

USELESS TARIFF TAX

THE RESULTS OF THE HEAVY DUTY ON WOOL.

Places Immense Burden on the Vast Majority of the People and Apparently Has But Slightly Benefited the Wool-Growing Industry.

Of the many foolish, injurious and even outrageous tariff taxes levied by the Dingley bill none, perhaps, does a greater amount of harm to all and a smaller amount of good to a few than do those levied on wool and woolens. This tax averaging nearly 100 per cent on both raw wool and on woolen goods, increases the cost of woolen clothes by nearly 100 per cent; reduces the amount of wool consumed by about half; compels the general use of cotton, shoddy and other cheap substitutes and adulterants instead of wool; compels workmen with ordinary incomes to wear inferior and improper clothing in winter; and is responsible for much of the pneumonia and other diseases that carry off such a large percentage of our Northern population every year.

This tax on wool and woolens is, besides, a heavy burden upon the woolen manufacturing industry, which is now languishing and is comparatively stagnant and unprofitable. Neither has it, apparently, benefited the wool-growing industry, for fewer pounds of wool are produced now than either ten or twenty years ago, while the number of sheep is about the same now as then.

The only real prosperity enjoyed by the woolen industry for more than thirty years was during the three years of free wool under the Wilson bill. During this period our woolen mills manufactured more yards of woolens than ever before or since, and the per capita consumption of wool increased greatly and was then about 60 per cent greater than it has since then.

The duties on wool vary from 4 to 12 cents per pound on raw wool to 35 to 45 cents on scoured wool. Duties on woolen goods vary greatly. Generally as much per pound as upon an equal number of pounds of raw wool and in addition from 30 to 55 per cent ad valorem. The duties on raw clothing wool may be considered as 11 cents per pound, on woolen clothes at 44 cents per pound and 50 per cent and on clothing 44 cents per pound and 55 per cent. The duty collected on imported wool last year was 55 per cent of the value of the wool and that collected on woolen goods was equal to 91 per cent of their value.

As these, like all specific or partly specific duties, are higher on cheap than on expensive goods, it is evident that they will average about 100 per cent on ordinary woolen goods. As about 40 per cent of the wool consumed in this country comes from abroad, and therefore, is nearly doubled in value by the tariff duties, it is evident that the tariff must increase the value of most woolens sold here by nearly 100 per cent.

The total value at retail of all wool on goods and clothing sold in this country is probably about \$600,000,000 a year. It is safe to say that \$150,000,000 of this amount is due to the tariff duties on wool and woolens. This is an average of about \$9 per family for our whole population.

The total value of all the sheep in the country on Jan. 1, 1904, was estimated at only \$133,520,000, and the value of the wool clip for the year 1903 at \$58,775,373, or only about one-third the tariff cost of woolens.

But not more than half of the price of wool (probably one-fifth) can be credited to the duty on raw material. Therefore, in order to grant a protection bonus of from \$10,000,000 to \$30,000,000 a year to our wool growers we tax all families an average of \$9 per family in order that we may confer a tariff benefit which cannot possibly exceed \$2, and which probably does not exceed \$.75 per family. But, as one-half of this protection bonus most certainly goes to less than 200,000 of the big ranch men of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, who produce more than one-half the wool grown in this country, the average for all the other families cannot exceed \$1 and probably does not exceed 40 cents per family.

Newspaper Publishers Call For Action. The International Paper company, commonly called the "paper trust," is very indignant at the newspaper publishers who lately appeared before the judicial committee of the national house of representatives and gave evidence that the company was a trust and a combination in restraint of trade. The company through its officers presented an affidavit signed by them denying practically all the allegations made by the newspaper representatives.

Representative Lilley of Connecticut, who introduced the resolution on which this investigation is being held, declared that unless the committee favorably reports his resolution, as he is confident they will do, he will himself lay the testimony in the case before the attorney general with a view to action under the Sherman law.

