

Report Of Tariff Board on Schedule K Sent To Congress

Report Accompanied by Special Message From the President Recommending That Rates on Wool And Woolens be Materially Reduced.

Existing Duties Found to Be Prohibitory And Greatly in Excess of Difference in Cost of Production Here and Abroad.

Special to The News. Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—President Taft sent to congress today the long awaited report of the tariff board on schedule K of the Payne tariff act, and with it a message recommending that the rates on wool and woolens be materially reduced.

The report shows that the existing duties on many classes of wool and wool manufactures are prohibitory and greatly in excess of the difference in the cost of production here and abroad. The duties are so arranged as to keep out of the United States entirely wools of finer qualities which if imported might be used to displace the cheap substitutes now employed.

President Taft calls attention to these points and urges that a revision of the schedule be proceeded with at once. He characterizes the report of the tariff board as the most complete and exhaustive statement of a difficult and complicated subject ever presented to a legislative body.

He declares it a monument to the thoroughness, industry, impartiality and accuracy of the men engaged in its making. He also dwells with emphasis upon the fact that the report is a unanimous one and asserts the belief that it will convince all of the wisdom of making the tariff board permanent.

Neither the president nor the board proposes definite rates of duty. Mr. Taft holding that the function of the board merely is to present findings of fact on which rates of duty may be fairly determined in the light of adequate knowledge and in accord with the economic policy to be followed.

President Taft recommends that the proposed revision adhere to a policy of protection based upon the difference in cost of production at home and abroad.

In his message, after referring briefly to the creation of the tariff board the president says:

Reviews His Veto. A message of August 17, 1911, accompanying the veto of the wool bill, I said that in my judgment schedule K should be revised and the rates reduced. My veto was based on the ground, since the tariff board would make in December a detailed report on wool and wool manufactures, with special reference to the relation of the existing rates of duties to relative costs here and abroad, public policy and a fair regard to the interests of the producers and the manufacturers on the one hand and of the consumers on the other demanded that legislation should not be hastily enacted in the absence of such information;

that I was not myself possessed at that time of adequate knowledge of the facts to determine whether or not the proposed act was in accordance with my pledge to support a fair and reasonable protective policy; that such legislation might prove only temporary and indirect upon a great industry the evils of continuing uncertainty.

Now, herewith, I submit a report of the tariff board on schedule K. The board is unanimous in its findings. On the basis of these findings I now recommend that congress proceed to a consideration of this schedule with a view to its revision and a general reduction of its rates.

Methods of Assessing Duties. The report shows that the present method of assessing the duty on raw wool—that is, by a specific rate the gross pound (i. e. unscoured)—operates to exclude wools of high shrinkage in scouring, but fine quality, from the American market and thereby lessens the range of wools available to the domestic manufacturer; that the duty on scoured wool of 33 cents per pound is prohibitory and operates to exclude the importation of clean, low-priced foreign wools of inferior grades which are nevertheless valuable material for manufacturing and which cannot be imported in the grease because of their heavy shrinkage. Such wools, if imported, might be used to displace the cheap substitutes now in use.

To make the preceding paragraph a fair planer, take the instance of 100 pounds of first-class wool imported under the present duty, which is 11 cents a pound. This would make the duty on 100 pounds of the wool thus imported the same as the weight of the wool of this 100 pounds after scouring. If the wool shrinks 50 per cent, as some wools do, the duty in such a case would amount to \$11 on 20 pounds of scoured wool. This, of course, would be prohibitory. If the wool shrinks only 50 per cent it would be \$11 on 50 pounds of wool and this is near the average of the great bulk of wools that are imported from Australia, which is the principal source of our imported wools.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.

SENATE.

In session at 2 p. m.

HOUSE.

Met at noon.

President's message on schedule K, recommending downward revision on wool and woolen goods.

Plans Made For Packers Trial

By Associated Press. Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20.—At a conference of defense counsel today it was decided that several representatives of the indicted packers would make addresses to the jury after the close of United States District Attorney Wilkerson's opening statement.

District Attorney Wilkerson resumed his address when court opened at 10 o'clock. He described the working of the system by which the packers are alleged to have suppressed competition and fixed prices.

