

Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

MINER & BREESE.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1904.

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Dunns Rock Lodge No. 267

A. F. & A. M.
Meets Friday on or before the full moon in each month, at 2 p. m. Visiting Masons are cordially invited to meet with us, sptly. WM. MAXWELL, Sec'y.

Conestee Lodge No. 237.

I. O. O. F.
Meets every Monday night at 8 o'clock. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to visit us. Z. W. NICHOLS, N. G.

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Knights of Pythias
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ADMISSIONS BY SHAW

Manufactures Are Sold Cheaper Abroad Than at Home.

DISTORTS FACTS AND FIGURES.
Thinks This Miserable Business Is Defensible Because Foreigners Do It—An Outrageous System Wherever It Prevails.

Secretary Shaw, the spokesman for the administration, made another one of his exuberant speeches at the Auditorium in Chicago recently. As in his recent Wilmington (Del.) speech he made some striking and even startling statements and quoted statistics in his usual free and easy manner.

In his Chicago speech he reeled off figures, some of which may be true, but many of which certainly are false, and made some admissions on the subject of export prices which, coming from such a high Republican, are most refreshing. Thus he said:

"Our opponents lay much stress upon the fact that some American manufactures are sold abroad cheaper than at home. Our friends sometimes deny this, and they sometimes apologize for it, and a few in times past have joined our opponents in recommending a removal of the tariff from all such articles. It is useless to deny and in my judgment unwise to apologize and a little short of foolishness to attempt to remedy the assumed evil in the manner proposed by the opposition."

He then proceeded to quote from the industrial commission, which reported that "\$4,000,000 worth of merchandise, the product of American factories, is annually sold abroad cheaper than in the domestic market." He then said that as "we manufacture \$13,000,000,000 worth per annum our exports sold abroad cheaper than at home are only one-thirtieth of 1 per cent of the output of our factories."

Secretary Shaw is either a novice with figures or he is entirely willing to fool the voters with big statistics which he knows are not true. It is hardly possible that our secretary of the treasury does not know that we do not produce \$13,000,000,000 worth of manufactured goods in a year ready for final consumers or anything like this amount. Our census statistics of manufactures contain many duplications. Thus we have manufactures of cloth goods and of clothing, of iron and steel and of foundry products, machinery, etc., of lumber and of furniture, of leather and of boots and shoes. In these few industries the duplications amount to \$2,000,000,000 or \$3,000,000,000. Were it possible to take out the duplications—that is, the products of one mill that are sold as raw material to another mill—it is probable that the total value of finished manufactured products would not be more than half of \$13,000,000,000. Whether or not our census figures have been stuffed in order to make a great showing for protection can only be surmised.

The statement that only \$400,000,000 worth of our manufactured goods are sold abroad cheaper than at home is ridiculous. It is entirely safe to say that ten or twenty times this amount of iron and steel goods alone are sold abroad at prices from 10 to 60 per cent below the prices at which they are sold in this country. In fact, there are single items in our exports of iron and steel sold abroad at lower prices which amount to more than \$1,000,000. Thus, during the ten months ending April 30, 1904, we sold for export 208,000,000 pounds of wire valued at \$4,777,000. It is reasonably certain that every pound and every dollar's worth of this wire was sold abroad at prices below those prevailing in this country and that the average difference was not less than 25 to 30 per cent. Similar statements might be made in regard to the items of builders' hardware and sewing machines. All, or practically all, are sold to foreigners at bargain counter prices. Nearly \$2,000,000 worth of steel rails were sold abroad during these ten months at an average price of about \$20 per ton, the trust keeping the price in this country steadily at \$28. Millions of dollars worth of structural iron and steel, billets, bars, etc., were sold abroad at a price probably averaging \$10 per ton less than the domestic price. Ship plates have been selling

abroad at \$26 to \$30 per ton and in this country at \$38 to \$40 during the last year. Secretary Shaw quotes the report of the industrial commission. He evidently had not read the testimony of Mr. Charles M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel corporation, before the industrial commission, May 11, 1901. Mr. Schwab told the commission frankly that all kinds of iron and steel goods were invariably sold for export at prices lower than home prices. When asked "Is it a fact generally true of all exporters in this country that they do sell at lower prices in foreign markets than they do in the home market?" he answered, "That is true; perfectly true."

The secretary will find this testimony in volume 13, pages 448-487. It may interest him.

