New York Tribune.

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The New Tariff Bill Keeps Democratic Promises.

The "administration" tariff bill, made public yesterday, represents on the whole a courageous and intelligent effort to redeem Democratic promises. It is sounder from the point of view of those who believe in a material reduction of tariff rates than anything which Mr. Underwood had previously offered. He had shown inconsistency and irresolution in his treatment of the wool and sugar schedules. He put the cart before the horse in advocating taxed raw wool and free raw sugar. In any tariff for revenue measure a tax on sugar is many times more justifiable than a tax on wool.

President Wilson has set Mr. Underwood right. The Democratic party would have stultified itself by taxing wool for revenue purposes. It has both party precedent and economic reason on its side in making a temporary concession to the sugar growers rather than to the sheep raisers.

The Woodrow Wilson bill of 1913 is also much more moderate than the William L. Wilson bill of 1894. In the last nineteen years the conditions of production in this country have greatly changed. Manufactures are, as a rule, on a firmer basis and do not need as much protection as they did formerly. When William L. Wilson put into his bill free wool, free sugar, free hides, free coal and free iron ore many people thought that the walls of Jericho were about to fall. But the high protection Payne bill of 1909 made hides, coal and iron ore free, and the country has now pretty well reconciled itself to free wool and free sugar.

The wool and woollen schedule is "the citadel of protection." An anti-protectionist bill which did not attack the key to the situation would have been an absurdity. To remove the duty on raw wool will open the way to dropping the compensatory duty on woollen goods and to further cuts in the rates on those now to some extent over-protected goods. The sheep raisers worried through the years from 1894 to 1897, when wool was free. They have a much better chance to get along now, since the price of mutton has rapidly increased and it is becoming worth while to raise sheep for the mutton alone.

Neither the wool growers nor the sugar growers have ever had any hope of enlarging their industry so as to supply home demands. In recent years the ratio of sugar grown at home to home consumption has increased somewhat, due to the development of the beet sugar industry. But it has always been a question, even for stanch protectionists, whether it was advantageous to tax so large a volume of the imports of a necessary of life in order to sustain a local industry whose capacity to expand was doubtful.

The changes made in the direction of a larger free list in foodstuffs is also a reasonable exemplification of the policy of reduction. Food supplies are growing scarcer in this country and prices are rising. The same situation exists in most other countries, and the farmer has little to fear from an influx of cheap foreign agricultural products. Most of the present agricultural duties mean nothing, and the experiment might well be tried of abolishing them.

In its essential features the new Wilson tariff measure at least hews to the line of good faith. It reflects the views of most Democrats and probably those of many who are not Democrats. Whether it will work out smoothly or not remains to be seen. But it is a fair translation into legislation of the promises on which the voters put the Democratic party back into power.

A Big Project Little Understood.

To-day's hearing upon the plans with regard to the New York Central tracks on Eleventh avenue and in Riverside Park should not be followed by their hasty adoption. The problem is too important to be settled without adequate discussion.

Is the option which the city is to have upon tracks below 30th street long enough? The expiry of this option may close the possibility of a comprehensive treatment of the handling of freight such as would provide access to lower Manhattan by all railroads. Are the reasons for granting perpetual franchises for additional tracks sufficiently strong? Such grants are contrary to the present policy of the city, followed with regard to third tracking the elevated railroads. Are the interests of Riverside Park as a park sufficiently protected?

Probably the careful committee which has prepared the plans can answer all of these questions satisfactorily. But the public should not adopt a policy so vitally affecting the future of the city without thoroughly understanding it in all its bearings. For its importance the project has had little public discussion.

Making Congress Take Notice.

President Wilson's decision to appear in the chamber of the House of Representatives and deliver his first message orally may subject him to the criticism that he is trying to hedge about the Presidential office with some of the near-royalistic forms experimented with in the days of George Washington. In Washington's time the country had not outgrown the habit of associating intercourse between the head of the state and the legislative bodies with a good deal of ceremonial. The early formalities proved onerous, and Jefferson, in order to dispense with them altogether, adopted the rule of addressing Congress in writing only.

What Mr. Wilson wants to revive is not the outworn ceremonial but the very practical idea underlying it of closer personal co-operation between the President and Congress. Such co-operation has become essential if some of the present obstacles to "teamwork" in government are to be removed.

The President is no longer an isolated executive officer, but the leader of his party, who is expected by the people to take a hand in legislation as well as administration. To rise to the full measure of his powers he must be in touch with the two houses and keep them in touch with him.

