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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1921

## Tariff Talks

A revenue tariff Democrat of the old school can sit back and read with peculiar enjoyment the clash of the New England industrial protectionist with the western agricultural protectionist. Senator Moses, in his terrific assault on the Fordney "emergency" tariff bill which passed the Senate yesterday, hooted at the measure in unlimited scorn. "Why, this bill is lopsided, it's blind and it's deaf and it has the rickets," quoth he. "It's a combination between the rice paddies, the cane brakes, the cattle ranges, the sheep runs and the wheat fields; and how I can support it, even though I am for protection through and through, I know not." And he must assuredly did not support it.

Comes now the senator from the agricultural west, Senator McCumber, who heatedly replies: "The senator from New Hampshire is perfectly willing to stack protection upon protection for his New England folk, but is unwilling to share the benefits with the farmers feeding the world. I am tired of such discrimination. The time has come when a protective tariff will do some good for the agricultural classes and I am here to see that they get it."

All of which reminds one of what Hancock said. New England wants and always has wanted and has generally received a protective tariff as high as the blue dome of heaven would permit, because New England is a manufacturing country and buys its food. The west, agricultural in the main, wants protection for its farm products, and immediately runs afoul of the industrial communities. And thus the doctors of high protection disagree, revealing how selfish, after all, is the principle of a protective tariff.

The Fordney bill appears to be all that Moses says it is, and although Congress has wasted weeks that should have been devoted to other business, there is no hope whatever of enacting it into law, even though the house agrees to the Senate amendments, for the President will certainly veto it with a bang, seizing the opportunity which Senator Moses has pointed out, to lambast the Republican party; and time is short for an effort to rally a two-thirds vote. As Mark Sullivan has pointed out, the bill began as an emergency measure to help the farmer; it began in good faith; but the emergency has passed, the farmer has sold his crops, taken his loss and has "died," as Sullivan says, while Dr. Republican and Dr. Democrat discussed the prescription.

## Mr. Daniels' Flag Flies

In the accounts of the farewell dinner given for Secretary Daniels by the House Naval Affairs Committee, in the warmth and unanimity of praise addressed to him on that occasion by Republicans and Democrats alike, the newspaper reader will find a refreshing contrast.

Secretary Daniels alone of the retiring cabinet officers, said Representative Britten, Republican, "will shove off with his flag flying at top mast." The memory need not be severely taxed to recall a time when suspicion of party treason, or worse, would have been directed against any Republican leader venturing to compliment Secretary Daniels, however apologetically or left-handedly. In the earlier days of his cabinet connection, the Naval Secretary was cherished by the Republican party and the Republican press as an angel of merriment. For them he was the Henry Flivver of the political world. They engaged the cream of the country's cartoonists and humorists in order that no detail of the great Daniels joke should be omitted from the world's funniest record. Occasionally, falling into fits of irritation over the futility of their cheap burlesque, they broke into venomous chorus, "Give us his head," "Let him go—let him go!"

But Mr. Daniels did not go. He continued, serene and unweary, on the even course that he had set before him. He became an authority on his job. He devoted his days and his nights to the upbuilding of the American Navy. A people familiar with the record of this Navy in the world's greatest crisis need not be reminded of the Secretary's emergence from the storm of bitterness and ridicule as a man of recognized accomplishments. It is refreshing to read now of the full membership of the House Naval Affairs Committee assembling at banquet board to pay tribute to this public servant. "Despite the avalanche of criticism he has received at various points of his administration," said Representative Padgett, "the Navy's administration during the war was one of spotless purity."

## The Harding Lieutenants

Mr. Harding's little journey through the wonderland of best minds has finally brought him back to Will Hays and Harry Daugherty. The appearance of this beloved pair on the scene of the maneuvers at St. Augustine suggests that the President-elect is aware of the nearness of March 4. Having traversed the fairy world of beautiful dreams, pleasant sayings, mud-gripped river boats, and all the sweet nothings of vacation time, he has arrived at last at the threshold of his workshop—and behold his business partners!

Messrs. Hays and Daugherty have come to instruct him in the ways of a world that does not promise enchantment, and the intentness of the Harding ear suggests that he has only been playing at listening in his earlier engagements. The mild admonishments of the more considerate Republican papers, the bold challenging of the New York Tribune—these avail not to disturb the business-like pair now holding commissions as Mr. Harding's practical instructors. Hays and Daugherty belong to that political school which has been said to know exactly what it wants. Precisely how to get what they want is another element of the Hays-Daugherty education that has not been slighted. It does not appear that they will have to extend themselves severely in the effort to make the new President work satisfactorily.

