

UNMASKING THE TARIFF DELUSION

Franklin Pierce Shows That Labor Is Not Benefited by Unjust Tax.

MANUFACTURER KEEPS PROFIT

Proof of Democratic Platform's Soundness Cited in Reports of Wage Investigations.

By FRANKLIN PIERCE.

For a hundred years of our history the manufacturers, believing that they received a benefit from the protective tariffs, have ingeniously devised plausible pretexts for imposing increased prices upon the necessities of life. At first they said that industry in our country was in its infancy and needed protection. When those industries had become strong and needed no aid the manufacturers invented the theory that the foreigner paid the duty. This theory was exploded, and they declared that cheap clothing meant cheap men and was not a blessing.

Driven from every one of these indefensible positions, their final and only argument left today is that the tariff is imposed upon foreign imports to enable the manufacturer to increase his profits and pay higher wages.

The Democratic platform declares that:

"In the most highly protected industries, such as cotton and wool, steel and iron, the wages of the laborers are the lowest paid in any of our industries."

Wages in Cotton Industry.

Under the existing Payne-Aldrich tariff law actual imports of cotton cloth paid in 1910 average duties of 65.4 per cent.

In 1905, when work and wage conditions in the cotton industry were exceptionally good, the wages of 202,211 cotton mill operatives in the United States—men, women and children—averaged only \$6.47 a week. The average wage for men was but \$7.71 a week, for women \$6.30 and for children, \$3.21.

As to the profits, seventeen leading cotton mills, with total capitalization of \$25,110,000 and total surplus of \$21,363,501, paid in nine years dividends averaging 22 per cent.

The cotton manufacturers turned out in 1905 \$442,451,218 worth of goods and paid in wages therefor \$94,337,095, or 21 per cent of the value of the finished product.

Extortion of Wool Tariff.

Outside of the duties on two or three commodities of comparatively little importance, the duties on woollen cloth are the highest of any in the tariff schedules. According to Senator Reed Smoot, owner of a woollen mill at Provo, Utah, and chairman of the finance committee in charge of tariff legislation in the senate, wearing apparel valued at 30 cents a pound now pays 295 2-3 per cent duty.

This and other correspondingly high duties on the manufactures of wool are made to enable the manufacturer to pay his labor an increased wage over those of foreign countries. But the duty on woollen goods is nearly five times the entire labor cost, while the American manufacturers in 1905 paid in wages only 18 per cent of the total value of their production.

At Lawrence in this most highly protected industry the laborers were obliged to strike even for a living wage. Thousands of adult males were receiving only \$6 to \$9 a week and many only \$5 to \$6 a week. As a result of the strike the American Woollen company gave its employees slight increases in wages.

The wool tariff bill vetoed by President Taft reduced the duties on raw wool from 42.20 to 29 per cent and on manufactures of wool from 87.65 to 48.36 per cent. Mr. Taft said he vetoed it because the proposed rates did not comply with the findings of the tariff board. Senator La Follette contradicted the president, saying that the proposed rates varied from 1 per cent lower to 11.6 higher than the tariff board's findings justified.

Low Wages in Steel.

Manufacturers of iron and steel in 1905 paid in wages only 15 per cent of the total value of their production, while the duty then would average about 45 to 47 per cent, and on all metals it now averages 34.51 per cent.

American wages are really the cheapest wages in the world when you take into account the amount of production per man.

An illustration of this appears in the Stanley report, investigating the steel trust, as follows:

"The labor cost of producing pig iron in Pennsylvania fell from \$1.25 a ton in 1902 to 82 cents a ton in 1909, yet the realized value of the pig iron output was \$15.64 in 1902, whereas it was \$17.44 in 1909. In other words, wage-workers in 1902 got \$1.25 for producing only \$15.64 worth of pig iron and in 1909 only 82 cents for producing \$17.44 worth."

While thus treating labor the industrial combinations that have grown up under the protection of the tariff have fixed the prices of commodities at the highest point the home market would stand.

When will the laboring men of the country cast off this delusion that the tariff is for their benefit and with their votes strike down this monstrous injustice?

NOVEL HOTEL IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK.



