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TAFT IS FORCING RATES DOWN

Both Iron Ore and Oil Will Probably Be Placed on Free List.

MAY CUT HIDE DUTY IN TWO

Material Reductions to Be Made in Lumber and Coal.

WHITE HOUSE IN THE SADDLE

Philippine Tariff Also to Be Modified Considerably.

SENTIMENT IS MUCH CHANGED

President's Clear Cut Statement Proves Hard Blow to Standpat Element in Both Houses of Congress.

WASHINGTON, July 17.—President Taft will win his fight for free, or reduced rates of duty on raw materials.

Nearly every member of the conference on the tariff bill conceded this today.

The indications are that when the new tariff bill becomes a law the rates on the articles which the president desired to come in free will be as follows:

Iron ore, free; present duty, 40 cents a ton.

Oil, free; now protected by a countervailing duty.

Hides, 7 1/2 per cent; present rate, 15 per cent.

Coal, 45 cents a ton; present rate, 67 cents a ton.

Lumber, probably \$1.25 a thousand for rough, with senate rates for finished product.

This would mean a material reduction throughout the tariff schedule.

Taft Convinces Them.

When the conferees transferred to the president's shoulders the responsibility of putting the foregoing raw materials on the free list it was not believed he would meet with much success in bringing about a changed sentiment in relation to these articles.

For several days, however, members of congress have been going to the White House, and not a few of them came away convinced that the president was right in insisting that all of these articles could stand on a free list.

It was not believed he would be able to put hides, lumber or coal on the free list, but it was acknowledged that any reduction in rates of the pending bill on these articles would amount to an administrative triumph.

In effect the president was told by the conferees that if iron ore, oil, coal, hides or lumber were put on the free list or the rates reduced below the figures adopted in the senate he would "have to get the votes."

It was recognized that it would be impossible to put hides, lumber and coal on the free list, if the conference report was to be adopted by the senate.

Neither was it believed rates on these articles could be reduced.

Much Change of Sentiment.

That a change of sentiment had taken place in the senate in the matter of free iron ore and free oil was a matter of common gossip about the capital today.

It was stated just as confidently that the 25 per cent ad valorem rate on hides would have to be cut in half, although some opponents to the proposition of putting hides on the free list are still hopeful of retaining a rate as high as 10 per cent.

Coal at 45 cents a ton, it was declared, would prove satisfactory to every section except Wyoming, which fears that the industry in that state might be ruined by cheap Canadian coal.

Two railroads are now building from northwestern states to Canada, which will tap the Canadian coal fields.

Senator Clark and Representative Mondell of Wyoming are protesting against any reduction from the present rate of 67 cents a ton, in spite of the fact that the senate adopted a 60-cent rate.

It is understood that the 60-cent rate, if adopted, will provide for no change in the existing rate of 15 cents a ton on black, but that the 25-cent amendment which provides that this rate shall apply only to natural slack, shipped or such at the mine, will be accepted.

Taft Wins for Philippines.

President Taft will win another decided victory in the Philippine free trade provision.

The subcommittee, which has been considering this section, has decided to permit the free admission of 150,000,000 cigars annually as requested by the president.

Instead of 70,000,000 as would be admitted under the senate amendment, adopted at the instance of Mr. La Follette.

It is expected that the Philippine section, as approved by the subcommittee, will be adopted by the conferees Monday.

It provides for the free admission of 300,000 pounds of wrapper tobacco, 1,500,000 pounds of filler tobacco and 300,000 tons of sugar.

With the exception of rice and the handicrafts placed upon tobacco and sugar, all articles "the growth, product, or manufacture of the Philippine islands" will be admitted free.

The inclusion of the words "or manufacture" is the subject of criticism in many quarters.

The Spooner act, although it provides that they would make it possible to ship raw materials into the Philippine islands for manufacture with cheap labor, and then bring them to the United States free of duty.

As originally adopted by the house, and later introduced in the senate, the Philippine section contained a provision requiring that manufactured articles, in order to obtain the benefit of the free admission into the United States should not contain ingredients other than products of the islands.

Head Issue Authorized.

By action taken today the tariff conferees settled the question of giving the secretary of the treasury authority to issue fifty-year bonds at a rate of interest not exceeding 3 per cent, to cover the entire cost of purchasing the site and constructing the Panama canal.

An amendment to the tariff bill giving the authority was prepared by Secretary McVeigh, and delivered to Representative Payne at the Treasury department during the noon recess.

It was adopted when the conference was resumed after luncheon.

The effect of the bond provision is to repeal the limit of the authorization, contained in the Spooner act, although not interfering with the 2 per cent bonds issued under that authority to the amount of \$64,521,000.