The President's appearance on the floor of the House is a step toward greater governmental efficiency. It will also have the advantage of shortening and brightening Presidential messages, which have grown to be almost as perfunctory and somnolent as the average department report.

The Busy Police.

Pickpockets are said to be abroad in the city. But the public should not worry. They are a minor ill.

Consider the noble work which the police are doing, watching the District Attorney, spying upon such inspectors as have acquired an unfortunate reputation for honesty, gravely observing the turkey trot or reporting to our righteous Mayor upon the tang of the tango. They have no time to give to the arrest of pickpockets with such grave matters as these upon their hands.

When the turkey ceases trotting, when the District Attorney ceases troubling, when every honest inspector is convicted of his honesty and properly punished the turn of the pickpockets will come. Meanwhile leave your pocketbook at home. The only safe thing to have on your person is a sense of humor.

What Would He Have Noticed?

An automobilist on Sunday speeded his car furiously along a much frequented thoroughfare, struck a young woman with sufficient force to hurl her crushed and lifeless body for some yards and also to smash some parts of his car to smithereens and then put on extra speed to get away because he "did not know she had been badly injured."

We wonder what would have made him stop to see what had happened. If he had butted into a stone wall and reduced his automobile to scraps would he have suspected that something had gone wrong? Was he so accustomed to such doings that to knock a person into a crushed and crumpled mass by the wayside seemed to him a negligible trifle?

The Indignities of Getting Married.

The English militants have worked themselves into a fine frenzy over the "indignities" of the Anglican marriage service. Fifteen specifications are pointed out of "false," "humiliating" and "pernicious" statements.

There will be real sympathy with some of the charges. The service in the American prayer book is shorn of several of the objectionable passages, including the long criticised and exceedingly bald observation respecting the object of matrimony. But in most respects the old phrases, surviving here as they do in England, are not likely to arouse great excitement among brides or bridegrooms, past, present or future.

That is the queer thing about matrimony. M. and N. sneer at it, and find fault with it, and point out how inapplicable and foolish much of the old formula is. And yet the berated institution goes on calmly very much as ever, year after year, century after century, and M. and N., when they actually come to the point of getting hitched, are very well contented to set up partnership according to the good old-fashioned precedents.

We suppose that is because there is a very big and a very old idea beneath all the rice and old shoes and bridesmaids. Fashions change in bridal gowns and in brides. The tearful bride, the docile bride and the clinging bride are now quite, quite of the past. The tearful father to-day stands up and gives away a thoroughly self-reliant young woman to a young man who is glad enough to be docile and obedient—for the occasion, at any rate.

Afterward they do the best they can—which is all that young married couples have ever done. There is the old and very appealing idea of a home and two people sharing it. No doubt that sharing—a sharing in authority and responsibility and pleasure—is more nearly equal than it has ever been before.

In other respects, however, marriage, like its ritual, is pretty much as it has always been. Eve was a disobedient wife, the Queen of Sheba probably a very bossy one. Has there ever been a time when the better man did not win?

An American Militant.

An excellent notion is the proposal to erect a monument to Molly Pitcher, the heroine of Monmouth, in the old graveyard at Carlisle, Penn., where she lies buried.

History does not record whether Molly Pitcher was a suffragist or a suffragette or an "anti." Very probably she was none of them. At any rate she was a brave woman whose services to her country ought to have long ago exploded the convenient fiction of woman's physical weakness and subjection to man.

The militants of England are just now demonstrating how a handful of reckless women can terrorize a nation. The case of Molly Pitcher, a militant of a very different sort, will serve to point the moral for Americans. Men vote and women do not by reason of no theory of feminine feebleness. Whether women ever win the ballot or not, that particular myth has nothing to do with the case.

The Jersey Violet.

In officially adopting the violet as its state flower New Jersey follows the example of several other commonwealths, and can perhaps claim as much fitness for her choice as they. We do not know that Rhode Island or Illinois or Wisconsin resembles in disposition, in aspect or in fragrance "a violet by a mossy stone half hidden from the eye" any more—or less—than does the quondam province of Camden and Amboy.

There are, it is true, those of a certain party or faction—which we shall not name—whom Heine might have had in mind when he wrote that "the violets prattle and titter, and gaze on the stars "high above." There are likewise those who since the last election have felt inclined to say:

"Cold blows the wind against the hill,
"And cold upon the plain;
"I sit me by the bank until
"The violets come again."

Also it is believed that there are statesmen between the Hudson and the Delaware who, taking to themselves this floral emblem, are ready in shrinking modesty to aver that

"Winds wander, and dews drip earthward;
"Rains fall, suns rise and set;
"Earth whirls, and all but to prosper
"A poor little violet."

