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ASHEVILLE, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 22, 1909.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LINING UP FORCES FOR USUAL FIGHT OVER TARIFF BILL

Payne and Dalzell Will be Supported by Evidence and Experts Ready at Hand

PARTY LINES WILL BREAK ON LUMBER

Administration Features of Bill Make Many Changes I Collection of Duty

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, D. C., March 21.—The administration features of the new tariff bill is receiving the earnest attention of the treasury officials. An important change proposed in the new bill is the method to be adopted in certain cases in finding market value upon which to assess ad valorem duties. In the present law the treasury department, when it is unable to find market value in the country of origin of the goods, is permitted to make such value by finding the cost of production and adding thereto an arbitrary amount for profit.

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ALLEGED DEMOCRATS KEEP ON TRYING TO EXPLAIN IT ALL AWAY

And to Shift Blame on the Other Fellow; Whack at Southern Members

WHERE'S THE PINCH?

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 21.—Another explanation was forthcoming today as to the course of certain democrats in opposing minority leader Clark last Monday by voting for the Fitzgerald amendments to the house rules. Representatives Kellher and Peters, of Boston, Mass., and Representative Francis Burton Harrison of New York, issued a statement in which they assert that the action of the democrats who voted for the amendments has been misrepresented. The Fitzgerald amendments are defended as being very effective in the curtailment of the power of the speaker.

The statement declares that Representative Underwood, of Alabama, took the floor of the caucus to bind the members to support the Clark plan for a committee of fifteen to report next December on amendments to the rules, and refused all opportunity to amend the plan in the caucus. Referring to the fight in the house, the three members said that when Mr. Clark offered his resolution, he refused any democrat a chance to speak. "And when he did the very thing we democrats have been denouncing and fighting against for years. He moved the previous question. Then the Fitzgerald amendments were offered, and in marked contrast to Mr. Clark's action, Mr. Fitzgerald allowed free and full opportunity for debate and amendments. The truth of the matter is that so enraged was the old republican machine at its defeat, that in its anger it would have conceded almost anything rather than surrender to the insurgents an inch."