The estimated cost of the canal is \$375,000,000, which will be the figures named in the authorization and bonds at the rate of 2 per cent may be issued as they are needed, therefore, to the amount of \$200,000,000.

Curtiss' Flight Sets Record for American Cup

New York Aviator Covers Twenty-Four Miles in Fifty-Two Minutes.

MINEOLA, N. Y., July 17.—A climax to the aeroplane flights Glenn H. Curtiss has been making a Hempstead Plains, L. I. came with increasing success today, when he sent his flyer 24.7 miles in 52 minutes and 30 seconds and qualified as the first candidate for the cup offered by the Scientific American.

This flight is not only Curtiss' best, but is the longest made with an aeroplane in America this year.

The cup for which the aviators tried was offered for the longest flight of this kind during the current year, the only condition being that the winner must cover at least twenty-five kilometers over a measured course before judges of the Aero Club of America and land within 100 meters of the starting point.

Curtiss came to earth today barely within the required distance, but the judges decided that he had complied with all the terms of the competition.

He will win the Scientific American cup which he captured last year at Hammondsport, N. Y., unless his flight is excelled before the end of the year.

The flight, although made at an early morning hour, was witnessed by 2,000 people.

Curtiss rose easily and circled the course at a variety of altitudes. At times his speed increased to 45 miles an hour, but the average for the whole distance was twenty-eight and one-fourth miles an hour.

At no time did he rise above sixty feet.

Noble Suicide Enamored of Chicago Girl

Baron Rothschild's People Oppose His Marriage, and He Ends His Life.

CHICAGO, July 17.—Dr. Rudolph Menn of this city tonight declared that Baron Albert Rothschild, the youngest son of the American millionaire, had committed suicide himself because of his family's opposition to his marriage with Olga Menn, the physician's young and beautiful daughter.

The doctor told of his daughter meeting with the young baron when he arrived in Chicago with a party of friends on their way to Europe from the orient six weeks ago.

A friend of the nobleman's was taken ill and was sent to the German hospital, Dr. Menn said, and the young woman's beauty would win him over.

The baron called to his father, but the reply was not enthusiastic.

Young Rothschild then wanted to marry Miss Menn at once, but Dr. Menn refused to allow this, and the baron sailed for Europe to plead with his father.

A short time ago the girl and her mother sailed.

Baron Albert Rothschild will meet them and take care of them until Dr. Menn can reach the other side.

TRAIN CRASHES INTO AUTO

One Killed, Three May Die as Result of Accident on Long Island.

NEW YORK, July 17.—One man was killed and three others so badly hurt that they may die as the result of a collision of a Long Island railway train with an automobile three miles from Long Island City today.

Archibald D. Tappan of New York was taking three friends to his home in Glen Cove. At the railroad crossing Mr. Tappan did not note the approach of an express train until it was too late to stop his automobile, which crashed through the gates.

Edward Hurley of Glen Cove was killed. Allen Perry of Sea Cliff suffered concussion of the brain and Mr. Tappan was internally injured and his leg was broken.

Both of the latter may die. The fourth member of the party escaped unhurt.

Patrick Monahan, a passenger on the railroad train, fell from a trestle on which he had walked to see the wreck, and probably was fatally injured.

WESTERN MATTERS AT CAPITAL

Rural Mail Carriers and Substitutes Appointed in Nebraska and Iowa.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, July 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Rural carriers appointed: Nebraska—Scott's Bluff, route 2; William B. Metcalf, carrier; Myrtle Metcalf, substitute. Route 1, E. Robert E. Dunham, carrier; D. M. Dunham, substitute. Iowa—Greene, route 2; W. E. Miller, carrier; J. E. McCracken, substitute. South Dakota—Quinn, route 1; W. L. Brownson, carrier; C. W. Miller, substitute.

Wright Aeroplane in Air Nearly Sixteen Minutes

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 17.—After many mishaps the new Wright aeroplane today successfully navigated the air.

Making the best record for the Wright brothers' machine since the accident last fall, the aeroplane, guided by Orville Wright, and traveling at a speed approximately forty-five miles an hour at a height of from eighty to ninety feet, remained in the air 15 1/2 minutes, when the aviator decided to alight, having encircled the drill grounds at Fort Myer fifteen and three-fourths times.

The descent was made without difficulty, the place selected for it being on level ground and the one usually used by Orville Wright for his landings. At all times the machine was under perfect control. The conditions for a flight were ideal.

The first attempt to fly was a failure. Traveling in a straightaway course the aeroplane, after arising ten feet, suddenly

FRONTIER HELD BY HIGHWAYMEN

Russian Bandits Terrorize and for Whole Day on German Border.