The secretary says that "while our people complain of this practice I think it defensible. But whether defensible or not I know that foreign producers do the same thing."

It is not denied that the practice of selling goods for export at prices far below domestic prices prevails in nearly all highly protected countries. It is a part of the protective system. But it is a miserable, hypocritical, outrageous system wherever it prevails. It compels consumers to pay extra taxes to support an industry that shows its ingratitude by charging its benefactors two prices for its products. All the countries on earth could not make this system right.

Continuing, the secretary says: "For my part I am willing to pay any reasonable price for the small amount of barbed wire which I consume, provided the wheat from my field, the dairy products from my herd and the meat from my stall shall feed the men who mine the coal and iron and the artisans who produce the wire to fence the farms of South America."

But suppose that upon inquiry the secretary should find that while he was paying two prices for his barbed wire because of protection he was selling his wheat and other products in a free trade market and was getting no benefit whatever from protection, would he then be willing to pay high protection prices for his fencing wire? If the secretary can induce the farmers of this country to think along these lines he will have accomplished a great work.

BYRON W. HOLT.

BEGGED THE QUESTION.

Root's Impassioned Plea to "Let Well Enough Alone."

Like all his intellectual efforts, the speech of Elihu Root at Chicago was able, adroit, finished, persuasive. The essence of his plea was the old one of the party in power, "Let well enough alone."

But this is begging the question. Is a worse than war tariff, which, as the untrammelled Iowa Republicans of three years ago said, "shelters monopoly," well enough? Is the postal corruption, not half revealed and inadequately punished, well enough? Is the blustering flourish of President Roosevelt's "big stick" over the heads of smaller American republics well enough? Are a hundred illegal trusts undisturbed in their robberies well enough? Is reckless extravagance in appropriations well enough?

Mr. Root is an able special pleader, but even he cannot make a case stand on assertions and assumptions.—New York World.

Revision of the Tariff.

The Republican claim that if the tariff be revised it must be revised by the friends of protection if the Republicans control the next congress is therefore likely to lead to increased tariff duties on many articles such as the Michigan Republicans demand on sugar and a certainty that no tax will be reduced.

On the other hand, if the Democrats are successful their policy will provide for a revision of the tariff, abolishing or reducing the protection to those trusts that sell their products cheaper to foreigners than to our own people, but at the same time provide for sufficient tax to run the government honestly and economically administered.

To Be Desired.

The report that Mr. Roosevelt is going to refrain from saying or doing anything during the campaign that will make him ridiculous makes one wish there was a campaign all the time.—San Antonio (Tex.) Express.

The trouble with dark horse candidates in recent years is that they remain in the dark.

SECRET RATE CUTTING

Railway Discrimination Fosters the Trusts.

THE FARMER MADE TO SUFFER.

How Promises of Reform by Republican Candidates Are Evaded. Farmers' Organizations Should Put This Question to the Front.

Judge Gaynor of New York stated it as his belief that rebates and secret rate cutting to favored shippers has led to the creation of trusts and combines and that if the law was amended to punish these discriminations the trusts would be curbed. Perhaps Judge Gaynor is a little too sanguine of the effect that putting all shippers by the railroads, be they great or small, on the same footing would have, but there is no doubt that taking from the trusts and combines the discriminations by the railways in their favor would abolish one of their great monopolies.

To the farmer of the west it does not matter which trunk line carries his wheat or corn to the seaboard or whether it eventually reaches New York or some other city on the Atlantic or some port on the gulf of Mexico. The interest of the farmer ceases when he has sold his grain to the buyer at the nearest railway station. But it does make a vast difference to him if he ships a carload of grain or cattle or hogs to Chicago or elsewhere that the freight rate charged him shall be no more than the elevator company or the big cattle buyer. It is also of the utmost importance to the farmer that he should have an equal opportunity in being furnished cars like other shippers—in fact, that no discrimination in rates or opportunity shall be made against him.

As nearly all the railways are interstate corporations it is necessary that federal legislation should be enacted to give the interstate commerce commission power to punish railway officials who disobey the law. The present law as amended by the Elkins bill makes it a misdemeanor on the part of any person or corporation "to offer, grant or give or to solicit, accept or receive any rebate, concession or discrimination in respect of the transportation of any property named in interstate or foreign commerce at a less rate than that named in the tariffs published and filed."

