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I read it in the Star-Bulletin. It must be so.

SUGAR TARIFF HEARING BEFORE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Officer of Trust Opposes Free Sugar—Brief Filed for Hawaii in Favor of Protection Described as Able

From the report of a representative of Willett & Gray, who was present at the sugar tariff hearing, the following extracts are taken: The hearing of the sugar tariff, before the committee of ways and means of the House of Representatives, took place on January 15, at Washington, D. C.

Only seven hours were given by the committee, which was entirely inadequate for the presentation of evidence and briefs by the number of representatives of the various sugar interests wishing to be heard. Louisiana had a large delegation. The beet sugar factories had their most prominent managers present from Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Michigan, Wisconsin, California and elsewhere, but as not all could be heard, they delegated ones to represent all. Farmers were present in numbers, too many to give each an opportunity to speak. Cane refiners, also, had several representatives on hand.

It seems to be the consensus of opinion that but little benefit can come of this superficial hearing, as far as the action of the House is concerned, it being conceded that the House is bound to pass a free duty bill, leaving the Senate and conference committee of Senate and House to compromise on a schedule providing for a duty, but substantially less than present rate.

We attended the hearing and made the following notes:

Free Sugar Proponents. Frank C. Lowry, representing the Federal Sugar Refining Co. and the committee of wholesale grocers who advocated free sugar, or a large reduction from the present duty of \$1.90 per 100 lbs. on refined and \$1.685 per 100 lbs. on 90 deg. raws from foreign countries, to 62 1/2 c. per 100 lbs. on 109 deg. test refined and 60c. per 100 lbs. on 100 deg. test raws, reducing the rate .006c. per degree for each degree downward, and with the rate on Cuba sugar 20 per cent less. This he stated would produce a revenue from sugar of \$19,330,000, and protect the domestic industries to the same amount and save to consumers \$89,988,230 per annum in their cost of sugar. If further revenue from sugar is required he recommended a consumption tax of 25c. per 100 lbs. on all sugar, raw or refined, going into direct consumption. This consumption tax would not apply to raw sugars going into refineries which sugar had paid the import duty.

Mr. Lowry thought such a tariff would not prevent the increase of the beet sugar industry, although it might destroy the Louisiana cane industry, which should look elsewhere for something to replace it. Mr. Lowry sustained his position with facts and figures, which called forth much discussion and antagonism between himself and some members of the committee. Mr. Lowry occupied one hour and ten minutes, and was followed by Mr. Fernald, representing the National Canners' Association, who advocated free sugar or a lower duty in the interest of canners generally. He complained that impediments were in the way of his getting the authorized drawback on the sugar used in his manufactures. He used ten minutes and filed a brief.

Wm. A. Jamison represented the Arbutle Refinery and requested free duty sugar, and filed a brief without argument or reading it. Trust Man Opposes Free Sugar. Edwin F. Atkins, Vice-President of the American Sugar Refining Co. read a brief of the American Sugar Refining Co. and filed it. Mr. Atkins was questioned at considerable length by the committee and, in reply to questions, said he or his company were not in favor of free sugar. That one reason he appeared was to contradict reports that they were investigating the agitation for free sugar in connection with Mr. Lowry. That entire interest of his company in beet factories is about \$22,000,000. That he personally produces in Cuba about 22,000 tons of sugar on 20,000 to 30,000 acres of land on an investment of 1 1/2 million dollars. He never did ask, and would not do so now, for free sugar in the interest of Cuba and he considered the interests of cane refiners and Cuban planters were identified as to tariff.

James H. Post, representing the National Sugar Refining Co., stated that he was opposed to free sugar and favored a moderate reduction of duties and filed a brief opposed to free sugar and favored a moderate reduction of duties. Wm. L. Bass, of San Domingo, advocated a sugar schedule beginning at 1.20 per 100 lbs. for 100 degree raws and refined and increasing (not decreasing) 5 cents per 100 lbs. for every degree down, say 95 degree at \$1.55, 94 degree at \$1.60, and so on, also doing away with the No. 16 Dutch Standard and branding clauses, Louisiana Man Heard.

R. E. Milling, representing Louisiana sugar industry, made a long argument quoting the Democratic platform as against injuring or destroying any industry. Mr. Harrison of the committee, asked if the committee is not under obligation to destroy any illegitimate industry, and if Louisiana sugar is not an "illegitimate" industry.