POLICE THWARTED PLAN OF WHITLA TO REGAIN SON

Father Followed Instructions and Left Money for Kidnappers Who Got Scared

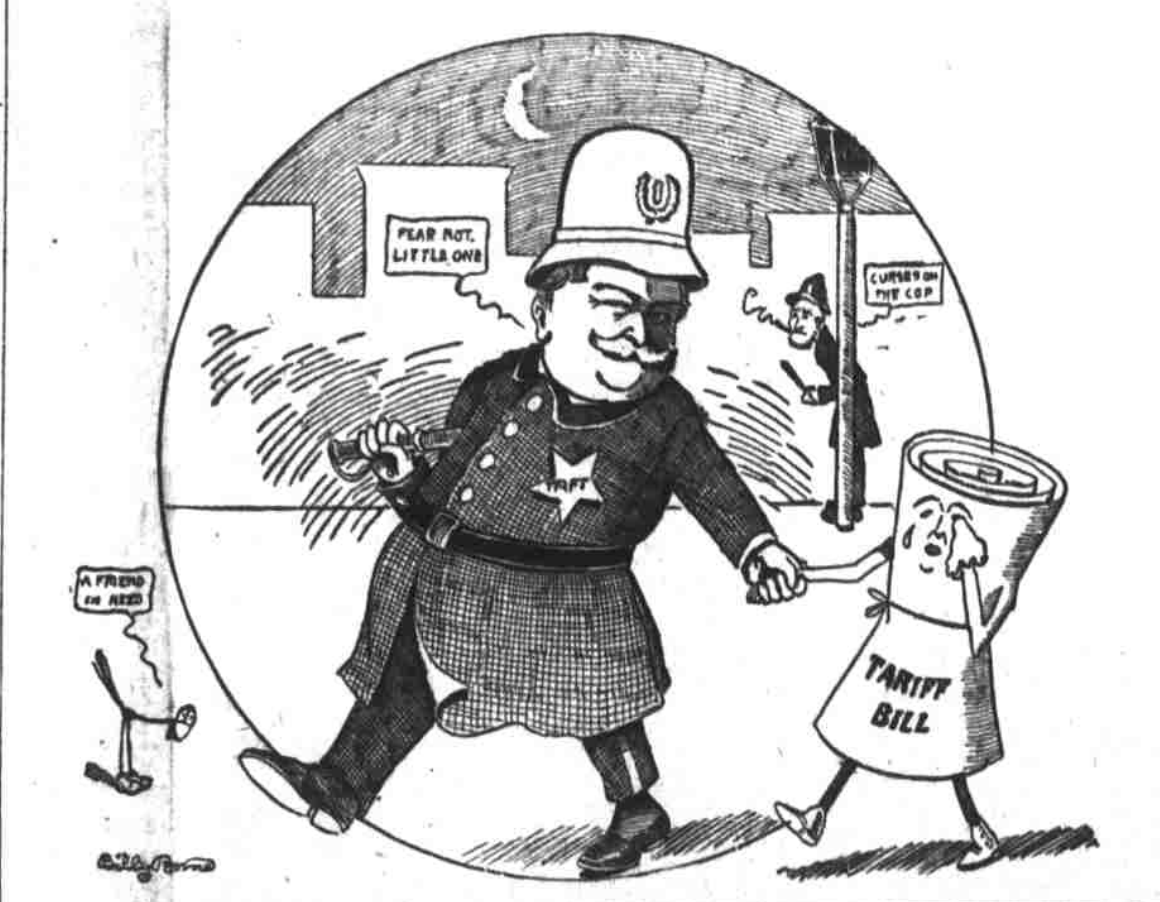
(By Associated Press.) CLEVELAND, O., March 21.—After failing in an attempt to negotiate a settlement for the return of his kidnapped son Willie, in a park at Ashtabula today, J. P. Whitla has returned to his home in Sharon. Whitla was instructed in a letter from the kidnappers to leave \$10,000 in Flatiron Park Saturday night. If no detectives were about, the kidnappers promised, they would deliver the boy safely to the father in a hotel at Ashtabula at 3 o'clock this morning. Whitla deposited the money as requested, but the Ashtabula police learned of the plan to pay the ransom and went to the park. The kidnappers are supposed to have seen them, for at 3 o'clock the money was intact and not a man had approached the spot. Whitla believes that the failure to effect a settlement with the kidnapers will frighten the kidnapers and they will not communicate with him again. The police of Ashtabula are unwilling to believe that the kidnapers have left that section of the country. The letter from the captors of Willie Whitla came to the boy's parents in Sharon Friday afternoon. Upon receipt of the letter, Whitla called in private detectives and asked their advice. They were anxious to capture the kidnapers, and pleaded with him to permit them to place a decoy package of bills at the designated spot and let officers lie in wait and capture the men who came after the money. Whitla would not agree to this. He finally consented to permit the detectives to accompany him to this city and await his summons to start a search for the kidnapers. Police Very Smart. Promptly at 10 o'clock Whitla left the package of bills in the park. He went to the designated spot alone feeling certain that his compliance with the request of the kidnapers would prove the means of delivering his boy back to him. Three policemen who had been sent out from the Ashtabula central station saw Whitla leave the money in the park. They apprised Chief Laskey of their discovery and received instructions to remain on duty and cap-

ROOSEVELT ON EVE OF DEPARTURE FOR AFRIC'S WILDS WAXETH MERRY

If Anybody Tries to Peek After Him He May Use Amunition WILL BE NO CEREMONY

(By Associated Press.) OYSTER BAY, N. Y., March 21.—Happy in the prospect of his departure Tuesday morning for his long planned African "safari" or hunting trip, ex-President Roosevelt was the soul of good humor today at his home in Sagamore Hill, where the members of his family gathered for a final reunion before the long journey to the jungle. Mr. Roosevelt was up with the sun today, as he said, to make the most of the first day of spring. Near the church the start was made on foot for Christ church three miles away. The Rev. Henry Washburn, rector of the church, incorporated a special prayer for Mr. Roosevelt's safe return in the regular prayer. Mr. Roosevelt and his wife made the long trip back to Sagamore Hill on foot. "I am going to New York in the morning," said Mr. Roosevelt, "and will go to the steamer to inspect my quarters and see that my personal baggage is safely cared for." Mr. Roosevelt was shown a dispatch stating that a gentleman from the west would join the expedition here as an additional member. Very Much Surprised. "I don't know anything about it," said Mr. Roosevelt. "If any one else is going, I don't know it. If they try, I think there will be some way to stop them. There is a story that a man went to Texas with a twenty-two calibre revolver, and a cowboy said to the new comer, 'stranger, if you shoot me with that thing and I find it out, I'll kick you out of Texas.' Well, if I find any one trying to follow me, I may think of the cowboy story." Mr. Roosevelt seemed surprised when informed that several thousand people undoubtedly would be on hand to give him a parting cheer as the steamer goes out. "Gracious me," said Mr. Roosevelt, "you don't really mean to say there will be such a crowd as that. Are all those people coming? The French ambassador, M. Jusserand, wrote me that he would see me at the dock. If a big crowd is coming I will write the company to see that he has no trouble in getting through the crowd. There will be no speeches or statements from me at the steamer."

