

The Santiam News.

Politically Independent.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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SLOWLY BUT SURELY.

Indications now point to the new tariff bill as being about the most unfair tariff measure ever proposed in congress. But, perhaps, the bill will be shorn of some of its objectionable features before its final passage. Yet so long as tariff beneficiaries are allowed to dictate what the schedules shall be there is danger. Congress is between the devil (protected industries) on the one hand and the deep sea (revenue deficit) on the other. The tariff beneficiaries cannot have the measure of protection they are clamoring for and, at the same time, an increase of revenue from tariff sources be provided for. To increase the revenues, more goods must be imported from foreign lands. This is just what the tariff beneficiaries do not want.

Gradually but surely is the government being forced to adjust the tariff schedules on a purely revenue producing basis. A few years ago, it would have been a difficult task to find a Republican who believed that a tariff for revenue only was the correct principle. On the other hand, it would have been just as difficult to find a Democrat who would advocate a tariff for purposes of protection. Now there are men in both parties who will contend for a tariff for revenue only and others who will argue equally earnest for protection.

At one time the favorite argument of the protectionist was that protection to our industries enabled the manufacturer to pay the American working man higher wages. This theory has been completely exploded. Our manufacturers pay no greater wages than the labor market compels them to pay. It required a good many years to convince the people of this fact and, also, that the consumer was compelled to pay the tariff on the foreign made goods which we used. Now, these facts are no longer disputed by intelligent men. When the people get the further fact driven into them, that a tariff, which is one of protection, simply enables the American manufacturer to rake in a larger profit at the expense of the American consumer, then will it become equally easy to adjust our tariff schedules along lines of for a revenue only basis.

Possibly, at one time in the history of our country, a protective tariff was necessary for the encouragement of our infant industries. The NEWS man has always been a doubter of the truth of this statement. But if the statement was ever true, it is not true to-day. The fact that our manufacturers can enter the markets of the world and compete successfully with the pauper labor of Europe, is proof positive that they are well able to stand alone and do not need protection any longer. Neither is it just nor right for the American consumer to be compelled to pay a higher price for American made goods, without ocean freights to pay, than is the European consumer of like American made goods.

Our tariff schedules have been placed along protection lines for over forty years. We are, to-day, paying a higher duty on American made goods than we were required to pay during the civil war days. Nor does the government receive one cent of the duty we pay on American made goods. It all goes to swell the profits of the American manufacturer. No wonder the United States Steel corporation can declare 40 per cent dividends annually. It has the best market in the world and does not have to pay a cent to hold it. Our beneficent government has reared the tariff wall so high, that the foreign manufacturer is completely shut out. Congress is now compelled to devise some means by which our National treasury shall be supplied with more money. To issue bonds in time of absolute peace, is politically dangerous. To cut down the Nations expenses is next door to impossible. The only alternative is to get more revenue from the resources we now have and to devise new resources. While our tariff schedules will not, at this time, be placed on a strictly revenue producing basis, Congress cannot help but arrange them so that larger importations of foreign made goods will occur and thereby increase the treasury receipts from this source.

Slowly but surely is the truth about the tariff forced upon our National lawmakers and

eventually, let us hope, they will see the entire truth. Let us hope that the time is not far distant when Congress will consider the interests of the American consumer of greater importance than that of the American manufacturer.

THE GRANGE LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

The Granges of Linn county are discussing a measure or method by which a safeguard will be placed over the Oregon legislature, for the purpose of preventing unwise or corrupt legislation. While the Referendum is a check upon the acts of our lawmakers and can be used as a corrective force, its invocation is both cumbersome and expensive. If measures upon which the Referendum is likely to be invoked, could be stopped in the "bornin", both trouble and expense would be avoided.

As the NEWS understands the proposed measure, it is purposed to divide the legislative session into two halves or parts, with a recess of several weeks to intervene between the parts. The first half or section of the session would be devoted to organization, introduction, printing and reference to committees, of bills. During the first half, no bill would be placed upon its final passage. Also, the appropriation bills and estimates could be gotten ready for action at the second half. During the recess, members could thoroughly study and discuss the features of the various proposed bills, among their constituents and their fellow members. The second half would be devoted, exclusively, to discussing, amending and acting on bills. As new bills could not be introduced during this half, there would be an abundance of time to discuss measures in all of their bearings. It would rarely, if ever, happen, that matters of importance would be overlooked, in the hurry of the closing days, as was the case at our last session.

The NEWS believes that there is merit in the proposed change of mode of procedure. It is a well known fact that the legislator does not have time to study out a proposed law in all of its bearings during a short and continuous session of forty days. Hundreds of measures are proposed and it is utterly impossible for a member to examine each and every bill as he should in order to vote intelligently thereon. As a result he often votes for or against measures upon which he would vote differently, if he could but study them out in all directions.

The proposed recess of several weeks will supply time for deliberation and to discuss the proposed measure with constituents and fellow members. If there is a weak or undesirable feature in a bill, he or some of his constituents will be sure to observe it. Nothing would be lost. Neither would wise and desirable measures suffer from these weeks of deliberation. It is only the unwise and undesirable measures—those containing a joker—which would suffer from the thorough examination that would be given.

