

CAUSE OF PROSPERITY

Free Trade Between States the Greatest Influence.

THE TARIFF A PERENNIAL ISSUE

Protection to Trusts Has Vastly Increased the Cost of Living. With Which Wages Have Not Kept Pace. The United States Has Prospered in Spite of High Protection.

What a blessing it has been to the American people that the fathers of the republic insured free trade in the United States! If each state in the Union could enforce a tariff tax against the other states or any one of them, how hampered commerce would have been! Every state line would have been a string of customs houses, and collectors of tariff taxes would have searched every one who wanted to go from one state to another, as is the case in the European states today. Free trade between the states has been the most potent cause of our marvelous internal commerce and of our prosperity, in spite of the drawback of the high tariff that imposes such an obstacle in our trade with foreign nations.

Until the constitutional limitations restricting taxation are removed the federal government is virtually compelled to raise the necessary revenue by tariff taxes and internal revenue taxation or resort to the method of direct taxation, apportioned according to the population. Such a direct tax would be unequal taxation, and no party has advocated imposing it either in lieu of other taxation or to constitute a part of the federal taxes.

Therefore the tariff taxes and internal revenue taxes are virtually the sole means of raising the necessary revenue to support the government. The question of the relative percentage of tariff taxation is therefore a perennial issue that cannot be easily obliterated, and to settle how high or low the tariff wall shall be is of the utmost importance to the American people.

The original pretense for the high protective tariff was to encourage infant industries, but the tariff laws before the civil war were very moderate in comparison with the present law, and yet the infant industries conducted by individuals have now grown to be gigantic corporations and still demand protection. The further pretense is now made by the Republicans that the high protective tariff is necessary to protect the wage earner and increase his wages, but this pretense is shattered by the fact that the cost of living has increased much faster than wages have under this Republican system, and the wage earners are revolting against the Republicans, having discovered their prosperity is not enhanced by the plundering of the tariff protected trusts that high protection has fostered.

But the great argument of our modern stand pat statesmen is that to revise the tariff would upset the present prosperity, but in fact we have prospered in spite of the drawback of protection and chiefly because of free trade between the states, which has produced an enormous traffic from one state to another without the blighting influence of high taxation.

If the tariff was so revised that in stead of protecting the trusts the revenue were fixed to produce enough revenue to run the government, honestly and economically administered, how far greater our prosperity would be! Our trade with other lands and theirs with ours would be vastly extended, and instead of the trusts selling cheaper to foreigners than to our own people we would have the choice of the markets of the world to buy and sell in.

With free raw material our manufacturers would compete in every market, and instead of the cost of living being nearly 50 per cent higher than it was ten years ago and wages being less than 20 per cent higher—a clear loss of 30 per cent to the wage earners—the two would so adjust themselves that the workman and those with fixed incomes would participate in the prosperity that is now monopolized by the trusts and the few at the expense of the many.

Fining Corporations.

Does any one believe that the New York Central railroad would have continued to pay rebates and the Standard Oil trust have continued to restrain trade by illegal combinations if the laws had been enforced and the trust and corporation managers had been prosecuted instead of the corporations? The conviction of the managers of the New York Central railroad and of the managers of the Standard Oil trust under the criminal section of the law would at once set other trust magnates to thinking. Fining a corporation is not the effective way to stop the law-breaking, but one trust magnate in stripes would do more to deter the others than if all the corporations in the land were fined to the full extent of the law.

Subject to Change.

Mr. Shonts is getting as changeable as his noble master. First the West Indian dinkies were to make the dirt fly at Panama, then Chinese were to be imported to do the trick, next the work was to be let by contract, so that the administration would not be blamed for employing Chinese labor. The latest is a declaration of Chairman Shonts that no Chinese have been engaged or will be engaged for work there. Still some one will have to dig the canal, for we have the assurance in the Republican campaign book that the Republican party "does things." If it does change its mind from week to week.

CAUTIOUS WORDS.

Mr. Wilson Strikes the Law's Paraphernalia For Trust Busting.