The Helping Hand



FIRE BREAKS OUT AFRESH AFTER SMOULDERING FOR A WHOLE DAY

Destruction of Beaumont Furniture Company's Stock Was Almost Complete, Adjoining Stocks Injured. Good Work of Firemen Highly Commended and Rewarded by Merchants of Vicinity

Though five streams of water had been kept playing on it almost continuously for nearly three hours, fifteen hours after the fire was thought to be extinct burning cotton was discovered in the basement of the store of the Beaumont Furniture company on South Main street which was practically destroyed by fire that originated from some unknown cause, shortly before midnight Saturday and continued into the early hours of yesterday. A line of hose was soon connected with the nearest hydrant and a stream of water was brought into play and in a short time the fire seemed to have disappeared. Several times during the night there were slight outbreaks but none of a dangerous nature. A line of hose was kept in readiness and a man detailed to watch the ruins in case there should be another outbreak. This fire was caused by the cotton in the mattresses, in which the conflagration is supposed to have originated. It seemed to be started when the firemen left at an early hour yesterday morning. The Loss. A member of the firm said yesterday that the stock of goods was almost a total loss. Practically all that had not been destroyed was injured by fire, water and smoke so as to make it almost valueless, he said. The stock was insured to the amount of \$6,000. Its value was variously estimated by different members of the firm at from \$12,000 to \$15,000, no recent stock having been taken by the company. A car load of chairs is now at the depot and was to have been moved in shortly and other goods was on the way. Frank Loughran, owner of the building, estimated his loss between \$5,000 and \$6,000, with insurance amounting to \$4,500. The building was valued at \$10,000. One accident occurred, F. W. Harkey, one of the firemen, being caught in a puff of smoke and fumes while standing in front of the building and his eyes injured, though it is not thought serious. He was attended to by Dr. H. H. Briggs, who sent him to the Mission hospital but believes he will be out in a few days. In yesterday's report of the fire it was inadvertently stated in The Citizen that the Miller-Rice Paint company had a quantity of gasoline stored in their store next door. The officers of the company declare that this was a mistake and that while their stock of varnishes, paints, oils, etc., was of a highly inflammable nature, there was no gasoline whatever in the store. Compliment Firemen. The loss to the Miller-Rice company through smoke and water will aggregate between \$2,000 and \$2,500 covered by insurance. The company expresses the highest appreciation of the good work of the firemen who, at the risk of their lives, bravely fought back the fire from the stock of paints and oils. The Citizen gladly publishes the following card from the company: "To the Asheville Firemen: We wish to thank the firemen for their good work during the fire Saturday night in which they saved our stock from burning, the work was very dangerous and we shall always feel that we owe them a debt of gratitude we can never repay. Respectfully, 'THE MILLER-RICE PAINT CO., S. O. Bradley, President.' The company further expressed their gratitude in entertaining the firemen at breakfast at the New York Lunch when their services were no longer needed to check the flames and presented them with a check for \$25. H. L. Finkelstein, proprietor of the pawn shop next door to the burned building has expressed his appreciation of the good work of the firemen in a check for \$25, which he left at The Citizen office yesterday to be turned over to the department.

INDIAN PAYING PRICE OF HIS CIVILIZATION

Doomed to Extinction From Dreaded Tuberculosis, Dying by Thousands

(By Associated Press.) PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—The convention of the anthracite miners which meets at Scranton, Pa., on Tuesday is expected to make final decision so far as the men are concerned in the matter of a new agreement with coal mine operators to take the place of the present working arrangements which expires March 21. The mine workers are not unanimous as to what should be done, and therefore the operators are more or less in the dark as to the conditions that will prevail on April 1. As it now stands the situation is this: The miners have made certain demands, the principal one being the recognition of the union. The operators have flatly refused all the demands and in turn have offered to renew for another term of three years the present agreement, which is the same as that made by the anthracite coal strike commission. The rank and file of the mine workers believe that the coal presidents will close the mines April 1 for an indefinite period. They base this belief on the fact that the mines are being worked to their full capacity this month notwithstanding that the previous custom during March has been to operate them only about half time. The operators have made no announcement what they intend to do next month, nor have they made any public declaration as to whether the price of domestic sets of coal will be reduced fifty cents a ton April 1 as has been done in other years. PRINCE WORKED FOR \$7.50 ST. PETERSBURG, March 21.—Prince Michael Hilkoff (Khliffkoff) a member of the council of the emigrants and formerly minister of communications died suddenly today.

