

VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

I. M. RICE - Editor and Prop.
Mark Zarr - Foreman.

Thursday, October 14, 1909.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

State:

For Supreme Judge—
B. F. GOOD
J. J. SULLIVAN
J. R. DEAN

For Regents—
CHARLES T. KOAPP
HARVEY NEWBRANCH

County:

For Treasurer—
E. B. QUIBLE.

For Judge—
JAMES C. QUIGLEY.

For Sheriff—
CLYDE A. ROSSETER.

For Surveyor—
J. W. McDANIELS.

For Co. Com'r First District—
JOSEPH P. KREYOLK.

Republican Tariff Revision--Upward.

Rank partisans are never fair in the discussion of public questions. For instance an exchange in apologizing for the stone given to the people when they holed for bread, declares this better than the low living expenses and little or no chance to earn money, provided under the Wilson bill. The writer knows, and we all know, that the prices broke and went all to pieces long before the Wilson bill took effect, the financial panic being the sole cause of the general demoralization, lack of work and wages and all that sort of thing. The Wilson bill revised the tariff downward less than six per cent, and had little effect except to disgust members of the democratic party who were honestly in favor of tariff reform, of whom there were few then and a blamed sight fewer now. As to matters of more recent history, the republicans promised relief from unjust tariff schedules, and they didn't do as they agreed. We are for the fulfillment of party pledges, in letter and spirit and purpose to roar when these sacred obligations to the people are ignored.

We quote the above from A. L. Bixby in Daily Drift in the State Journal of Oct. 2, '09.

Mr. Bixby has been a very ardent republican, strongly supporting republican policies in the past while the democrats clamored for a revision of the tariff, which of course meant downward or lowering of the rates. We have worked and talked and written for a revision of the tariff for years and at times became very much discouraged because republicans continually triumphed in elections and even the poor laboring classes and farmers and stockmen who needed a reduction in tariff and lower prices for articles which they must buy, yet persistently voted the republican ticket which increased their own expenditures and they can now see what republican policies lead to in the cost of living.

Yes we have often thought that

republicans would go on voting their ticket until anything wanted by corporations could be voted in because it was republican and the republicans were in power and such has been the case. But now, if some of the leaders will take a stand against the republican machine we may yet save a few remnants of the Declaration of Independence patch it together and rejoice in some liberty for the common people. It is encouraging to read articles from the different republican papers now condemning the old traditional republican policies and all but saying the Democrats were right. Yes, they were right, and there are many republicans in this county who know we were right but they don't like to admit it in that way. They'd rather say that the tariff question is not a political question just now and they would like to be put down as being opposed to a high tariff or any tariff at all.

We like to encourage them by saying that both democrats and republicans are opposed to the high tariff. Democrats always were. Republicans just lately. Yet they go right along voting the same old republican ticket and can't break away from it. They like to tell us that they are in favor of a lower tariff or a "revision downward" but they don't want to give up voting the same old way.

Do they hope to change their leaders? Why not jump onto the train that is going to the station where they want to go? The more sensible way. We saw a man fishing in a pond on the prairie and his explanation was that he used to catch fish out of a hole like that. So he was content to sit there and fish, though I could see the bottom of the pond and there wasn't a minnow in it. So could he if he had taken the trouble to look. There may be some who won't look ahead to see that the republican party is dominated by the trusts, corporations, manufacturers and those whom a tariff would benefit and that there isn't anything in it for the common people. Don't look at the glazing on top of the water. Look deeper and you can see to the bottom.

Clothing Under Protection.

One of the matters the people had in their mind when they asked the government to arrange the tariff law so that it would bear

a little less oppressively upon them was clothing. Clothing costs far more in the United States than it does in any other part of world, though this country produces most of the world's cotton and a great part of the world's wool. In spite of the fact that this nation sells abroad vast quantities of both of these principal materials for clothes-making, and that with its improved machinery and intelligent labor it ought to beat the world, the price of clothes is higher here than it is anywhere else in the world; and the reason is that the tariff schedules are so high as to tax all the people through every article of clothing they buy, almost entirely for the benefit of a few mill-owners who have done nothing to earn this special privilege.

Congress did not lower the wool schedules. It is asserted, in its defence, that it did not raise them, either, though until the full extent of the slight-of-hand work accomplished by Aldrich is laid bare, nobody can be sure of that. Congress did not lower the cotton schedules, but it did raise them, and it raised most heavily those covering articles which most people buy because most people can afford nothing better. These things were done by the tariff law which President Taft praises, and for voting against which he has chastised the insurgents of the west.

These abstract facts are made more interesting by a few figures. Clothing has already increased in price, and still further increases are promised for next spring. The suit of clothes that you used to buy for \$16 is now \$20; and the additional \$4 represents your tribute to the wool trust and the mill owners; though there was a large tribute in the old price of \$16. The wholesale manufacturers have to pay more for cloth, linings, and trimmings, and so they declare they are compelled to raise prices—and, what is worse, to cheapen the quality of the goods.

