

The Commoner. ISSUED WEEKLY

Entered at the Postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class matter.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN Editor and Proprietor RICHARD L. METCALFE Associate Editor CHARLES W. BRYAN Publisher Editorial Rooms and Business Office 324-330 South 12th Street

One Year \$1.00 Six Months .50 In Clubs of Five or more, per year, .75 Three Months .25 Single Copy .05 Sample Copies Free. Foreign Post. 5c Extra.

SUBSCRIPTIONS can be sent direct to The Commoner. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through local agents, where sub-agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by postoffice money order, express order, or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps or money.

DISCONTINUANCES—It is found that a large majority of our subscribers prefer not to have their subscriptions interrupted and their files broken in case they fail to remit before expiration. It is therefore assumed that continuance is desired unless subscribers order discontinuance, either when subscribing or at any time during the year.

PRESENTATION COPIES—Many persons subscribe for friends, intending that the paper shall stop at the end of the year. If instructions are given to that effect they will receive attention at the proper time.

RENEWALS—The date on your wrapper shows the time to which your subscription is paid. Thus January 21, '10, means that payment has been received to and including the last issue of January, 1910. Two weeks are required after money has been received before the date on wrapper can be changed.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—Subscribers requesting a change of address must give old as well as new address.

ADVERTISING—Rates will be furnished upon application.

Address all communications to THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The American Homestead, a monthly farm journal of national scope, will be sent to all Commoner subscribers, without additional cost, who renew their subscriptions during the month of September. Take advantage of this offer at once and send in your renewal.

exerted, by giving his help now to this side, now to that, determines where the boat shall go. On this issue of the political bearings of the tariff there are enough independents (50,000 voted in the recent Massachusetts state election, in spite of the fact that their leading economic demand had been granted, and that the republican party set out to dodge the tariff issue altogether), especially in all the great states of the middle west, to turn the scales in favor of whatever party shall most promptly and effectively take measures to remove the power of assessing taxes and bestowing bounties from the hands of interested parties and their virtual appointees, and restore it, at least in its initial and advisory stages, to the people, acting through their president and his expert advisers.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS

The republicans of Tennessee nominated Captain Benjamin W. Hooper for governor and approved the existing prohibitory laws.

Former United States Senator Joseph M. Carey announced that he would be an independent candidate for governor of Wyoming for the purpose of fighting the republican machine of that state.

In California the insurgent republicans won a great victory over the regulars. Hiram W. Johnson, insurgent candidate for the republican nomination for governor, received a plurality of more than 30,000. Theodore Bell will be his democratic opponent. John D. Works, insurgent, was nominated to be United States senator. Concerning the results on congressmen the Associated Press says:

"It is now certain that William Kent, reformer and insurgent of the deepest type, has outdistanced Duncan E. McKinley in the race for congress in the Second district. The latest figures give Kent a lead of 1,122 votes.

W. D. Stephens, insurgent, has won over James McLachlan, regular, in the Seventh con-

gressional district by a substantial majority, according to the latest returns from the southern part of the state. The same returns gave Sylvester C. Smith, regular, a lead over his opponent in the Eighth district. It was thought during the day that Smith had been defeated.

"E. A. Hayes, insurgent, of the Fifth congressional district, has been renominated.

"Julius Kahl, regular, will be opposed by Walter McArthur, a labor leader of the Pacific coast, and it is expected Kahl will have a hard fight on his hands.

"While the advisory votes on United States senator to succeed Senator Flint is by no means complete, John D. Works, insurgent, has 5,000 votes more than Edwin Meserve. A. G. Spalding, the San Diego sporting goods man, is running third.

"Two stalwart congressmen—Duncan McKinley in the Second district, and James McLachlan in the Seventh—apparently have been defeated.

"William E. Kent, for whom Gifford Pinchot 'stumped' the Second district, leads McKinley by a narrow, but safe margin, while W. D. Stephens has a similar lead over McLachlan. E. A. Hayes, insurgent incumbent from the Fifth district, has been renominated. Enbright and Smith, regulars, appear to have been renominated in the First and Eighth districts, respectively. In the other California districts, three in number, the present stalwart representatives were not opposed."

The Tennessee republicans have endorsed the candidacy of B. A. Enloe, independent democrat for railroad commissioner. The Associated Press report says:

"The independent statewide prohibition democrats who have fought Governor Patterson every step of his official career are expected to support the ticket nominated as against the regular democratic nomination which is for M. R. Patterson's re-election, and the coming campaign promises to be one of vigor and bitterness."

An Associated Press report from Nashville, Tenn., says: "Seth McCallen (Colonel Dick Maple), editor of the Rip Saw, will make the race for governor on the socialist ticket. He is the most distinguished socialist in the state and one of the leaders in the nation and was recently nominated by referendum, but declined on the ground of ill health."

