

The Santiam News

Politically Independent

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TARIFF REVISION A MATTER OF JUSTICE

INDICATIONS NOW POINT to a revision of the tariff by the Sixty-second congress. That this revision will be downward, goes without saying, for a revision otherwise, or like the Payne-Aldrich tariff, would be the political death of any congressman who dared to revise the tariff in this manner.

Revision then is sure to be downward and in the interests of the great body of consumers in proportion to the degree of reduction. The question will be: What schedules can be reduced without bringing down the wrath of the beneficiaries of such schedule or schedules upon the heads of the revisionists?

Nearly every industry which enjoys the benefits of a protective tariff, has so entrenched itself with a paid lobby at the national capitol, that to talk of taking away the rich benefit which that particular industry enjoys, is to arouse a storm of opposition which seems almost overwhelming to congressmen.

However, there are two sides to the protective tariff question. Of course, an abnormally high price is most satisfactory to the producer but, to the consumer exactly the reverse is true. The producer cannot receive an excessively high price for his product, without bringing down a hardship upon the consumer.

Next week the National Wool Growers convention will meet in Portland. The purpose of this convention, is to create a harmony of action for the purpose of benefitting the condition of the wool grower—to show the advantages of raising high grade stock and to make such showing that congress will allow the present high duty on wool to remain as it is, when revision is undertaken.

These efforts, especially the first one, is commendable and, reasoning from the wool growers viewpoint, the second one is no less so. But, to be fair about this matter, we must consider the welfare of the consumer as well as that of the producer. As there are, perhaps, 1000 consumers of wool to each producer of the wool product, the interests of the many becomes overwhelming. If we should consider only the greatest good for the greatest number of people, than wool would be, immediately, placed upon the free list. However, consumers are willing to be taxed moderately in order that the wool industry may thrive. Consumers are willing that the wool grower shall reap a good profit for his labor, but not such exorbitant profits that the wool grower, in a few years, becomes a millionaire.

The greatest menace to the wool grower, however, is not the foreign competitor in the production of wool, but the competition of the producer of shoddy, both foreign and domestic. If we should make the duty on importation of shoddy prohibitive and tax the domestic product so highly that its manufacturer would become unprofitable, then our wool growers could get along nicely without any protective tariff whatever.

What is true of wool, is true of nearly every other protected product. While the enhanced price which protection enables the producer to exact, makes production of the products of the many protected industries most profitable, we should remember that this profit is, chiefly, at the expense of the American consumer.

What would be just and equitable in tariff matters, would be a medium tariff duty on all products, which would not be oppressive upon the consumer, yet give the producer a reasonable degree of protection from his foreign competitor, so that his business would return him a fair profit.

The fact should ever be bourn in mind when laying a tariff, that whatever benefits, say one producer, it is at the expense of 1000 consumers.

A product, no matter in what field, should be worth the cost of production, a fair margin of profit to the producer and the cost of placing the product in the hands of the consumer and no more. If by a trust, combine, protective tariff, or what not, the price is boosted abnormally high, then the consumer is being robbed of the amount the article is sold above its equitable value.

As a rule, no article should be sold at a higher price than the cost of production, the cost of placing it in the hands of the consumer and a reasonable profit upon the capital invested. Abnormally high prices, which makes the producer a millionaire in a few years, is at the expense and oftentimes suffering of the thousands of consumers. And when this abnormal price is exacted through combination or trust, then the government should step in and regulate the price upon a basis of justice to both consumer and producer. Some power should be used to control the greed of the producer and alleviate the necessities of the consumer. Our excessively high tariff enables the producer to practically hold up the American consumer and demand near double what the price of his product would be with out the tariff duty. We know this to be a fact, for these same products are being sold in foreign markets at a less cost to the foreigner than to our own people. When congress undertakes tariff revision, all interested lobbyists should be barred from congressional committee rooms and halls. Our national lawmakers should be uninfluenced by either producer or consumer when the matter is under consideration. Only the interests of the government they are supposed to serve, which means the whole people, should be upon their minds.



Holiday Joys will be greater if you get the Christmas presents for the boys and men where boys' and men's things are the whole stock. This store is the Christmas headquarters for the kind of gifts men want. Here you will find

Hart Schaffner & Marx

suits and overcoats; no better Christmas present could be made. But we'll show you hundreds of other things that men and boys want; that is what you want to give, things they want.

Suits \$15 to \$30

Overcoats \$12.50 to \$30

Tracy Clothing Co.

One Price Clothiers

330 West First St.

Albany, Oregon

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE

Carefully prepared by competent and experienced employees thoroughly familiar with the records of Linn County. Accuracy, neatness and dispatch is our motto. We are now abstracting the instruments filed daily and can serve the public most efficiently. We use the most modern and up to date system of abstracting. An unlimited amount of money to loan on 6 per cent. per annum on approved farm security BOTH PHONES IN THE OFFICE TELEPHONE OR WRITE

Albany Abstract Co., L. M. CURL, Manager

Bryan's Service to the Party

Bryan's position at the present time is unique. There is no doubt that in the three campaigns he made for the presidency he succeeded in establishing the democratic party in the minds and hearts of the American people as the popular party, devoted to the interests of the common people, as opposed to the interests of the plutocracy. It is true that all three elections were lost, but the fruit of his splendid fighting is seen in the democratic house just elected. When Mr. Bryan began his leadership the party was very much in the wilderness on account of the Wilson tariff bill fiasco, which President Cleveland denounced as "party perfidy and dishonor." Mr. Bryan was the democratic Moses, and in fourteen years, instead of the forty years taken by the great Jewish leader, has led his party within sight of the Promised Land. It is too early yet to select the man who is to be the democratic Joshua.

"Party perfidy and dishonor" was a strong statement as to the principal measure of a democratic congress from

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A Clock With a History

Newton Crabtree is the possessor of a clock which has quite a history. It is of the Seth Thomas variety and was purchased by his father in 1825. It regulated time for the family in the "States" until 1845 when, with other family treasures, it was brought across the plains to Oregon. As long as Uncle Johnny Crabtree lived, it kept time for his family and, at his death, passed into the hands of his son Newton, for whom it has been doing duty since. The old clock keeps excellent time at the present and is prized as a family heirloom.

The quicker a cold is gotten rid of the less the danger from pneumonia and other serious diseases. Mr. B. W. L. Hall, of Waverly, Va., says: "I firmly believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be absolutely the best preparation on the market for colds. I have recommended it to my friends and they all agree with me." For sale by all dealers.

THE GREAT SPECIAL

Kidney and Bladder pills. Call for free sample. Sold and guaranteed by E. C. Peery.

TEBAULT REAL ESTATE CO.

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Stock Ranches, Fruit Ranches, Farm and City Property of all Kinds, Timber Lands If you have land to sell and wish it handled in a legitimate manner without graft come in and see us.

C. W. TEBAULT
Lyons St. Albany, Ore.

Books, magazines and Post cards at C. G. Cough.

THE IMPROVED

Nonpareil

COPPER RIVETED

OVERALLS

A Splendid Overall for every use. Cut generously full. Two hip pockets. Felled seams. Continuous fly.

For Sale at all Dealers.

MURPHY, GRANT & CO.
Manufacturers
San Francisco California

THE ESMOND HOTEL

Centrally located, good rooms, prices moderate, courteous treatment

Corner Morrison and Front Streets

PORTLAND

OREGON

A. SHANKS

—Manufacturer and Dealer in—

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Carriage Trimming Repair Work Solicited

All Work Strictly Guaranteed

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