MAY CLOSE COAL MINES AT END OF THIS MONTH

Disagreement Between Operators and Workers Indicates a Long Tie Up

(By Associated Press.) PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—The great strike of the employees of the postoffice department, which has practically isolated Paris and cut off France from communication with the outside world for the past week, collapsed today. The strike committee decided to call off the employees and make the first move to effect a settlement, virtually ending the strike. This afternoon representatives of the firemen called on M. Barthou, minister of public works, ostensibly for the purpose of protesting against the charges that they had cut the wires, but during the interview they made known the terms on which they would resume work. These were: First, the resignation of M. Sarrayan, under-secretary of posts and telegraphs; secondly that no employes should be dismissed on account of the strike; they also desired the assurance that the delegates of the association hereafter should be permitted to lay their grievances directly before the minister of public works. M. Barthou received them in a conciliatory spirit. He said that the government could not discuss the resignation of an official except with parliament, but he practically gave the delegation the satisfaction they demanded on other points, explaining to them, however, that the government had not yet exercised its right of dismissal. He said that warnings had been sent to every striker without exception to appear for duty not later than Tuesday. Premier Clemenceau later met the delegation and confirmed M. Barthou's statement with regard to the attitude of the government. At the conclusion of these interviews the strike committee decided upon the resumption of work.

DIPLOMATS WILL BE CHOSEN UNDER ANOTHER SYSTEM

Social Favorites of Great Wealth no Longer to be Only Ones Available

ROOSEVELT SENT LOT OF MOLLYCODDLES

Taft Ignores Civil Service Order In Regard to Naming of Consuls

(By Sheldon S. Cline.) WASHINGTON, March 21.—There are rumors about the white house and state department of evil days ahead for the butterflies of our diplomatic service. It is said Mr. Taft has conceived the idea that our ambassadors and ministers should be something more than leaders of cotillions in the capitals to which they are assigned; that while social accomplishments are desirable in a diplomat, their possession should not be the lone and sole test for appointment. And it is said further that if the president can't find men with both horse sense and social sense to fill the posts, horse sense is going to have the preference. Horse sense has been conspicuously lacking in the make-up of some of our diplomats who are vast successes in a social way. Roosevelt Sent Mollycoddles. It was one of the paradoxes of the Roosevelt administration that, virile and masculine as was the president, he sent popinjays to represent him at more than one foreign capital. This tendency of the diplomatic service toward mollycoddled men, that antagonized Roosevelt, and there were more vital things nearer to hand needing strenuous attention. No doubt a good deal of the blame for present conditions in the diplomatic service lies at the door of congress because of its failure to provide official residences for our representatives abroad. Were these residences provided men of larger ability but fewer dollars could afford to accept diplomatic posts, and a good deal of the present constancy and even vulgarity of display would be made impossible. Ignores Civil Service. Nor will the consular service be thrown open to every Tom, Dick and Harry who happens to have a political pull, but the fact that a man has been active in politics isn't going to bar him from appointment to a consular post. Such is the intimation which has been conveyed from the white house. President Roosevelt's executive order of June 7, 1906, was intended to place consular appointments on a strictly competitive basis, but even Mr. Roosevelt did not feel himself bound to the letter of the order when it came to filling the higher posts. Mr. Taft, so the public is informed, will not hesitate to ignore the order when he deems it wise to do so. The fact that the consular examination which was to have been held March 15 was indefinitely postponed caused consternation in the ranks of the civil service reformers. Word went forth that the consular service was to be turned over to the "populists." This is strongly doubted by those close to the president, but it is pointed out that Mr. Taft is bound neither by law nor precedent to observe the Roosevelt order in every case. A stroke of the pen would wipe the order entirely out, but the president has no intention of doing this. He is merely going to satisfy himself of a candidate's qualifications.

AWFUL TOLL OF HUMAN LIFE TAKEN BY OCEAN

Over Two Hundred Have Perished on New England Coast in Few Months

(By Associated Press.) BOSTON, March 21.—Two hundred and twenty-one persons perished by shipwreck and eighty-nine vessels met with disaster off the New England and British North American coasts, or while engaged in the New England or Canadian trade, during the fall and winter season of 1908-09, which ended tonight. Of the eighty-nine vessels cast ashore or lost at sea, six steamers and fifty-six sailing craft were totally wrecked. The financial loss exceeds \$3,000,000. The most thrilling disaster of the season was the collision between the White Star line steamer Republic and the Italian steamer Florida. In the series of storms which prevailed from November 17 to December 5, one hundred and sixty-five persons were drowned and four steamer and thirty-five sailing craft lost. The greatest disaster last fall was the destruction of the American steamer 800 City, which foundered off the southwest coast of Newfoundland, with all on board—twenty-eight men.



WASHINGTON, March 21.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair Monday, preceded by rain near the coast; Tuesday fair with rising temperature; brisk north winds.