But, after all, what's in an emblem? Ben Franklin thought that the turkey would be a better national bird for us than the eagle! And that was before the "trot" was invented.

If Mrs. Pankhurst is sent to jail for fourteen years and let out as a hunger striker in fourteen days, as most of her sisters have been, the glorious triumph for mere man will be hard to figure out.

How unfortunate that the "turkey trot" was not invented in the days of "Harry" Hill and "Billy" McGlory!

Were you run down by an automobile on Sunday? No? Congratulations.

"The clergyman said he had not seen any of the dances in question, but he knows," etc., etc. A great thing to know without finding out.

Charity and political jobs begin at home. Speaker Clark's son Bennett has been appointed parliamentary clerk of the House at $5,000 a year.

AS I WAS SAYING

When we asked Uncle Abner about woman's suffrage he said warmly: "Women's suff'rins be durned; let 'em suffer!"—which opinion deserves a long and loud "Amen" from the males of two hemispheres. Brethren, these militant ladies are robbing us of our sole undisputed prerogative—namely, the right to go out in fancy dress and shoot up our fellow creatures. No joke, this. The weakest of our sex can drop dynamite from the clouds. Any woman who can manage an oil stove can handle a machine gun, and while doing it she can subsist on half a leaf of lettuce and a chocolate éclair.

* * *

Just a single, careless, trivial comment on the perils of sea-going, and lo, what terror it has spread broadcast! Let us hasten, then, to point out the really safe way of putting to sea. Go by a cattle boat and avoid collisions. Neither deepest night nor densest fog can endanger that fragrant floating barnyard. Every vessel within fifty miles knows where you are and yearns passionately to evade you.

* * *

F. D. K., Yale '15, dreams of entering the publishing business, and asks how to proceed. Nothing could be simpler. You begin as president and owner, and work down gradually from that.

* * *

Baron D'Estournelles de Sansson, the eminent critique d'art, is in sixty raptures at once over the newer architectural glories of our city. "What emotion! What impressions! How it is magnificent! I am in Venice, in Rome, in Paris, in Antwerp. A New World? No, by blue, it is the Old World reheated!" To which laudation we tearfully assent. What is an architect? A man who buys a picture postcard in Europe for two cents and sells it in New York for $39,000.

* * *

Talk about ice famines and lobster famines! They are pothing to the short story famine. With practically all our writers composing prize plays, the editors are banging their heads and tearing their hair. Two have come down with alarming cases of affability, a third has jumped in the waste basket, and there is no telling where this will end—unless they consent to print plays, of which there will soon be a voluptuous profusion. Not such a bad idea, either. As pure reading matter plays sell quite tumultuously, perhaps because we weary of "'Yes,' agreed he, affirmatively," and, "'No,' she denied, contradicting, and shook her head in alternating movements, not up and down, as you might suppose, but horizontally."

* * *

Too bad that the designer of the Staten Island monument to Poor Lo is so unfriendly to gold teeth! While adorning the masterpiece and serving as a beacon to mariners, they would be greatly appreciated by all our noble red men, as we learn from that charming poem, "Ambition," in Mr. Robert W. Service's new "Rhymes of a Rolling Stone." It appears that the bard stood by while a noted brave had his perfectly good teeth replaced with gold ones. Result?

"Oh, never saw I man so gay!
His very being seemed to swell;
'Ha, ha!' he cried. 'Now Injun say
Me heap big chief, me look like h—!'"

R. L. H.

THE LESSON.

ONLY INCIVILITY—AND A STRAP.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

There is renewed complaint on the part of New Yorkers regarding the uncivility of train guards. What in the world do those people expect for a nickel, anyway?

BURLESQUE, SO FAR.

From the Cleveland Leader.

The country has still to be shown that the bout between Sulzer and Murphy in New York is not a hippodrome affair.

AND MORE THAN INCIDENTALLY.

From the Providence Journal.

Secretary Daniels's high praise of the efficiency of the fleet is incidentially a compliment to his predecessor, Secretary Meyer.

THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate

JUSTICE FOR HAYWOOD

The Tribune's Stand for Fair Play Is Admired and Praised.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I cannot help but congratulate you on your heroic stand in fighting for justice in behalf of Haywood.

As widely as we may disagree with him, it is against every law of civic duty to allow an injustice done and continue in force without a protest.

The first and foremost principle of a republic is the liberty of each and justice to all, and I do not know of an editor who so ably practises and battles for its existence and adherence as you.

JOSEPH LEWIS.

