

Cuban Interests Oppose Fordney Tariff on Sugar

Spokesman for Industry in United States Tell of Benefits From Protecting Producers.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Extended arguments for and against retention of the present temporary duty of 1.6 cents a pound on Cuban raw sugar were presented today to senate tariff framers.

Spokesmen for American sugar companies operating in Cuba declared that the rate would prevent rehabilitation of the industry there, while representatives of the beet sugar industry in this country asserted a return to the Underwood rate of 1 cent a pound would prevent development of that industry, if it did not destroy it.

Those representing American companies in Cuba declared that more than a mere tariff question was involved; that the rehabilitation of Cuba depended upon the sugar industry and that the United States was morally bound to aid that country. They also argued that there was \$1,000,000,000 of American capital invested in the Cuban industry as against \$200,000,000 in the industry in this country.

Highest in 30 Years.
It was argued that the duty proposed to be made "permanent" by the Fordney bill was the highest in 30 years and that it represented a tax of \$162,000,000 annually on the American people, \$81,000,000 of which would go to American sugar producers. Attention was also called by witnesses that Cuba imported last year \$315,000,000 worth of American products and that since the economic life of the island depended on its sugar crop, much of this trade would be lost unless the United States helped rehabilitate the Cuban sugar industry.

Finally it was argued that the clause in the Fordney bill permitting American refineries to import at three-fourths of the normal duty two pounds of sugar for each pound of domestic sugar refined from beets or cane was a violation of the spirit, if not the letter of the reciprocity treaty with Cuba giving a preferential rate of 20 per cent below the full rate on imports from that country.

It also was contended that this was a discrimination in favor of certain American interests and injurious to others.

Smoot Defends Plan.
Senator Smoot, republican, Utah, took exception to many of the statements of the witnesses presenting the case for the American companies. He declared conditions in Cuba were no worse than those in this country and announced that he favored the protection of American capital invested in this country as against American capital invested in other countries.

Spokesmen for the industry in the United States testified that the beet sugar industry has been developed in 17 states; that there was invested in it \$200,000,000, with 95 factories. It is now producing annually 1,000,000 tons of sugar, or nearly one-fourth of the domestic consumption, and is reclaiming waste land because the beets will grow where other produce will not. The acreage now is 880,000 and the farmers raising the crop number 100,000, who give employment to an additional 85,000.

Given proper protection, the witnesses argued, the industry would expand where it would supply most of the domestic demand and in case war made the country dependent on foreign countries. It also was contended that the raising of beets improved farm lands.

As to the tax on the people represented in the duty, it was contended that this amounted to only \$1.44 for each inhabitant each year and that the industry was worth such an expenditure.

Picture Worth 500,000
Francis Awaits Owner
Paris, Dec. 18.—No one has so far claimed the picture, said to be a Paul Veronese, which has been for some years waiting to be called for in the lost property office at Paris. The canvas was brought in during the war by a soldier who seemed to have met it by accident on his route, and although the legal delay imposed on objects found has long since expired, the man has not returned to claim what is now his own property.

A value of 500,000 francs has been set on the work, which looks decidedly like a picture of the umbrellas and bags and capes and other miscellaneous property left by absent-minded people on the public highway or in public vehicles. For a Paul Veronese to go begging is a piquant incident in the history of old masters, yet that seems to be the case with this mysteriously lost and acquired picture at the prefecture of police of Paris.

Construction of New State Capitol to Be Begun in June
Lincoln, Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Construction on Nebraska's \$5,000,000 capitol building will start by the middle of June, Governor McKelvie said today on his return from a conference of the state capitol commission with Mr. Goodhue, the architect, in New York City.

The governor said the state will save about \$250,000 by eliminating the contractors' "cuts" by awarding contracts directly for the various kinds of work instead of giving one contractor the whole job and letting him award the subcontractors.

