

Business Chiefs Call New Tariff Bill a Blunder

Proposed Duties Excessive and Threaten to Hinder Revival of World Trade, Leaders of Industry Say

Foresee Public Suffering

Measure Is Folly, Redfield Declares; G. E. Roberts Asks Greater Reciprocity

Prominent bankers, importers and exporters interviewed yesterday seemed of the same general mind, regardless of political views, as to the tariff bill now before the Senate. They are, for the most part, opposed to the measure as reported out by the Senate Finance Committee and fail to see in it, as a whole, any remedy for national or world economic conditions.

That feature of the bill allowing the President sweeping powers in the lowering or raising of specific rates, however, was, with few exceptions, commended on as a progressive step.

George E. Roberts, vice-president of the National City Bank, said over the telephone from his home in Ossining that he was "not in sympathy with the character of the bill as it stands."

More Reciprocity Demanded
"On general principles," he said, "the bill is not satisfactory. I believe we must maintain more reciprocal relations with other countries than are provided for in the Senate measure. Greater reciprocity is needed, particularly as regards Canada and the countries to the south of us."

"I think the bill injures rather than helps the possibility of a prompt recovery of commerce between nations."

Otto H. Kahn, of Kahn, Loeb & Co., declined to give his opinion, but said he was in agreement with The Tribune editorial published yesterday, which commended the Senate Committee for eliminating the American valuation feature and which said the bill's authors "are likely to have difficulty in recognizing their child when it becomes law."

William C. Redfield, former Secretary of Commerce and former president of the American Manufacturers' Export Association, said:

"On the economic side I think that those men who are endeavoring to raise obstacles in the way of other nations paying what the Senate measure only way they can pay us are singularly detached from right."

"On the political side I would recommend these men to see what has happened in every national election following an increased tariff bill."

"It is sheerest folly to propose an excessive tariff at this time. The proponents of this bill are trying to build a wall about the United States when that is totally unnecessary."

Importers Call Rates Excessive
Officials of the National Council of American Importers and Traders, an organization opposed to a high tariff, and officers of the National Association of Manufacturers, which favors a high tariff and American valuation as opposed to the low rates and foreign valuation, were agreed that the proposed rates are excessive.

M. E. Franklin, president of the importers and traders' council and a manufacturer of surgical instruments, said the public would be the greatest sufferer if the legislation should be enacted in its present form.

Van Leer Frank Jr., speaking as secretary of this same organization, said the bill would prevent the importation of goods much needed, or for which there exists an important market in the United States.

The elimination of the American valuation feature as carried by the Fordney bill when it passed the House is unfortunate, in the opinion of Augustus Davis, a director of the National Association of Manufacturers. Mr. Davis is president of the Davis Automatic Equipment Company, 200 Fifth Avenue.

Henry Abbott, of the Calcegraph Corporation, 30 Church Street, another official of the manufacturers' organization, said he did not think the measure could pass the Senate as it now stands.

Proposed Duties Criticized
Importers generally found fault with the new rates. Those on gloves, embroideries and lace, for example, were said by importers of these articles to be so high as almost to preclude importation. The rates on shoes also were considered abnormally high.

Shoe manufacturers and tanners were impatient that such rates as have been proposed for hides should have received the approval of the House and the Senate Finance committees. Heretofore hides have been on the free list. The rates on wool are almost certain to increase the price of cloth and clothing, textile merchants and clothing manufacturers said.

The National Retail Dry Goods Association sent a telegram to Senator Cumber, chairman of the Finance Committee, congratulating the committee on the vote to reject the American valuation clause, which favors a high tariff and American valuation as opposed to the low rates and foreign valuation, which was begun by the Consumers' Committee of Women Opposed to American Valuation in a telegram sent to the House Ways and Means Committee. The message to the Senate Finance Committee also was sent commending it for its "decisive act" in cutting this clause out.

American Legion Honors Namesake Among U. S. Ships
The national executive committee of the American Legion yesterday presented a bronze tablet to the steamship American Legion, of the Munson Lines, as a token of the regard of the service men for their namesake in the merchant fleet. The occasion was a luncheon on the liner, lying at Pier 3, Hoboken, which was attended by a large number of officials of the Munson Lines, the Shipping Board and the soldier organization.