HORSEMEN ARE THEIR VICTIMS

Plunder Hapless Dealers on Their Way to Market at Lipsku.

CAPTURE A TOLL GATE HOUSE

Disguise Man as Woman and Collect Their Revenue.

PILLAGE RICH TRAVELERS

One Man Who Resists Them is Shot Dead as an Example to Others, After Which Bandits Ride Away.

BERLIN, July 17.—Brigands held the highway between Augustowo and Lipsku, on the Russo-German frontier, all day Tuesday of this week and captured fifty or sixty travelers, whom they robbed of large sums of money.

Most of the victims were horse dealers going to the annual horse market at Lipsku. It is estimated \$5,000 was taken.

The road agents are believed to be the same men who have committed numerous robberies throughout a wide district on the frontier.

One of the recent exploits of the robbers was to capture a tollgate house. They bound the keeper and his wife and stationed one of their number, dressed in the gatekeeper's uniform, beside the gate.

Peasants were allowed to pass on the payment of the usual fee, but when a prosperous-looking traveler or anyone bound for Lipsku came along a signal was given and the man was attacked by the bandits concealed in the house. The victims were bound and robbed of their cash and then lodged in the attic of the house or an outbuilding.

After forty persons had been robbed the bandits gathered together the best horses and made their departure, but before they left they shot dead, in sight of the others, a man named Paul of Augustowo, who had offered resistance. The son of the gatekeeper returned late in the afternoon and released the prisoners.

The German government has taken up the matter with the Russian authorities.

Corporation is Acquiring Bell Phone Companies

American Company Makes Offer to Buy Lines of Three Eastern States.

PHILADELPHIA, July 17.—In pursuance with a policy of acquiring absolute ownership of controlled telephone lines, the American Telephone and Telegraph company today made an offer to take over all the capital stock of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania.

The American company already controls the Pennsylvania corporation through the ownership of about 32 per cent of its stock.

The offer of the American company is approved by the board of directors of the Bell company and is favorably recommended in a circular issued today to the stockholders.

A similar offer was made to the New York and New Jersey Telephone and Telephone company. The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania covers all the state of Pennsylvania east of the Allegheny mountains except the northern counties. It also owns the capital stock of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone company, which covers Maryland, the District of Columbia and a part of Virginia; the Diamond State Telephone company, covering the state of Delaware, and the Delaware and Atlantic company, which operates throughout southern New Jersey.

ONCE OWNED LIBBY PRISON

William Fay, Dead in Michigan, Also Helped Indict Jeff Davis.

MURKIN, Mich., July 17.—William Fay, part owner when the civil war broke out of the tobacco warehouse which became famous as Libby prison, and a well known scout after his union sympathies forced him to leave his home in Richmond, Va., died today at his home at Lake Harbor, aged 77 years.

Fay was a member of the grand jury which indicted Jefferson Davis for treason.

HYMENEAL

Shidler-Ashton. YORK, N. Y., July 17.—(Special.)—Announcements have been received of the wedding of Dr. George P. Shidler to Miss Minnie Ashton at Centralis, Wash. Dr. G. P. Shidler is one of the popular native born York boys, who is making a success in the practice of medicine and is a member of the Fourth ward. They arrived home last night, and their many friends gave them a hearty welcome.

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The descent was made without difficulty, the place selected for it being on level ground and the one usually used by Orville Wright for his landings. At all times the machine was under perfect control. The conditions for a flight were ideal.

The first attempt to fly was a failure. Traveling in a straightaway course the aeroplane, after arising ten feet, suddenly

dropped and touched the ground, but rose again. Finding that he was close to the aeroplane shed, and unable to raise the machine to any considerable height, Orville Wright made an easy landing. The cause of this failure was ascribed to the fact that the machine had left the monorail too soon.

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Money for the Eagles' Fund

Business Men Generally Subscribe to the Convention Pot.

MANY BIG FLIGHTS USED

Word from All Directions is that All Sorts of Eagles Will Fly in Direction of Omaha.

Canvassing for the Eagles' convention fund has progressed in substantial fashion the last week.

Chairman Bacon, Secretary Ryder and Harry B. Zimman have covered the larger portion of the retail district, with good results.

Speaking of the work Mr. Ryder said: "I have ever found the business men of Omaha all right. After several days of store-to-store solicitation of funds, I feel like saying they are the best on earth. With one exception, we have been received most courteously and signatures have been given for liberal amounts. The one exception is a man well able to give and who will reap benefit, but perhaps we struck him at that particular moment that everybody experiences now and again, when all the world looks wrong."

