

PECK RIDDLED.

A DISSSECTION OF THE NEW YORK LABOR COMMISSIONER'S REPORT ON THE EFFECT OF THE TARIFF ON LABOR AND WAGES.

Labor Commissioner Peck, of New York, having made an alleged investigation of "the effect of the tariff on wages," has issued a one-sided report in which he claims that protection is a boon and the McKinley law a blessing.

Mr. Peck's totals show a net increase in wages for 1891 over 1890 of \$6,377,925, and a net increase in products in this State during the same period of \$31,315,730.

I will not inquire into the relevancy of the statement to the McKinley bill or any other tariff measure. If the increase does not show more than the ordinary ratio, the report falls short of its purpose.

So long as no data are furnished, as by the United States Census, covering all industrial occupations, the inference is not excluded that selections are made with a view to covering a certain end in view.

Many very important industries are left out. Cotton, woollens and other textiles, iron and steel products, etc., are not mentioned at all.

Did they not show a sufficient increase in wages to parade them as glorious examples of tariff benefits? Yet these are the principal industries which have received tariff favors.

I will show, in round figures, their rates of increase, under the beneficent protective tariff, from the census of 1870 to 1890 (in thousands).

Table with 3 columns: Product, 1870, 1890, Inc. %

Here we have the principal industries which can be classed pre-eminently as protected industries suffering a decline within one brief decade of \$33,000,000— from \$89,000,000 in 1870 to \$56,000,000 in 1890.

In the cruder iron and steel products and manufactures New York State, in 1870, contributed over 15 per cent. to the total product of the United States.

In 1890 the percentage of the State of New York had gone down to 8 per cent. in the total of these industrial products.

Under the blighting influence of the tax on the raw material the industries falling under these headings have become transferred from the Democratic State to the Republican State of Pennsylvania.

It is not known to the writer that a perceptible increase has taken place in the succeeding decade, which is to be covered by the expected returns of the eleventh census.

All reports have so far tended to advertise further decline in these industries in this State. If proof were required further than that of the generally known condition of these industries in New York State, the omission of Mr. Peck to inclose them in his tabulations would have furnished it.

Cotton goods have not increased either, as is well known. Their manufacture becomes more and more concentrated in certain favored localities from natural causes, the same as in England.

In all wool goods the decline is general and alone due to the tariff on raw wool. The decline in the consumption of wool in proportion to the growth of the population, and the corresponding increase in shoddy and wool substitutes to make up the deficiency, give full evidence of the benefits of a tariff on raw materials.

The increase in shoddy goods, of course, would make up for the difference. But the silence of Mr. Peck does not seem to warrant the assumption that increased prosperity came to the working people in 1891 in excess of that enjoyed in 1890, against the general depression in woollens everywhere else, a fact so well known to everybody at all familiar with the trade.

The three branches cited suffered a decline in wages paid out and in the number of work people employed, according to the census tables, as follows (in thousands):

Table with 3 columns: Product, 1870, 1890

It has been demonstrated sufficiently by comparison made here and abroad that labor in boots and shoes is cheaper than in Europe.

In clothing a tariff is ineffective. Fashion and taste alone forbid importations of ready-made clothing and give a clear field to the home manufacturer, though his materials, by tariff taxation, are so much higher than the foreign clothing manufacturer has to pay that the protection by the tariff on clothing is quite neutralized.

In other industries where tariff protection is equally ineffective similar showings can be made. In clothing, the least protected article, the increase is highest: 75 per cent. in product, 125 per cent. in wages and 159 per cent. in the number of hands.

Women's clothing has risen in the product from four and a half millions to over twenty millions. The new census will show a heavier increase yet.

These items suffice to show the damning evidence of facts ignored by Mr. Peck. Having pointed them out I will now return to the facts adduced by him to support his theory.

The increase in products is set down as \$31,000,000. The increase from 1870 to 1890 was \$390,000,000. Considering the price fluctuations of all commodities, as compared with 1880, and the decline in such important industries noted above, the increase of 1889 over 1870 shows for New York fully \$490,000,000, or 66 1/2 per cent.

On the same basis of progression the \$1,089,000,000 of 1890 ought to have grown to \$1,890,000,000 in 1890. The years of the end of the decade, however, must show the greatest ratio of increase, partly on account of the increase of 25 per cent. in the population of the State and partly on account of the general trade activity ruling in 1889, 1890 and 1891 against the great stagnation ruling and spreading in intensity from 1885 to 1887.

The ratio of increase ought from these considerations to be nearer a hundred millions than seventy millions, which would be the average of the decade. If Mr. Peck is not able to show more than thirty-one millions of increase he and his theory stand condemned by his own figures.

Reed on "Extravagance."

Ex-Czar Reed is something of a humorist in his way and he has seldom been more humorous than he is now in accusing the Democratic House of "extravagance," because with a Republican Senate and a Republican President against it it could not repeal the sugar bounty act, the steamship subsidy act and such like acts passed by the Reed Congress, with the deliberate intention of increasing the expenditures of the Government and making the increase permanent.

