

Report on Farmers' Free List Bill Is Offered To-day

Sweeping Reductions in Duties on Various Articles Provided in Bill Offered by Ways and Means Committee—List of Articles Touched.

The Bill Would Effect a Reduction in Tariff Revenue of Over Ten Millions—How it Will Benefit the Farmer and Ultimate Consumer.

By Associated Press. Washington, April 19.—The majority report of the ways and means committee on the so-called farmers' free list bill, submitted to the house today by Chairman Underwood, is a merger of democratic political argument and an analysis of the proposed duty exemptions.

The report shows that the bill would reduce the tariff revenue \$10,016,495, based on the importation for the last fiscal year, an amount described as "considerable in comparison to all the great saving and advantages to all our people from the additions to the free list provided for."

Quoting President Taft's recent Canadian reciprocity speeches, the report seeks to convey the impression that the administration is convinced that protective tariff rates are too high.

"In several addresses," it says, "the President has admitted that the tariff rates are too high, that such rates have resulted in excessively high prices for the farmer, and that the cost of living which now bears heavily on our people and that they have not received the long promised benefits of domestic competition under high protective duties."

Referring to the President's statement that the republican party had modified its tariff policy so as to limit it for purposes of protection to the difference in cost of production here and abroad with a reasonable profit to the American producer, the committee report says:

"This is a confession, as was the republican platform of 1908 that the theory of high protective duties, as put forth by the republican party, has broken down, that combination and trusts which prey upon the people have been fostered by the tariff, and that under tariff protection American manufacturers have forced unreasonable profits from the people."

Again the report declares: "The Canadian reciprocity agreement now before the house is a recognition of the injurious effects of the extreme protective policy which has so long been imposed upon the country, and an effort to mitigate its effects."

The reciprocity agreement, the committee asserts cannot afford the American people all the needed relief from high prices. Action on the agreement involves the necessity of further and immediate action in removing a number of duties on imports from other countries in order that justice may be done to the great army of agricultural producers, who, in the Canadian agreement, are to have all the alleged protection removed from their products without a corresponding or reciprocal reduction of the protective duties most burdensome on the commodities they purchase as necessary to sustain their lives and industries."

The report takes up in detail the classified list of articles included in the bill in the transportation of agricultural implements, it says, their manufacture is controlled by trusts and combinations that have sold in foreign countries at lower prices than at home, building up their foreign trade from \$25,154, in 1890 to \$28,124,033 in 1910.

Bagging and baling materials, essential to the transportation of agricultural products, the report says, cannot receive benefits of protection in home markets and duties on them "have annoyed and burdened the farmers to add to the profits of exacting trusts and combinations." Concerning hoops, bands and ties of iron and steel, barbed wire for fencing, etc., the report says the high duties make the people dependent upon the "great steel indus-

try" which for years has sold products abroad lower than to domestic consumers, and declares that placing them on the free list will be "a long delayed measure of equity and justice."

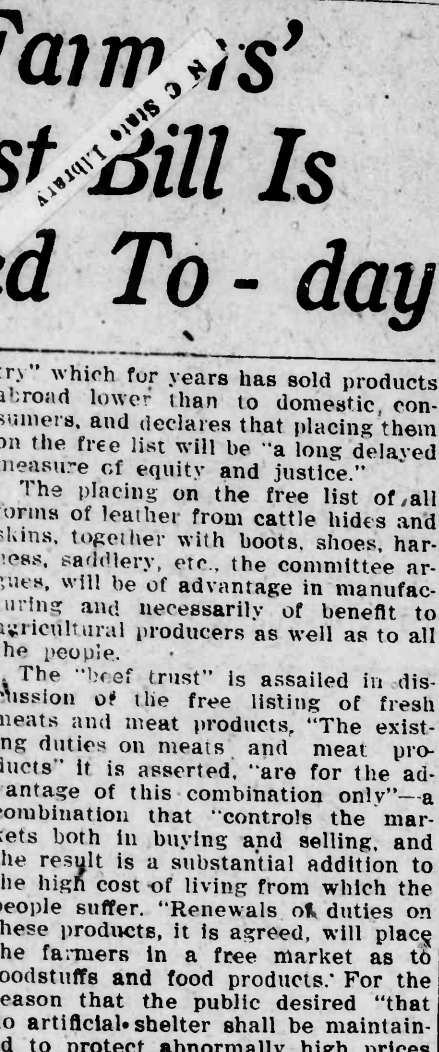
The placing on the free list of all forms of leather from cattle hides and skins, together with boots, shoes, harness, saddlery, etc., the committee argues, will be of advantage to manufacturing and necessarily of benefit to agricultural producers as well as to all the people.

