

THE OMAHA BEE

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Tariff Bill in the Senate. Very soon the country will be asked to attend the senatorial discussion of the tariff measure, just introduced by Senator McCumber, chairman of the finance committee.

Chief of the differences is that the senate measure accepts the foreign basis for valuation, while Chairman Fordney of the house committee is still insistent on the so-called "American" valuation.

That the bill will not be passed until after lengthy and earnest consideration is very clear. "Bloc" divisions will be accentuated, for the bill contains provisions violently opposed by certain groups of the Atlantic coast manufacturers when hearings were being had before the ways and means committee of the house.

The "farm bloc" is placated by a schedule that covers everything that comes from field, pasture or orchard, dairy or berry patch. This is a novelty, and undoubtedly is a recognition of certain untoward world conditions that must be met.

One thing must be kept plainly in view at all times. The traditional policy of the republican party is tariff for protection, rather than for revenue, a policy diametrically opposite that of the democratic party.

The bill as presented by Senator McCumber is estimated to produce \$350,000,000, but it will do more—it will afford to American farms and mills, the producers and workers of the country, security against the competition of foreigners, already invading and underselling home markets.

Old Wine in a New Bottle. Another figure in British political life is coming to visit America. And at what a sacrifice of comfort and peace of mind may be understood from the preliminary announcement:

"This none other than Lady Astor, first woman member of parliament. She will speak before the Baltimore convention of the League of Women Voters, look in at her girlhood home in Virginia, and journey as far west as Chicago.

Those who professed disappointment that Mrs. Asquith bore no message will have to find some other grounds of criticism for this guest. She announces that she will inform the women voters that they, assisted by their British sisters, cousins and aunts, with their common conceptions of citizenship and morality, could achieve any reforms that they set out to accomplish.

Bright Lights and Justice. If every electric sign along New York's great white way were to be extinguished, no public catastrophe would follow. However, a delegation of 250 Broadway merchants is going to Washington to urge President Harding to end the coal strike (in any old way) just so the dazzling signs along their thoroughfare may not be dimmed by a shortage of fuel.

The temptation to jeer at these self-centered citizens is modified by the thought that the world is filled with people who consider their own petty affairs to represent the central purpose of the universe. So long as their toes are not tramped on, anything goes. And the minute they are touched, nothing goes.

There is no public spirit in the action of the Broadway merchants, and it would be difficult to say where in all of America today there is any organized public opinion. The way of life too often appears to be guided by the signpost, "Each man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost." Mr. Common People needs to make himself known.

Pro-League Sentiment. The quality of Mr. Borah's irreconcilability is not strained; it is chemically pure, 100 per cent at all times. Wherefore, remembering this, it is easy to understand the apprehension with which the Idaho senator views any approach to the League of Nations, and his perturbation over what he conceives to be the increase of pro-league sentiment throughout the country.

No difficulty should be experienced by any recalling that republicans in the senate, led by Senator Lodge, agreed to accept membership in the League of Nations, providing certain reservations accompanied our ratification of the treaty. This should not be forgotten when discussing the issue. President Wilson stubbornly refused to assent to any reservation. The Versailles treaty, with its league pact, must be adopted just as he presented it to the senate, or not at all.

He persisted to the extent of submitting it to the voters, invoking the supreme power of the nation in a "great and solemn referendum," and was overwhelmingly rejected. If Mr. Borah's present trouble is predicated on former Governor Cox's assumption that support is growing for the Wilson idea, he may be comforted, for Cox has been wrong all the time.

But it is scarcely true that the republican sentiment has changed materially since the treaty was rejected. Then and now the country was ready to accept a place in the league on such basis as would not destroy the independent control by our own people of their own affairs. It was against the surrender of American interests to a super-government that Americans objected.

Taming the Missouri. Possibility of reclaiming the Missouri river for navigation apparently is brought much nearer by the development of the system of retdards by which the channel about Omaha has been straightened. This work thus far has been devoted to the end of preventing the ravage of valuable land by the erratic current of the stream.

It is not reasonable to believe that what has been done on this stretch of the Missouri can be done clear past Kansas City and down to St. Louis? Army engineers, with methods largely antiquated, have struggled for years with this problem, and the federal government has poured millions into snagboat and reventment work. Their failure has come from trying to do all the work themselves instead of letting the river do it under human guidance.

Sandbars can be cut away by steering the swift current of the Missouri against them more quickly than they can be removed by the most powerful dredges. The Bignall concrete piles of the Woods Brothers Construction company, sunk by hydraulic power clear to bedrock instead of being driven in to less depth by blows, have demonstrated the efficacy of this new method.

