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## WASHINGTON LETTER

Washington, Oct. 23.—If the American people wish to give credit to whom credit is due, they ought to support the democratic candidates for Congress and thus place their stamp of approval on the record of the House of Representatives.

Since January 1, 1912, a democratic House has passed tariff bills which would have reduced the high cost of living \$650,000,000 a year.

Every bill which in the slightest degree provided for the masses was vetoed by the President.

The Farmers' Free List bill, passed by the House, would have saved the people \$390,000,000 annually. This bill removed the duty from agricultural implements, of which \$36,000,000 worth were exported and only \$165,000 worth were imported during the last fiscal year; sowing machines, fence wire, bagging and cotton ties, lumber, laths, shingles, salt, meats, flour, leather, shoes, etc.

Under our tariff law a barrel of flour valued at \$4 abroad is taxed 25 per cent ad valorem at our ports, or \$1 on the barrel. This bill removed the entire tax.

Beef valued at \$5.30 per 100 lbs. abroad pays a tariff tax equivalent to 25.88 per cent, or \$1.50 per 100 pounds. This bill proposed to remove this entire tax.

The democratic wool bill proposed to reduce the average rate of duty on wool manufactures from 30.10 per cent to 48.36 per cent. President Taft's veto of this measure means that the American people will pay \$50,000,000 more for their clothes this year than they would have if President Taft had signed it.

A wool hat valued at \$1 abroad and taxed 78 cents upon its entry into the United States under the present tariff law, would have been taxed only 49 cents.

Flannel underwear valued at \$27 per dozen suits is taxed the present law at the equivalent ad valorem rate of about 106 per cent. The democratic bill proposed to reduce this to 49 per cent. A suit of ready-made woolen clothing worth in Europe \$10 is taxed under the present law at the equivalent ad valorem rate of 75 per cent, or \$7.50. The democratic bill proposed to reduce this tax from 75 to 49 per cent and save the consumer \$2.60 per suit.

The cotton bill reduced the duties on cotton manufactures from 48.12 per cent to 27.05 per cent, a reduction of the tariff burdens under this schedule from not less than \$200,000,000 to about \$112,000,000 for a year, or a saving of about \$88,000,000 for a twelve-month period.

Men's cotton half hose valued at eighty cents per dozen pairs wholesale are taxed under the present law at the equivalent ad valorem rate of about 92 per cent. The democratic cotton bill proposed to reduce this to 40 per cent.

It proposed to reduce the tax on cotton thread from an equivalent rate of 34 per cent to 15 per cent. A suit of ready-made cotton clothing valued at the foreign port at \$6 is taxed under our present law 50 per cent ad valorem, or \$3 a suit. This democratic bill proposed to reduce this tax to 30 per cent and save the consumer \$1.20 per suit.

The bill revising the metal schedule reduced the average rate of duty on the entire schedule from 33.35 per cent (imports of 1910) to 22.42 per cent. This revision, it is estimated, would have saved the American consumers in a twelve-month period more than \$80,000,000.

The revision of the chemical schedule would have effected a saving to American consumers of about \$17,000,000 by reducing the price of all chemicals and at the same time the revenue to the Government would have been increased.

The bill placing sugar on the free list would have saved during a year not less than \$115,000,000 to the consumer. The tariff tax on sugar amounts to about 1 1/2 cents per pound. The amount of sugar consumed in continental United States in 1911 was about 7,663,000,000 pounds, and the application of 1 1/2 cents per lb. to this consumption affords the estimate of \$115,000,000 as representing the saving to the people.

The House passed a bill providing for an excise tax on incomes, thereby transferring a considerable portion of the tax burdens to the wealthy, which are escaping their proper proportion.

The Excise Tax bill passed by the House provides for the extension of the Corporation Tax law so as to include individuals, firms and co-partnerships. It accomplishes the very desirable purpose of transferring tax burdens from those less able to carry them to the shoulders of the wealthy, who have heretofore escaped from a proper share of taxation for the support of the Government.

Frank Johnson, an attorney from Alton, was in Alliance Tuesday.

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. ONE.

