

WASHINGTON NEWS

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"have annoyed and burdened the farmers to add to the profit of exacting trusts and combinations."

Concerning hoops, band and ties of iron and steel, barbed wire for fencing, etc., the report says, the high duties make the people dependent upon the "giant steel industry" which for years has sold products abroad lower than to domestic consumers, and declares that placing them on the free list "will be a long delayed measure of justice and equity." The placing on the free list of all forms of leather from cattle hides and skins, together with boots, shoes, harness, saddlery, etc., the committee argues, will be of advantage in manufacturing and necessarily of benefit to agricultural producers, as well as to the people.

The "beef trust" is assailed in discussion of the free listing of fresh meats and meat product. "The existing duties on meats and meat products," it is asserted, "are for the advantage of this combination only"—a combination that "controls the markets both in buying and selling, and the result is a substantial addition to the high cost of living from which the people suffer."

Removal of duties on these products, it is argued, will place the farmers in a free market as to food stuffs and food products. For the reason that the public desire "that no artificial shelter shall be maintained to protect abnormally high prices on food articles in any form," the bill also seeks exemption from duty on wheat, flour, semolina, rye flour, buckwheat flour, cornmeal and all prepared cereal foods, biscuits, bread and similar articles not sweetened.

In discussing free lumber placed

in the bill, hardwood excepted, the report maintains that the ownership of lumber in this country has become practically a monopoly and has passed for the most part into the hands of great corporations and interests which are speculating on the increasing scarcity.

President Taft is again referred to, the report quoting from his speech of February 26, 1911, in which he said:

"By giving our own people access to Canadian forests we shall reduce the consumption of our own, which, in the hands of a comparatively few owners now have a value that requires the enlargement of our available timber resources."

Sewing machines, the report avers, are sold abroad by United States manufacturers cheaper than at home and should not be protected. The manufacturers would have by the proposed bill the additional advantage of free lumber.

Salt, also included in the free list, the report urges, should be free from artificial enhancement in price, the domestic supply being dependent upon a limited number of natural depositions, controlled by concentrated interests.

TOM L. JOHNSON

New York Globe, republican: "Tom L. Johnson, busy, ebullient Tom Johnson, is the kind of man who in life gets abuse and afterward a monument. To a large part of his fellow citizens, particularly those who take pride in being of the better class, he was a blatant demagog. They attributed his activity to a mania for self advantage. They said that he was ambitious and wanted to hold high political office. They refused to believe he was controlled by

other motives than those of vanity and selfishness. One may imagine that the conservatives of Rome talked the same way of the Gracchi in the days when Cornelia's sons were stirring things up.

"He will be chiefly remembered for the work he did during the four terms that he was mayor of Cleveland. When he came in, Cleveland had a municipal government not dissimilar to the bad American average. Somehow, it got better under his direction.

"It is fact that in many respects the city government of Cleveland is held up as a model to the rest of the country and pointed to as a pattern of what other communities can achieve. One can imagine, although the matter is a mystery to many, how it is that Tom Johnson was a happier man in the years he devoted to dissipating than to amassing his fortune."

Pittsburg Dispatch, independent: "However men may have differed regarding the views and career of Tom L. Johnson, and he was of the aggressive type who make either enthusiastic friends or bitter antagonists, all must agree that he was a remarkable figure in the political and business world.

"During his service as mayor of the Ohio metropolis, although bitterly assailed by corporate and political enemies, his triumphant election for four terms sufficiently indicated the faith that the people had in his administration and good faith. That he was defeated for a fifth term, after he had practically won the fight in principle, must be set down as one of the vagaries of public opinion."

New York Evening Post, democratic: "He was, of course, a party

man and a politician, and 'played the game' with the best of them, but in certain matters of high civic importance he would not allow the government to be thought as merely a dispenser of jobs or a system of outdoor relief for needy political dependants. If the city's water supply needed to be overhauled and regularized, he put a competent scientist at the work. So, too, in matters affecting the police and parks, and public playgrounds and the lake front and the much needed union railway station, Mayor Johnson took his stand on large principles more often than upon small politics. For all these reasons he deserves to be thought of as one of the earliest and most successful to enter upon the great work of renovating the public life of American cities."

New York World, independent: "Because of his hostility to the accepted theories of large property interests, Tom Johnson was execrated by his opponents as a public menace. The ridicule and misrepresentation to which he was subjected were a form of tribute to his courage and force of character. If he had been nothing more than an agitator and demagog, as many of his enemies charged, he would not have succeeded in long fooling the public.