The "beef trust" is assailed in discussion of the free listing of fresh meats and meat products. "The existing duties on meats and meat products" it is asserted, "are for the advantage of this combination only"—a combination that "controls the markets both in buying and selling, and the high cost of living in addition to the high cost of the products, it is asserted, will place the farmer in a free market as to foodstuffs and food products. For the reason that the public desired "that no artificial shelter shall be maintained to protect abnormally high prices on food articles in any form" the bill also seeks exemption from duty on wheat flour, semolina, rye flour, buckwheat flour, cornmeal and all prepared cereal foods, biscuits bread and similar articles not sweetened.

In discussing free lumber placed in the bill, hard wood excepted, the report maintains that the ownership of timber in this country has become practically a monopoly and has passed for the most part into the hands of great corporations and interests which are speculating on the increasing scarcity.

President Taft is again referred to, the report quoting from his speech of February 26, 1911, in which he said: "By giving our own people access to Canadian forests, we shall reduce the consumption of our own, which, in the hands of a comparatively few owners now have a value that requires the enlargement of our available timber resources."

Sewing machines, the report avers, are sold abroad by American manufacturers cheaper than at home and should not be protected. The manufacturers would have by the proposed bill the additional advantage of free lumber.



CHAMPAGNE RIOTERS.

Photograph showing champagne rioters in France burning the recent decision of the senate on the champagne question, which favored the abolition of territorial and storeroom limitations, thousands of wine growers in the champagne growing district destroyed factories, residences and legitimate and "faking" champagne growers and bottlers. The situation became so grave that 15,000 troops had to be rushed to the scene of disorder to protect the loss of life and destruction of property. The situation has now calmed down, owing to the presence of the troops and the nullifying of the action of the senate by the chamber of deputies.

Congress May Pass Reciprocity Treaty By To-morrow Night

By Associated Press.

Washington, April 19.—Democratic leaders of the house hope to bring the long debate on Canadian reciprocity to an end tonight and to pass the bill before adjournment tomorrow. It is possible, however, that another day of general discussion may be agreed to, for Chairman Underwood of the ways and means committee, does not like to shut off any one who wants to speak. The fact that former Speaker Cannon was to make one of the principal arguments against the reciprocity agreement today brought a "through go the galleries."

The report of the ways and means committee on the farmers' free list bill, promised today, was awaited in the house with much interest. This bill will be taken up as soon as the reciprocity measure is out of the way.

The senate meets tomorrow.

Busy Session of D. A. R. Congress

By Associated Press.

Washington, April 19.—Reports of committees constituted the chief business of the forenoon session of the Daughters of the American Revolution today. An address by Dr. J. Franklin Jameson was included in the program. President Taft received the Daughters at the white house after the close of the business session.

Delegates are excited over the election of general officers tomorrow. The fight for president general is between Mrs. Matthew T. Scott, of Illinois, the incumbent, and Mrs. William C. Story, of New York. Both sides are making claims of victory.

Furniture Makers Go On Strike

By Associated Press.

Grand Rapids, Mich., April 19.—The long-expected strike of the furniture workers of Grand Rapids, which has been pending for several weeks, was officially declared in effect at 9 o'clock this morning.

The union men in nearly 60 furniture factories, including wood-working shops, packed up their tools and walked out.

Between 6,000 and 7,000 union men, including varnishers and finishers, as well as cabinet makers, carvers and woodworkers, went out. Some 3,000 other employees who are not unionized, are affected by the strike.

The walk-out came to a head today as the result of the manufacturers' refusal in a communication to the citizens' committee of inquiry to grant any concessions to the mob. The men ask 10 per cent increase in wage, a 9-hour day and the abolition of piece work.

The manufacturers declare they will continue to treat with their men individually, but refuse any increase in wages, basing their refusal on trade conditions.

Joe Cannon Opposed to Reciprocity

By Associated Press.

Washington, April 19.—Former Speaker Cannon in the house today vigorously attacked Canadian reciprocity. Aided by a large map of the United States and Canada he played the role of schoolmaster to a crowded floor and filled galleries.

Mr. Cannon assailed the proposed agreement as dangerous to American trade, inimical to the best interests of American farmers and certain to result in depreciation of western and southern farm lands.