What Has Right of Way? Pedestrians who contest with automobiles for the right of way across the street may sympathize with the railroad train which also appears to be fair prey for mad-cap motorists. Listen to this tale of woe from the pen of Vice President Greer of the Milwaukee railroad:

A freight train was standing at a South Dakota station taking water when an auto ran into the side of a car near the rear of the train. A way freight was standing at a station in Iowa when an auto was driven into it at a fast clip. A freight train was pulling slowly out of an Indiana depot when an automobile was driven into the sixth car from the caboose with sufficient force to kill the driver and injure several others.

African natives along the Red sea are reported as tiring of their native music, which consists of rhythmic handclapping and chanting. The Indian community at Aden, with only pipes and drums likewise is seeking to put a little more jazz into their existence. As a result, according to the American consul, a market is opening up for mouth organs and phonographs. Now for some missionary society which will gather up the available supply of saxophones for the benefit of the heathen as well as of good folk at home.

Give Senator Walsh of Massachusetts credit for thinking of another way to spend the people's money, even though he is a democrat. He has introduced a resolution for the establishment of a United States Academy of Aeronautics, similar to the military academy at West Point and the naval academy at Annapolis.

In the big prison at Rome the authorities have begun showing moral films in order to improve the moral outlook of the prisoners. Note: There has been some difficulty finding enough pictures that would encourage honesty and clean living.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in landing in New York, tells the world Americans are the only intelligent people. Arrah, go on with your blarney!

Five Million a Month Pittman Act of 1918 Gives Federal Aid to Silver Mines.

(By G. O. Virtue, in New State.) If you should learn that the secretary of commerce was buying four or five million pocket-knives each month at a dollar apiece, and then hiring a big force of men and working them overtime to polish the growing stock of cutlery, and to count, box and store it away in costly vaults, you would wonder why perfectly good money which taxpayers have very reluctantly parted with should be used for such a purpose.

Your wonder would increase if you were to learn that the secretary could buy knives just as good as those he is buying at a dollar apiece from a few favored producers on the open market at 60 or 65 cents apiece; and if you found that it was not expected that the knives would ever be of any use to anybody, your wonder would be increased still further. And that is just what has been going on at Washington since May, 1920; only instead of the secretary of commerce buying useless knives 30 or 35 per cent above the market price, it is the secretary of the treasury who is buying four or five million ounces of silver at 30 or 35 per cent above the market price, with the perfect knowledge that it will not serve him, or in the future, any useful purpose.

These purchases of silver are being made under the terms of the Pittman act, passed in April, 1918. It all came about in this way: As everyone knows, we had for many years had a great stock of silver dollars in the treasury which were being sold only through the use of silver certificates; or, to be more accurate, did not circulate at all, the more convenient certificates being in circulation in the place of the dollars.

The silver industry was, however, long-headed. It took advantage of the war psychology which is very intolerant in some respects but amazingly tolerant in others. The farmers were getting a "guaranteed" price for their wheat; why should not the silver producers enjoy a "guaranteed" price for silver? To make a long story short, the silver interests succeeded in getting the treasury of an amount of silver to be melted down for sale, at the rate of \$1 per ounce. This price was to apply only to currently produced silver from American mines.

There seems to be no good reason for the purchase provisions of the law. Domestic silver is regularly quoted at 92 1/2 in the New York market while "other" silver is quoted at 87 1/2 during the last year from 53 to 69 cents. We are buying something we do not need; we are paying for it more than the market price; and we have had to enlarge the mint service to convert the silver into dollars that will never do a lick of money work except by proxy. If this replacement of the silver by simply printed paper adds to the currency and tends to raise or maintain the general price level, it should be remembered that we have what seems an unlimited capacity for creating currency in the Federal Reserve banks, and there is, therefore, no reason why the purchase of silver should be undertaken to restore these costly dollars to the currency.

It is beside the mark to say, as is sometimes said, that the purchases under the Pittman act are paid for by the sales under that act—that the government loses nothing by the transaction. As a matter of fact, the government has not yet paid for the silver she bought; but she has not yet sold it. The purchase is going on look like a case of clear and avoidable waste.

For the Good of the Service

"For the good of the service" is a phrase not necessarily conclusive or convincing when given as a reason for dismissing an individual from public office. It may be a true and correct statement of facts, abundantly supported, and it may be a smoke screen behind which it is sought to hide a bit of selfish purpose and ugly politics. Each case in which the statement is employed must stand alone, because it all depends on who the upstanding or sinister purpose prompting the decision.

Recently the superintendent and more than a score of heads of departments in the bureau of engraving were given a summary dismissal "for the good of the service." Senators and representatives became interested quickly, for the very real reason that a group of lawmakers helped most of the men in federal service get their positions. Some senators love to gossip and investigate and probe and find fault and such senators are busy now trying to find out a lot of things that really are none of their business.