Milling replied that if the committee decided it was illegal, to wipe it out, and added it is said here that Louisiana cannot make more sugar than 100 years ago. It is true that Louisiana has progressed by slow degrees, but the industry is in the hands of small planters who work all the year round and no day in which a man is not earning his living. There is not a sugar corporation in Louisiana that is

over capitalized. There is no stock on the market—a nice, clean business—one in which a man gets into and never get out of, unless sold out.

A committee man remarked: "Legitimate, economically until liquidated." Miller—There is not a sugar planter, unless a spy, who is a party to the Sugar Trust. The Sugar Trust have been masters of our sugar industry. They dropped prices that drove us out of the market. Blacklisted our sellers for selling others. There are no relations between Louisiana planters and the Sugar Trust, so that being "legitimate" in that sense, is not connected with them. We say we come within the meaning of the Democratic platform.

The effect of free sugar would cut us out of existence of a very large reduction would put us out of business. If raws sell at 2.60c, we would lose 1 cent per lb. of cost of production. Committee asked—does not that raise the question of legitimacy? Milling—In 1870 sugar sold at 12 1/2 c. per lb., now at 3.75c. to 4c. If there had been no domestic production would sugar be selling at 4c. Committee—if trust controls, you furnish an argument for free sugar, when you say sugar is a trust controlled article.

Milling—When the trust gets rid of the domestic competition they would control the price of sugar. Committee—Why they went out here to control that industry.

Milling—But as to the future of Louisiana sugar Louisiana has given the country all its improvement in sugar machinery.

We have now a vast area of rich lands about to be developed in sugar culture, which we believe will reduce our cost to production by raising 20 to 20 tons per acre, instead of 17 tons in our old soils close to the bank of the river.

If duties can remain unchanged we can give the country sugar from these lands much cheaper than now. Sugar is the cheapest thing in the country. Let it go along for a few years and let us see if we cannot reduce the cost in 10 years to 2 1/2 c. per lb.

Beet Sugar Interests. Mr. Carey of Baltimore, representing a Colorado beet factory, made a political argument in favor of present tariff.

Mr. Palmer, secretary of Beet Sugar Association, compared low prices of sugar with other articles by percentages and gave figures showing the advantage of growing sugar beets and rotating with other crops.

E. L. Wemple, sales manager for the Warner refinery, filed a brief, objecting to present duty and requesting reduction of 1c per lb. or from 1.685c to .65c. per lb. 96 degree basis, on non-preferential sugars not above No. 16 D. S., and to 54c. on Cuba sugar.

Present duty excessive and injurious to consumption. Reduction would increase consumption by reducing cost of manufacture 65c to 60c. per 100 lbs. and should be sufficient protection for beet production, otherwise there is a question as to the healthfulness of that industry. He attacked the Branding Clause and upheld the No. 16 D. S. as dividing line between raw and refined.

Mr. Hathaway, Secretary of Michigan Sugar Co. gave figures in contradiction of a statement of Mr. Lowry that New York is always the lowest sugar market in the United States from October to December, all lower than New York price of 4.90c. for cane refined. He gave as a reason that during that time 70 beet sugar factories were competing against each other and there were only 3 cane refiners competing against them.

Mr. Wagner, beet sugar manufacturer of Wisconsin, demonstrated against excessive profits of beet factories, and that 7 per cent covered such profits, that cost of manufacture has been cut 1/2 c. per lb in 10 years.

Said free sugar meant destruction of the beet industry.

A representative from the California industry said California is largest beet sugar State in Union. The charge is made that she sells sugar at higher prices at home than elsewhere. She produces more than can be consumed at home and the surplus must be sold elsewhere at an immense cost of freightage, and she would go out of business if she could not get these high prices at home. Hawaii's Able Plea.

Hawaii put in a brief fully and ably, covering the conditions of her industry, and made no verbal statement. This completed the testimony except as to farmers of whom several were present having come a distance of 200 miles to be heard. Although the chairman stated that all the time allotted to sugar was exhausted, he allowed these farmers to be heard for about half an hour.

One from Montana, owner of a farm of 640 acres, including 250 acres of beets, made a strong and interesting statement of the advantage beet root raising has been and is to all his crops by rotation. Other farmers from various States followed with glowing accounts resulting from the introduction of beet culture into the country.

Besides the actual witnesses present at the hearing there were a large number of other representatives who are interested in the matter. Even under the limited condition the committee have secured a great deal of information and opinions for consideration.