As there are on file in the office of the attorney general of the United States a number of cases with evidence against trust such as the coal trust, the tobacco trust and others, upon which no action has been taken, it would seem to be a waste of time and energy for more cases to be presented. The attorney general, only a week or two ago, gave out the information that he was not going to "run amuck against the trusts" and, it is said, President Roosevelt authorized this statement. The evidence accumulated that the administration has completed its trust busting campaign and is now intent on propitiating the trusts and corporations, so that their contributions and cooperation may be as liberal in the coming, as in other national campaigns. Perhaps later, when the call for campaign funds is urgent, those trusts who have not "come down" may be threatened with "action under the Sherman law" unless good sized checks are forthcoming.

The man that can best make the republicanism will be wonderfully condensed. In fact, it would be condensed to an infinitesimal degree.

TREADING ON DANGEROUS GROUND. The Milwaukee News continues to trench upon free markets with a courage that is little short of sublime, though terribly reckless. The News declares that it really doesn't make any difference when congress adjourns so long as Roosevelt is in the White house, because "if there are any laws that need to be enacted, he may issue an executive order to meet the emergency." Turn it which way you will, this is a clearly a case of treason.

A reader of the Commoner asks where the idea of an asset currency originated and when. The Commoner is not able to state who first suggested the asset currency, or when the suggestions were first offered, but the asset currency finds its support among the financiers who desire to make the profit that there is in issuing a currency without the putting up of security. When government bonds are used for security the bank must purchase the bonds, and though it draws interest on the bonds at the same time that it uses the face value in bank notes, it is not satisfied. If it can secure an asset currency it can use the assets of the bank and issue the currency at the same time, and thus make a larger profit. The fact that the people have no security is a secondary matter. The government is being run upon the theory that the financiers will take care of the people provided the financiers themselves are allowed to have whatever they want.

According to the Brooklyn Eagle, "Mr. Bryan's fate hangs in the balance in Nebraska." Important Nebraska democrats, it says, "have reported that he is already beaten, the democrats of his state refusing to stand for the reaffirmation of the Kansas City platform." If this is a specimen of the accuracy of the Eagle's information on other subjects, its readers would better not rely too much upon its columns. So far no county in Nebraska has repudiated the Kansas City platform, and when the state convention is held it will be found that Nebraska is in line. Nebraska some years ago abandoned platforms of the New York variety.

A number of republican daily newspapers that complimented Knox upon his assertion that the administration would not run amuck, are now wondering if the print paper trust heard him say it.

"Corruption is eating the heart out of Korea," says a writer who has investigated. "If that kind of eating makes dyspeptic, what a magnificent army of invalids this country could muster."

Judge Parker's friends say that they will not have to apologize for him. Perhaps not, but are they prepared to work their explanation department overtime.

Senator Burton seems to have made the mistake of selling his official influence to Lawyer Burton. This appears to be much more dangerous than selling postoffice appointments or renting buildings to the government.

Mr. Foraker's anxiety to emancipate the anti-trust law may be taken as an indication that Mr. Foraker desires to pry Senator Aldrich loose from his position as chief of the trust representatives in congress.

Some of the papers that are anxious to make a record for forwarding Judge Parker's views, are supposing all sorts of different and antagonizing opinions, feeling sure that one of their guesses will be correct.

Mr. Schwab went into court in New York the other day and swore off \$100,000 of taxable property, claiming residence in Pennsylvania. This is an indication that Mr. Schwab has not yet flouted his bundle of shipbuilding trust stock.

In view of the many exposures of official corruption at Washington there is nothing in the law of supply and demand if the price of whitewash does not take an upward turn.

A number of senators who owe their election and allegiance to corporations are awfully shocked at the discovery that Senator Smoot owes his election and allegiance to the Mormon church.

The man who expects justice to be done to emanate from the men chosen by managers of selfish interests, would expect to gather grapes from thorns and figs from thistles.

trusts and corporations "come down," or "cough up," as Senator Quay calls it, is being earnestly searched for by President Roosevelt for chairman of the Republican national committee.

DID THE PRESIDENT KNOW?

Looks as if He Were Behind the Bristow Report.