New York, April 6, 1913.

THE BENEFITS OF FREE SUGAR

They Would Be Very Slight for the Consumer, It Is Argued.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Information from apparently reliable sources indicates that the income tax is to be a far more important feature of the fiscal legislation which is to be proposed to the extra session of Congress than it was earlier intended to be. It is now being urged that the limit of exemption be reduced to $1,000, and that the tax be a graduated one, rising to a much higher rate on larger incomes. If this scheme is adopted, the members of the Socialist party will have the satisfaction of seeing one of the most important of their platform planks carried out, for one of their leading demands in the 1912 campaign was for "a graduated income tax."

It is well known among those who have followed the course of recent tariff planning by the Democratic leaders of the House of Representatives that the real reason for the imposition of the income tax at this time is to supply the deficit in customs revenues that will follow the admission of sugar duty free. Sugar is the greatest revenue producer on the entire list of dutiable articles and turns into the Treasury about $52,000,000 a year. What are the great advantages that the people of the country are to derive from free sugar that justify the calling into play of an emergency taxation measure?

The people of the United States consume yearly about 81 pounds of sugar per capita. An inquiry conducted by the Department of Commerce and Labor shows that each person purchases for direct consumption about 53 pounds, the remaining 28 pounds being consumed indirectly in manufactured foods. On this latter part of the consumption the removal of the sugar duty could result in no saving to the consumer. The fraction of a cent saved in making a pound of candy or a can of condensed milk would be promptly absorbed by the manufacturer. If, therefore, a reduction in the retail price of sugar equal to the full amount of the present duty were made each person in the country would save 89 cents a year.

It is well known, however, by all those conversant with trade conditions that nothing like the full amount of the duty is charged against the purchaser of sugar. To begin with, all our sugar except that produced within our own territory is supplied by Cuba and comes in at a 20 per cent tariff reduction, paying a duty of $1.348 a hundred pounds. During the present year sugar has been selling about 60 cents a hundred below "parity"—that is, below the world's price with the duty added—so that the effective duty has been less even than the Cuban rate. At the present rate the saving to the American people by the adoption of free sugar (assuming that they get the benefit of the full possible reduction) would be just about the amount of the present revenue of $52,000,000. In other words, under present conditions of increasing domestic sugar production and active competition, sugar is a perfect revenue producer, judged by the Democratic theory of a tariff for revenue. Changing to an income tax would mean simply that we were paying the same amount in taxes out of our right-hand pocket instead of out of our left-hand pocket.

But it is altogether unlikely that the consumer would actually get even this small advantage, except perhaps for a very brief period. The refiners are complaining bitterly that the competition of home grown beet sugar is cutting down their profits and making it necessary to operate at a loss (or not at all) for an increasing portion of each year. As soon as they had driven out the beet sugar industry by cutting prices (as they could do in a single season) the temptation to increase their margin of profit, as they did in the last period of free sugar, would be almost irresistible. TAXPAYER.

New York, April 7, 1913.

A TIP FOR THE "HIKERS"

They Are Urged to Take Their Blistered Feet Somewhere Else.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Now that the "hikers" have acquired the walking habit and are to soon encircle New York with a girdle of saffron, for the benefit of health and suffrage, could we not good-naturedly suggest some place to which they might go?

There is the "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" of Woodrow Wilson fame. That might be a restful country for them—in the "good old summer time"—"when the task is done and the guerdon won." There will be no callous or blistered feet there. The impulse they seek would ultimately ensue, for their names would be published in a column conspicuously set apart for such as they.

Surely this would be a befitting finale to their strenuous exertions. "Requiescant in pacem." The press could then devote its space to things worth the ink. So say we all of us. M. B.

Roseville, N. J., April 7, 1913.

THE STRANGE SUFFRAGETTES

Various Suggestions Are Made for Their Suppression.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: May I be allowed space in your columns for two or three suggestions:

If there had been hitherto any lack of evidence of the mental unbalance of those strange creatures in England, has it not now been furnished in connection with the "forcible feeding" hue and cry? A suggestion first to Mrs. Emerson:

Instead of appealing to the American Secretary of State and an American Senator to intervene in the execution of British law against criminals, let the anxious mother exercise her persuasions upon the criminal herself. It is not too much to assert that the alleged "torture" can be stopped at any moment the prisoner so wishes, and without international intervention. She will certainly be permitted to take her food in the natural way.