The Reed Congress and the Harrison administration have run the annual expense for pensions alone up to \$140,000,000, so that with this and \$10,000,000 a year for sugar bounties we have a permanent expense of \$150,000,000 a year for sugar bounties we have a year altogether aside from what are properly the ordinary expenses of government.

Under the Disability Pension bill and other pension acts now in operation the annual expense for pensions will increase for some years to come. It will reach at least \$150,000,000 a year, and the only chance the country has of getting rid of it is by outliving the pensioners.

The sugar bounty will be repealed as soon as the Democrats elect a President and a majority of the Senate. Until then it remains with the other permanent charges imposed on the country by the most scandalous Congress the country ever had.

With a Democratic Senate these permanent charges can be greatly reduced. When Mr. Cleveland is inaugurated he will certainly renew the practice of that strict economy which characterized his first administration and resulted in the surplus which Harrison has dissipated.

In the meantime Harrison is responsible before the country for the increased expense of his radical administration. He is costing the country a round hundred million a year more than Arthur cost it. Where is the Republican who will say that Harrison is worth this much more to the country? It may be that we are to have another Republican as President in the future. If so, let us get one who costs less and is worth more to the country.—St. Louis Republic.

The Regal Looking King Snake.

The king snake, properly known as the chain snake, is of the family Ophidiophaga getulana. It is perfectly harmless, and is one of the most beautiful, as it is one of the most common of serpents.

Its immense black body is ornamented by a series of narrow white rings, from the arrangement of which it has received its name. The name "king" is applied to it by the negroes, who assert that it exercises dominion over the other reptiles, and can meet and overcome the deadly rattler. Its diet is ordinarily made up of lizards, small birds, mice, etc.—Detroit Free Press.

Whiskers Grow Faster in Summer.

"I find that there are very few men who believe their whiskers grow any faster in summer than they do in winter," remarked a Sixth street barber to a customer in the chair. "Those who believe that way, however, are ignorant, because there is no question that hot weather makes the beard grow just as it does the grass and flowers and garden stuff. The man who shaves three times a week in cool weather finds it necessary to have the razor applied six times a week in hot weather—if he wants to keep his chin smooth all the time."—St. Louis Star-Sayings.

In Philadelphia new milk is given free to a who ask for it, and is distributed from a tent between 11 and 3 o'clock.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

SOAP MAKING.

The following is a good recipe for making soap: To one pound of potash add three gallons of water until it is dissolved; then add three pounds of any kind of soap grease, the cleaner the better, to the lye, and set it to boiling. Let it boil slowly so that it will not boil over.

It usually becomes soap after boiling from one to five hours. If it boils down before it becomes sap, add sufficient water to keep the same quantity in the kettle until it is soap; then add nine gallons of water and stir well together; when cool, this will be a beautiful white soap if the grease was clean.—New York Dispatch.

CHECKER BOARD WORK.

Weaver or checker board work for cushions and anti-macassar is quite popular and not at all difficult to make. For hard usage the wider kind of mohair skirt braid is most serviceable, but satin ribbon is, of course, much handsomer. Select two colors or two shades of the same color and cut the ribbon into strips of the required length; pin each strip to a cutting board or table and weave cross pieces of the other shade in and out with regularity.

THE HOUSEWIFE'S TABLE.

Here is a list for the materials most commonly used in the kitchen, writes Maria Parloa in the Ladies' Home Journal. The spices are all ground: Ginger—1 heaping teaspoonful, 1/2 ounce.

Cinnamon—1 heaping teaspoonful, 1/2 ounce. Allspice—1 heaping teaspoonful, generous measure, 1/2 ounce.

Cloves—1 teaspoonful, slightly heaped, 1/2 ounce. Mace—1 heaping teaspoonful, 1/2 ounce.

Salt—1 teaspoonful, 1/2 ounce. Mustard—2 rounding teaspoonfuls, 1/2 ounce.

Cream of Tartar—2 teaspoonfuls, slightly heaped, 1/2 ounce. Soda—1 teaspoonful, slightly heaped, 1/2 ounce.

Powdered sugar—1 tablespoonful, 1/2 ounce. Granulated sugar—1 heaping tablespoonful, 1/2 ounce.

Baking powder—1 heaping teaspoonful, 1/2 ounce. Butter—1 rounding tablespoonful, 1/2 ounce.

Flour—1 rounding tablespoonful, 1/2 ounce. Stemmed raisins—1 cupful, 6 ounces.

Nutmegs 5 equal 1 ounce. Pepper—1 heaping teaspoonful, 1/2 ounce.

Tea—3 scant tablespoonfuls, 1/2 ounce. Coffee, roasted berry—1 tablespoonful, 1/2 ounce.