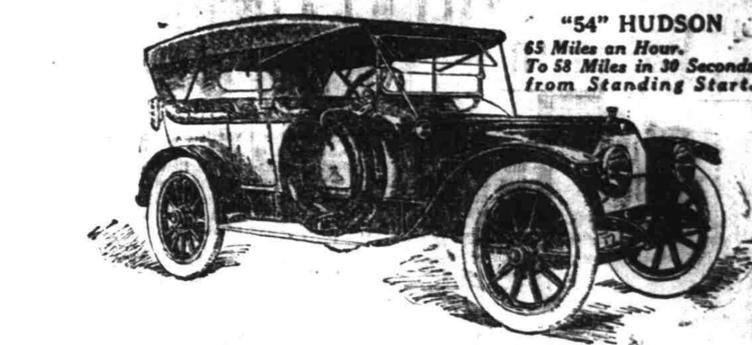
State Mineralogist Storms of California declares that he was jobbed by Governor Johnson because he wouldn't keep on his payroll two incompetent friends of Johnson's. One of the friends was an old lady, for whom Johnson once won a \$20,000 suit for damages.



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Mrs. F. H. Morse, of Whitehall, Mich., says: "For ten years I never knew a well day. The breakdown was gradual at first, growing more alarming and complicated as the years went by. It would be difficult to tell all the various ailments I had. I was sick all over. I suffered intensely from stomach and intestinal trouble. My entire nervous system was completely prostrated. Natural sleep I did not know for years, existing only on the sleep procured by drugs. I was thin and exhausted and the doctors pronounced me incurable. There was a full feeling in my stomach and food distressed me. I seemed to get no benefit from the food that I ate. I had a weak heart which fluttered badly. I also had headaches. I was so weak that I could hardly help myself. One day I decided to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a trial. I took the pills faithfully three times a day, also being careful to eat only good, nourishing food, exercise in the open air and to go to bed regularly. At the end of three months I had gained surprisingly and at the end of six months I was well. I could sleep naturally and mysteriously and head felt in a normal condition again."

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NEW YEAR CELEBRATION UNDER BRAND NEW NAME

"Konohi Fat Choy" will be the greeting which will reign predominant throughout the Chinese district this evening, for, beginning at 12 o'clock, the changing of gongs and the popping of fire-crackers will usher in the celestial celebration formerly known as the Chinese New Year, but which will hereafter be called the "Harvest Festival." Despite the fact that the republic of China has adopted the calendar of the occident, the old customs which have long prevailed have become embedded too deep to be uprooted in a day, and the greater part of this week will be a continuous celebration.

The greater number of the Chinese of Honolulu will observe tomorrow in the old-fashioned way, and it has been announced that every Chinese shop and place of business will be closed in honor of the celebration for from one to three days. The calls which have marked the Chinese New Year for a thousand years will be exchanged tomorrow, and the residents will appear in holiday attire. The children will be permitted to remain away from school in order to take part in the festivities and the usual banquets will be given by the various Chinese societies.

supreme court, Judge J. M. Seawell of San Francisco made another important ruling last week in the Spreckels estate squabble. In this instance his decision favors John D. and Adolph B. Spreckels, defendants in a suit said to involve about \$25,000,000, which Rudolph and Claus A. Spreckels and Emma C. Farnis have brought to compel the return of gifts valued at that amount in total, which were made the defendants by the late Claus Spreckels during his lifetime. They allege the gifts were made without the sanction of Mrs. Claus Spreckels, and were taken from the community property.

The court, in effect, held that although the gifts apparently were made without Mrs. Spreckels' sanction, she did not exercise the legal right, during her lifetime, to invalidate them. Inasmuch as she did not oppose the gifts, therefore her executors, Rudolph and Claus A., could not exercise the right after her death. It is understood this decision will in no way affect the recent ruling of Circuit Judge H. E. Cooper, in Honolulu, supporting the claim of John D. and Adolph B. Spreckels to a share in the estate in this city.

The eight hour law for women in California may be made more drastic, in that it will, if passed, include nurses and women employed in canneries, who hitherto have not been protected by the law. The worst snowstorms in years in the Sierra mountains, have caused landslides, and such general damage to the railroads that all trains leaving San Francisco for the north and east have been held up indefinitely.

ANOTHER DECISION IN SPRECKELS ESTATE CASE

Sustaining the demurrer of defendants, giving them thirty days in which to amend their complaint and at the same time indicating that appeal from his decision should be appealed to the

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