"Messrs. Bacon and Zimman will join with me in bearing enthusiastic testimony to the admirable spirit we have met with among the business men, and the newspapers have enabled us to pave the way for the canvassing committees in good shape. After all the soliciting of funds that has been going on here within the eighteen or twenty months last past, to stand up to the rack now for such a large fund as we must raise shows that Omaha's business element is game to the core. Other committees will be out the coming week, and I believe they will have a similar story to tell."

Many Big Flocks Coming. As the date draws near for the convention of the Eagles, the secretary of the committee is beginning to receive letters that indicate all estimates of attendance are very likely to be broken. Altoona, Pa., sends word that a goodly number are coming to Omaha from that section.

Milwaukee aerie writes that a special train has already been chartered to bring its crowd to "the center" in style. San Francisco aerie "Big 5" expresses a desire to bring its minstrel troupe of forty members, as well as its drill team and fife and drum corps, and the local committee has written back that all possible assistance will be given if the Californians decide to put on their show here during convention. The minstrels have won great tribute on the coast, as a street spectacle and as performers.

The Boston and Montana band, which won first prize at the Elks' convention last week, and the Ottumwa (Ia.) band, which took second, will both be in Omaha during the Eagle convention week and will contest.

(Continued on Second Page.)

READY FOR THE BARN DANCE.

Easy to Comply with Earnings Law, Says Wickersham

Attorney General Declares Any Corporation Keeping True Books Can Comply with Law.

WASHINGTON, July 17.—Declaring that any corporation which "keeps just and true books of account" can make up the return required by the proposed corporation tax law and meeting other attacks on that measure, Attorney General Wickersham today made public a letter he has written to a Wall street firm of accountants who challenge some provisions of the proposed law as "absolutely impossible of application."

The firm addressed is Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths & Co. of New York.

Attorney General Wickersham points out that the proposed law does not impose a tax on "profits," but on the entire net income over and above \$5,000 received by the corporation, joint stock company or association or insurance company subject to the law from all sources during such year.

"It has been the uniform practice of the government in framing up revenue bills," he added, "to require the tax to be paid as of a fixed date, and so far as I have been able to ascertain in every instance the tax is imposed for the calendar year ending December 31. Such was the income tax law of 1894. It may be inconvenient, but it is certainly not impossible for any corporation which keeps just and true books of account to make up a return such as that required by the proposed law, particularly as the return requires statements of actual receipts and payments and not as recommended in your communication of 'expenses incurred,' 'interest accrued' and 'losses ascertained.'"

THREE BANKERS ARRESTED

Charged with Misapplying Funds of Defunct National Bank.

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 17.—Warrants were issued today for the arrest of David J. Richardson, former cashier, A. L. Richardson, Jr., a director, and J. F. McKinnie, second vice president and director of the defunct Cosmopolitan National Bank. The three are charged with misapplication, making false entries and reports. The bank failed September 1, 1908. McKinnie was arrested this afternoon and released on bonds of \$10,000.

BIG FLEET NEAR LONDON

Hundred and Fifty Warships Gathering in Thames—Entertainment for Men.

LONDON, July 17.—A great fleet of warships 150 strong has been gathering in the Thames since daybreak today and for a week to come the people of London will have the pick of the British navy at their doors.

The ships will be thrown open to the public during their stay and all kinds of entertainments are to be provided for the officers and men.

Union, Miss. July 17.—An old cow, which would not have brought \$9 on the market, caused a bloody pistol battle in the streets of this little town today.

It resulted in the killing of two men, the fatal injury of two more and the serious wounding of another. All is quiet here tonight and there appears to be no need for state troops to maintain order.

F. J. McDONALD, cattleman. PETER McDONALD, his brother. Fatally injured: Cornelius Chisholm, cattleman. Joseph Miller, of Chisholm.

The fight was between the McDONALDs on one side and Miller Chisholm on the other. Bad blood between Chisholm and McDONALD has existed for many years.

Chisholm declared that the cow was his property and the McDONALDs disputed his claim. Joseph Miller and Peter McDonald started the row in front of the Union bank. Revolvers were drawn and the shooting commenced. Who fired the first shot is still a matter of dispute.

Chisholm and F. J. McDONALD came up about this time and joined in the battle. Peter McDonald was the first to fall, supposedly struck by a ball from Miller's revolver. Miller then went down, and F. J. McDONALD turned his attention to Chisholm. Finally both men fell, F. J. McDONALD dead and Chisholm mortally wounded.

Murphy McDONALD, a young son of F. J. McDONALD, who does not appear to have been armed or to have taken an active part in the fight, was struck by a