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lumber the whole northwest would have gone democratic.

Mr. Clark, amid great democratic applause, closed with reiteration of his statement that the Payne bill, instead of lowering the Dingley rates, raised them. He was on his feet five hours and seven minutes.

In a brief speech Mr. Washburn of Massachusetts gave notice that should an opportunity be afforded he would submit an amendment striking from the bill the provision for an inheritance tax. Its imposition, he declared, meant an extraordinary burden on the country.

A general attack on the protective policy of the republicans was made by Mr. Adamson of Georgia. What they called protection, he said, simply meant meant fixing duties so high as to deny all the markets of the world to the people of the United States, and depriving them of the opportunity to sell to all the world their multi-millions of wealth, but on which they could not realize on account of the tariff wall erected. Upon conclusion of Mr. Adamson's remarks, the house adjourned.

**SECTIONAL AND PROHIBITIVE**

The one democrat on the ways and means committee who agreed to the republican tariff bill was Broussard of Louisiana. It will be remembered that he was one of the twenty-three bolting democrats. Six members of the minority of the committee signed a report on the bill which report Champ Clark presented to the house.

In concluding their report the democrats say:

"The bill is in many respects crude, indefinite, sectional and prohibitive. It seems to us, from our examination, which was necessarily hasty, that on the whole it increases the cost of living. For example, it will increase the price of hosiery about 30 per cent, and certainly nobody will claim that hosiery is a luxury in this day and generation.

"All the reductions, both apparent and real, fall far short of the substantial relief which the people were led to expect. We do not desire to delay the passage of the tariff bill and do not propose to waste an hour, but, having had no opportunity whatsoever to modify or amend it before it was reported, we will insist on having full opportunity to amend and debate it paragraph by paragraph under the five-minute rule."

**Consumer Pays the Tax**

Mr. Clark's report starts with the assumption that the consumer pays the tariff tax, and that the function of a tariff bill is to raise revenue for the support of the government. It declares that the bill should be so arranged as to bring into the treasury the largest result with the least taxation on the necessities of life. The views of the minority contemplate the deficit reported by Chairman Tawney of the appropriations committee, and recognize the necessity of an increased tariff revenue.

The report represents that, while the republican members of the committee spent three months in executive session to frame the bill, the democratic members were allowed but five days in which to draft their report on it.

The minority regard the reductions and redistributions of the tariff on wool and woolsens as not of particular benefit to the people. Like the reduction in sugar, the minority members assert, the reclassifications in wool will be of benefit to no ultimate consumers.

**Standard Handsomely Cared For**

"The Standard Oil company," the report says, "is as handsomely cared for in the Payne bill as in the Dingley bill, and by reason of the proviso popularly known as 'the joker' continues to be protected by a tariff duty of about 99 per cent, which enables it to dominate and exploit the American market and to levy tribute upon the public, thereby piling up millions of dollars of ill-gotten gains. Surely the Standard Oil, which openly and constantly defies the law, needs no protection from the government to enable it to take care of itself; and the countervailing duty ought to be repealed."

"That the bill is a sectional one," the report continues, "is shown by the failure of the majority of the committee to lift any burden whatever from the shoulders of the southern farmer. The grower of cotton must sell his product in the open markets of the world. In order, however, to benefit the manufacturer of cotton the republican party makes him pay a heavy tax on every pound of it that is exported and comes back into the United States in the shape of manufactured goods. Thus he sells in free trade markets and buys in a protected market.

**Burdens Added**

"Not only have these burdens not been lifted, but additional ones have been placed on him. By a lately discovered process a fabric known as

'mercerized fabric' is now being made. This is a very fine article of cotton goods, looking very much like silk, and is largely worn. In order to further enrich the manufacturer and to further tax the masses of the people, a tax has been laid upon these goods.

"Cotton hose have fallen under the greedy gaze and the tax on them, already too much, has been greatly increased. Cotton goods are more generally used than any other class of goods by the masses of the American people, and every cent of duty laid on such fabrics is an additional tax on the people least able to pay it."

The reductions in iron, steel and glass are not taken as bona fide by the democrats, and their analysis of the figures shows that the reductions in the bill will not be of material benefit to the people. The minority members insist that the bill is still a prohibitive bill and that the benefit of reduced duties on steel will be felt neither by the people who buy steel nor by the government, which might otherwise enjoy a revenue from the importation of iron and steel.

**Farmer Gets Worst of It**

The report addresses itself to the farmer, and tells him he is getting the worst of it in the bill.

"The treatment of the farmer by this bill," it says, "is along the same lines as have characterized republican methods in the past. He gets practically no relief, and the laborer and producer have greater burdens imposed upon them. The cost of living for the average man is increased; the advantage of wealth and power is also increased. Heavy taxes are laid on coffee, tea and substitutes for coffee, which, with cocoa, butter, mustard, pepper, cinnamon and all sorts of flavors for food, are declared to be luxuries. While figs, lemons, etc., are raised in price without hope of increasing the revenue, barley is reduced 15 cents and barley malt 20 cents, the reason for which it would be interesting to know. Every article of food the laborer must have to live comfortably is heavily taxed; even the salt on his table is not exempt. This schedule was evidently prepared by the same mind which has dominated the bill—a mind certainly not unfriendly to the great trusts."

The reductions in glass are not regarded as genuine by the democrats. They point out that the revenues will not be increased by the changes in the schedules, and that the people will continue to pay high prices for the glass for their homes.

**Household Taxation**

Getting down to household taxation, the report says:

"The tea tariff is a tax of 8 and 9 cents per pound on consumption, and is in direct contradiction of that 'free breakfast table' about the blessings of which we heard so much when raw sugar was put on the free list in the McKinley bill. If a free breakfast table was a desirable thing in 1890, and it undoubtedly was, it is an equally desirable thing now. This tea tax will probably bring into the treasury something like \$7,000,000 per annum, and it increases the cost of living by the same amount. That sum, or twice or thrice that sum, could have been added to the revenues by reducing the exorbitant rates on woolen manufactures alone, and at the same time reducing the cost of living, which has been increasing to an alarming extent in the last few years.

**Will Coffee Really Be Free?**

"In paragraph 533, as to coffee, we find another joker similar to the one as to petroleum. Ostensibly, coffee is placed on the free list, but by reason of the provision as to countervailing duties it really places a tariff on coffee equal to the export duty levied upon it by the exporting country from which it comes. For example, if Brazil levies an export duty of 8 or 10 cents per pound, then we must clap a tariff rate of 8 or 10 cents a pound on all coffee imported from Brazil, which arrangement really authorizes Brazil and other coffee-exporting countries to fix our tariff duties on coffee. This will not bring joy to the heart of the American coffee consumer, who must pay both the export duty levied by the other countries and the import duty levied by our own government."

At the first meeting of the new finance committee of the senate today it was agreed to take up the Payne tariff bill tomorrow and consider the various schedules in the order in which they appear in the bill. Chemicals come first. The indications are that the republican majority of the committee will adopt Senator Aldrich's suggestion that rates of duty agreed upon by them shall not be incorporated in the bill until the week in which the bill is to be reported.

**HIDES, COAL AND LUMBER RATES**

Here is a dispatch carried by the Associated Press which throws some light upon the question "Is the republican tariff bill in the public interest?"

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