"Tom Johnson was not a hypocrite. A self-made, practical man, he was wholly honest in the ideas that he advocated. The political and financial elements he had to fight were very powerful, sometimes corrupt and altogether selfish. He enjoyed power, did not hesitate to use violent methods and was apt to be in a hurry. The courts blocked his plans and public sentiment was fickle, but his record is one of con-

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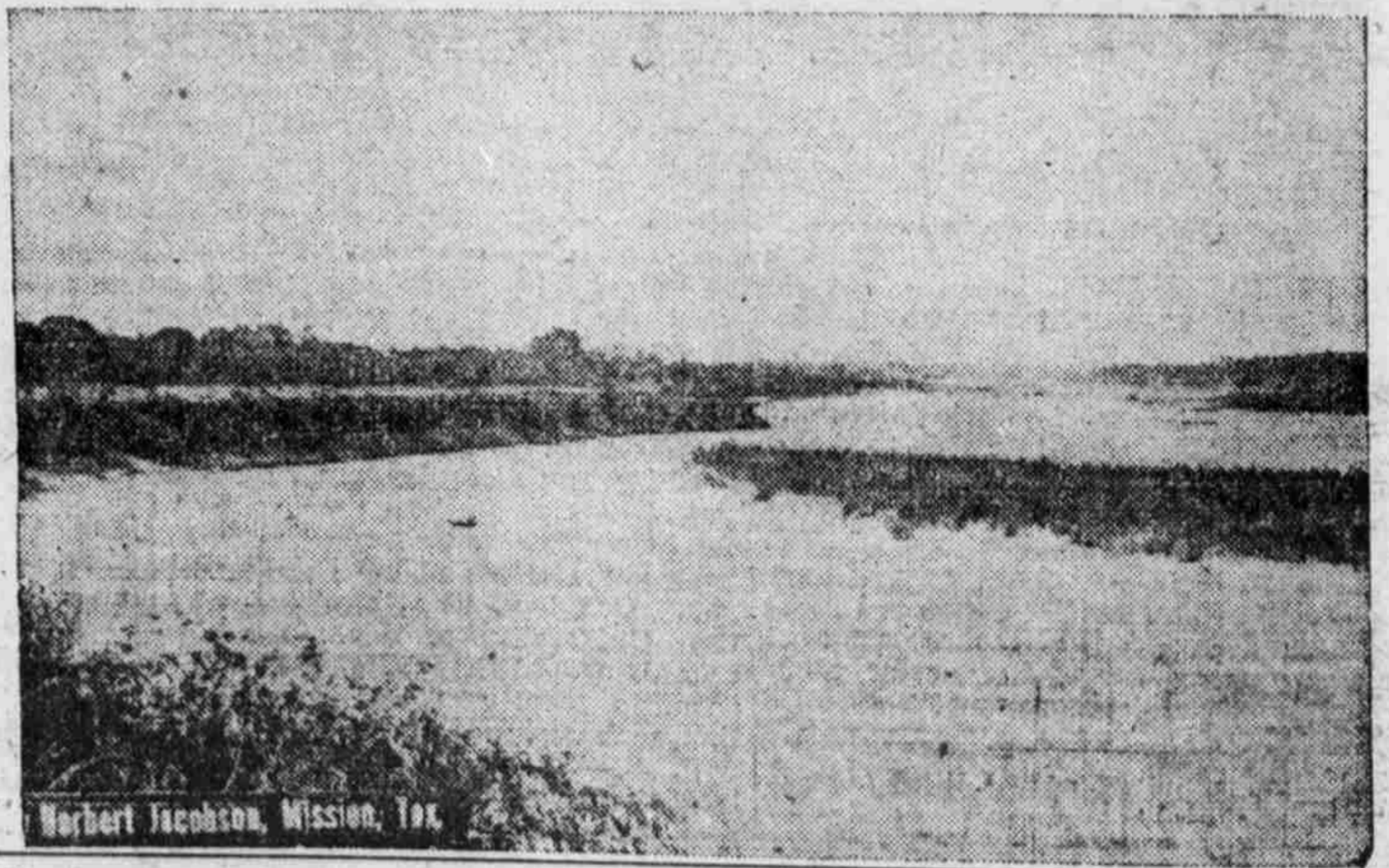
If you EVER intend to buy land, to make a change in your condition for the better, to make an investment that is sure to bring big returns, let us advise you by all means to investigate the possibilities of the Famous Mission Irrigated Lands, in the Gulf Coast Country of Texas. But do it THIS YEAR.

Hundreds of people are flocking to this valley, establishing small and large farms, going into business, or buying income bearing farms for winter homes.

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