The consumer has this tempting choice: He can pay \$25 for the kind of suit that he bought last fall for \$20, or he can pay the old price of \$20 and get for it the kind of suit that he could have got for \$16 last spring.

A pattern of goods that used to be sold to the manufacturers at \$1.75 per yard now costs him \$2.10. It takes three and a half yards to make a suit so the added cost on this item alone is \$1.22. Adding in the additional cost of trimmings and linings it is estimated that the increase in the making a suit out of that cloth is \$4.22.

A dealer quoted by the Cincinnati Enquirer says: "The retail storekeeper who has a run on suits that he pays \$15 for and sells at about \$22 if he wants to hold his \$22 price will have to take an inferior quality of suit. He will get a grade that sold for about \$12 previously and which he used to sell in his store at \$18."

Another dealer says that "it is simply a hold-up behind the tariff fence." This man bought a lot of cloth for \$2 a yard that sells—the same goods from the same mill—for 85 cents a yard in England. The suits made of it are sold to the retailer for \$16.50 and to the wearer for \$25, if the cloth could be bought at the English price, 85 cents, the retailer would get the suit for \$10 and the wearer at \$15.

And so it goes, throughout the list, thanks to the tariff law which the president of the United States is praising in the name of republican "party solidarity." What does the wearer of clothes, thus robbed, care about "party solidarity?"—Duluth Herald.

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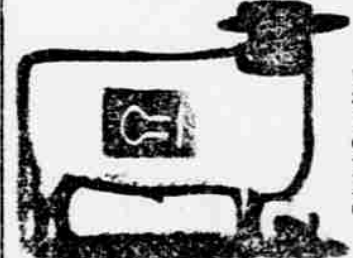
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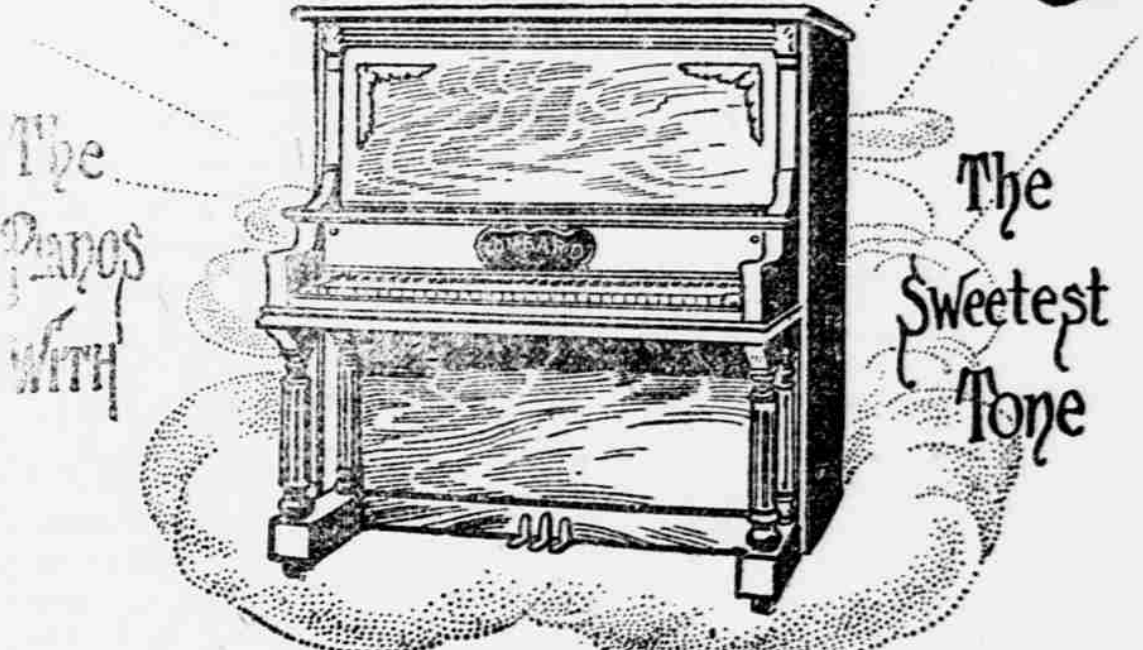
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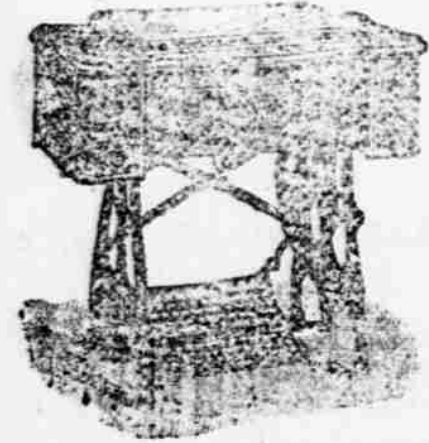


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