

# STORY OF COTTON IS A THRILLER

A Narrative That Concerns the Welfare of Millions.

SHOWS EVILS OF PROTECTION.

Whole People Robbed by a Tariff That Rich Manufacturer May Benefit. Robert Kenneth MacLea, Consulting Expert of the Tariff Board, Shows That the American People Are Mulcted of \$88,000,000 a Year.

New York, Aug. 1.—Did you ever hear the story of cotton?

It is as thrilling as a narrative of adventure. It is as interesting as a novel—interesting particularly because it concerns the welfare of millions of people who wear cotton goods. It is interesting because it is the story of the poor, the universal substitute for wool and silk. It is interesting, furthermore, because it is true.

The story of cotton is the story of a protective tariff for the benefit of rich manufacturers at the expense of the whole people who wear cotton goods.

It has been repeatedly calculated that because the cotton tariff is fixed by the Payne-Aldrich law the American people are paying \$88,000,000 more every year than they should pay for their cotton goods and that a saving of this amount could be accomplished by a reasonable reduction in the present duties.

The story of cotton is told by an expert, Robert Kenneth MacLea, consulting expert of the tariff board, in a series of articles published in the New York World. Mr. MacLea's views are the views of a lifelong Republican, a friend of the protective policy of the Republican party, but at the same time an opponent of tariff graft and favoritism. To this work Mr. MacLea has brought a varied experience, covering more than twenty years, in the manufacture and marketing of textiles.

He first distinguished himself as an advocate of honest tariff legislation by finding the "jokers" of the Payne-Aldrich act, when the agents of a few New England mills were permitted to write their own rates to suit themselves. He was chairman of the tariff committee of the New York Dry Goods Merchants' association and in that capacity conducted a campaign which attracted the attention of the newly created tariff board. To accept the position of consulting expert to the board he gave up the management of the domestic business of the New York

arms of R. B. MacLea & Co. and Converse & Co.

The story of cotton is a companion piece to the story of Schedule K—the woolen schedule—decried by President Taft to be infamous and indefensible.

The findings of the tariff board with regard to the woolen schedule were analyzed by Chairman Underwood of the ways and means committee and condemned as inaccurate, incomplete and worthless as an aid to legislation.

When the tariff board's findings on the cotton schedule were made public the World decided to make its own investigation concerning it, and Mr. MacLea was selected for that purpose. The World had the findings of the board on manufacturers of cotton dissected from the practical point of view of business, analyzed in their relation to the interest of the consumer and the facts translated into the language of the everyday man and woman.

One hundred cloth samples purchased in representative domestic markets were made the basis of the tariff board's findings on the cost of cotton cloth produced in this country. Mr. MacLea used the same cloth samples as concrete illustrations of the workings of the tariff and from these exposed the very generally perpetrated fraud of selling American made goods as "imported" and showed why the excessive tariff permits and fosters this imposition.

Recognizing that the tariff would be a vital issue of the campaign and that controversy would center about President Taft's "nonpartisan" tariff board and its work, the World undertook the investigation of cotton and sought answers to the following questions:

Has the work of the tariff board justified the delay in reducing the tariff and giving relief from the high cost of living?

What have the people gained in the three years under the Payne-Aldrich tariff IN RETURN FOR MORE THAN \$5,000,000,000 TAXED OUT OF THEIR POCKETS AND INTO THE POCKETS OF PROTECTED PRIVILEGE?

How honestly, impartially and thoroughly did the "nonpartisan" tariff board undertake its task?

Several months before the cotton report was completed Mr. MacLea declares that he discovered sinister influences in the tariff board's working to eliminate findings most damaging to the favored few in the cotton mill industry. Such suppressed information as Mr. MacLea considers to be of vital importance to the cotton industry and the public has been presented in the World. He has also explained what the mass of figures of the cotton report signifies and presented some of the most important of the conclusions to be drawn from that report, a work which the board saw fit not to attempt.

The story of cotton, as written by Mr. MacLea and published in the World from time to time, forms one of the most interesting and important features of the present campaign.

## CITY WINS SMOKE ORDINANCE TEST

District Court at Des Moines Holds it Must Be Obeyed.

### CITY ACTS WITHIN ITS RIGHTS

Investigation Will Be Made of Hospital for Insane With Respect to D. W. O'Neill—Group Insurance Is Severely Criticized.

Des Moines, Sept. 19.—In the district court it was held that the city smoke prevention ordinance is legal and must be obeyed. It was adopted under a new state law and was resisted by an organization of business men, who have claimed that the enforcement of the law will entail enormous losses to them. The court decided that the city is specifically empowered by the state law to fix the density of smoke, according to established smoke charts. The city has a right to specify length of time dense smoke may issue per hour. The smoke nuisance ordinance is legal in placing a penalty. It is empowered to do so by state law.