Bread crumbs, grated—1 cupful, 2 ounces. English currants, cleaned—1 cupful, 6 ounces.

Rice—1 cupful, 8 ounces. Indian meal—1 cupful, 6 ounces.

Chopped meat—1 solidly packed cupful, 8 ounces. Pastry flour—1 cupful, 4 ounces.

New process flour—1 scant cupful, 4 ounces. Butter—1 solidly packed cupful, 9 ounces.

Sugar—1 cupful, granulated, 8 ounces. Liquids—1 cupful of ordinary liquid, 8 ounces.

The cups used in these estimates hold half a pint, old measure.

ABOUT COOKING MEATS.

The orthodox rule for the cooking of meaty fish and fowl is to allow a quarter of an hour for every pound; yet this recipe needs to be mixed with brains.

are cooked or not by examining the bones also holds for them.

Turkeys, Chicken and Fowl of all kinds—Look between the leg and the body of the fowl, and if necessary, slit the skin a little with a sharp knife, and if the flesh there be still raw looking the bird is not cooked enough.

Salt Meats—Salt meats are not so easily looked at fresh meats, yet even here look at the bone. Beware of allowing the meat to cook so long that it raises itself from the bones, as it were; for then it is what is graphically known as being "done to rags."—New York Recorder.

Newsboy Sympathy.

A paralyzed newsboy sells papers from a wheel chair at the corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-third street, writes the New York correspondent of the St. Louis Republic. Visitors from the West may have noticed him, for he is a pathetic object and attracts much attention.

His helplessness has aroused all the latent pathos in hearts that beat beneath ragged jackets in that neighborhood. A local writer tells a pleasing anecdote concerning him, which I reproduce:

The newsboys all sympathize with him. They help him fold and arrange his papers. On warm days they take turns fanning him, carry his little folding table and assist him in various ways.

One day during the late hot spell a ragged urchin, with a bundle of papers under his arm, dirt-begrimed and carrying a tin pail in his hand, walked up to the cashier's window in a store not far from where the cripple sits.

Rapping on the window he attracted the attention of the cashier, and as he stood on his tiptoe he handed in his pail, while a smile bewitching as any society belle is capable of, encircled his dirty face, displaying a set of teeth pearly white and as beautiful as nature could form them.

His large, lustrous, sparkling black eye caught hold of the cashier, and he said: "Say, mister, der lame blokey what sell papers in der wagon on der corner want a drink of icewater."

As the man who handles the cash passed out the pail of water the juvenile remarked: "Thanks, mister; you know der kid's awful lame and can't walk." The New York newsboy is a rough, slangy, barum-scarum, devil-may-care and often mischievous individual, but generally his heart is in the right place.

Advertisement for 'CURE YOURSELF' medicine, featuring a circular logo with 'BIC' and 'TRADE MARK'.

Advertisement for Scientific American Agency for PATENTS, including a list of services and contact information.

Advertisement for Scientific American, mentioning a large exhibition of scientific paper in the world.

Advertisement for N. & W. Norfolk & Western R.R., including a schedule in effect July 17, 1892.

SCHEDULE IN EFFECT JULY 17, 1892. LEAVE LYNCHBURG—DAILY. 7 10 a.m. and 1 15 p.m. for Durham and intermediate stations.

WINSTON-SALEM DIVISION. LEAVE ROANOKE—DAILY. 9 45 a.m. and 4 45 p.m. for Winston-Salem and intermediate stations.

MAIN LINE—WEST BOUND. LEAVE LYNCHBURG—DAILY. 5 20 p.m. for Roanoke, Radford, Pulaski, Bristol, Parlor Car to Roanoke, Pullman Sleeper from Roanoke to Memphis.

EAST BOUND—LEAVE LYNCHBURG—DAILY. 9 20 a.m. for Richmond, Petersburg and Norfolk.

Between West Point and Richmond. Leave West Point 7 50 a.m. daily and 8 30 a.m. daily except Sunday and Monday.

Between Richmond and Raleigh VIA KEYSVILLE. Leave Keyville 3 00 p.m. daily; leave Keyville 5 35 p.m.; arrive Oxford 8 05 p.m.

On trains 9 and 10, Pullman Buffet Sleepers between Atlanta and New York; between Danville and Augusta.

On trains 9 and 12, Pullman Palace Sleepers between Raleigh and Asheville. E. BERKELEY, Traffic Manager, Washington, D. C.

W. B. BEVILL, Trav. Pass. Agt. Gen. Pass. Agt., Roanoke, Va.

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Richmond and Danville R. R. Co. F. W. Huidekoper and Reuben Foster, Receivers. Condensed Schedule in Effect July 24, 1892.

Table with 3 columns: SOUTHBOUND, DAILY, No. 10, No. 11

Table with 3 columns: NORTHBOUND, DAILY, No. 10, No. 12

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Atlantic Coast Line.

CONDENSED SCHEDULE. TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

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S. L. DILL, Superintendent.