The opening attack on reciprocity today came from Representative Cannon of North Carolina, who characterized the bill as a republican measure. He attacked his colleague, Mr. Kitchin, for his speech of Saturday and declared that he had impugned the motives of at least three members of the North Carolina democratic delegation, who proposed to vote against the measure.

Mr. Cannon followed Mr. Gudger. "Not since the war with Spain and all that followed has there been considered by the house of representatives so important a bill as the one now pending," declared he.

"On the action of the house rests the well being and the prosperity of all the people of the United States."

Mr. Cannon declared that the reciprocity treaty had been made in secret, and the country, the senate and the house had actually nothing to do with the preparation of the agreement.

Mr. Cannon reviewed the development of middle and western America during the last century. Immigration and development had brought rich new lands into cultivation, he said; railroads had by cheap freight rates placed them in touch with the great eastern markets; and the value of New England and New York farm lands had gone steadily down, unable to meet the competition.

The opening of the new Canadian lands with American markets upon their products would have the same effect on the west, he believed.

Mr. Cannon declared that the influence of the cheaper Canadian lands would be felt as keenly in the South as elsewhere if the tariff restrictions on farm products were removed.

"What is this bill going to do with us?" he asked.

"They say there's no danger to our wheat from a market open to Canada. The president says it will reduce the cost of living without impairing the farmers' market. I would like to see the president demonstrate how it will not impair the farmers' prices and yet will reduce the cost of living."

Fortune Teller and Husband Suffocated

By Associated Press.

Asheville, N. C., April 19.—Mrs. Hattie Fox, a fortune teller, and her blind husband, were suffocated this morning when a store building in which they lived was swept by fire. The flames were started by an overturned oil stove. Firemen saw the woman at a window but were unable to reach them through the smoke before they were dead. The property loss is about \$25,000.

Charged Husband With Kidnapping

By Associated Press.

Atlanta, April 19.—Charging that her husband kidnapped their little four-year-old son from St. Luke's Episcopal Sunday school, during the Easter morning service and carried him off to the Transportation club, Mrs. Amy Lou Maddison has asked the court to have the child restored to her and to restrain Maddison from troubling it any more.

Grand Opera in Atlanta

Atlanta, April 19.—Despite the heavy advance sale, the supply of good tickets for the Metropolitan Grand Opera season here April 28, 29, 30 is by no means exhausted. Some of the best seats in the auditorium may still be had.

Politics Order of the Day in High Point

By Associated Press.

High Point, April 19.—Political High Point is warming up lively and Mayor Fred Tate and Candidate J. E. Kirkman and their followers are speaking some. Although numerous points are raised on each side, yet the main issue is the bond issue the two factions being known as the bondites and anti-bondites. Mr. Tate is a bond man. Mr. Kirkman against the bonds. With Delos Hammer, a young attorney, as managing editor of a new daily paper which has sprung into existence, is against bonds and for Mr. Kirkman whose picture appears in each issue.

The daily is called the Conservative. Its paragraphs' space is filled with snap and go and he oftentimes asks personal questions, or drops out a word photograph. The two candidates are democrats and Methodists and their Sunday seats are near enough to look into each others faces. Under such circumstances it is impossible for there to be room for them to have any feeling in the matter of the tingling thrusters so freely flung.

The greatest speaking of the campaign was last night, at the warehouse when Mr. Kirkman accepted Mr. Tate's invitation to meet him in joint debate and discuss the local issues. Each candidate had 40 minutes and 10 minutes rejoinder then they will be followed by several speakers.

Mr. Tate has opened headquarters in the Bagly building next to the post office.

Ministers Take a Hand. The ministers' association in regular session yesterday morning passed resolutions to the effect that the candidates express themselves to the voters on the enforcement of the whiskey laws, and also resolved to ask the people to vote for the candidate whom they believe would enforce the anti-whiskey laws.

The association also asked the Mayor and city officials to use all means to prevent a carnival from coming into High Point, and the county commissioners to use all means to prevent a carnival from coming near High Point.

Mr. W. T. Parker has been appointed tax assessor for High Point.

Baby Contest. The exciting baby contest which for many weeks has been conducted by the Enterprise closed Saturday with 700 paid in advance new names added to their subscription list and the following names as the winners among whom the \$500.00 in gold is to be divided.