Farmer Wilson, who hangs on to the position of secretary of agriculture with the vigor of a professional Republican officeholder in spite of scandals and semiscandals in his department, gave out a statement on Oct. 22 about the proposed meat merger that shows he is growing cautious with age. He said:

"We have a bureau of corporations whose agents are especially charged with looking into matters of this kind. We have a department of justice whose machinery was designed to be used in just such a case as this.

"We have our own attorneys general to talk to grand juries.

"We have grand juries to listen and to indict.

"We have petit juries.

"And we have penitentiaries."

It is true "there is a bureau of corporations," but the public has been kept absolutely in the dark about what it has discovered about the trusts, except upon that notable occasion when it gave publicity to the business of the beef packers. That report did not give promise of great results in its investigation of other corporations, and the absurdity of the result arrived at seemed to discourage the bureau and President Roosevelt from giving further publicity to trust doings.

It is true "we have a department of justice," but the results so far achieved by the great array of lawyers employed there have not electrified the country by getting even one guilty trust magnate in stripes.

It is true "we have our own attorneys general to talk to grand juries," but perhaps such efforts would have been more effective if addressed to petit juries and in urging the court to enforce the provision for imprisonment of the guilty trust and corporation managers instead of fining a soulless corporation, which has evidently no effect in hindering crime.

It is true "we have grand juries to listen and indict," and "we have petit juries," but with all this paraphernalia of the law the results have been meager and unproductive, and no trust or combine or corporation has reduced its exorbitant prices or ceased from plundering the people.

It is true "we have penitentiaries," but so far there is no trust magnate, however vicious, or no corporation manager, however strong the evidence against him, that is confined in those penal institutions as a punishment for breaking the statute in such case made and provided.

It is true this strenuous administration has boasted of "doing things," but it has been like the idle vapors of other boasters—but words, words, and not followed by deeds. Under these circumstances it is hardly likely that the oscillating doors of the penitentiary will cause this new candidate for trust honors and illegal gain to fear what the present administration will do to it.

BLEEDING THE TRUSTS.

Gigantic Scheme to Make Corporation Managers Come Down.

Postmaster General Cortelyou, who is also chairman of the Republican national committee, is now said to be slated for secretary of the treasury. He has previously been secretary of commerce and labor, the department especially supposed to investigate the trusts and corporations. This being a reform administration, of course there could have been no purpose of secretly investigating the trusts with a view of bleeding them of some of their plunder for the Republican campaign fund under threat of publicity or penal prosecution. Still we know that, with all the facts in his possession, Mr. Cortelyou in 1904 did make the corporations "come down," especially the life insurance companies. Having now after two years had every opportunity of obtaining all the information about the secret graft of railroads and others in the postal service, Mr. Cortelyou will be better than ever prepared to threaten the trust and corporation managers and make them "come down" to fill the ever open maw of the Republican campaign fund.

What could be more natural from the Republican machine point of view, Mr. Cortelyou having been slated for the position of secretary of the treasury, than that the frenzied financiers of Wall street should be anxious and willing to donate liberally to the Republican campaign fund if assured by the future secretary of the treasury that the Shaw policy would be continued?

No other administration has ever so boldly mixed up the public business with its partisan political machine operations as to combine a member of the cabinet and the chairman of the national campaign committee in one person. Even Hanna and Quay would have balked at such a notoriously unfit and unpopular proposition, but this administration, which would be known as reformers of the clean and safe and sane stripe, are thus openly defying public opinion and in evidence brought out in the life insurance scandal were proved to be secret blackmailers of corporations whose trust funds they diverted from the widows and orphans of policy holders, to whom the money rightly belonged, and no restitution has been made.

Republican Grafting.

Charles S. Deneen, the Republican governor of Illinois, is in trouble with the Thirtieth Ward Republican club of Chicago about fees of \$243,775.82 out of public money, which Deneen retained for certain services rendered while he was state's attorney on a regular salary. The club insists that he has no moral right to the money and that by keeping it he justifies the charge of grafting brought against him by the Democrats and injures the Republican party.