"The crude methods of the old pool were supplanted in later years by the operation of the National Packing Company, by which the packers attended weekly meetings as directors of the corporation and fixed prices," said Wilkerson.

"Prices were determined, the country's meat business divided among different members of the combination and shipments to different markets agreed upon."

Mr. Wilkerson said rate wars were started in certain districts to drive independent packers from the field.

"Organization of the National Packing Company was a sham and its stockholders and directors are just as guilty under the law as if the fixing of business and the control of the meat industry had been accomplished by individuals," continued Mr. Wilkerson.

"It is our wish in this case," he said, "that these defendants shall have the kind of a trial which under the law they are entitled to and that every constitutional right which they have shall be observed and protected."

"But back of the protection of these rights we shall keep in mind the absolute necessity of our taking the law as we find it on the statute books and applying it as the legislative branch of this government intended it should be applied."

Vandal Mutilates Capitol Painting

By Associated Press. Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—Vandals got into the capitol last night and mutilated "The Battle of Lake Erie," the largest canvas of the collection of paintings which adorn the walls of the corridors and stairways.

A strip two feet long and three inches wide was cut from the lower left hand corner of the painting, at a place where the artist had shown a great deal of detail. The strip was found close by upon the floor. It can be replaced.

DEATH OF BYRD CHARLES WILLIS

By Associated Press. Richmond, Va., Dec. 20.—Byrd Charles Willis, great grandson of Marshal Joachim Murat, whom Napoleon made King of Naples, is dead at the home of his son here.

RICHESON ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

By Associated Press. Boston, Dec. 20.—Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson, accused murderer of Miss Linnell, cut himself seriously with a piece of tin early today.

HOUSE TAKES FINAL ACTION ON TREATY

By Associated Press. Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The house committee on foreign affairs at an informal meeting today decided to concur with the senate measure ratifying the president's notification to Russia of the abrogation of a treaty of 1832.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Final action on the abrogation of the Russian treaty of 1832 will be taken today when the house passes the Lodge resolution and the action of President Taft. That the house will accept the senate resolution is not open to doubt for Representative Sulzer, of New York, chairman of the house committee on foreign affairs, today endorsed the senate action. The way is thus made clear.

Mr. Sulzer announced upon his arrival at the capitol that he intended to speak on the matter. It is the general expectation that his address will be not only an endorsement of the Lodge resolution, which passed the senate unanimously yesterday but that it will deal with the manner in which the legislation was initiated. The parliamentary negotiations at the white house and the state department, it is believed, will be divulged.

While congress is severing certain relations with Russia, the state department and the white house are working vigorously to push negotiations looking to the drawing of a new understanding.

Fierce Storm Strikes Pensacola

By Associated Press. Heavy rainfall was general over the gulf states last night and the wind velocity along the coast ranged from 34 miles at New Orleans to 80 miles at Pensacola, Fla.

Generally fair weather is indicated for the west gulf states today and tomorrow.

The heavy rainfall has caused serious delays in the train service on all of the great railroad entering New Orleans and minor prostration of wires is reported by the telegraph and telephone companies.

Heavy rains in inches during the 24 hours ending at 7 a. m. today are reported as follows: Galveston 1.18; Houston 1.30; Port Worth 1.38; Palestine, Texas, 1.38; Shreveport, La., 1.22; New Orleans 2.46; Pensacola 2.78; Montgomery 1.26 and Birmingham 1.04.

Pensacola, Fla., Dec. 20.—With a maximum wind velocity of 80 miles an hour by the weather bureau, Pensacola suffered considerable damage from last night's storm. The storm had subsided at 7 o'clock this morning when the wind was blowing 48 miles an hour.

Trees were uprooted, fences blown down and buildings in the city were damaged to some extent. Two barges, one bark and one tug went aground in the upper harbor this morning. Some alarm is still felt here for vessels which may have failed to make a safe harbor last night before the hard blow struck this coast.

The lowest barometer reading was recorded at 5 o'clock this morning, 29.87. At 7 o'clock the barometer registered 29.76. The wind began blowing hard from the southeast about midnight and reached its minimum velocity just before day this morning.

Mississippi, generally fair tonight and Thursday, except rain tonight in extreme north portion. Colder. A heavy downpour accompanied the blow and at 7 o'clock this morning the local weather bureau reported the total rainfall for the twenty-four hours preceding to be 2.76 inches.