But the law does not provide for a way to punish the lawless railway official and is therefore secretly and often openly violated with impunity. The Republican majority in congress have always refused to vote for an amendment to the law giving the interstate commerce commission the necessary power, though the Democrats have time and again proposed such an amendment. The same opposition from the Republicans prevented the monopoly breeding tariff from being revised, though the Democrats have struggled to reform it, but every Republican in congress has stood like a stone wall against even reducing the tariff on those products of the trusts that they sell cheaper abroad than here.

Republican candidates for congress and senators may declaim upon the stump and make promises that they will favor reasonable revision of tariff rates, but their votes show they had no such honest intention. Some of them seek shelter under the plea that in a caucus of Republican members of congress the majority decided to stand pat, and they had to keep within party lines. That is an ancient dodge at Washington, for the trusts and corporations always have a majority of the Republican members ready to do their bidding.

If the farmers will pass resolutions at their grange or farmers' clubs demanding a pledge from the candidate for congress that regardless of party lines he will vote in their interest and declaring that otherwise they will vote and work against such candidate's election, there would surely be a majority in the next congress that would pass the relief demanded.

It may be superfluous to add that Senator Fairbanks counts his millions from a bar!—Atlanta Constitution.

Rather Husky.

The keynote Root sounded had a good many frogs in its throat.

TEMPERANCE TIDINGS.

At Bayonne, N. J., 20 saloons were refused renewal of license and closed. Citizens of Palo Alto, Cal., have defeated the effort to establish a tavern with a bar near the university grounds. Drinking on the police force is not to be allowed in San Francisco. H. B. Smith was fined \$100 for being drunk on July 4, and barely escaped dismissal from the force.

Hereafter smokers of cigarettes will not be employed in the packing houses of Swift & Co. in the stock yards. For some time representatives of the Anti-Cigarette league have been working in the stock yards district, and the order of the large packing company is considered one of its first great victories in that district.

The commissioner of internal revenue has issued a circular prohibiting the use by manufacturers of cigars, cigarettes or tobacco put up in packages, of labels containing "any promise or offer of, or any order or certificate for, any gift, prize, premium payment, or reward." This regulation is to take effect September 1, 1900.

Settled Rum Question.

Sergt. Menzies, of the Gordon Highlanders Good Templar lodge, writing from Ladysmith, says: "We had no difficulty on the rum question. We applied through our commanding officer to Gen. Sir George White for a ration of tea and sugar in lieu, and it was granted at once, and a field force order to the effect that all total abstainers in the garrison could have tea and sugar in lieu of rum was published, which was the best life we have had, by placing temptation beyond reach of the weaker brothers."

Son Sends Father to Gen.

David Volzinger, of No. 305 Second avenue, with a policeman's aid, the other night forced his 64-year-old father to go to the East Fifty-fifth street police station, and there had the old man put behind the bars. "I have supported him at my home for 12 years," the son said, "his eyes full of tears, and whenever he got hold of any money he got drunk and abused my wife and children. This afternoon he collected a laundry bill for my wife and came home intoxicated, beat my wife and children and smashed the furniture. It breaks my heart to send him away, but he is destroying my home, and I have to do it."

All the way to the station the old man had pleaded for mercy. The son had only cried silently and said nothing till he addressed the sergeant. The father, finding his appeal for pity of no avail, became abusive as he was led away to a cell.—N. Y. World.

Tobacco Workers as Nursing Mothers.

Careful investigations in France have proven that, while the occupation of tobacco working on the part of women does not affect to any great extent the occurrence and progress of pregnancy, yet it does fearfully affect the health of the infants if the mothers nurse them and go back early to work in the factory. It was found that the mortality among the children of these women is considerably more than double that of the children of other working women. The recommendation is that the mother should not return to work while nursing her child, and when compelled to do so she should feed the child artificially. The recommendation of common humanity is that mothers should never have to work in a tobacco factory at all.

Brutally Tortured.

A case came to light that persistent and unmerciful torture has perhaps never been equaled. Joe Gold-bick of Colusa, Calif., writes: "For 15 years I endured insufferable pain from rheumatism and nothing relieved me though I tried everything known. I came across Electric Bitters and it's the greatest medicine on earth for that trouble. A few bottles of it completely relieved and cured me." Just as good for liver and kidney troubles and general debility. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by all druggists.

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