The members of Congress mentioned in the Bristow report as having attempted to use undue influence upon the Postoffice department in the matter of securing additional clerk hire, increased allowances for rent of postoffices, etc., are not to be easily convinced that the President had no part in the accusation.

There was something so rough-riders in the composition of the report that, whether the President formally approved of it or not, men familiar with the situation at Washington reached the conclusion very quickly that the writing must have been done in the Rooseveltian atmosphere.

When Mr. Bristow appeared before the special committee of the house the following colloquy took place between him and a Congressman who believed that he knew a fresh trail when he found one:

"Do you know whether or not this report came directly from the hands of the Postmaster General without going into someone else's hands for inspection or perusal before it was sent to the Postoffice committee of the House?"

"I don't know. I have been told, but I have no knowledge of it."

"Have you ever had any conversation with the President that would lead you to believe—"

"I don't think you ought to ask that. It is not within the scope of our investigation."

"Well, we cannot get the President here and there had hints in the newspapers about this."

About one hundred and fifty members of Congress of both parties were mentioned by name in this report in connection with Machen and the other postal crooks who were recently convicted and sentenced to prison. There seems to be no doubt that the charges lodged against Congressmen grew out of their customary appeals to the department to secure improved postal facilities for their constituents. It does not appear that there is any real suspicion of corruption in many of the cases.

It becomes highly interesting and in a sense important, therefore, to know whether a report like this, intended to be made a part of the public records, was drawn up with the knowledge and approval of the President. Mr. Roosevelt is a candidate for the Presidency. His party and the people have a right to know all that is to be known about his public character and methods.

The Congressman who said that it was impossible to put the President on the stand was right. He was not right in dropping the inquiry where he did unless he was satisfied that Mr. Bristow had said enough to make it clear that Mr. Roosevelt saw the report before it was published. Did he?

The Republican Leaders and Trusts. The Tawney tobacco bill has slipped open the Republican party lines in the ways and means committee to the great disgust of Chairman Payne. He told the Republican members that he thought it was foolish for the committee to attempt to do any business at this session and useless to have any committee hearings. So because the Republican members of the greatest committee of the House of Representatives cannot all agree on one bill, the whole machinery is to stop.

What a travesty on popular government. The representatives of the people in congress assembled are supposed to be engaged in legislating for the wants of their constituents, but because some of his associates do not agree with Mr. Payne he threatens to shut up shop, stand pat and go home. The pluck of the Republican members has certainly greatly deteriorated, or they would resist this do nothing policy when there is so much legislation that is demanded.

Mr. Tawney's bill, the matter that raised this rumpus, was to prevent tobacco manufacturers from putting price coupons into packages of cigarettes. It is said to be in the interest of the tobacco trust and because some of the Republican members of the committee voted with the Democrats and defeated it, led to this outburst of Chairman Payne. When a trust cannot be accommodated the Republican leaders appear to think it is time to quit doing business, possibly the voters may take a different view of it when they cast their ballots next fall.

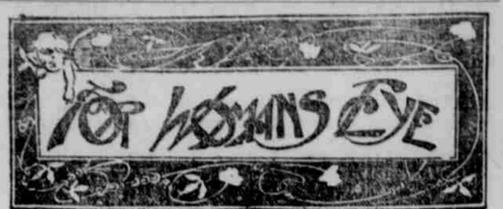
De Armond Flays Republicans. Hon. David A. De Armond, of Missouri, in a speech in the house on April 4, 1904, said:

"Who is it of you who will predict what the president will do if given four years in his own right at the White House? Who of you is it that will dare to enter the field of prediction and say what he will not do or say—anything that he will not do—if given four years in his own right up there?"

"You want stability. Are you proposing to get it? You are in favor of stability now—the stability of inaction, the stability of political cowardice. Brave men individually, brave men in the moral field and in the intellectual field, have allowed themselves, by the system which has become distinctively Republican in this day and generation, to become political cowards in dealing with the questions of the day."

Knows How It Is Himself. It seems quite appropriate to see former Secretary of War Russell A. Alger defending Dr. Leonard Wood. The day is not so very far past when Alger needed a good deal of defending. A few fellows make one wondrous kind.—Utica Observer.

