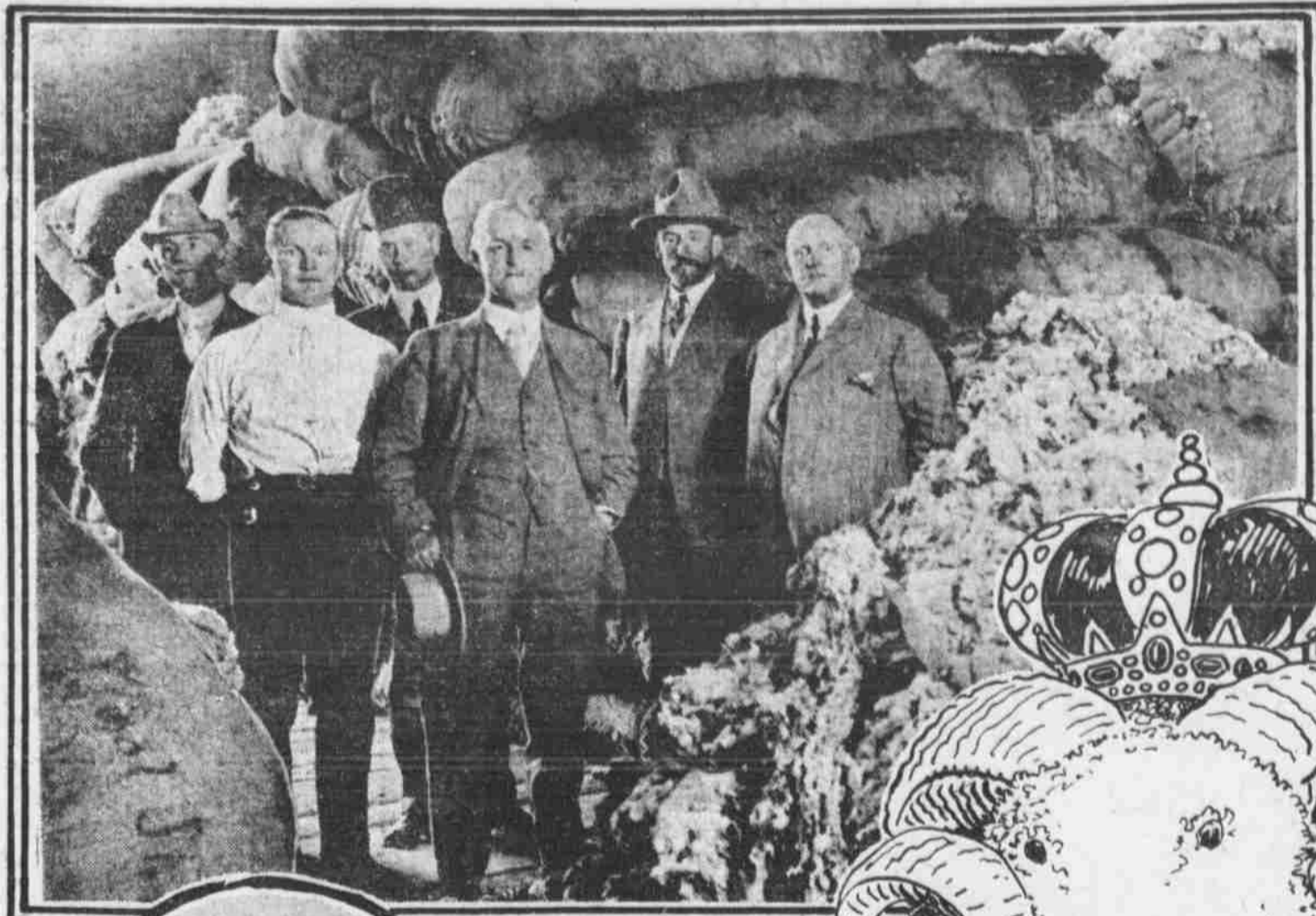


Flockmasters and Tariff Experts Coming to Omaha



IN THE OMAHA WOOL WAREHOUSE



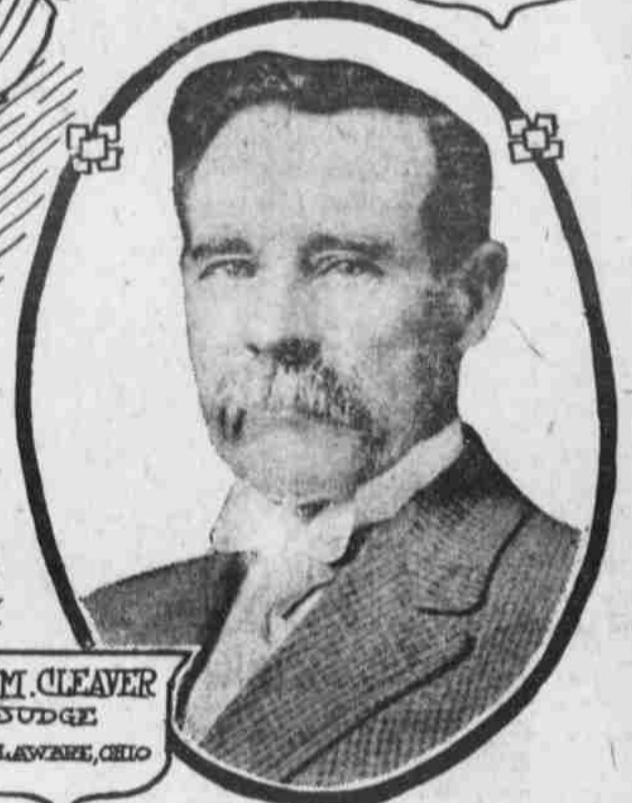
J. S. CASEY JUDGE 30th DISTRICT



S. A. DEFELDER PRES. WOOL GROWERS ASSN



F. W. GOODING PRESIDENT NATL WOOL GROWERS ASSN



S. M. CLEAVER JUDGE 12th DISTRICT OHIO

More live sheep come to Omaha to be... feeders than to any other market in the United States...

Beginning on December 13, a day ahead of the wool growers, the National Mid-Winter Sheep show will open in Omaha...

Since the Omaha wool warehouse was established in 1908 this market has attracted more and more attention from the flock masters of the west...

We have been heavily handicapped by discrimination in freight rates, said C. H. King, manager of the Omaha warehouse...

The national officers of the wool growers assure the local committee that the Omaha convention will be the greatest yet held...

Famous Schedule K Will Be Debated.

Aside from the interest in the sheep show schedule K—famous in recent discussions of the tariff—will be the top liner of the Omaha convention...

Secretary McClure, who has studied the wool question for a good many years, has some very

definite ideas as to what form the tariff should take. He insists that for the last half century the sheep industry of the United States has been the subject of attack from muck-rakers and politicians...

"I am unable to understand," said Mr. McClure, "why this industry should have been singled out, unless it be because the public has been led to believe that the tariff upon wool has been an important factor in raising the price of the people's clothing..."

"The present duty of 11 cents a pound upon imported wool does not give the American wool grower a protection of 11 cents, for the following reason: Wool as it comes from the sheep in the United States is two-thirds dirt and grease...

American wool shrinks 60 per cent in washing the imported wool has displaced just two pounds of domestic wool, and as the duty paid was 11 cents the protection our grower received would be one-half of 11 cents or 5 1/2 cents.

"We must not forget that in every instance the price paid for either domestic or imported wool is based absolutely upon the amount of scoured wool that it will yield after washing. The manufacturer does not pay for the dirt or grease that may be in the wool, and before buying wool his first duty is to determine the amount of scoured wool that it will yield..."

Many Thousands of Sheep Owners.

Touching another angle of the question, Secretary McClure combatted very strongly the notion held by probably ninety-nine out of every 100 people in the United States that the sheep industry is owned by a few barons in the far west...

