sinyan, under secretary of posts and telegraph, to the association officials.

The government put forth every effort to preserve international communication, but the central telegraph station was demoralized today and practically out of communication. The Bourse station, however, was almost normal and there was not much interference with the telephone service.

M. Palud, secretary of the Electricians' union, who had openly threatened to call out the electricians, made no move to do so.

Both telegraphic and telephonic communication with London was greatly interrupted, not so much on account of the strike, however, but because of a fierce storm which prevailed during the night. Some of the London correspondents are sending their dispatches by way of New York, to which both land lines of the cable remain open.

SHIP YET AGROUND.

Four Steamers Fail to Haul Transport Logan from Reef.

Honolulu, March 16.—With engines running at full speed, and assisted by the winches and propellers of the vessel they sought to aid, the British cruiser Cambrian, the light house tender Kuku and the tugs Iroquois and Inrepretr strained for three hours this morning in the effort to drag the stranded transport Logan off the reef on which she had driven 25 feet of her bow while maneuvering to enter her slip last Saturday night.

Several hawsers were snapped by the strain put upon them, but when the position of the troopship was ascertained by measurement it was found that she had been moved only six feet, and the attempt to refloat her was abandoned until high tide comes again tonight.

Many shipping men believe that it will be necessary to lighten the Logan of her cargo before she can be freed from the reef. If the effort in which the Cambrian and the three tugs join at high tide proves fruitless, it is probable that the work of hoisting out cargo will be begun tomorrow morning.

SERVIA PLAYS FOX.

Evades Direct Issue in Austro-Hungary Dispute.

London, March 16.—It cannot be said that the relations between Austria-Hungary and Serbia have yet reached a point where an outbreak of hostilities is probable. Throughout the negotiations in connection with the delicate Balkan situation the Austrian idea has been to force Serbia first to acknowledge that the question of annexing Bosnia and Herzegovina had passed beyond the stage where it could be made subject to a rearrangement; and, second, to take effective steps for demobilizing the troops.

The unsatisfactory side of Serbia's reply to Count Forgach's note, referring the Austro-Hungarian government to Serbia's previous communication to the powers, is the fact that it purposely evaded these issues, thus tacitly implying that the matter has been left in the hands of the signatories of the Berlin treaty.

Still But Six Jurymen.

San Francisco, March 16.—With nine weeks of proceedings entered upon the records of the court and but six jurors sworn to try the case, the trial of Patrick Calhoun, president of the United Railroads, who is accused of having bribed municipal supervisors, made little progress today. Walter J. Towers, a former union iron molder, whose examination occupied most of the early part of the day, was excused until tomorrow.

Massacre Stirrs Persia.

St. Petersburg, March 16.—A dispatch to the Novoe Vremya from Julfa on the frontier between Persia and Russia, says that 1,000 Persian government horsemen and 500 infantrymen were marching on Julfa from the Persian bank of the Araxes river, devastating the villages in their path and shooting down the people.

Revive Three-Cent Fare.

Chicago, March 16.—The resumption of a 3-cent passenger rate in Missouri on April 10 to replace the present 2-cent rate, declared confiscatory by Judge McPherson, was decided upon today at a meeting here of executive and traffic officials of the interested roads.