All Power Given to Trusts. "The government does not mean to run amuck," said Attorney General Knox to the trusts, and he is keeping his word. The laws are suspended and the trusts continue to run amuck against the rights and pockets of the public.



Now for the Glass Tea Pot.

The glass tea pot is a novelty that finds considerable favor among expert tea makers. These pots come from England. They are of stout tempered glass and are delicately trimmed with bands of silver.

Inside the pot itself a hollow ball of silver rolls about, and by its prompt acceptance of the heat of the boiling water prevents the glass from cracking.

The charm of the crystal pot lies not wholly in its novelty or beauty, but in the fact that through its transparent sides the tea maker can see just what amount of brew she has on hand and the strength thereof.

Girl's Dress.

Bertha waists always are becoming to little girls. This pretty frock shows one combined with a simple gathered skirt and is charmingly graceful at the same time that it is eminently childish.

The model is made of old pink velveting with trimming of ecru lace bands and in low at the neck with elbow sleeves, but the sleeves can be made long and the neck high whenever they are so desired and all the many materials in vogue for little girls' frocks are appropriate while trimming can be banded of any sort, frills or almost anything that may be liked.

The dress consists of waist and skirt. The waist is made over a fitted body lining, that is faced to form the yoke when high, cut to indicated lines when low neck is desired, front and back. Both front and backs are full and waist and lining are closed separately at the back. The bertha is circular and the high neck is finished with a standing collar. The sleeves form full puffs, with full frills below. When desired long the linings are cut full length and faced to form cuffs.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 6 1/2 yards 21 inches wide, 5 1/2 yards 27 inches wide or 3 1/2 yards 44 inches wide with 18 inches of banding and 3/4 yard 18 inches wide for yoke and cuffs when high neck and long sleeves are used. The pattern 4698 is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years of age.

Shoe Should Match the Gown.

To be well gowned, fashion decrees that the smart woman's shoes must match her costume for really dainty occasions. All the pastel shades are popular for kid evening slippers, but for reception, calling and house wear, brown, gray, red, violet or champagne shades are used to match the gown.

Large buckles of Colonial days are conspicuously worn on the toes of pretty slippers of satin, velvet or kid. A pair of violet kid slippers had buckles of gun metal set with cut steel around the edges, and with a fleur de lis pattern of cut steel in the center of each one.

Slippers for brides are the epitome of daintiness in white kid, with white tulle ruffles, and artificial orange blossom trimmings. White pearl butterflies often close the strap over the instep.

Skirts Are Full.

The new skirts are full, and those who are tall and slim can indulge a fashionable predilection for short bands of shirring on the hips. These are not extended to the front and back breadths of the skirt. Where emphasis suggests that shirring on the hips is not desirable, these spaces are trimmed with groups of hand tucks. Horizontal hand tucks are newer than the groups of vertical tucks on the hips, and so are now used on skirts of summer gowns where shirring would be a mistake.

Blouse or Shirt Waist.

To the demand for new shirt waists there seems literally no end. This one includes quite novel sleeves and is peculiarly well adapted to the em-broidery that is so fashionable, although it can be trimmed in many ways. The original, from which the drawing was made, is of white net and is embroidered in French style with a raised design, but all the season's waistings are appropriate and bands of insertion or inset medallions can be made to take the place of needlework with entirely satisfactory effect.

The waist is made with fronts and back; the fronts are tucked at the shoulders and again at each side of the center plait, so giving a double box plait effect, and the back to give tapering lines. The sleeves, which make the essential feature of the waist, are tucked above the elbows and laid in overlapping plaits above the straight cuffs, and also are abased by means of farts that are concealed by the plaits.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4 yards 21 inches wide, 3 1/2 yards 27 inches wide or 2 1/2 yards 44 inches wide. The pattern 4700 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

Beaucaire Salad.