## The Tiresome Mr. Dempsey

We do not wish to appear over-exacting in our requirements of a person of Mr. Jack Dempsey's importance, but we do feel that he ought to show greater consideration for the peace of mind of a public that is conscientiously trying to keep up with his movements, past, present and prospective. We have the most ardent admiration for Mr. Dempsey's footwork, but when he insists upon keeping it at its highest and most fascinating speed outside of the ring we must confess a slight giving-away at the pit of the stomach.

It is our latest information from him, not having read the night's bulletins, that he has about decided to run over to France and try his hand at fighting "over there." Without wishing to appear as an objector—for we have never had any conscientious scruples against Mr. Dempsey's fighting in France—we must demand to know why he didn't say so in the first place; that is, a month or two ago.

But that is not his way. Without putting on a glove in earnest, he has trained at nineteen or twenty well known sports camps, knocked everybody from Samson to Carpenter into a state of pluperfectly innocuous desuetude, collected something like \$1,786,499.15 in admissions, side-bets and bonuses—and is still talking. Now, we'd like to get this man down straight, metaphorically or atmospherically speaking, of course, and publish his itinerary. If he will only tell us on the level where he is going, and when, we will be happy to give any sort of guarantee that the world will not be kept in darkness. Better still, if he will only go somewhere—no matter how distant—tell us about it after he arrives, and stays there, we'll agree to write him a postal card every day, and tell him how agreeable life is in the U. S. A.

## The Futrelle Case

Interest in the case of the man Futrelle, charged with leadership of the mob that attacked the Wayne county jail last December in an effort to take from the officers of the law several negroes accused of the murder of a white man, centered, of course, in how a jury would react under such a case. That Futrelle was in the mob and took a leading part, even his attorneys admitted. Evidence on this point was clear and conclusive. The only question was, Would the jury convict? It did.

Convictions in cases of this character are not easy to obtain. There was once a lynching party in an upstate county which took a whole cellful of negroes from the jail, under the nose of the court, so to speak, for court had been opened for the trial of the negroes, and out of all the thousands who stormed the jail, the authorities succeeded in enmeshing one man only, and he, as it happened, was an ex-convict, without friends or money, and they gave him fifteen years. The horde of other lynchers went free. Only two or three men, in fact, were even arrested.

Whether Futrelle is mentally unsound, as was contended, is of course, another matter. The jury evidently leaned toward him, for it recommended mercy. But the fact remains that the alleged leader of the mob has been convicted, and this fact stares in the face future would-be lynchers who may attempt to take a jail by storm. The speediest method of ending mob law is to slap the law on the mobbers. Once they realize it is not a profitable game to play, there will be fewer and fewer cases of lynching in North Carolina.

## The Wilson Millions

From the prosaic ways of the sluggard, the gifted majority of the House on Tuesday turned for diversion to the more volatile part of the fool. It is almost to be regretted that the Democratic members chose to dignify, by addresses of opposition, the resolution calling upon President Wilson "for an itemized statement showing disbursements and allotments of the \$150,000,000 war fund voted by Congress." It might have been hoped that a Congress notoriously content with doing nothing would, at any rate, not violate its tradition by doing worse. The smallness and stupidity of this resolution condemn the Republicans of the Lower House as beneath the attention of an intelligent and dignified opposition. We may reasonably expect in due course a resolution requiring the President to count out to a designated House committee \$150,000,000 in nickels and dimes.

*New York World:* In reply to Senator Robinson's charges that the senate was making army promotions the football of politics, Senator Lodge said the country "had not forgotten that politics kept Theodore Roosevelt from going to France and had kept Leonard Wood at home."  
This is a characteristic piece of intellectual dishonesty on the part of Senator Lodge. The so-called Roosevelt division was a political exploit, not a military exploit, and President Wilson very properly refused to permit the military plans of the army to be upset by a political circus.  
As for Gen. Leonard Wood, Senator Lodge knows why he did not go to France. He knows also that neither the President nor the war department was responsible for General Pershing's decision which kept General Wood at home. This continued effort to picture Leonard Wood as the victim of politics in the war is sheer fact.

## Contemporary Views

### UNTIL THE LAST TICK

*Greensboro Daily News:* The Wilmington Star has never been quite clear as to why the cattle tick decided to make its last stand in eastern North Carolina, "but we are beginning to realize that it displayed remarkable generalship in its choice of a battleground." The easterners will fight too, and for, the last tick.