One story out of Washington carries a possible explanation for the wholesale dismissal of officials. It says the higher officials in the bureau of engraving had a little inside ring that secured dismissal of all persons not wanted, then secured appointment or promotion for the men in favor. The little ring, not at all new in departmental life, was having a fine time with the power it had arrogated. It is entirely probable that such conditions existed. It is humanly possible and has happened before many times. Doubtless there are other departments in which a little ring is in control, punishing those who incur enemy and promoting those who win favor. The little ring in congress is trying to legislate a public office is something else, though the election of the White House, give all the power possible and be the whole thing in the national administration. If the great in the law-making follow that course, how easily smaller men in minor places would try it! There is no question that dismissal followed much investigation. It is not justifiable to conclude no reason for action existed. That sort of housecleaning has to be done at times in mercantile and industrial life, has been done often, will be done again. But there are some large and important matters of national concern if the senate seeks some field of useful endeavor. If it pretends to gossip the dismissals supply a fine field—Ohio State Journal.

Kentucky's Woman Sheriff. Those Kentucky voters showed their gallantry and sympathy in electing the young widow of their slain sheriff to succeed him. It would fit in well in a movie story. But as a practical matter, electing a woman with a small baby to such an office that of sheriff is open to question. Public office is something else besides a public honor. The office holder is supposed to render service, as well as draw the pay and wear the laurels. The election or appointment of persons not adapted for the service is an imposition on the taxpayers. But the primary system is bringing to light the misconception of many people have of the purpose of a public office, through the election of persons without qualifications for the service desired. Before it can ever be a success there will have to be wider popular education in civil government.—Houston Post.

How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. W. A. Evans, by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally subject to proper limitation, where a complete answer is desired. Dr. Evans will not make a diagnosis or prescribe for individual cases. Address letters in care of The Bee. Copyright: 1922

THE ROT OF A GIANT.

John Lothrop Motley tells us a good personal hygiene story in his "Rise of the Dutch Republic." He is writing about Charles V, one of the great rulers of all time. He says: "He was addicted to vulgar and miscellaneous incontinence. (This reference was to sexual irregularities.) He was an enormous eater. He breakfasted at 5 o'clock, dined at 10, and ate a great quantity of pastry and sweetmeats, and he irrigated every re-peat by vast drafts of beer and wine."

Compare this dietary with the simple living of Stephen Smith. The latter was actively serving on the New York state board of philanthropies at 98. At 55 Charles abdicated his throne in the heyday of his power, three years after he had been crowned with a single precedent. Why? He loved power, and nowhere on his horizon was there a greener pasture. Because he was broken in health. Again we quote Motley: "At 55 he was already decrepit with tremulous old age. Crippled in hands, knees and legs, he supported himself with difficulty with the aid of an attendant's shoulder. His changes were active serving on the New York state board of philanthropies at 98."

Describing Charles' gout, he said: "It invades the whole body; it contracts the nerves with intolerable anguish; it enters the bones; it freezes the joints; it converts the lubricating fluids of the joints to chalk; it pauses not until, having exhausted and debilitated the body, it conquers the mind by immense tortures." Motley says: "His stomach, originally a wonderful one, succumbed to the gout, and he was born. His taste, but not his appetite, began to fall, and the king complained to his majordomo that the food supplied by the cook was insipid. The cook replied that he had already used every ordinary condiment to whip the royal appetite, perpetrating a court jest as a part of a answer."

"But Charles was not always a weakling. In his youth his breadth of shoulder and muscular strength was the marvel of Europe. He matched himself with all competitors in the tourney and the ring, and to vanquish a bull with his own hands, in the favorite amusement of Spain, was one of his delights. He had been able, in the field, to do the duty of captain and soldier, and to endure fatigue and exposure and every privation, except fasting. He could strike down a bull in the ring like a matador, or win the prize in a tourney like a knight of old; he could ride at the ring with the Flemish nobles, hit the pop-inj by with his crossbow among Antwerp artisans, or drink beer and exchange rude jests with the boors of Brabant."

Motley throws a sidelight on the inheritance of the shape of the lower jaw, which is seen in the present king of Spain, and is known as the prognathic jaw. Charles had this type of jaw and lower lip and passed it on to his son. Motley called it the Burgundian deformity. It was evidently an inherited stock quality long before America was discovered. One hundred years after Charles, we find it in the king of Spain and his kinsmen—members of the same family stock.

What Causes Piles. E. K. writes: "Will you kindly advise me through your column the cause of piles?" REPLY. Constipation; straining.

Keep Other Children Away. N. G. writes: "I have a daughter of 5. She has had whooping cough for about a week. Every time she coughs she gets red in the face."