Beaucaire salad comes from England. It is rather an elaborate dish, suitable for Sunday night supper or similar occasions. Cut into small

pieces two stalks of celery and half a celery root, one or two boiled beets and a dozen olives. Toss these in a French dressing and set aside. Wash and peel three ounces of mushrooms, and steep them for a very few minutes in butter and a little water. Let them get cold in the liquor and cut them up lengthwise. Cut up two tart apples and some lean boiled ham and mix all the vegetables together with a fork, tossing lightly. Line a salad bowl with endive and heap the Beaucaire on the leaves. Add a little chopped chervil and pour over all mayonnaise. —New York Evening Post.

Carriage Parasols.

There is really nothing quite so feminine as a fluffy parasol, and the aspiring girl should immediately possess one of the new carriage parasols. These are not the tiny, fan-like affairs so much in vogue with elderly ladies in years past, but instead, are elaborately trimmed floral parasols in miniature.

A bewitching carriage parasol was made of lace for two-thirds of the circumference, the rest hung in a charming tangle of chiffon with violets spread on the foundation. Little bobbing violets also surrounded the face of the carrier, and the whole was immensely becoming.

Colors For Hats.

Shades of blue, shades of Bordeaux, shades of green, shades of pink, are all favorite ideas for the entirely straw toque. It seems agreed that costume and hat shall make a compact as to color, and on these lines one notices that the new sleeve frills are chiffon, matching the fabric of the frock or the coat and skirt in question. And this will be a very pretty fashion, of which a charming variation may be found in having the chiffon flowered, although the groundwork matches the material of the frock.

Cheese Strips.

Good cheese strips can be made from the scraps of pie crust by rolling the pastry very thin and dividing into equal parts. Cream two tablespoonfuls of butter and the beaten yolks of two eggs with the white of one, four tablespoonfuls of grated cheese and a dash of red pepper with salt to taste. Lay one piece of the pastry on a greased baking tin, spread the cheese mixture over it smoothly and cover with the remaining pastry, marking the lines for dividing. Bake in a very quick oven for about ten minutes.

Eton Jacket. Simple, collarless Eton jackets are much worn and suit certain occasions better than any other sort. This one is novel, in that the fronts are fitted by means of seams that extend to the shoulders. As shown it is made of royal blue chevrot and is trimmed with a trim m-e-d with black braid, but all suitable materials are correct, and trimming can be varied again and again. The model is made entirely of the chevrot, with the braid simply applied on indicated lines, but a more elaborate effect can be obtained by using a contrasting material outside the braid, which gives a vest effect. The jacket is made with fronts and back that is cut in three sections. The sleeves are wide and ample and are gathered into straight bands which are concealed by the roll-over shaped cuffs. The quantity of material required for the medium size is 3 1/2 yards 21 inches wide, 3 1/2 yards 27 inches wide or 1 1/2 yards 44 inches wide, with 7 yards of braid to trim as illustrated. The pattern 4699 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

Health and Ease in Clothes. You may take it as a certainty that if any garment is tight it is not healthy. We know that a tight shoe pinches, and that is not all, deformations. Tight gloves spoil the appearance of the hands, tight garments never keep the body warm. Tight shoes make cold feet. It is even said that a tight neckband gives a cold in the head, and tight stays and their ill-doings have been so often criticized that it is not necessary to dwell on them here.

Gloves in Spring Flower Shades. Among the new gloves to match toilet spring flower shades are popular. Among the popular colors are rose leaf green, rose de bot, forget-me-not, lilac, violet and heliotrope.

Readers of this paper can secure any May Manton pattern illustrated above by filling out a blank in coupon, and mailing, with 10 cents, to E. Harrison & Co., 65 Plymouth Place, Chicago. Patterns will be mailed promptly.

Name _____
Town _____
State _____
Patterns No. _____
Waist Measure (if for shirt) _____
Bust Measure (if for waist) _____
Age (if child's or miss's pattern) _____

Write plainly. Fill out all blanks. Enclose 10c. Mail to E. Harrison & Co., 65 Plymouth Place, Chicago.

A GOOD THING TO KEEP OFF OF.

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

POLITICAL HONESTY.

