



The Open Season

April now, and I must take
Rod and reel and hunt a lake;
I tramp the shore light-hearted, glad;
Cast out 'neath some lily pad.
Fill my lungs with clean ozone,
Lift my voice in lusty tone;
Watch the white clouds sailing high
'Cross the blue of April's sky.

April now, my desk is clean;
Trees and grass are showing green;
Tang of springtime in the air—
Goodby, now, old office chair!
Off I lay life's weary load
And go tramping down the road—
Down the road between the trees,
Drinking deep the April breeze.

April now, and field and stream
Bathed in April's golden gleam
Bid me up and haste away
Where the sunbeams dance and play.
Out from dusty, dreary mart,
Close to Mother Nature's heart.
Out where springtime wakes anew
'Neath the April sky of blue.

April now, and songbirds wake
Echoes from each bough and brake.
Green the grass beneath my feet,
Flowers spread their odors sweet;
Out across the field and fen,
Onward through the woodland glen,
Where the long, black furrows lie
'Neath the sheen of April's sky.

Don't It Make You Mad—

To have a well-dressed, suave young man enter your office just when you are busiest, greet you with a smile and a handshake and give you the impression that he is an acquaintance, and then draw a prospectus from an inside pocket and begin pointing out the beauties of "Robincarp's Travelogues" in 'steenty volumes, dollar down, dollar a month?

To have the telephone ring insistently just when you are incubating a bright business idea, and then, when you answer it, have the man at the other end of wire ask you if it would be convenient for you to settle that little coal bill?

To have your wife say, "Dear, the children must have some new shoes," just as you flatter yourself that you are going to get through the month without letting your bank account get into the red ink department?

To find that you'll have to buy another jag of coal before you can be right certain that you'll not freeze to death before spring really comes?

Plainly Stated

"What is the salary?" queried the applicant for the position.

"Young man," replied the prospective employer, "this is not a salary job. It will pay wages. There are no sinecures in this establishment. Now if you want to draw a salary you'll have to look elsewhere. If you want to work for wages, take off your coat and report to the foreman."

The Difference

A lot of men, rendered desperate by insolent disregard of their rights, go on strike to enforce a demand for better treatment and better wages. Angered by attempts to force them into submission they throw a few stones. Immediately the militia is called out and the strikers are put down by the strong army of the military.

A half-dozen men, scheming in a back room, corner the world's wheat

supply and force up the price until thousands are deprived of bread, and children are forced hungry to bed. Misery stalks in the wake of the "wheat corner," but instead of forcing the schemers to quit by bringing the militia to beat them back, they are hailed as great financiers and their fortunes pointed to as a sample of what may be accomplished through industry and opportunity in this republic of the free.

Quite a difference—and the difference is all in favor of the striker who throws the brick.

Afterthought

The shade of Demetrius the silversmith wandered sadly along the bank of the Styx.

"Why this pensiveness?" queried the shade of Ananias.

"Alas," replied Demetrius, "I lived a couple of thousand years too soon to take advantage of a great opportunity."

"Explain, please," cried Ananias.

"Had I lived a couple of thousand years later," continued Demetrius, "I could have saved time and money. Instead of going out and raising a sweat trying to arouse my fellow craftsmen to the danger threatened by that fellow Paul, I could have hurried to the nearest federal judge and secured an injunction."

And the more he thought about it the sadder grew the face of Demetrius.

However, a lot of men now on earth have profited by the mistake of Demetrius.

Remarkable

"I heard a man tell a fish story last Sunday that took the prize."

"One of his own exploits, I presume."

"No, he read it."

"Big story, was it?"

"Not so big as it was remarkable. It was about a fisherman named Peter who admitted that after fishing all night he hadn't got a nibble."

Another One

"I see you are writing of 'things that have disappeared,' said a friend to the architect of this department the other day.

"Yes; have you thought of something?"

"Thought! Great Scott, man, I've worried. Every Monday morning I've worried about the disappearance of my last week's wages."

Fine Business

"What is Swaggerly doing now?" "He is in the cream separator business."

"What company?"

"No company at all. He is helping get through a revised tariff that will give the consumers the skim milk while the manufacturers get the cream."

Then They Quarreled

"O, Helen; Jack proposed to me last night, and he did it so eloquently and so poetically."

"Yes, he has had a lot of practice. All the other girls in our set have refused him."

In the Toils

Increased tax on gloves and hosiery.

The tariff barons have us tied, hand and foot.

Aldrich's Changes

Senator Aldrich, when requested to make a brief summary of the general character of the changes proposed by the senate finance committee to the house tariff bill, furnished the following statement:

In the main the rates in the tariff bill, as reported from the senate finance committee, are lower than those in the bill as it passed the house, the actual number of reductions being about three times the number of increases. Such increases as have been made have been largely rendered necessary to preserve the symmetry of the schedules. A considerable number of articles in common use have been taken from the dutiable list of the house bill and restored to the free list. The great mass of the rates reported are below those of the existing law.

In schedule A (the chemical schedule) the principal changes are in the nature of the reductions below the house bill. One important change is in putting distilled and expressed oils on the free list.

In schedule B (earths and earthenwares) the rates remain largely the same. In the house bill, by a change in phraseology from the existing law, the duties on common earthenware in two colors are raised from 26 to 60 per centum. The committee has reduced them to the rates of the existing law. In glass and glassware the rates remain the same as in the house bill.

The senate committee restored iron ore to the dutiable list at 25 cents per ton—a reduction of 15 cents a ton in this schedule throughout. Nearly all these reductions have been retained by the senate committee. In addition to those made by the house, the senate committee has made quite a large number of other reductions.

The senate committee has retained the house rate on lead ore of 1 1/2 cents per pound, but it has been obliged to raise the rates on lead products throughout the bill to correspond with this duty on lead ore.

In schedule D (wood and manufactures of wood) the senate has taken the house rate of \$1 a thousand on rough lumber, a reduction of \$1 from the Dingley law, and has retained the house rates on manufactures of wood, nearly all showing reductions from the Dingley rates. The only important changes in the schedule made by the senate committee was the restoration of imported hard woods to the free list.

The senate committee left the sugar schedule as it came from the house, but reduced the house rate on sugar in biscuits and wafers from 50 to 20 per cent.

The tobacco schedule remains unchanged.

The agricultural schedule, including meat products, remains practically unchanged from existing law, but where reductions were made by the house the senate committee has restored the Dingley rates, in response to the demands of farmers throughout the country and of the representatives of the great agricultural interests.

Fish remains as it came from the house.

The senate has returned cocoa to the free list, believing an article of such general consumption, both as a beverage and in all forms of chocolate, should no more be made dutiable than tea or coffee.

The committee felt that if it were necessary to increase revenue it could be done better on luxuries than on the everyday necessities of life, and have pursued this policy in the construction of this bill.

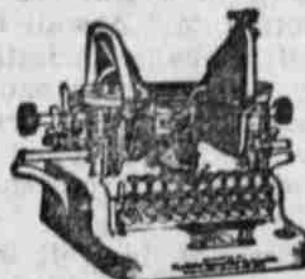
The senate committee has applied the same principle to spices and has restored them to the free list, where

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