### THE AUTOMOBILE REVIVAL

*Charlotte News:* The Charlotte Automotive association heard some rather cheering words at its Monday meeting from Mr. McCullum, a leading official in the automobile world who declared that in the highest financial circles, it was generally agreed that by the middle of the summer, business would have picked up to normal and that the outlook for a revival in the automobile business was distinctly bright. This business was among the first to fall by the wayside in the process of deflation which was inflicted upon the country and while there may have been virtue in calling a halt to the indiscriminate purchase of automobiles by the people, there is no reason to assume that the nation has reached the peak of its automobile buying power.

There are lots of people who are driving cars who are not financially situated so that they can afford it, but, for that matter, there are lots of people who eat loaf bread instead of corn bread. It's a matter of taste and also of the development of living standards and if we regard the automobile as nothing more than a luxury—and that would be a grotesque statement—it still has a large and indispensable place in the life of the people. People are expected to buy some things that are not bread, otherwise, we would not be able to make much progress, toward a rational and balanced development.

The outlook for the automobile trade is as bright as that for any other line of business that is established and that has so important a place in the commerce of the world. Chances are that when the times are again made normal, the people will buy cars just as freely as they ever did with the added possibility that they will also make up for the time they have lost since last summer.

### DISILLUSIONED

*Cleveland Plain Dealer:* Only with the tentative reparations settlement does France fully realize the extent of its present financial difficulties. Large as the sum agreed upon is, France's share of it would still leave the country face to face with bankruptcy.

The total budget for the current year totals 41,000,000,000 francs, of which more than half is listed as recoverable from Germany. Taxes promise to yield not more than half the aggregate sum. On the assumption of Germany's payment of the present amount of reparations France would receive from that source during the first ten years not more than five billions. A staggering deficit thus faces her no matter what the method of approach.

It is regarded as impracticable to exact more income through taxation, as the result would be a capital levy that would retard the industrial recovery of the country. Its credit is already so weak that further public borrowing is said to be out of the question.

The only recourse is to make substantial retrenchments and the work of reconstruction promises to suffer most heavily. Workers employed in restoring the devastated regions are being discharged by the thousands. The government pay roll has thus been reduced by more than 170,000 men. Reimbursement for destruction by the enemy are being scaled down to a basis of pre-war values which were 20 to 30 per cent of present replacement costs.

The effect is to discourage many who returned after the armistice to the devastated regions. Discouraged by the unfavorable outlook, many are again departing and going into the southern part of the country to spend the winter.

The mistake of French leaders who promised full reparation for injury to property is now apparent. That endless stream of gold of which the French peasant dreamed is not flowing across the Rhine. Neither will German bonds suffice to produce the food and manufacture the products of which the French nation has need. Nothing but a return to the thrifty habits of the French nation which triumphed to pay the indemnity imposed upon the nation in 1871 will promote a sound policy of reconstruction.

### THE PSYCHOLOGY OF PEACE

*Asheville Citizen:* David Lloyd George started thinking people everywhere when he declared in a public speech a few days ago that the world is in a desperate plight and that he did not see the way out of the present disorders and uncertainties. When Anatole France argued a few weeks previously that civilization is threatened with a breakdown, serious-minded people were not alarmed for they appreciated France's penchant for pessimism and discounted his doleful prophecies. But the English prime minister is the undisputed leader among international optimists and this confession wrung from him by the untoward trend of events caused the world to pause and wonder. They realize that the situation must indeed be critical if Lloyd George was moved to hang his head in despair.

While the earth is filled with the rumors of strife and racial differences, territorial disputes and trade rivalries are tugging threateningly at the bonds of friendship, it is inconceivable that the world will wish to turn again to war to settle these differences. Erasmus the scholar laid down the thesis that "war is delightful only to those who have no experience with it." The nations of the earth have had their experience with war and they are still mourning for their dead. They are just completing the audit of the great war and running up the totals of the slain and of the financial losses.

The great war dislocated all the customary processes of peace. It glorified hate and exalted destruction and taught people everywhere to place their faith in the power to hit hard. It is natural that a world desperately ill with the maladies of war would find its convalescence slow and that relapses would come to retard speedy and complete recovery.

But it is unthinkable that the world is facing war rather than peace. It is unbelievable that civilized nations still bearing upon their bodies the raw and painful wounds of the last conflict will take up arms in the resentment of imaginary wrongs. The world war cost the countries involved more than \$348,000,000,000 in direct and indirect expenses, and a potential loss of life of 43,000,000 people. The prosperity of the world has been mortgaged for a generation while it will take France seventy years to recover the loss in population which that country suffered.

The League of Nations furnishes the machinery by which the possibilities of war may be rendered more remote but this machinery will not be effective unless it is supported by a spirit of peace among all the peoples of earth. The world must begin to think peace rather than war. The United States may never become a member of the League of Nations but it cannot deny its duty to assist in contributing to the peace psychology of the world.

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