FORECAST FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Rain tonight and Thursday; warmer tonight in interior. High northeast winds.



ALFRED VANDERBILT AND HIS BRIDE.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt and his bride, formerly Mrs. Margaret Emerson McKim, divorced wife of Dr. Smith Hollins McKim, of Baltimore. The couple were secretly wed in England on December 17th. Mr. Vanderbilt's name had been coupled with that of the fair divorcee for some time, but both parties denied that an engagement existed between them. Only a few personal friends of both the bride and groom were present at the ceremony.

Census Bureau Issues Another Report On Cotton Ginned

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—Of the enormous cotton crop grown during 1911 and estimated by the department of agriculture at 14,885,000 bales, there had been ginned prior to last Wednesday 92.4 per cent, or 13,759,652 bales according to the census bureau's report issued today.

This exceeds by more than three million bales the amount ginned to December 13, last year, and by almost the same amount the ginning of previous record years.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The census bureau's report of cotton ginning for the seventh period of the season, from December 1 to 12 inclusive, issued at 10 a. m. today shows the number of running bales ginned to the later date from the great record-breaking cotton crop grown in 1911, with comparative ginning statistics to the corresponding date of last year and the former record years of 1904 and 1908, as follows:

United States 13,759,652 bales compared with 10,659,443 bales last year, when 92.5 per cent of the entire crop was ginned prior to December 13; 11,904,269 bales in 1908, when 91.0 per cent, was ginned and 11,971,477 bales in 1904, when 89.0 per cent was ginned.

Round bales included were 92,294 compared with 106,456 bales last year. 140,024 bales in 1909 and 215,059 bales in 1908.

Sea Island cotton bales included were 39,436 compared with 75,228 bales last year, 85,177 bales in 1909, and 80,316 bales in 1908.

Ginning by states, with comparative statistics and the percentage of the entire crop ginned prior to December 13 in previous years follows:

Table with columns: States, Bales, Per Cent. Rows include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

State Oil Inspection Law Now Before The Supreme Court

PEACE CONFERENCE STILL IN SESSION IN SHANGHAI

By Associated Press. Shanghai, Dec. 20.—During the peace conference between representatives of the imperial government and the revolutionists this afternoon, Tang Shao Yi, who represents Premier Yuan Shi Kai, expressed himself as "ready to accept a republic but must first communicate with Peking."

The identical note from the foreign powers, comprising the United States, Great Britain, Japan, Germany, France and Russia was presented today to the representatives of the imperial Chinese government and the revolutionaries by the consular corps.

The consuls drove to the residence of Tang Shao Yi, the representative of Premier Yuan Shi Kai. The German consul was the first spokesman. He begged permission on behalf of his government to read an unofficial communication. Having received permission, he read the note.

The consuls followed in order of precedence. Tang Shao Yi replied in a few courteous words, expressing gratitude on behalf of the imperial Chinese government at the interest taken in the situation by the six powers.

From Tang Shao Yi's residence the consuls proceeded to the headquarters of Dr. Wu Ting Fang, the revolutionary leader, where much of the same ceremony took place. Replying after the note had been presented by the consuls in the order of seniority, Dr. Wu Ting Fang said that he was a man of peace but no peace could be permanent unless it was based upon the highest justice.

The armistice between the opposing forces has been extended to December 30.

State Department Reticent. Washington, Dec. 20.—State department officials today refused to make public the text of the note which was jointly presented by the six powers to the peace commissioners at Shanghai. It was officially described, however, as follows:

"The identical note is to the effect that these governments consider that the present struggle in China seriously affects not only China itself, but also the material interests in that country. The note continues with a statement that the governments while maintaining an attitude of strict neutrality, deem it worth while to point out to the two delegations the necessity of bringing the present disturbances to an end. The governments express their belief that this attitude responds to the desires of both factions."

RICHESON CUTS HIMSELF WITH PIECE OF TIN

By Associated Press. Boston, Dec. 20.—Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson, in jail awaiting trial on the charge of murdering Miss Linnell, cut himself with a piece of tin early today. It is said that the wound was inflicted in the groin and that his condition is understood not to be serious.