**Knock for Group Insurance.**  
Commercial insurance companies which issue what is known as "group" insurance came in for severe criticism in a resolution presented before the Iowa Fraternal congress, in session at the Savery hotel, by John D. Dennison of Dubuque. The resolution refers to this class of insurance as the "wolf of commercialism in the lamb skin of cooperation" and recommends that companies that issue this form of insurance be prevented from invading the field of the fraternal insurance companies. B. F. Williams of Des Moines was elected president of the congress. Emma B. Manchester of Omaha was re-elected first vice president. John W. Geiger of Omaha was elected secretary and treasurer.

### Testimony in Woodman Case.

Taking of evidence in the Modern Woodman case was directed by attorneys for the plaintiff mainly toward establishment of their claim that fraud was used in the passing of the resolution authorizing the change in articles of the association to effect the new schedule of rates. L. S. T. Pierce, one of the delegates to the January head camp, testified that not the entire membership of the camp was present when the vote was taken on the resolution, and John D. Porter of Webster City, another delegate, testified that some of the members voted "no" to the resolution, but that the chairman announced immediately following the vote that it had been unanimous.

### Probe Into Hospital.

The state board of control has been asked to make an investigation into the treatment which D. W. O'Neill, a Des Moines man and former inspector of plumbing for the school board, received during a week he was confined in the state hospital for the insane at Clarinda. Mrs. O'Neill took her husband, on the advice of attending physicians, before the board, and as a result they promised that a probe would be instituted. O'Neill, who is now at his home, has been suffering from a severe cut across the top of his head. He says that this is the result of blows administered at the hospital. The hospital attendants, however, claim that it is the result of a fall.

### Lewis Predicts Car Shortage.

Despite all that can be done to avert a shortage of grain cars, there will be one, according to Dwight N. Lewis, assistant commerce counsel, who filed a report telling of his trip to Chicago regarding the shortage question. A car shortage is not all that shippers will have to contend with. The lake transportation facilities have been taxed beyond their capacity, and as a result lake elevators are filled, and it will not be long until there will be no place to ship grain.

### FARMER BADLY INJURED

Puts Head Between Spokes of Gasoline Engine, Which Starts Up.

Dow City, Ia., Sept. 19.—Frank J. Glassburner, a young farmer, residing three miles from town, met with an accident while working with a gasoline engine which had "died." He forgot to shut off the batteries and thoughtlessly put his head through the flywheel. The engine started with a chug, with the result that Glassburner had his frontal bone fractured, his upper jaw broken on both sides of his head and his nose crushed. Though so painfully hurt, he retained consciousness.

### Bank at Grand River Robbed.

Grand River, Ia., Sept. 19.—Bank robbers blew the safe of the First National bank here and secured about \$1,000, afterward making their escape on a hardcar. The robbers are said to number six. Several citizens heard the explosion by which the safe doors were blown off, but there was no interference. A hardware store was broken into and a number of revolvers and a quantity of ammunition stolen.

### Lightning Aids Housewife.

Boone, Ia., Sept. 19.—Lightning entered the kitchen at the home of D. C. Crandall during a storm. Mrs. Crandall had just placed kindling and coal in the kitchen range preparatory to lighting a fire. The lightning ignited the paper in the stove and set the kindling on fire. No damage was done.

## TO BUILD NEW COUNTY JAIL

Proposition to Be Submitted to the Voters of Cass County on November 5, 1912.

The county commissioners, at their session Wednesday, passed a resolution to submit to the voters of the county a proposition of voting and issuing bonds of said county to the amount of \$19,000 for the purpose of erecting a county jail and repairing the heating plant in the court house in this city. The bonds are to be of \$1,000 each and two of said bonds are to be retired each year. The work on the jail is to be started on or before the first of May, 1913.

The need of the county for a suitable place in which to confine its prisoners is pressing and the repairing of the heating plant is something that cannot be gotten away from. The county is in excellent shape and the issuance of the bonds would give us a building that would make a jail that would last the county for years and make a building of which the taxpayers of the county would not have to be ashamed. The tax would not be increased to any extent and the county would save money in the long run by having a building in which they could confine the most dangerous prisoners, as in the condition of the present ramshackle building it is doubtful if prisoners could be kept there without a strong guard day and night. When the taxpayers realize the great need of the jail there is no doubt that they will cheerfully vote the amount needed.

## UNCLE TOMMY WILKINSON STRICKEN WITH PARALYSIS

The Journal regrets to learn of the illness of Thomas Wilkinson, who resides on North Ninth street, who is suffering from a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Wilkinson was stricken Monday noon while at the dinner table and a physician was at once summoned to minister to his needs. This morning he was reported as resting easy and had been able to use his left arm a little and showed signs of regaining the full use of his left side, which was affected by the stroke. The friends of Uncle Tommy hope to see him about again in a short time.