The above picture shows the Great Northern Railway's unique "Indian Equipped" hostelry in Glacier National Park, in Montana. This \$100,000 log hotel has many novel features. It will be opened next year to the tourist public. Chief among the interesting things about it is the open campfire, built in the center of the lobby upon a huge stone, 18x16 feet. A large hood which hangs down over the campfire will carry the smoke up the mammoth chimney. The glow from the burning logs will light the lobby at night. Indian tepees, pitched in the corners, will be used as card and tea rooms. The interior decorations will carry out the picturesque Indian idea. Two canoes are to be suspended from the high, timbered ceiling. Indian boys wearing buckskin clothing and moccasins will glide noiselessly through the building as "bell boys," and Indian maidens will be chamber maids. The porters also will be Indians.

CAMPAIGN MUD ANGERS VETERAN

"Comrade" Editor's Effort to Distort Democratic Position on Pensions Rebuked.

CIRCULAR TO G. A. R. POSTS.

Bought "Means" and "Harsh" Expressions by Wilson Supporters, but Finds Facts the Reverse.

Ignoring the fact that the Democratic house passed the most liberal pension bill in the history of the United States and that it was the Republican senate that reduced the appropriation the editor of the National Tribune of Washington has appealed to grand

army posts all over the country to supply campaign material for use against the Democratic party.

Colonel (Sergeant) John McElroy, the editor, has not met always with the co-operation he desired. This is evidenced by the fact that indignant grand army men have forwarded his circular letters to Democratic national headquarters in New York with their protests against the playing of such politics within the old soldiers' organization.

Quest For "Mean" Things.

Editor McElroy's appeal was sent out, mimeographed, on the letterhead of the National Tribune, with his own name at the top. The letter read:

Sept. 13, 1912.

Comrade—We are anxious to get the expression of editorials on pensions from the papers supporting Wilson in your neighborhood. Will you kindly look over the files of your local papers and send us anything particularly harsh and mean which they have published. We want to show conclusively the attitude of the men who are supporting Wilson and who will control his administration if elected. Please send these at your earliest convenience, as the time is short. Fraternally,

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

One of the replies sent to the Tribune was:

Headquarters Cushing Post, No. 14, G. A. R. Astoria, Ore., Sept. 28, 1912.

National Tribune, Washington, D. C.: Gentlemen—Your communication addressed to me as adjutant of Cushing Post, No. 14, of the 17th inst. I found today on my return from the national encampment at Los Angeles, Cal. Thus the delay in answering.

You wish me to look over the files of our local papers and send you "anything particularly harsh and mean" which they have published regarding pensions. As you have specified that these "harsh" and "mean" comments must be from papers supporting Wilson I must inform you that the papers supporting Wilson throughout the state, so far as I have been able to learn, are friendly toward the interests of the civil war veterans and endorse the action of the Democratic house of the United States congress in its passage of the pension bill in the special and last session of congress and have no fault to find with Senator Kern for his eloquent appeal in the senate in behalf of the civil war veterans.

If you are really looking for "mean" and "harsh" editorials along this line, if your object in this search is for the interests of the old soldiers, you will find enough "mean" and "harsh" things in the papers that are supporting Mr. Taft. And if you wish to prospect away out here in Oregon (politically) for other than pure gold please excuse the adjutant of Cushing Post, No. 14, department of Oregon, G. A. R., in assisting.

B. F. ALLEN.

CAPTURES OUTLAW STALLION.

(Terrebonne Oregonian)

Joe Giles, who has been helping Jack Helfrich gather his horses for some time past, while out Tuesday scared up the bunch of wild horses that has been ranging to the west of Terrebonne and was successful in roping the ringleader of the herd, a

1100 pound sorrel stallion. Joe had

something of a strenuous task subduing the animal and, we imagine, had the stunt been pulled off in the arena, it would have been a prize-winner. The horse had been ranging the range at will for many years and made a vicious and unrelenting protest against captivity.

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County Judge

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Election Returns

NEXT WEDNESDAY NIGHT at
STAR THEATRE

(WALL STREET)



While the results in the big political races probably will be known before Wednesday night, all final returns will not be received until then or later.

THE STAR THEATRE has arranged for a special telegraphic report from Portland, at eight P. M., giving the final standing of important national and state candidates, and of the most important state measures. This report and all final county returns obtainable will be announced at the two shows. ...REGULAR PRICES.