Counsel for the accused man state that Richeson attempted to emulsinate himself, inflicting injuries which made it necessary for physicians to amputate his leg by an operation at the prison hospital.

The act of the minister is not regarded by the jail officials as an attempt to commit suicide. A disturbance was heard in Richeson's cell early this morning. He had gashed himself with a sharp piece of tin. Richeson cried to the guards: "I've cut myself—I'm bleeding to death."

The doctor found Richeson had cut himself severely. Four surgeons resorted to a drastic operation. Richeson was put under an anaesthetic and the operation was said to be a successful one.

After Richeson was carried to the jail hospital where an auxiliary operation was performed the surgeons said they thought he would recover.

Fate of The Movement in North Carolina to Have State Inspection of Kerosene Oil Now Rests With Highest Court of Land.

Full History of The Case which Has Attracted wide Notice--Reasons Behind The Movement Looking to the Enactment of a State Law.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—The fate of the movement in North Carolina to have a state inspection of kerosene oil now lies with the supreme court of the United States which today had before it the constitutionality of the oil inspection law of that state, enacted in 1909.

The state and the oil companies were lined up for legal battle in a test case arising from the attempt of the Red "C" Oil Manufacturing Co. of Baltimore, Md., to have the state officials enjoined from enforcing the law on the ground that it was unconstitutional. A decision is not expected for several weeks.

The oil company in a brief attacked the law from several points of view. Charles B. Aycock and Robert W. Winston, of Raleigh, N. C., attorneys for the company, contended first that the law interfered with interstate commerce. Next, they argued, it was really not an oil inspection law, but a revenue measure, and as such was not in conformity with the equality clause of the constitution. It was urged, further, that the legislature could not delegate to the board of agriculture the determination of the standard test of kerosene oil.

In this connection it was argued that the danger from oil explosions had been reduced as a consequence of the progress of science, so that the law was not justified, and the inspection tax laid an unnecessary burden upon the oil business.

Attorney General Bickett, of North Carolina, and R. H. Battle & Son, solicitors for the board of agriculture, defended the law in another brief. The officials for the state argued that the law was not objectionable because the legislature had left to the board the determination of a standard.

"Delegated power is not a monster," said the state's representatives. "The history of this and every other republican form of government is a history of delegated powers. The legislature did all it could do safely and sanely. It enacted that hereafter all the illuminating oils in North Carolina should be safe, pure and furnish a satisfactory light. It then wisely left it to the board of agriculture to ascertain, by scientific investigations, what oils were safe and pure and to fix standards fixed by the legislatures, what oils would measure up to these standards fixed by the legislature. If the legislature had proceeded with less thought; if it had proposed to blindly and arbitrarily fix a chemical standard about which it was sublimely ignorant, this complaint and all the other oil companies would have filed a strenuous protest."

It was said that manifestly, under the terms of the act itself oil could be sold and delivered to the consumer in the course of interstate commerce and be subject to neither inspection nor a tax.

"Wherein does any law which reaches only oil sold or offered for sale within the state of North Carolina affect commerce between the states?" it was asked.

Snow Falls Over Large Territory

By Associated Press. Kansas City, Dec. 20.—A heavy storm that began yesterday in the Texas panhandle, Oklahoma, Western Kansas, western Nebraska and South Dakota today spread eastward over the middle western states.

The storm was in progress today in Missouri and Iowa where from one to three inches of snow fell. At Dodge City, Kas., the precipitation this morning had reached 14 inches and at Garden City, Kas., 18 inches.

The snow flurry was followed by one of the coldest rains experienced here. Ice former in still places. The wind was high. Fair weather with brisk winds are predicted for tomorrow.

Battle Imminent in Philippines

By Associated Press. Manila, Dec. 20.—A battle is imminent in the island of Jolo between 600 Moros and a force of American troops. The Moros, who are defying the ultimatum issued by Brigadier-General Pershing, ordering the disarmament of the natives in the district, have retired to the peak of Bud Dajo, which they have fortified. They are surrounded by infantry and artillery and a fight is likely to begin at any moment.

DATE OF TRIAL. District Attorney Pelletier said the trial of Richeson for murder would begin on a January 15th, the date originally set.