Whooping cough vaccine, used early, helps many cases. Whatever treatment you use the chances are you will be dissatisfied with it.

The disease is most contagious at the start. After the fever stage has passed it becomes less contagious daily, and ceases to be contagious long before the cough stops. Keep the other children away from the sick child. Above all, keep the babies away, since the disease is highly fatal for babies. Report the case to the health department and obey their instructions, thus doing as you should be done by.

All Right for Warts. R. E. writes: "Is there any danger in removing moles or warts by touching them with caustic?" REPLY. In removing small warts, no. Moles, yes.

10 DAYS open Sea to EUROPE Only 4 days open sea on the Canadian Pacific Chicago-Europe route, is a feature which will appeal to nearly everyone who crosses the Atlantic. The Canadian Pacific takes its passengers in fast express trains from Chicago to Montreal or old French Quebec, then by steamship 2 days down the picturesque St. Lawrence River and Gulf, and only 4 days at sea—and land at Chibougamau, Southampton and Hamburg.

The Bee's Letter Box

(The Bee offers its columns freely to its readers who care to discuss any public question. It requests that letters be addressed to the editor, and that the writer accompany each letter, not necessarily for publication, but that the editor may know with whom he is dealing. The Bee does not print to goodness or accept statements published by correspondence in the Letter Box.)

Has a Message of Light. Omaha, April 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: There is being given at the Municipal Auditorium each evening a series of free lectures which is highly entertaining and very instructive to the public, and in fact to all wide-awake people.

The speaker, Dr. D. V. Bush, is a highly educated man, possessed of genius, a great orator, poet, as well as a great tragedian and humorist, whose talents are seldom combined in one individual. Everybody should go to hear him, as he imparts knowledge of the most vital importance for our welfare, and the subject is handled in such an interesting and entertaining way that all will enjoy it. Nor do you have to renounce your reason to accept his teaching, which in the case with some modern cults. However, if his message should not at first agree with our pet theories, it is better to become pre-judged men and women, we must study every question from both sides, with an open mind, so as to be well informed. And as I invite all who are willing to broaden and learn to come and hear Dr. Bush; for it is ignorance, and ignorance alone, that perpetuates all the larger evils from which mankind suffers. Knowledge of the right kind will abolish war, and all the great evils and injustices from which we suffer today.

R. B. BENDA, 209 South Twentieth.

Six Pounds in Ten Minutes. Omaha, April 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have discovered something that beats Dr. Ponz's Peptohydro. Now thin people can gain weight without any expense.

A short time ago I went into one of the largest stores and the appeal of a weighing machine touched me successfully. I stepped on the platform and dropped in one good cent, not a pants button, and when the hand rose up to give me the mute, military salute, and stopped near the median line of the brow. I noticed the figures. The scale had read about ten minutes. A few minutes later, as I passed out, another beggar of the same kind caught my attention outside the door. I stepped on its feet and dropped in a coin, the hand rose up and showed me that I had gained six pounds in about ten minutes. As I had not bought or stolen anything.

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ADVERTISEMENT. FIERY, ITCHY SKIN QUICKLY SOOTHED WITH SULPHUR Mentho-Sulphur, a pleasant cream, will soothe and heal skin that is irritated or broken out with eczema; that is covered with ugly rash or pimples, or is rough or dry. Nothing soothes fiery skin eruptions so quickly, says a noted skin specialist. The mentho sulphur preparation is applied the itching stops and after two or three applications the eczema is gone and the skin is delightfully clear and smooth. Sulphur is so precious as a skin remedy because it kills the parasites that cause the burning, itching or disfigurement. Mentho-Sulphur always heals eczema right up. A small jar of Mentho-Sulphur may be had at any good drug store.

ADVERTISEMENT. STOMACH UPSET? Get at the Real Cause—Take Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets That's what thousands of stomach sufferers are doing now. Instead of taking tonics, or trying to patch up a poor digestion, they are attacking the real cause of the ailment—clogged liver and disordered bowels. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets arouse the liver in a soothing, healing way. When the liver and bowels are performing their natural functions, away goes indigestion and stomach troubles. Have you a bad taste, coated tongue, poor appetite, a lazy, don't-care feeling, no ambition or energy, trouble with undigested foods? Take Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a purely vegetable compound mixed with olive oil. You will know them by their olive color. They do the work without griping, cramps or pain. Take one or two at bedtime for quick relief. Eat what you like, 15c and 30c.

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Postmaster General May Contract for Air Mail Washington, April 12.—Representatives of commercial aviation companies and the aeronautic chamber of commerce were asked today by Chairman Steenerson of the house postoffice committee to appear April 28 at a hearing on a bill authorizing the postmaster general to make contracts for carrying mail by air.

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