

The Santiam News.

Politically Independent.

Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One year in advance.....\$1.25
One year, at end of year.....1.50
One year, at end of 2 years.....1.75
One year, at end of 3 years.....2.00
Six months in advance......75
Three months in advance......50
Single copy in wrapper......05

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THE SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS.

THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS met in special or called session last Monday, for the purpose of revising our tariff schedules.

When President Taft succeeded to the reins of government he was confronted with the fact that there was a National deficit of the enormous amount of \$130,000,000. That is to say our government expended that amount more than was its income. Now, even a government as great and rich as ours is, cannot indulge in that class of financing for any great length of time, with safety. It is dangerous to both the credit of the Nation and the political party which is responsible for the management of the government.

The Republican party, with the exception of eight years, has had control of the government for the past forty eight years. That party has shaped the financial conduct of the government during almost the entire period. It is responsible for the legislation good or bad, which we have had during that period, except two presidential terms. It has had power to enact laws creating and providing for the government's income and expenditures and therefore, is responsible for the present financial predicament. Congress is now in session called by the new president, to rectify a mistaken financial system. This special session is a practical acknowledgment that our present tariff system is wrong and, using a cant expression, needs fixing.

The primary object of a tariff, is revenue. It is a sum of money required of the foreign manufacturer for the privilege of selling his goods in our markets. But the republican party has added another and which has become the principal feature of our tariff system, viz. the protection of our American manufacturers. Our present tariff schedules have been arranged with the view of protecting our home manufacturers, rather than for the purpose of raising revenue. The present enormous National deficit is the result of this protective theory.

Now, it is an evident fact, that if our tariff schedules produce any revenue, foreign made goods must be imported and sold to American consumers. If our schedules are placed so high that foreign made goods cannot enter our markets, we are maintaining custom houses at every port of entry for no purpose whatever. Unless the foreign manufacturer can sell his goods at a profit, as a matter of course, he does not sell to us; for a reasonable profit, is as necessary to him, as to his American competitor.

The present special session of congress is an acknowledgement that an excessively high protective tariff is a failure. It is a failure as a revenue producer and is a failure because the American consumer is forced to pay nearly 50 per cent. more for the goods he consumes than, in justice, he ought to pay.

To illustrate: The cost of an article made say, by an English manufacturer is \$1. He could export this article to the United States, and sell it at a profit for \$1.50. At New York a customs officer stops him and says: You must pay \$1 for the privilege of selling that article in America. The Englishman, therefore is compelled to charge \$2.50 for his article in order to realize his profit. The same article would cost the American manufacturer, to make, \$1.50. He places his article on the market in competition with his English competitor. He can sell his article for \$2 and still make a profit of 50 cents; whereas, the Englishman, if he sold at the same price, would be selling without a profit at all and, consequently, is driven from the American market. What is the result? The government loses the revenue of \$1, the American manufacturer immediately increases his price to \$2.50 and the American consumer has it to pay. If the Englishman comes back again, our American manufacturer immediately drops his price to \$2 and our English friend is again compelled to abandon the field when the price again goes up to \$2.50. Our protective system is a beautiful one—beautiful only to the American manufacturer. The Englishman suffers, the government suffers and the American consumer suffers. Congress is now attempting to remedy defects in our tariff system

which permits conditions similar to the above to exist. If the tariff on the above article should be reduced 50 per cent., then the Englishman would have an even show with his American competitor and both the government and the American consumer would be gainers. And yet more. The Englishman would probably increase his importations, thereby paying more money into our custom houses and enter into a sharper competition with his American competitor. The inevitable result would be a less cost to the American consumer.

Our illustration is a fair sample of the working of our protective tariff system. If our schedules shall be reduced to a revenue producing basis, our government will have plenty of money and the American consumer will buy his goods at a less cost. True, our American manufacturer will not receive such exorbitant profits, yet he will not quit business on that account. Anyway he has been receiving such fat profits for the past 15 years, that he can afford to work on a smaller margin for a spell.

But congress will have great difficulty in revising the tariff and placing the schedules upon a revenue producing basis. Our manufacturers have been petted and coddled so long that they look upon special tariff favors as vested rights. If congress could be kept clear of all influence of those who have been beneficiaries, we might expect a tariff bill which would be reasonably just. But this is more than we can reasonably hope for; especially until the people are thoroughly aroused upon the subject. A few more congressmen will have to lose their seats before we can hope for a reasonably just tariff law.

HARMONY OF ACTION

PERHAPS THE OUTLOOK for progress was never quite so bright for Scio, as it is at the present time. Some author has said "There is a time in the tide of the affairs of men which, if taken at its flood, leads on to fortune." That time has, apparently, arrived for Scio and it behooves us as business men and as citizens to meet those conditions, at least, half way.