The necessity for honesty in financial transactions is understood by all, and the line between honesty and dishonesty is so clearly drawn that no one would attempt to confuse the two. For a man to be dishonest in a financial transaction brings upon him an odium from which he finds it difficult to relieve himself. Embezzlement is one form of pecuniary dishonesty. If a public official converts to his own use money entrusted to his care, he is convicted as an embezzler and summarily punished. The line between political honesty and political dishonesty ought to be as clearly marked, and political dishonesty ought to meet with immediate and universal punishment. A public official has no more right to mislead the political power given him by the people than a treasurer has to mislead public money. Influence is bestowed upon a man, not as a personal compliment, but as a public trust, and when a party nominates a man for public office it assumes responsibility for his faithful performance of duty, and it suffers if the confidence reposed in him is found to be misplaced. The object of a platform is to make known to the public the course which the official will follow, and it is promulgated in order that the people may know whether to confer authority upon him.

If a platform has any purpose at all, it is to inform the public as to the purpose, plan and methods of the candidate. If a platform commits a candidate to a certain course on any question, and the candidate after election follows a different and an opposite course he is guilty of abusing public confidence and betraying those who trusted him. If, however, a platform is written in such ambiguous language that it can be construed in different ways, the action of those who wrote it can only be explained upon the theory that they either lacked the ability to state the party's position clearly or that they had a secret reason for using ambiguous language. The New York platform is one of the best illustrations of political dishonesty that has appeared in recent years. Take, for instance, the plank on the trust question. A president elected upon that platform could rigorously oppose every private monopoly and he could defend himself by saying that all private monopolies oppress the people and that all of them stifle "healthy industrial competition." Or a president elected on that platform could refuse to prosecute any trust, and explain by saying that no trust was guilty of oppressing the people, or of stifling healthy industrial competition. So far as that plank is concerned, it would leave any president elected upon it absolutely free to do anything or nothing, according to his pleasure.

And the objection that is made to the trust plank can be made to every other plank in the platform. The person or persons who wrote that platform understand the use of language? Could he or they have selected words that would convey a clear understanding of the party's purpose? If not, it was a great misfortune that the convention placed the drawing of the platform in the hands of such men, and, however, the men who drew the platform were shrewd, intelligent and well informed men, then the purpose of the platform must have been to deceive. The platform, if intended as a model for the democratic national platform, is a cunning contrivance intended to

The attention of Senators Foraker and Dick is called to the fact that The Hague Tribunal is just now at leisure.

A lot of republican congressmen will never forgive Mr. Baker for being honest when he says he is opposed to graft and passes.

The average life of a battleship is fifteen years, which is considered about thirteen years and eleven months too long by the eminent financiers who engage in the manufacture of armor plate as a side line when not securing some tariff legislation from a republican congress.

Congressman Baker's continued remonstrances against "graft" are beginning to strike a number of members on the majority side as altogether too personal.

Some of the eminent bolting democrats who sneeringly alluded to Mr. Bryan's lack of wealth in 1896 are pointing with pride to the statement that Judge Parker is a poor man, and offering it as proof that he is honest. A bolting democrat's logic is crooked enough to lend credence to that of a republican.

The return to sanity necessarily implies that the person returning has been insane. Possibly Mr. Cleveland is trying to be charitable and thinks it more generous to say that the democratic party was mentally deranged when it repudiated his administration than to say that the party knew what it was doing.

Congressman Baker continues to incur the animosity of republicans by constantly twitting them about facts. The average republican congressman dislikes very much to be hampered by anything like facts.

Walter Wellman says that the American publishers are in search of a great novel. If this be true, the republican campaign book this year ought to satisfy them, for if it attempts to give the democrat a remarkable editorially that "reform in Missouri can be condensed into one word—republicanism!" Citizens of Missouri who lived through the republican administration that afflicted that state immediately after the close of the war will cheerfully admit that any reform undertaken by

The president's letter to the Panama canal commissioners sounds wonderfully like a campaign document, but it would take better if its sentiments were not confronted with appointments like that of Payne in the postal service.

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