

The Santiam News.

Politically Independent.

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T. L. DUGGER
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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THE GROWING NATIONAL DEFICIT.

WHEN PRESIDENT-ELECT TAFT is inducted into the chief magistracy of the Nation, next week, he will be confronted with the fact that we have a National deficit of from one hundred to one hundred and thirty millions of dollars, which must be arranged for. This means in common every day language, that we, as a nation, have spent that amount in excess of our income. It is a condition that must be met and, it is generally understood that Mr. Taft will call a special session of congress, immediately after his inauguration to consider this matter.

There are two ways in which our National balance sheet can be corrected. We must either spend less money, or we must increase our income. As we are not likely to decrease our expenditures to any appreciable amount, increase of income is our only alternative. There are numerous ways in which the government receipts may be increased.

It has been suggested that a stamp tax, hitherto employed in war times only, should be inaugurated. The people do not take kindly to a stamp tax, even as a war measure, and if invoked in a time of absolute peace, such a loud protest would come up from the people in consequence, that political disaster would be visited upon the party responsible therefor. Hence a stamp tax may be dismissed as being untenable.

Undoubtedly a change in our tariff laws must be made, so that the importation of foreign made goods shall be encouraged. There is a high water mark in tariff schedules which, when reached, becomes a bar to the importation of foreign goods. As a matter of course, under such schedules, when importation ceases, the revenue therefrom ceases as well. Our present tariff schedules are very close to the high water mark; hence our present National deficit.

There is a deal of claptrap, fuss and feathers, about a high tariff protecting American labor. There never was a greater fallacy promulgated under the guise of favoring the American laboring man. The fact is the price of labor in America, or any other land for that matter, is governed entirely by the supply and demand. Our tariff laws do not have a particle of bearing in the matter; further than to increase the profits of the manufacturer at the expense of the American consumer. Hence, a raise in our tariff schedules would simply aggravate our present difficulty.

But suppose the schedule rates shall be reduced; what would be the result? Undoubtedly an increase of importations would at once ensue and a corresponding increase in the receipts of our custom houses would result. Nor would the increase of receipts be the only gain. The foreign made goods would enter into competition with our home manufacturers, and, the inevitable result would be a saving to the American consumer. The only loss would be to the American manufacturer. But as he has been growing fat at the expense of the American consumer for the past fifteen years, or more, he can well afford to work for a smaller profit for a few years and until the government again gets back to a sound financial basis.

Congress will have a hard fight with the manufacturing interests to get the tariff schedules reduced to a revenue producing basis. These government pets have enjoyed the benefit of a tariff law, which excludes foreign competition, for so long a period, that they have come to look upon such favors as a vested right.

But President Taft and his congress have a condition, not a theory, which must be met and corrected. Certainly our present excessively high tariff schedules will not be continued. Any change whatever, therefore, will be a benefit to the government in the increase of revenue and to the consumer as well.

As a matter of fact, if the Republican party, could continue itself in power, its only course, whenever tariff tinkering is undertaken, will be reduction. Probably four-fifths of the American

people, to-day, desire a reduction of our tariff schedules, and as an increase in National revenues MUST be provided and, at the same time, congress can accede to the wishes of a vast majority of the people in so doing, there is but little danger but what a reduction of the tariff, will be the key to unlock us from our present undesirable difficulty.

AN UNPRECEDENTED EVENT.

LAST WEEK, WAS COMPLETED, the most extraordinary naval event that the history of the world has ever recorded. When Admiral Sperry signaled "cast anchor" to the big battle ship fleet, in Hampton Roads, he had completed, without a hitch, a feat hitherto unknown in the annals of the world's navies. Previous to Admiral Sperry's successful circumnavigation of the globe, the longest cruise of a battle ship fleet was that of the Russian fleet when it was conveyed from the Baltic sea on the west coast of Russia, around Africa and up to the China sea, to meet annihilation by Admiral Togo, who commanded the Japanese battle ship fleet.

Admiral Sperry's remarkable round-the-world cruise, has demonstrated that America possesses the world's ablest seamen. We have had some such notion since the days of John Paul Jones of Revolutionary fame; when he sailed his man-of-war almost into the British harbors and made reprisals. The fact was given a most emphatic emphasis when Commodore Perry went to the shores of Lake Erie, built his ships from the trees that stood in the forest, then met and captured the entire British fleet there on the lake. The fame of the American seamen was further added to during the Civil and Spanish wars. But it remained for the round-the-world cruise of the big battle ship fleet to place the American seamen at the head of all maritime nations. The schedule of dates when the various parts of sail would be made, was formulated by the Navy Department; before the fleet left Hampton Roads, 14 months ago. The fact that the schedule of dates was maintained, almost to the day and hour, shows how exact has become the science of navigation, and how perfect in construction are Uncle Sam's war ships.