The Linn County Fair has now reached a position or status when, without fear, we may announce that it is to be a permanent institution and is destined to grow better with the coming of each year. The continuous appropriation from the state and the society being a member of the Willamette Valley Racing circuit, insures the paying of good premiums on exhibits and at least, four splendid speed contests on the race track daily. The grounds will be improved and beautified each year until we have a fair grounds second to none in the state save those at Salem and Portland. We have accomplished this end by a continuous harmony of effort.

The Country Club milk condensery is now approaching completion. In two weeks more the plant will be ready for business. One dozen of our citizens, by a harmony of effort, have inaugurated this splendid industry. They had faith in Scio's future. They know that Scio is in the midst of one of what is destined to be, the best dairy sections of the state. They invested their money, primarily, to make money. Yet public spirit and a desire to make Scio grow, figured largely in influencing them to make the venture. It is a matter of great importance to the people of Scio that the condensery shall be a success. It is the duty of every citizen of Scio to give his influence towards bringing about that success.

We now have a good opportunity to secure the removal of the Thomas Creek Lumber Co's big sawmill to this city. By all means, let us lay aside all selfish interests and work together to secure this result. If one cannot have everything just as he wants it, if he cannot have the mill located just where he desires it to be, for conscience sake, let us not fight the proposition. Let us remember that, locate the mill where we may, it will enhance the price of every town lot in Scio. It will bring more people and more business to our town and that is what every enterprising man in our city desires and is striving for.

A plan is now in progress by which a truthful statement of our successful farmers, stockmen, dairymen and others, during the past year, shall be published in a concrete form and to be used in inducing a part of the big migration which is coming to Oregon, this year, to come to Scio. We want more people, small farmers, truck gardeners, fruit growers and dairymen; for it is this class of people which makes a community grow.

We have seen in the past, what an unity of effort could do, and what we have done in the past, we can do in the future. We want an union high school here. We can get it if we work together in harmony for it and not otherwise. Shall we not work in harmony for it?

We have no room in Scio for men who are actuated by a "Rule or Ruin" policy. There are other parts of Oregon and other states wherein they can find more congenial company. We want men who are willing to put their shoulders to the wheel of progress and push. That is the class of people and those only, who build cities. Such people are of value to a community, while the others are a detriment. If your neighbor makes money, pat him on the back. Don't be jealous of him, but rejoice in his success. Get inoculated with the same virus, if possible. Remember that one man cannot make a city but that it takes an aggregation of successful men and men who will work together in harmony of purpose and action.

The sale of near beer will be prohibited, at the Fair next fall. It will be against the rules for beer to cross the North Santiam.

The man that attempts to hold back the development of a town, because to increase the value of property would cause an increase in his taxes, is not a desirable citizen, to say the least.

Nebraska has adopted the Oregon plan of electing United States Senators by direct vote of the people including Statement No. One. Oregon has set an example which will be followed by many states, in a few years.

Speaker Cannon was elected speaker of the sixty-first congress, on Monday. The effort to adopt the rules of the sixtieth congress was defeated. This means that one-man-rule, of the House of Representatives has, finally, been squelched.

Every citizen of Scio and vicinity should give the new milk condensery every encouragement that he can. It is to the interest of everyone that the condensery shall be a success. It means a better price for milk and employment for a number of our work people.

Let every citizen encourage every enterpriser which even talks of coming to our town. We have been struggling for years to make Scio grow. We now have the best opportunity we have ever had. Let us push the matter in every way we can. Remember that God helps those who help themselves.

If the present special session of congress attempts to provide a revenue sufficient to maintain the government upon, yet not lower the tariff schedules to a revenue producing basis, the effort will prove a failure. Congress cannot serve mammon and the people at the same time; for their interests clash.

Every citizen should be willing to donate work in making the fills at the end of the proposed new steel bridge. We understand the new structure is to be over 18 feet in width in the clear. Now if we can have a sidewalk on either side of the bridge, we will have a crossing which will answer the needs for years.

A \$50 premium for the best milk cow, milk test, at our Fair, is not bad and will pay any dairyman to prepare his cow for the test. Likewise the \$50 premium for the best farm individual exhibit, ought to cause a good many of our farmers to enter the contest. So prepare your stuff. The awards will be made on points and every exhibitor must produce the stuff he exhibits.

The clipping of the wings of Carr Cannon will be a great relief to the country. No man should be allowed to exercise as much power as Speaker Cannon has for the past eight years. To do so is to endanger American liberty. The opportunity should be given to all members of congress to discuss public measures without dictation from any one.

While the NEWS thinks the appropriations made for O. A. C. are extravagant and ought to be curtailed, the spirit of revenge or retaliation with which our Jackson County friends are invoking the referendum, we believe, is a mistake. The referendum should be invoked only from a spirit of justice and fair dealing. Jackson County people should remember that the Crater Lake road appropriation for the passage of automobiles, is not yet out of danger. Other people can act from revenge motives, as well as they, if they wish to do so. Our Jackson County friends are making a mistake. They should have some other county start the referendum movement against O. A. C.

Notice.

Those knowing themselves indebted to the undersigned will please call and settle. I need the money.
E. C. PEERY.

R. SHELTON

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