MR. TAFT'S CONFESSION

The following is a communication printed in the New York Evening

To the Editor of the Evening Post: Sir: I clip the following from a report of the president's speech at Beattle:

"We earn a profit from our foreign mails of from \$6,000,000 to \$8,000,-000 a year. The appropriation of that amount would be quite sufficient to put on a satisfactory basis two or three Oriental lines and several lines from the east to South America. Of course, we are familiar with the argument that this would be a contribution to private companies out of the treasury of the United States, but we are thus contributing in various ways on similar principles in effect, both by our protective tariff laws, by our river and harbor bills, and by our reclamation service. We are putting money into the pockets of shipowners, but we are giving them money with which they can compete, for reasonable profit only, with the merchant marine of the world."

It is no new doctrine that the protective tariff is in effect "a contribution to private companies out of the treasury of the United States," and that by it "we are putting money into the pockets" of a favored class to Insure them "a reasonable profit;" but has it ever before been unblushingly confessed and approved by a chief magistrate of the nation?

Such a policy being thus stamped with approval by the most prominent and powerful advocate of revision downwards, what, in the name of all that's unholy, does the so-called stand-patter—the upward revisionist —advocate? Shades of Grover Cleveland! To think that as a raw youth, I withheld from him my vote because I was persuaded not only that the foreigner made this "contribution," but that what he contrib-uted was "put into the pockets" of the workingman!

As an imaginary consumer, I was later persuaded of the iniquity of a protective tariff by being convinced of its identity with a subsidy, the ago, was considered axiomatic. But behold, how the weapons of the enemies of prosperity are turned against them. The virtue of a protective tariff is made an axiom from which to demonstrate the virtue of a sub-

There are many millions of unreal consumers who cast real ballots and adhere to the old maxim and renounce the new, and who never cease to hope for a Moses to lead them out of Egypt. But pray, what can one do when one must choose between the efficiency of organized tweedledum and the inefficiency of unorgan-Ized tweedledee? F. S. B.

Philadelphia, October 2.

C. Q. D.

Jack-"Reginald was sorely in need of a summer suit, so he sent a distress message to his tailor 'C. Q.

Eva-"And did he get a reply?" Jack-"Yes, C. O. D."-Chicago

Magistrate-"Have you any visible means of support?"

Prisoner—"Yus, yer wushup. (To his wife, a laundress) Hemmar. stand up so's the court can see yer." -Town and Country.

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Which is better, to leave your money in a savings tank, where it draws only 3 or 4 per cent interest, or to buy a Florida farm with your savings, which will yield \$5,000 a year clear profit? Watch for the full page announcement in The Commoner next week. If you are prompt, you may be one of the lucky 300 who can buy a farm on terms of only 33 cents a day.—(Adv.) of only 33 cents a day.-(Adv.)

R. H. MACY & COMPANY

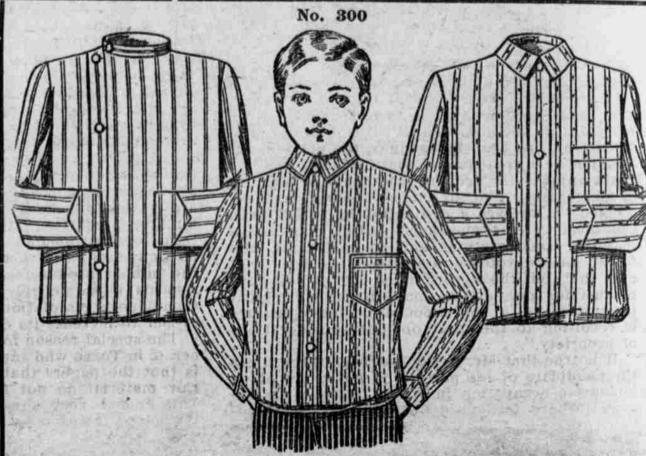
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