Evelyn Penny, Margarite Muse, George Duncan, Ruth Jarrell. State Seminary School. Work begins today on Picketts warehouse which is to be newly fitted up for an assembly room for the State Seminary school convention which meets here next week. Four hundred and forty names of delegates have been received and it is expected the list will swell to 600. Thursday will be the big day. It is expected that 500 workers from Greensboro will come over for the day. The great man parade will take place on that day.

The Kearns Furniture Co. has built an addition to the finishing department 24 by 100 feet.

The Situation in Mexico--Day's Development

Insurrectos Said to Be Planning Attack on Juarez Regardless of Rapid Fire Guns, Etc., Upon Which Federals Rely for Defense

Many Bridges Destroyed on Railroads by Insurrectos—Traffic in Sections is Paralyzed—Other Reports from Storm Center

By Associated Press. El Paso, Tex., April 19.—The insurrectos of Juarez moved their cannon nearer that city overnight and appear to be making preparations for an attack regardless of the rapid fire guns, masked motars and mines upon which the Federals mainly rely for their defense.

Juarez spent the night under arms, momentarily expecting the battle to open, and time and again as the rurales scouting in the mountains outside the city fired at the curiously shaped rocks that look so much like men, and cry went up that an attack had commenced.

Delayed telegrams from Torreon tell of the complete destruction of the bridge system of the Eagle Pass branch of the Mexican National Railway lines. Fifteen bridges have been destroyed by the insurrectos on the Coahuila & Pacific Railroad between Parral and Torreon, and railroad traffic in Coahuila and Durango is badly demoralized. Passenger service between Torreon and Durango has been interrupted for six days and there is no immediate prospect of resumption of train service.

Traffic is likewise paralyzed east of Torreon but an attempt probably will be made to run a train to Ciudad Porfirio Diaz over the main line of the Mexican International tomorrow or Friday, when the bridges will have been repaired, unless the insurrectos interfere.

This is not improbable as the rebels have served notice that they will attempt to destroy all bridges between Torreon and Ciudad Porfirio Diaz.

Insurrectos Burn Station in Agua Prieta

By Associated Press.

Agua Prieta, April 19.—Soon after daylight today a daring band of insurrectos, numbering only a half-dozen or so, stole into Agua Prieta and set fire to the Nacoal railroad station, which, with its valuable contents, was destroyed.

The column of insurrectos which was swinging around into the Nacoal valley when darkness fell last night could not be seen today. The column observed at the south of the mountain pass leading toward Cananea had not moved into the Sulphur Springs valley along the American line. It had either gone to camp in the pass or continued to the westward.

At Cienzas Springs, 12 miles east of Agua Prieta, a band of rebels was reported. Rebels in Douglas declare that their headquarters has accurate information that Gen. Blanco with a large force is advancing on Agua Prieta. Other rebel reports are that Gen. Orozco is with the army.

May Arrange Armistice

By Associated Press.

Washington, April 19.—The possibility of an armistice to arrange peace negotiations in Mexico was confirmed by telegrams received today from Ambassador Wilson, at Mexico City.

In connection with the delicate boundary situation, the ambassador said that a friend interpellation in the Mexican congress on the relations between the United States and Mexico is likely. This is interpreted here as a desire of the Mexican government to place the matter officially before the Mexican people. It indicates, it is said at the state department, that the delicacy of the question and the friendly attitude of the United States toward Mexico are fully appreciated.

The tension of the last several days has appreciably subsided today. Development in the interchange between Dr. Gomez, the revolutionary agent in Washington, and the Diaz government are anxiously awaited.

Senor de Zamacona, the new Mexican ambassador, was officially presented to the president this afternoon.

Representative Doughton Tells Why He Will Not Vote For Reciprocity

By H. E. C. BRYANT.

Washington, April 19.—Representative Doughton and Doughton of the North Carolina delegation are three of the ten or twelve democrats who do not vote for the Canadian reciprocity bill. Four Ohlons, three Pennsylvanians and one Minnesotaan and perhaps others will stand with them. The leaders have tried to drive them back on the reservation but they will not be driven.

"I am opposed to Canadian reciprocity and shall vote against it," said Representative Doughton today. "It is not an issue in my campaign, and it is now pressed by leading republicans of the Taft, Mann, McCall, Lodge,

and Crumpacker school. A democrat should feel free to vote as his judgment dictates and a majority of his constituents desire him to do. Letters received from every county in my district lead me to believe that my constituents oppose the measure as offered.