Most of the laws enacted in the past, in which a joker was concealed, and which it was desired that they should not be thoroughly discussed, have been introduced late in the session. Then, if the member or members behind the measure have their forces well organized, the bill is crowded right through and not more than one half the members know the full scope of the measure upon which they are voting. Such procedure would be impossible, if the legislative session should be divided into two twenty-day sessions, as proposed. Some one would be sure to discover the joker in the bill, during the recess when, of course, the objectionable feature of the bill would be eliminated, or the bill be defeated outright.

Whether or not the proposed change in the manner of conducting the legislature would require a change of the state constitution, as it is thought by some persons, is not quite clear. The NEWS believes that Initiative law would be sufficient. Most legislators are honest and wish to do the will of their constituents. And it often is the case that the member does not have the time to ascertain the wishes of his constituents before he is required to vote upon a measure. The recess would supply the necessary time. At all events the matter is up for discussion by the people, and is well worth thinking about. It would do away with the need of the Referendum, in a great measure.

The Oregonian poses as an independent newspaper. At the same time it is the most partisan and venomous journal in the state. For partisan reasons it would destroy any and all influence Senator Chamberlain may have or be able to secure in congress. In nearly every issue of this leading newspaper, can be found some insinuating editorial note or paragraph, which is calculated to injure the character and reputation of the senator. This may be high-class independent journalism in the estimation of the Oregonian's editorial staff; but the people think differently. Whenever Senator Chamberlain does anything which merits partisan ridicule or criticism, then the Oregonian's disposition to nag might be permissible. But until he does so, now that he is one of Oregon's senators beyond recall, he should have the commendation and support of all the people of Oregon. Indeed, we will add to his sphere of usefulness if he receives the cordial support of the people of Oregon. Whether his conduct as United States senator is good or bad, he is Oregon's senator for six years and so long as he makes good in that position, no self-respecting newspaper will be continually hurling insinuations or innuendoes at him. The Oregonian is a most excellent newspaper, yet some of its editorial stuff deserves the blue pencil.

Kingston Items

The people in and around Kingston are enjoying the April showers after the beautiful sunshine.

Our farmers are happy as they are almost through seeding.

Friday night the young people spent a very enjoyable evening at Viola Philippi's, playing parlor games until midnight when a nice lunch was served by Mrs. Philippi and which was enjoyed by all.

Church at Kingston as usual. After a recent afternoon service, two of the good (?) young brothers put aside their sanctimonious faces and run a rough house for a short time, forgetting that they were in the church.

The young people met at Charley Shaffer's, Sunday evening and spent a very pleasant time in singing.

Nemo.

Card of Thanks

We desire to tender our sincere thanks to all of our friends who so kindly assisted us during the sickness and burial of Allen VanNess. Even the seemingly friendless are not without friends in time of need.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Leffler.

REGISTERED PIGS

For sale.—3 thoroughbred pedigreed male pigs Poland Chinas 11 weeks old \$10. a piece.

Also a bunch of same age pigs cross Berkshire and Poland China, good stock, \$3.50 a piece.

Trappist Fathers, Jordan

SANTIAM FARM.

A fine Poland-China sow, almost black, unmarked, weight about 250 pounds strayed from my farm about January 4. Please let me know if seen. I also, have a little vetch—6 to 8 bushels; also plenty of early seed potatoes, small at 60 cents per bushel. S. W. Gaines.

Initiative

The never fail weed exterminator, sure death to Canada thistle, Russian thistle, Johnson grass, mullen, milk weed, burdock, poison ivy and all other fibrous plants. Pamphlet free on application. Sold by J. F. Wesely, sole agent for Oregon.

See Here!

I have pure bred black Minorca and Buff Leghorn eggs, (guaranteed) for sale at \$1 per setting of 15. What is the use of sending away for something that you can get at home. N. J. Morrison.

For Sale.

Forty head of high grade Jersey heifers, coming fresh this spring. Will give time on easy terms to the purchaser in the payments. H. Bryant, Albany, Oregon.

S. C. Brown Leghorn Eggs

Eggs \$1.50 per setting of 15, from my famous S. C. Brown Leghorn poultry. W. W. Bailey, Brownsville, Ore.

Notice.

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

E. C. PEERY.

A full line of Guaranteed Prussian stock and poultry remedies at Wesely's Grocery.

Indian Runner Ducks

The Great Indian Runner Ducks, as layers, have hens beat to death. They produce large, smooth eggs which are delicious for table use. Eggs from choice stock \$1.50 for 15.

J. B. KISTLER,

R. F. D. No. 2 West Scio, Ore.



EASTER TIME!

Time to throw aside those old clothes and bud forth with the joyous spring time with wearing apparel symbolic of the season.

Of course we are fully prepared for all your wants with one of the Finest stocks we ever offered in everything man wears from head down, feet up and skin out. The wise men buy now while there are complete stocks to select from.

THE BLAIN CLOTHING CO.
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We have now on hand a Swell Line of



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