ROOSEVELT ROORBACK

Rockefeller Helped by Dangerous Morton Precedent.

THE CORPORATION FALSE FACE.

The President's Decision That Corporations, but Not Officials, Are Responsible Is Embarrassing in Standard Oil Cases—Six Years of Dandling of Trust Busting With No Results.

When President Roosevelt decided in the Santa Fe railroad rebate case that the corporation and not the officials was to be punished he created a precedent that is now coming home to the Roosevelt roost. He was so anxious to save Paul Morton, who was the official that had ordered the rebating and who was a member of his cabinet, that the punishment of similar trust lawbreakers in the future was sacrificed to protect a member of the president's household. The Roosevelt precedent is proving a boomerang in the case against the Standard Oil magnates, and their escape from punishment under the Roosevelt ruling is probable. Even if the Standard Oil trust is convicted it cannot be punished, for a corporation cannot be imprisoned and a fine would be obviously inadequate for the offenses charged and would be, partly at least, paid by many innocent stockholders instead of the real culprits.

When the president appointed those two celebrated lawyers, Messrs. Judson Harmon and Frederick N. Judson, both Democrats, to investigate and report on the Santa Fe rebating case they reported that Paul Morton, the manager of the Santa Fe railroad, should be prosecuted and not the railroad. Their argument was briefly:

"No proceeding should be commenced without evidence, but facts presumed or judicially noticed are evidence. The proceeding we recommend is not unusual or exceptional, but, on the contrary, is the natural and ordinary one in such cases.

"What we have said is peculiarly true of the great corporations of our day. They cannot be imprisoned, and punishment by fine is not only inadequate, but reaches the real culprits only lightly, if at all. The evils with which we are now confronted are corporate in name, but individual in fact. Guilt is always personal. So long as officials can hide behind their corporations no remedy can be effective. When the government searches out the guilty men and makes corporate wrongdoing mean personal punishment and dishonor the laws will be obeyed."

In the case of the state of Ohio against Mr. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil company the attorneys for Mr. Rockefeller took advantage of the precedent set by President Roosevelt in the Paul Morton and Santa Fe railroad case, declaring that only the corporation and not Mr. Rockefeller could be reached by the proceedings. Mr. Phelps, the attorney for the state, followed the argument of Messrs. Harmon and Judson, contending that the individual and not the corporation should be reached, declaring:

"A corporation has no face except a false face. It is a mantle that covers the individuals in it, so that when the head of the company, its president, speaks, that is the language of the corporation itself."

How can those who have been deceived into believing that President Roosevelt is really intent on prosecuting and punishing the trust and corporation magnates who conspire to plunder the public for the benefit of themselves and their associates excuse his evident intention to protect the real lawbreakers by creating the dangerous precedent in the Morton case? For six years President Roosevelt has been boasting of trust busting and controlling corporations so that their unlawful exactions from the people may be lightened and lifted, but can any one point to a trust or corporation magnate convicted and in jail as the result of these years of boasting? One such conviction and jail sentence would have more deterrent effect on future trust and corporation plundering than all the administration has done in the six years of its existence.

A Dangerous Pastime.

Senator Beveridge is so anxious to be thought close to the administration that he takes up at second hand all the suggestions of the president. But as President Roosevelt often changes his mind very rapidly it is rather difficult for Beveridge to act as echo. He got left on the Cuban annexation echo, and he may find that the presidential shouting about the confiscation of great fortunes will die down until no echo is left. But if the president should join the Socialists his faithful echo will be in the neighborhood. But it is a dangerous pastime.

Tariff War With Germany.

Our stand pat administration and congress have a hard nut to crack with Germany. We must either lower our tariff barriers to German goods or next June the Germans will declare we are unfair traders and exact their maximum tariff rates against our products. When our stand pat statesmen have ruined or greatly reduced our exports to that country by a year's tariff war our farmers and others who will suffer will begin to open their eyes to the iniquity of protectionism that only protects the trusts and the Republican politicians who are subsidized by the trusts.

Reputation Still Suffers.