The following proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of Nebraska, as hereinafter set forth in full, is submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska, to be voted upon at the general election to be held Tuesday, November 5th, A. D. 1912.

"A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Section 1 and Section 10 Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, and Supplemental Article entitled 'Amendments'."

Be it Resolved and Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska: Section 1. That at the general election for state and legislative officers to be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November, 1912, the following proposed amendments to the constitution of the State of Nebraska shall be submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska: Section 1. That Section 1 of Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. The legislative authority of the state shall be vested in a legislature consisting of a senate and house of representatives, but the people reserve the right to propose laws and amendments to the constitution, and to enact or reject the same at the polls independently of the legislature, and also to serve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act, item, section, or part of any act passed by the legislature.

Section 1A. The first power reserved by the people is the initiative. Ten per cent of the legal voters of the state shall be distributed to each of the five counties of the state, and each shall contain the full text of the measure so proposed. Provided, that proposed Constitutional Amendments shall require a majority of the legal voters of the state distributed as above provided. Initiative petitions (except for municipal or local legislation) shall be filed with the Secretary of State and be filed with the voters at the first regular state election held after the filing of the petition. The same measure, either in form or in essential substance, shall not be submitted to the people by initiative petition (either affirmatively or negatively) oftener than once in three years. If conflicting measures submitted to the people by initiative petition shall be approved, the one receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall thereby become law to all conflicting provisions of the Constitution and laws enacted by the legislature shall apply to those enacted by the initiative.

Section 1B. The second power reserved is the referendum. It may be ordered by a petition of ten per cent of the legal voters of the state, and which are required for initiative petitions. Referendum petitions against measures passed by the legislature shall be filed with the Secretary of State within ninety days after the legislature enacting the same adjourns sine die or for a period longer than ninety days; and which shall be held at the first regular state election held not less than thirty days after such filing.

Section 1C. The form of ballot on the amendments proposed herein shall be as follows: "For proposed amendments to the constitution providing for, and 'Against proposed amendments to the constitution providing for general election once in two years." Approved April 7, 1911."

I, Addison Wait, Secretary of State, of the State of Nebraska do hereby certify that the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Nebraska is a true and correct copy of the original enrolled and engrossed bill, as appears from said original bill on file in this office, and that said proposed amendment is submitted to the qualified voters of the state of Nebraska for their adoption or rejection at the general election to be held on Tuesday, the 5th day of November, A. D. 1912.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska, Done at Lincoln, this 20th day of May, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twelve, and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth and of this State the Forty-sixth.

ADDISON WAIT, Secretary of State.

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. FOUR.

The following proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of Nebraska, as hereinafter set forth in full, is submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska, to be voted upon at the general election to be held Tuesday, November 5th, A. D. 1912.

"A JOINT RESOLUTION to propose amendments to Section five (5) of Article six (6) and Section thirteen (13) of Article sixteen (16) of the constitution of the state of Nebraska as found in the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska for 1909 (Section thirteen (13) of Article eighteen (18) of Cobby's Annotated Statutes for 1909), relating to the time of electing judges of the supreme court, fixing the time of the general election and providing for holding over incumbent judges until their successors are elected and qualified."

Be it Resolved and Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska: Section 1. That Section Five (5) of Article Six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska be amended to read as follows:

Section 5. That at the general election to be held in the State of Nebraska in the year 1916, and each six years thereafter, there shall be elected three (3) judges of the Supreme Court, who shall hold their office for the period of six (6) years; and at the general election to be held in the State of Nebraska in the year 1918, and each six years thereafter there shall be elected three (3) judges of the Supreme Court, who shall hold their office for the period of six (6) years; and at the general election to be held in the State of Nebraska in the year 1920, and each six years thereafter there shall be elected a chief justice of the Supreme Court, who shall hold his office for the period of six (6) years. Provided, That the member of the Supreme Court whose term of office expires in January, 1914, shall be elected by the Supreme Court during that time until the expiration of his term of office.