The support of the American Legion in efforts to build up a merchant fleet under the United States flag was pledged by Major William F. Dorgan, state commander, after Frank C. Munson, president of the Munson Lines, spoke of the pride of his company in the vessel.

The tablet, covered by American flags until it was unveiled at the official presentation, bears the emblem of the American Legion and an inscription

taken from an address made on July 9, 1921, by John G. Emery, then national commander. This reads:

"A million fighting men, banded together for God and country, have called themselves 'The American Legion.' Gladly they lend their name to this good ship, dedicated to the glorious task of promoting amity between the free peoples of the Americas. As long as this imperishable bronze endures may such ideals prevail."

Mr. Munson said that the company has made an especial effort to employ only American Legion men in the crew of the vessel. Captain C. H. Zearfoss spoke of the service offered by the line between New York and South America, saying that through this Shipping Board service a business man can now make a return trip, including a stay of two weeks, in six weeks, as against the three months required formerly.

25-Year Price Drop Seen Advertising Men Told Decline Will Be Gradual
BALTIMORE, April 12.—There will be a decline in commodity prices, with slight fluctuations, for the next twenty-five years, according to Charles Henry Mackintosh, president of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, who addressed the Advertising Club and the Associated Business Men's Luncheon Club here today at the Southern Hotel.

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"Two bad features that stood out prominently in the government operation of railroads which were responsible for most of its shortcomings and subjected it to most criticism," said Mr. Kruttschnitt, "were extreme centralization of authority, established by the first director (Mr. McAdoo) and attributed to his temperament and unwillingness to delegate adequate and necessary power to his local officers, and excessive and unintelligent standardization."

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Owing to intense public interest in the hearing and the gathering of a large crowd before the School Board building, a special police detail was assigned to maintain order. The board members decided on a closed hearing. More than a score of witnesses were examined, the majority being on the stand less than five minutes each. Mrs. Wilson, wife of the professor, was in the courtroom. She expressed complete confidence in her husband and indicated a belief that the charges against him had been "trumped up."

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Russia In the Red Shadow

(Continued from page one)

stubborn and intractable, and it was not easy to get control. In this situation the only means of commanding the resources of the country was by taking them from the state. While communism served the purposes of the government it was adhered to. When communism fails to serve these purposes the government discards it.

Granting that Russian industry is now a ruin and that Russian resources are rased to the ground, it still remains true that such potentialities as remain for future development—and these are great—are in the government's power. The government obtained control of industry by destroying industry as an institution and a form of social activity. As it could not take it over as a running concern it rendered it a wreck and took it in at receiver's sale.

Just as the Russian government used the army as a weapon of military offensives against the enemies of the Russian government, it has used communism; that is, the nationalization of industry and the means of distribution, as a weapon of economic offensives against the enemies of the Russian government. It has used communism in an address before the 2d Russian Assembly for Political Education. A comparison of the economic offensives of communism with the military offensives of Trotsky's Red army. "The nationalization of production and distribution was introduced," says Lenin, "as an economic offensive against capitalism at the moment of military danger from the Allies and from civil war," and he continues: "We have suffered a defeat in the economic front, but the Communist offensive has passed, as the period of preparation for action, in the winter of 1917-18, and the period of economic defeat in 1918-19, 1920, and finally the period of strategic retreat beginning in early 1921."

Spirit of Perpetuity
Called Guide of Lenin

Lenin is the most sincere Communist in Russia, but before being a Communist he is head of the Soviet state, and it may be assumed that any program he underwrites will be directed toward the perpetuity of his government.

Viewing the campaign of the government in this light, it must be apparent that affairs are today in a fairly satisfactory condition for the government. The period of economic defeat, reduced resources and initiatives in Russia to such a state that no possible counter-revolutionary movement could come from capitalism. There is no free capital left in Russia, either in the form of available stocks of goods or of running concerns. Everything is in the hands of the government to handle as it will. The collapse of Marxism carries no disadvantage to the government.

In the twelfth article of this series, which will appear in The Tribune to-morrow, Mr. Dickinson tells about the Soviet throwing in its last chips in gamble for international co-operation.

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