## The First Touch of Fall suggests Fall Overcoats and Suits.



The new models are unusually attractive, and you should, in justice to yourself see them early.

Your ideas of Overcoats have been anticipated in our stocks. Those who dress quietly and conservatively, as well as those who require the advanced styles will find here exactly what they are looking for. For as little as \$12.50 you can buy Overcoat dependability here—from that on up to \$20 you can be suited exactly. And beginning at \$20 and going on up to \$30

you can get the finest of silk lined Overcoats. Belted back coats in new shawl collar effects are making a hit with the young fellows.

Falter & Thieroff  
GIVING CLOTHIERS

Manhattan Shirts

Stetson Hats

### Visits His Brothers.

J. T. Kruger of St. Joseph, Missouri, was in the city yesterday on a short visit with his brothers, Ed and Harry Kruger, and F. L. Kruger of Omaha, who had come down to meet his brother. This is the first time in twelve years that Mr. Kruger and his brothers had met, and it was a most pleasant occasion for the boys. Mr. Kruger was formerly located in Arkansas and Oklahoma, and has just recently been located at St. Joseph, running between there and Pacific Junction.

### Rare Treat to the Inmates.

The Burlington band last evening gave one of their delightful concerts at the Masonic Home, and it proved a rare treat to the residents of the Home. The program was one of the high class music that the band always produces in their concerts. At the close of the concert Superintendent Askwith and wife served some very delicious refreshments to the band and expressed their gratitude for the fine concert tendered to the Home and its residents.

Place Cards, Score and Tally Cards of every description at the Journal office.

## Facts Suppressed and Issues Evaded by Taft Tariff Board

By ROBERT KENNETH MACLEA.

Formerly Consulting Expert of the Tariff Board.

Under the pressure of promise to fight chicanery and fraud in tariff legislation, I deem it a public duty not to withhold the facts in my possession relative to the investigation of the cotton manufacturing industry. Regretful that my experience with the board warrants such conclusions, I am compelled to present the following indictment:

- I. That the tariff board, in its report on manufacturers of cotton (Schedule L) has suppressed findings of vital importance to the cotton industry, to the public and to the government, but inimical to the special privileges of a few New England manufacturers who were permitted by Senator Aldrich to write the cotton schedule to suit themselves.
- II. That the tariff board has perverted other facts, thereby avoiding exposure of tariff injustices that have benefited the few at the expense of the many manufacturers.
- III. That the tariff board has not, as stated by President Taft to congress, drawn any conclusions that would be valuable in advising the congress and the people of the changes that ought to be made to make more equitable their (the wool and cotton schedules) effects. The board did not attempt to draw conclusions, "scientific" or otherwise, from its "scientifically" collected data, but sidestepped that responsibility by arguing that such deductions as its data justified were not called for under the specifications of its employment.
- IV. That the tariff board's report was arranged so as to be incomprehensible to either legislators or laymen; that tables were deliberately disassociated or emasculated if not suppressed, and that a congressman would require the services of a statistician and a clerk six months to make head or tail of the jumble of data presented as a basis for intelligent tariff revision.
- V. That the tariff board avoided altogether investigating certain phases of tariff graft hidden in "jokers" of the Payne-Aldrich law.
- VI. That the tariff board falsely reported that it was impossible to obtain abroad
- VII. That the tariff board betrayed the confidence of American manufacturers by publishing data that should have been held for confidential information of legislators; that competitors were given thereby valuable trade secrets, while the foreign manufacturers divulged nothing of similar character or importance.
- VIII. That the tariff board's treatment of economic questions vitally affecting the relation of the tariff to the prices exacted from consumers was disingenuous and misleading.
- IX. That the tariff board has proved not to be the "nonpartisan" and scientific instrument promised by President Taft; that its members displayed inexperience in business, incompetence and extravagance. I have been forced reluctantly after a year's intimate association to accept the opinion that the tariff board has been nothing more than an effective bog in a "standpat" political machine; that some of the men who clamored most loudly for a tariff board and some of the men appointed thereto worked all the time complacently in the knowledge that the creation of the board was a scheme to prevent genuine tariff reform as long as possible by "grubbing the cards and delaying the game," a charge frequently made, but which I for a long time discredited.
- X. That such facts as the tariff board has reported sustain the charge, as to both the wool and the cotton schedules, that the consumer has been robbed outrageously as a consequence of excessive duties and that the profits have not gone into the pockets of the laborer to "maintain an American standard of living."

—From New York World.

Sept. 23 and 24

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# - Gossard Corsets! -

They Lace in Front!

You are invited to meet Mrs. A. R. Frayne, special representative of the H. W. Gossard Co., who will be with us September 23 and 24, to explain the unexampled features of Gossard Corsets and discuss figure refinements with those interested in good Corsets.

REMEMBER THE DATE

Monday and Tuesday, September 23 and 24

E. G. Dovey & Son