Rather should sympathy be with the authorities who are so illogically and cruelly placed in this distressing and false position. And so, a suggestion to them: Since these demented creatures persist in refusing food, permit them to have a good, long fast. Fasts are wholesome sometimes—serve to cool the blood. Before quite reaching the danger point—should the monomania carry the unfortunate one thus far—let there be a suspension of the sentence long enough to allow a sufficient recuperation, when the punishment may be resumed.

R. H. YOUNG.

Florida, April 3, 1913.

ADVICE FOR MISS MALONE

She Is Urged to Study and Consider the Rights of Others.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Miss Malone's letter in to-day's Tribune (April 3) shows conclusively that she either does not understand her own case or else she wilfully perverts the facts. Miss Malone was arrested, tried, convicted and punished for a disorderly act, pure and simple, and the right of free speech was in no way involved.

In her case Governor Wilson was invited to the Academy of Music in Brooklyn to speak to a political audience. When the Governor had done that service his duty ended. Had this meeting been called for the purpose of allowing auditors to ask a question, or any question, while Governor Wilson was on the platform, then Miss Malone's question would have been pertinent and her act would have been in order. While Mr. Wilson had the stage, if he had said, "Now, any one who wishes to do so, may ask me question on any topic," then Miss Malone would have violated no law in plying the candidate with questions.

Under the same conditions that Miss Malone asked her question about suffrage, suppose some one had asked the Governor to conjugate the Greek verb "luo," and suppose some one else had asked him to recite the platform of the Republican party from beginning to end, and suppose these people had persisted in asking these questions—equally as important to some in the audience as female suffrage to Miss Malone—until Mr. Wilson's speaking time had been consumed and his audience exhausted, would not Miss Malone herself have considered the questioners disorderly persons?

Miss Malone's question about female suffrage was not a political question any more than the payment of government debts after the war in gold or in greenbacks was a political question. Neither question had, or has, any more relation to party politics than the "rule of three" in arithmetic.

If Miss Malone would study the rights of others and learn the great lesson that "there are others," she would realize that she was treated very leniently by Magistrate Kempner and by our Special Sessions judges. Miss Malone, if intelligent, must know she was punished not for politics but for disorder.

T. H. ROBERTS.

Brooklyn, April 3, 1913.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

He was visiting in New York for the first time, and, of course, his host asked him the inevitable question as to what impressed him most in the metropolis. "The dresses of your women," promptly answered the simple youth. "I've often heard people say 'She looks like a meal bag tied 'round with a string,' but in strolling down Broadway this morning it looked to me as though even the string was lacking. What do you call the things, anyway? They ain't blouses and they ain't sweaters, but when a woman gets into one of the latest rigs she's all of a size from her shoulders to her feet, and if a fellow wanted to give her a good old-fashioned squeeze he wouldn't know where to put his arm."

"We can learn much from a study of insect life," remarked the Wise Guy.

"That's what I think," replied the Simple Mug. "Take the centipede, for instance. It is supposed to be a thousand-legger, but you never heard of one doing as much kicking as a man."—Philadelphia Record.

CLEAN-UP DAY.

The thought of clean-up day arouses
Good citizens to clean their houses.
They know that negligence supplies
The breeding spots for typhoid flies.
And that no home, however wealthy,
In careless hands is truly healthy.

The house of Father Knickerbocker
In truth is something of a shocker—
With holes and corners where gross greed
On vice and ignorance doth feed
From the foundation to the rafters
Foul spots are found to harbor grafters!

I have no doubt you catch my meaning:
His house, too, needs a thorough cleaning.
Then let's get ready, one and all,
Against his clean-up day, next fall.
It falls this year, you may remember,
Upon the fourth day of November.

GEORGE R. MOREWOOD.

"Some day," said the novelist, "I'm going to write something big—something that will make the world remember me."

"Ah, yes," his friend replied, "but when are you going to do it?"

"Just as soon as I have turned out enough trash to make me independent."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A former resident of Albany has on the sideboard of his New York home an old-time blue china plate which has a history well known to the family, which was retold when the flood news came from the old home. "In the winter of 1857," so the story always begins, "the ice broke after a sudden rain and warm spell, and the water came upon us so quickly that we children were bundled out of the house to the home of friends who lived further away from the river. The table for next morning's breakfast had been laid in the basement dining room, and when the water went down enough so that one could go to that room some of the plates and cups were found frozen to the ceiling, for it turned awfully cold after the water was in the houses. And that's one of the plates that didn't break when they all fell off." One of the children says that "grandpa always tells it that way, and it must be true."

Crawford—Is the postscript always the important part of a woman's letter?

Crabshaw—It is when it's from your wife. That's where she always mentions how much money she wants.—Judge.