"The eastern flocks are small," said Mr. McClure, "but even in the west, where the sheep

baron is supposed to hold sway, the average flock is not by any means large. In Oregon, for instance, one of the great sheep-raising states, the average number of sheep owned by the growers is 450; in Utah, 650; in Montana, about 1,100. While we still have a few great flocks, in the entire nation not to exceed fifty men own 10,000 head of sheep each."

Sheep Industry Valued at Vast Sum.

That the sheep and wool growers have solid basis for their claim that this industry is one of the greatest in the country seems to be borne out by the returns of the last census. The sheep alone were valued at \$250,000,000, and the lands, buildings and equipment of the sheep owners represented \$350,000,000 more, thus making the tremendous total of \$600,000,000.

"This is surely an item to be taken into serious consideration by the whole American people," said Mr. McClure, "and they must hesitate for very sober consideration before taking a chance on destroying this industry in the interest of political expediency. Just imagine, if you will, how the price of mutton keeps down the cost of meat to the American people. Last year the sheep slaughtered for food purposes in the United States numbered 16,000,000, in round figures. Granting that these animals dressed fifty pounds each, they gave to the consumer 800,000,000 pounds of mutton. This is the cheapest meat available to the American people, and if the sheep industry is destroyed by removal of the tariff, the cost of living is bound to be increased by an immediate raise in the selling price of other meats."

As to what the sheep of the United States produce, the following figures will be of present interest: First comes the wool, 330,000,000 pounds per year, enough to make 50,000,000 suits of clothes. Second is the 800,000,000 pounds of meat. Third is the item of hides, furnishing leather for gloves, shoes, fancy leather, book bindings and other purposes. Even the chamois skins of com-

merce are said to be largely made from sheep skin. Hides with the wool attached are tanned and dyed in many colors, for use as rugs, and a goodly percentage are also used in the making of fur coats. From the glands of the sheep, in these modern days, a great many medicinal compounds are made. The bones are made into buttons, combs, knife handles and other articles, and the ears, head and hoofs are converted into glue. Even the "catgut" strings of violins are now almost entirely made of sheep intestines. The sheep is immune to tuberculosis, the great bane of the cattle and hog yards of the nation, and is likewise proof against every other disease transmissible to the human family. Thus the meat is universally considered healthful and nutritious. As a matter of fact, a large book could be written on the virtue of the humble sheep as a purveyor to the needs of man, even from the earliest day.

Live Stock Industry Needs Conservation.

"We hear much today about conservation," said Secretary McClure, in discussing the great convention that is soon to meet in Omaha. "The talk is mostly about conservation of mines, trees, water powers and game, but the greatest problem in that line is the proper conservation and development of our live stock industry."

Of schedule K he spoke freely, admitting that the American wool-grower is asking for revision of the tariff. "But he will be satisfied to receive the difference in the cost of producing wool in this country and abroad, taking our high wages and every other element into consideration. We have done everything in our power to enable the tariff board to find out what it costs to produce wool in this country, and now all we ask is, that the people, after they understand the true facts, settle the tariff in accordance with the report of the tariff board, whatever that report may be."

The national convention of the wool growers will draw to Omaha a large number of men of national reputation, as well as practical sheep men from all over the country. The west will be especially well represented, but the far eastern states will also send men vitally interested in the growing of sheep for mutton and for wool. One address that Omaha will be particularly interested in at this time is to be by J. Fred Brown of Boston on "Marketing the Wool." A related topic, "The Wool Warehouse," is to be discussed by President F. W. Gooding, of the National Woolgrowers' association. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture W. M. Hays will come from Washington to talk on "The Breeding of Animals, Plants and Men." Senator W. E. Borah of Idaho is down for an address on "Conservation," and Congressman Rucker of Colorado will have for his subject "The Producer Against the Consumer." Other men of note and wide information are to talk at different sessions.

On the evening of the opening day, Thursday, December 14, a reception and theater party is to be given at the Brandeis. Friday evening will be given over to a dinner, smoker and vaudeville entertainment at the Live Stock Exchange building, South Omaha. Chartered cars will convey the delegates from the Rome.