Widely-Known Theatrical Manager Dies Suddenly
Chicago, Dec. 19.—John C. Fisher, widely known theatrical manager, died suddenly yesterday when about to leave for Pittsburgh. He was with his company, the Irish Players, and had just concluded five weeks' engagement. He was one of the producers of "Florodora," which netted its owners nearly \$1,000,000.

Ratifications Exchanged
Paris, Dec. 19.—The exchange of ratifications of the peace treaty between the United States and Hungary took place yesterday, according to a Budapest dispatch.

The Fortune Hunter

By RUBY AYRES.
(Continued from Saturday.)

The Fortune Hunter had made a swift movement to stop Anne's impulsive action, but he was too late; the little ring went zigzagging down into the clear, still water, and disappeared into the dark rushes in the bed of the river.

Anne looked up into his white face and laughed, though there were tears in her eyes.

"I never believed I could do a thing like that!" she said. "But now I'm glad it's gone! I'm glad it's gone!"

"And some day," the Fortune Hunter said grimly, "some day you will throw me out of your life in the same way."

Her face flamed into passion. "And if I do," she cried, "whose fault will it be? Why, yours, yours only!"

"Perhaps yours a little as well," he answered her. "You've judged me unkind."

She turned round, looking up at him directly as he stood behind her, the water dripping from the punt pole, which he had taken up again.

"Unkind!" she echoed bitterly. "When I have begged you, and begged you, to tell me the truth! What- ever it is! However, had it is! Even if it's that—that you find you don't care any more—now you've come home."

He gave a little stifled cry of protest, but she went on ruthlessly: "I'll tell you something now—something that I mean to keep to myself, because I hoped—I was foolish enough to hope that you would tell me about it yourself if I wanted! But now I know you never will, and so—it's just this—that day you went to London—I know why you went. I know whom you met, and—that's why I threw your ring away."

The Fortune Hunter cried out fiercely: "Foster told you! The sneaking hound. He came back here and told you."

She closed her eyes for a second as if in actual physical pain. "It was the truth, then. You did—go to meet—a woman!"

"I did! I'm not denying it, but it was for a very different reason to the one you are thinking of. Anne—I swear to you—"

"You swore to me once before, that her photograph was not yours," she said faintly. "That you did not even know her."

"It was the truth! If I could only explain everything—" She gave a cold little laugh.

"I shall never believe anything you tell me—now!"

The sunshine had clouded over, and a few drops of rain began to splash heavily down. The punt had drifted out into midstream again, and there was no shelter at hand.

The Fortune Hunter picked up his coat and put it around Anne's shoulders. "You'll get wet—oh, my coat won't hurt you!" he broke out ironically, as she protested.

She submitted then and held it closely around her shoulders. A cool breeze had come up with the rain clouds, and the face of the river was ruffled.

threw the rope into the punt and followed it, pushing off from the bank determinedly.

"I will not go into Fernie's house," Anne said again, excitedly. "John—please, I beg of you."

But he was already pushing out into mid-stream strongly; the rain was pouring down now, and after a moment his thin shirt and bare arms were running with water.

Anne glanced at him and said no more, but she kept her eyes fixed apprehensively ahead to where the smoke from the crooked chimney of Long-end cottage curled up into the gray sky.

"I am sorry to disobey you," the Fortune Hunter said after a moment. "But it's madness to stay under those trees; you'll take your death of cold."

She laughed. "If I did, you would be free then."

The Fortune Hunter made no answer; he was looking towards the cottage. He was conscious of a queer sort of eagerness to meet Fernie again; he was curious to see what sort of a home the man had, and what greeting he would give them.

As they neared the opposite bank they saw that Fernie was standing at the open door, his slouched hat pulled down over his eyes as usual, smoking placidly.

He watched them without moving, until the punt entered the waterway leading up past his cottage; then he knocked the ashes from his pipe and sauntered leisurely down to the bank.

"A sudden shower," he said; he made a clumsy sort of attempt to raise his hat to Anne. "You're welcome to come in, Miss Harding, and shelter."