Section 2. That Section Thirteen (13) of Article Six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska as found in the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska for 1909 (Section thirteen (13) of Cobby's Annotated Statutes for 1909) be amended to read as follows:

Section 13. The general election of this state shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in the year 1914 and every two years thereafter. All state and township officers, by the constitution or laws made elective by the people, except school district officers, and precinct officers in cities, villages and towns, shall be elected at a general election to be held as aforesaid. Judges of the supreme, district and county courts, and all other elective officers, the time for the election of whom is not herein provided for, shall be elected at the general election to be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November, 1912, and thereafter at the general election next preceding the time of the termination for their respective terms of office. Incumbent officers shall hold over until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

The form of ballot on the amendments proposed herein shall be as follows: "For proposed amendments to the constitution providing for, and 'Against proposed amendments to the constitution providing for general election once in two years." Approved April 7, 1911."

I, Addison Wait, Secretary of State, of the State of Nebraska do hereby certify that the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Nebraska is a true and correct copy of the original enrolled and engrossed bill, as appears from said original bill on file in this office, and that said proposed amendment is submitted to the qualified voters of the state of Nebraska for their adoption or rejection at the general election to be held on Tuesday, the 5th day of November, A. D. 1912.

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ADDISON WAIT, Secretary of State.

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. THREE.

The following proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of Nebraska, as hereinafter set forth in full, is submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska, to be voted upon at the general election to be held Tuesday, November 5th, A. D. 1912.

"A JOINT RESOLUTION to amend Section nineteen (19) of Article five (5) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska creating a Board of Commissioners of State Institutions."

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska: Section 1. That Section nineteen (19) of Article five (5) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, be amended to read as follows:

Section 19. The Governor shall, prior to the adjournment of the thirty-third session of the legislature, nominate and, with the consent of two-thirds of the members of the Senate in Executive Session, appoint three electors of common law, not more than two of whom shall belong to the same political party and no two of whom shall reside at the time of their appointment in the same congressional district, as members of a board to be known as a "Board of Commissioners of State Institutions." Said members shall hold office as designated by the Governor for two, four and six years respectively. Subsequent appointments shall be made as provided and, except to fill vacancies, shall be for a period of six years. The Board shall at all times be subject to the above restrictions and limitations. The Board of Commissioners shall have full power to manage, control and govern, subject only to such limitations as shall be established by law, the State Soldiers' Home, Hospitals for the Insane, Institute for the Deaf, Institute for the Blind, Industrial Schools, Institute for Feeble-Minded Children, Nebraska Industrial Home, Orthopedic Hospital, the State Penitentiary and all charitable, reformatory and penal institutions that shall be by law established and maintained by the state of Nebraska. They shall each give bonds, receive oaths and comply with all regulations that shall be established by law. The powers possessed by the Governor and Board of Public Lands and Buildings with reference to the management and control of the institutions herein named shall, on the expiration of the term of the Governor and the Board of Public Lands and Buildings and shall become vested in a Board of Commissioners of State Institutions, and the said Board is on July 1, 1913, and without further process of law, authorized and directed to assume and exercise all the powers heretofore vested in or exercised by the Governor or Board of Public Lands and Buildings with reference to the institutions of the state named herein, but nothing herein contained shall limit the general supervisory or examining powers vested in the Governor by the laws or constitution of the state, or such as are vested by him in any committee appointed by him.

Section 2. That at the general election, to be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November, 1912, there shall be submitted to the electors of the state for their approval or rejection the foregoing proposed amendments to the constitution in the following form: On the ballot of each elector voting for or against said proposed amendment shall be printed or written: "For proposed amendment to the Constitution creating a Board of Commissioners of State Institutions" and "Against proposed amendment to the constitution creating a Board of Commissioners of State Institutions."

Section 3. If such amendment to Section nineteen (19) of Article five (5) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska shall be approved by a majority of all electors voting at such election, the amendment shall become operative on the constitution of the State of Nebraska, as appears from said original bill on file in this office, and that said proposed amendment is submitted to the qualified voters of the state of Nebraska for their adoption or rejection at the general election to be held on Tuesday, the 5th day of November, A. D. 1912.

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### PATENTS

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