

vote against amendments for free meat, free lumber and free agricultural machinery were carried out, but as their party leaders declared that any amendment would defeat the whole trade agreement they cheerfully voted these amendments down.

"The republicans who taunted them with opposing free admission of these important products, were met with the assertion that the democrats would lay the new 'farmers' free list bill' before the house next week and that an opportunity would then be given to vote for free meat, machinery and lumber and other things. This defense was met by republican standpatters with the charge that the democrats knew the free list bill could not pass the

senate, nor secure the president's approval.

"Attempts to put fresh and canned meats on the free list section were made by Representatives Martin of South Dakota, Foster of Vermont, Leifroot of Wisconsin and Norris of Nebraska. Representative Lenroot finally proposed the whole democratic free list bill as an amendment, and although Representative Sherley of Kentucky, who was presiding, ruled that it was in order, the democrats voted against it.

"The section of the bill relating to free admission of pulp and paper proved the sharpest discussion, drawing from Representative Mann, of Illinois the republican leader, the statement that it was exactly the terms agreed upon by the two coun-

tries. Former Speaker Cannon bitterly attacked this section."

Representative Randell has been chosen chairman of the Texas delegation in the house of representatives. The friends of Senator Bailey are now trying to make it appear that this is in no way an endorsement of Mr. Randell's senatorial boom.

Edward A. Mosley, secretary of the inter-state commerce commission is dead.

Representative Berger wants congress to have the power to call a constitutional convention. He introduced a resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution "declaring the constitution antedated and obsolete."

The tariff board is preparing a supplementary report of its investigations of the wood pulp and paper schedule of the Payne-Aldrich tariff.

President Taft has signed a proclamation setting aside 301,360 acres of land in Humboldt county, Nevada, as the Santa Rosa national forest.

The government has decided to rescind the order imposing a countervailing duty on British spirits.

Investigation of alleged extravagance in the government departments was endorsed by the house committee on rules.

Delivery of parcels post matter from many European countries will be expedited in the middle western states by an arrangement made by the postoffice and treasury departments.

Telegraphic orders from Washington, received at the Mare Island navy yard, started 100 marines for San Diego and the Mexican border under the command of Captain Fred A. Ramsey.

Clark McGercher, formerly of Seattle, and connected with the attorney general's office in the prosecution of anti-trust and interstate commerce cases, and investigations for the enforcement of the Sherman law, has been appointed special assistant to the attorney general with "trust-busting" duties. He has been connected with the government's work in the New York cotton pool case, crude petroleum pipe line investigation, the inquiry into various trade associations in the timber and steel industries, and other federal actions.

In the majority report of the ways and means committee of the house as filed by Chairman Underwood it is shown that the bill would reduce the tariff revenue \$10,016,495 based on the importation for the last fiscal year, an amount described as "inconsiderable in comparison with the great saving and advantages to our people, with the additions to the free list provided for."

Quoting President Taft's recent Canadian reciprocity speeches, the report seeks to convey the impression that the administration is convinced that protective tariff rates are too high.

"In several public addresses," it says, "he (the president) has admitted that tariff rates are too high; that such rates have resulted in excessively high prices, felt especially in the increased cost of living, which now bears heavily on our people, and that they have not received the long promised benefits of domestic competition under high protective duties."

Referring to the president's statement that the republican party had

modified its tariff policy so as to limit it for purposes of protection to the difference in cost of production here and abroad, with a reasonable profit to the United States producer, the committee report says:

"This is a confession, as was the republican platform of 1908, that the theory of high protective duties, as put forth by the republican party, has broken down; that combinations and trusts which prey upon the people have been fostered by the tariff, and that under high protective tariff, United States manufacturers have forced unreasonable profits from the people."

Again the report declares: "The Canadian reciprocity agreement now before the house is a recognition on the part of the administration of the injurious effects of the extreme protective policy which has so long been imposed upon the people of the country, and is an effort to mitigate its effects."

The reciprocity agreement, the committee asserts, cannot afford the United States people all the needed relief from high prices. "Action on the agreement involves the necessity of further and immediate action in removing a number of duties on imports from other countries in order that justice may be done to the great army of agricultural producers, who, in the Canadian agreement, are to have all the alleged protection removed from their products without a corresponding or reciprocal removal of the protective duties most burdensome on the commodities they must purchase as necessary to sustain their lives and industries."

The report takes up in detail the classified list of articles included in the free list bill. Regarding agricultural implements it says their manufacture is controlled by trusts and combinations that have sold in foreign countries at lower prices than at home, building up their foreign trade from \$3,859,184 in 1890 to \$28,124,033 in 1910.

Bagging and baling materials, essential in the transportation of agricultural products, the report says, cannot receive benefits of protection in home markets and duties on them

(Continued on Page 14.)

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