Senator Depew's nerves are much better, but it will be a long time before his reputation will be able to leave the sanitarium.—Hartford Times.

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At every meal or for a munch between meals, when you feel the need of an appetizing bite to fill up a vacant corner, in the morning when you wake hungry, or at night just before going to bed. Soda crackers are so light and easily digested that they make a perfect food at times when you could not think of eating anything else.

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NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

5¢

B. J. Hoffacker is visiting in town this week.

Supt. Travis of St. Mary's Mission was in the city last week.

A number of Indians were in town this week after freight.

Miss Fannie Thackrey is visiting with her brother Ed in town. She is a teacher at Rosebud.

Major Kelly of Rosebud came down in his auto last Saturday and spent several days in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Webb went up to Cody last night to spend Thanksgiving with the Doctor and Mrs. Jeffers.

Geo. H. Hornby had the misfortune to get his foot mashed the first of the week and is confined to his home most of the time.

The editor came near breaking his head with an ax while splitting kindling yesterday afternoon, the ax catching on a clothes line overhanging and struck him above the right eye.

N. A. Bullis and wife of Springfield, S. D., are in town visiting relatives. John Bullis will accompany N. A. Bullis on a westward trip, starting tonight, expecting to look up a location for a hardware store.

Rasmus Andersen departed last Tuesday morning for Omaha, going from there to his old home in Denmark to see his mother and other relatives, where he will visit until March or April. His friends wish him a pleasant and safe journey.

Mrs. Bowring, mother of Co. Com. Bowring, living near Merriman, died last week and funeral service was held at Merriman and the remains brought to Valentine Monday, and after a short service at the home of D. E. Sherman, laid to rest in Mt. Hope cemetery.

A party of railroad surveyors have been in town the past week surveying between Arabia and Valentine. It is rumored that the C. & N. W. will change the road to run north to the Niobrara valley east of the fort and build a new bridge across the river near the mouth of the Minnechadua.

U. S. Weather Bureau Report for week ending Nov. 28.

The daily mean temperature is beginning to get back to the normal and there is only 1° loss this week. The highest temperature was 49° on the 24; lowest 7° on the 23rd. The precipitation in the form of snow was 0.14 of an inch and gives a total for the year of 26.14 inches.

Mr. Barnard and wife are in town from Owl Creek, Wyo., expecting to spend the winter here. They are staying at the Chicago hotel.

Excursion Tickets to Northwestern State Teachers' Association at Crawford, Nebraska.

Via the Northwestern Line, will be sold at reduced rates Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, limited to return until December 3, inclusive. Apply to agents Chicago & Northwestern Ry.

Program of Cherry County Teachers' Association, Nov. 30, Dec. 1, '06

FRIDAY, 1:30 P. M.
(High School Building.)
Recitation.....Annie Hahn
The Dictionary Habit.....Mae Cavanaugh
Life in Australia.....James Oliver
Some of the Good Things Modern Teachers Do.....Mrs. G. L. Mossman
Physiology and Effects of Narcotics.....Meta Schaefer
Manual Training vs the Classics.....Pearle Arnot
FRIDAY EVENING, 8 O'CLOCK.
(Court Room.)
Song and Recitation.....Miss Driscoll's Room
Music.....Cody Pupils
An Original Story.....Laura Pettijohn's Pupil
Lecture.....

SATURDAY, 9:00 A. M.
(High School.)
Roll Call by Quotations.....
How to Enliven the History Class.....May Carter
Training for Citizenship, D. F. Story
Recitation.....Alice McLean
A School Exhibit for the County Fair.....Mrs. E. A. Pettycrew
Shall Men Continue in the School Room?.....B. E. Colby
Christians in All Lands.....Jennie Bennett
Song.....Cody High School Chorus
Reading Circle Work, quiz—
Essentials of Teaching Reading.....Chapters 3 and 4
Psychology.....Chapters 3 and 4
Recitation.....Pupil from Cody

All Cherry county teachers and friends of education are urged to attend. Cordially yours.

LULU KORTZ,
Co. Supt.

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