In Nebraska the progressive republicans nominated for governor, Chester H. Aldrich, a pronounced temperance man, over A. E. Cady. In the first district William Hayward, a standpatter, was nominated for congress; in the Second district Judge A. L. Sutton, a progressive; in the Third district, J. F. Boyd, a progressive; in the Fourth, Charles H. Sloan, a standpatter; in the Fifth, George W. Norris, progressive; in the Sixth, Moses P. Kinkaid, standpatter. Elmer J. Burkett, standpatter, was renominated for senator over C. O. Whedon and Captain Adams, both progressives. Other nominees on the republican state ticket follow: Lieutenant governor, M. E. Hopewell, incumbent; secretary of state, J. J. Ryder; state auditor, S. R. Barton, incumbent; state treasurer, Walter A. George; state superintendent of education, J. W. Crabtree; attorney general, Grant W. Martin; commissioner of public lands and buildings, E. D. Cowles, incumbent; railroad commissioner, H. T. Clarke, Jr., incumbent.

In the democratic primaries, Gilbert M. Hitchcock, editor of the Omaha World-Herald, present congressman from the Second district, was nominated for United States senator over Richard L. Metcalfe. James C. Dahlman, mayor of Omaha, was nominated for governor over A. C. Shallenberger, incumbent, by a plurality of 72, and a recount has been demanded by Governor Shallenberger. Dahlman made his campaign in favor of a wide open policy on the liquor question and promising to veto a county option bill should the legislature pass such a measure. Other democratic nominees for state offices are as follows: Lieutenant governor, Ralph Clarke; secretary of state, Charles W. Pool; state auditor, P. J. Hewitt; state treasurer, George E. Hall; state superintendent, W. R. Jackson; attorney general, C. H. Whitney; commissioner of public lands and buildings, W. B. Eastham; railroad commissioner, B. H. Hayden. Democratic congressional nominees are as follows: First district, John A. Maguire, incumbent; Second district, C. O. Loebeck; Third district, J. P. Latta, incumbent; Fourth district, B. F. Good; Fifth district, R. D. Sutherland; Sixth district, W. J. Taylor, probably.

Practical Tariff Talks

President Taft, Leader Payne and other republican spokesmen have been attempting to prove, by citing from the customs records, that the new tariff law is an actual revision downwards. They are quoting the first six months to show a decrease of a little less than one per cent in the rate paid under the Dingley tariff for the corresponding period of the previous year. The explanation is simple. The decrease is always greater just after a new tariff law has been passed because of the fact that imports of goods on which decreases are expected are held back until the lower duty takes effect. If anyone is interested in discovering for himself whether there has been any actual decrease, the way is open. Take the articles imported during any given year under the Dingley law and figure out what it would cost to import those articles under the present law. It is a simple arithmetical calculation. Suppose you are a heavy shipper of a lot of merchandise. Freight rates are always changing on some article or another. If you desired to find out whether there had been any increase in freight rates, you would not simply compare your freight bills for the first six months with the corresponding period of the previous year, but you would compare item with item, and cast up the total.

Perhaps you have not the data at hand to make this calculation. Well, here it is. During the year 1907 the goods imported into the United States, under the Dingley law, yielded duties aggregating \$329,109,342. If these identical articles had been dutiable under the Payne-Aldrich tariff law schedules or rates, the duty paid would be \$334,758,344. In other words, to import under the new law the goods imported in 1907 under the old law would cost \$5,649,002 more. To state it in another form, by applying the new law, schedule for schedule, item for item and paragraph for paragraph, to the articles imported in 1907, more revenue by 1.71 per cent would have been collected by the government. Isn't this the best proof possible that the revision has not been downward?

There are fourteen schedules in the tariff law. Under the calculation outlined above, applying to the articles actually imported in 1907 the tariff rates of the new law, in six of these schedules the duties were raised, in seven they were lowered and in one they are unchanged. The increases are in chemicals, agricultural products, cotton goods, spirits, silk and paper. The decreases are in earthenware, metals, lumber and wood, sugar, flax, wool and sundries, while there was no change in tobacco. The Dingley law had 2024 paragraphs and items. In the revision made at the special session 1150 of these were left unchanged. There were increases in 220 items and decreases in 654. Upon those statements rests the only substantial claim of the republicans to revision downward. They reduced more schedules than they raised, but they left untouched more than 50 per cent of the total number of schedules. These unchanged items affect every consumer, and the ad valorem rates are among the highest in the law, running from 62 to 143 per cent. In the wool schedule only one item, yarn, was changed. The rate was reduced from 143 per cent to 135 per cent. Under this paragraph \$7.80 worth of yarn was imported in 1907. The actual reduction in duties is 28 cents. Substantial reduction, isn't it?

In four of the schedules noted as being reduced the total is about one per cent. Thus, in sugar, the duty was reduced from \$1.95 to \$1.90 per 100 pounds. The Dingley duty on sugar in 1907 amounted to \$60,338,000. If the same amount is imported the first year of the Payne-Aldrich law, the duties will amount to \$60,335,000, or \$3,000 less. The old rate prohibited the importation of refined sugar and the new rate does the same. The sugar imported in 1907 amounted to 2,337,352 tons, but this was nearly all raw sugar, which the people do not eat but which the sugar trust refines. But as foreign refined sugars are practically barred, the trust, under the tariff, within the confines of the United States, can charge what it pleases. England and America consume most of the sugar sold. In January of this year the wholesale price of sugar in New York was from \$5.05 to \$5.20 per hundredweight. The English market price at the same time was from \$3.23 to \$3.75. The difference is the tariff profit of the trust. To get five cents benefit under the new tariff one must eat 190 pounds. C. Q. D.