When the British maneuver their big fleets of war ships, even in their home waters, it is not unusual for collisions to occur and vessels to be lost. This demonstrates that the British boats are faulty in construction, or that British seamen are not the masters of naval science which they have ever claimed to be.

Not an accident of any importance, marred the history of the American cruise from the time that Admiral Robt. Evans signaled "up anchor", in the historic Hampton Roads harbor, to the placing of the big ships in their berths of 14 months ago by Admiral Sperry.

It is stated this round-the-world trip has cost Uncle Sam thirty millions of dollars. The thought at once suggests itself: "Was the cruise worth the money? The News believes that a vast majority of the people of the United States will answer "yes". The simple fact that all nations of the world now have a greater respect for the stars and stripes than ever before, and because of that respect may be less anxious to go to war with us, amply rewards the expense. National respect is but another name for national fear. The absolute perfection in construction of our battle ships and the faultless seamanship of our naval officers, will cause any nation to think seriously before declaring war upon us.

Another feature; Our government is continually building battle ships costing from four to eight millions of dollars each. Until this successful round-the-world cruise, the people had no means of knowing whether our battle ships were seaworthy or not. Now we know they are capable, under the skillful handling of their commanders of weathering any gale.

Just what disposition will be made of the big fighting machines, is not yet stated. But the continuous reports of the bellicose Japs certainly demands that a good share of them should be sent to the Pacific Coast.

The Oregon legislature, just adjourned, while it enacted a number of foolish and uncalled for laws, besides appropriating money for projects which people do not, in our opinion, endorse did a few things which the people will ever hold it in grateful remembrance. The most meritorious act was the eradicating of the mischief making, legislative debauching normal school combine. Now one section of the state can, in no sense, say that it has been treated more unfairly than any other section. The probable outcome of the normal muddle will be its submission to the arbitrament of the people. This action would take the matter entirely out of politics and place the normal question before the people upon its merits. The News believes that Oregon will not again undertake normal training in a separate school; but that normal departments will be established at, possibly, both Eugene and Corvallis. This can be done just as effectually and at not more than one-tenth the cost, than the plan we have been pursuing. Anyway, why should not these two big colleges educate teachers with as much propriety as they educate lawyers, doctors, dentists, civil engineers, electricians, carpenters, blacksmiths, machinists, housekeepers, seamstresses, etc?

MAKING THE FARM HOME AND FARM STABLES HEALTHY!

Henry Wallace, editor of Wallace's Farmer, who is one of the members of President Roosevelt's Country Life Commission, has this to say about the sanitary condition of the farm homes in the United States:

"We have been deeply impressed in our recent travels with the fact that a very considerable per cent of the diseases that carry off thousands every year and bury in the earth untold millions of money value in the shape of human flesh, could be eliminated on the farm by proper sanitation. The sanitation of the farms in some sections of our great country is simply awful and should be intolerable for a day or even an hour. In other sections there is less that deserves criticism; but we do not know of any sections where the sanitation on the farms is, as a rule, what it should be."

When the great majority of dairy farms are kept in an unfit, unhealthy condition, without even a decent supply of pure air, when a vast number of the men who keep cows for revenue, have read so little, thought so little and do not really know so little, about what constitutes a healthy stable, what should we expect of their homes? If the good wives did not know more on this subject of beautiful cleanliness than their husbands, the homes they live in would soon become charnel houses.

The ignorance and indifference of the average farmer as to the laws of health in the management of live stock, is simply appalling. Every case of tuberculosis in the country can be traced to this ignorance, for just as soon as a farmer knows what he ought to know on this disease, you will see him taking steps to get rid of it.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Photos.

Get the best when you are getting and get them at J. G. Crawford's studio, corner second and Lyon streets Albany, Oregon.

Administratrix Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed by the county court of Linn County, Oregon, administratrix of the estate of M. W. Miller, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same to the undersigned at her residence about five miles south west of Scio, Oregon, duly verified and with proper vouchers, as in law required, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated this 21st day of January, 1909.
ALICE M. MILLER,
Administratrix.
L. L. Ewan, Attorney for Administratrix.

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