"There's really no need," she answered hurriedly. "We're so wet now that we might as well go straight home."

"The Fortune Hunter was already on the bank, and he held out his hand to help Anne ashore. Her fingers felt cold in his, and he kept them in his hand for a moment till she drew them away."

"Is the rain going to last, do you think?" the Fortune Hunter asked of Fernie as they went up to the cottage together.

"Shouldn't be surprised; the wind's in the right quarter," was the laconic answer. He went ahead of them and opened the door wider; he seemed to be deliberately avoiding the Fortune Hunter's eyes.

"It's a small place, but you'll find it clean," he said in the same disinterested fashion.

It was a diminutive kitchen, with a bright fire burning in the grate and a chair drawn up close to it.

Anne, looking around with apprehensive eyes, noticed the orderly array of china on the dresser and

the freshly scrubbed floor, and she felt vaguely surprised.

"Pull up to the fire, Miss Harding, and warm yourself," Fernie said more affably, as she shivered; for the first time he looked at the Fortune Hunter, and added, hesitatingly: "I don't know that I can offer you a change of clothes, Mr. Smith."

looked up at him, the color rising to her face.

"Oh, so you have been in 'Frisco, then, after all?" she said slowly. (Continued in The Bee Tomorrow.)

New York Archbishop Scores Birth Control
New York, Dec. 19.—In a Christmas pastoral read throughout the Catholic archdiocese of New York today, Archbishop P. J. Hayes denounced birth control and divorce as "pagan" and counselled those of his faith to "stop your ears to pagan philosophy and keep its literature from your homes as you would an abomination."

"Children," the pastoral read, "troops down from heaven because God wills it. Woe to those who degrade, pervert or do violence to the law of nature as fixed by the eternal decree of God himself."

He described divorce as "a national curse," a "disease in our body politic, not to speak of the moral and spiritual harm of broken homes, broken hearts, seared souls, abandoned children and unholy alliances."

In Prussia practically 90 per cent of the women are illiterate.

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These little tablets keep the internal organs clean and healthy, and are equally as effective and harmless as the original prescription from which they were made. If troubled with constipation you owe it to yourself to get and try a box today, and learn the above facts for yourself.

Newspapers and billboards are now publishing advertisements of Dilaxin, and all druggists the world over now sell Dilaxin at 50 cents per box. The sole distributor is the Marmola Co., 57 Garfield Bldg., Detroit, Mich. Get a box from your druggist and say good-bye to constipation and all forms of sluggish elimination.

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Helps for the Gift Shoppers From the Store of Specialty Shops

OFTENTIMES it's only because you don't know how many pretty things there are in our shops that you wonder and wonder what to give for Christmas. If you only knew how clever the new things are and how attractive the usual things—handkerchiefs, stockings, underwear, blouses, etc., are in their latest interpretations, you wouldn't have the least difficulty.

To make your gift shopping a pleasure and more satisfactory in its results, these items are suggested just to acquaint you with some of the lovely things on display in the Store of Specialty Shops.

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IT WOULD be something that would be sure to please. We have the best qualities, priced from 50c up to \$10.00.

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NO MATTER how many a person has they are always glad to receive another. Choose from white or colored, plain or embroidered. Priced from 15c to \$4.00.

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THERE are so many styles and each one is so pretty that it will not be difficult to make your selection. There are styles from the more practical dark colored felt slipper to the dainty ones of satin. From \$1.00 to \$3.95.

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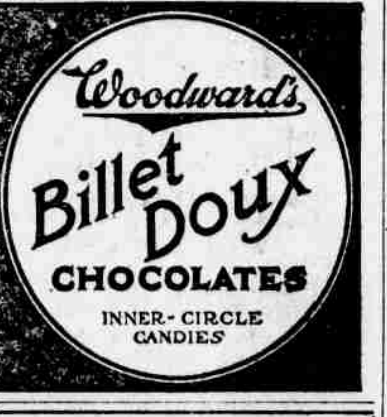
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