THE EVENING STAR.

With Sunday Morning Edition.

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THEODORE W. NOYES.....Editor

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The Tariff Board.

The tariff board, about which we are now hearing so much, is a compromise creation. At a national convention of manufacturers a proposition was made for the appointment of a tariff commission, with large powers. In fact, the opinion then expressed was that Congress, composed always largely of lawyers and politicians, was incompetent to handle the tariff question, and that the work should be transferred to the hands of a tribunal composed of business men and tariff experts. Let a competent commission, after a thorough study of the situation, revise the schedules on a business and non-partisan basis, and let Congress, thus properly advised, ratify the action.

This, of course, was too large an order by half. Congress was in no mood to confess incompetency, and, besides, could not efface itself. Its power of levying taxes, coming from the Constitution, was not transferable. Blunder as it might, Congress must do the work.

Then a tariff board was proposed, and ordered, with its duty confined to the collection of statistics at home and abroad bearing upon amounts and costs of production and general trade relations.

There was opposition to even the modified proposition in both House and Senate. It was contended that Congress could collect through its own agencies all material necessary to the preparation of a tariff bill; that such had hitherto been the procedure, and such procedure should continue. But the board was created, and it has since been occupied with the business cut out for it. On the wool schedule, and maybe on other schedules, it will be ready to report in December.

If there are senators and representatives who after advocating the tariff board are now eager to ignore it and go on without it, such is not true of the President. He recommended the appointment of the board, and now insists that its labors should be considered. He thinks they are important, and is not willing to sign bills prepared after the old order of things. Why such hurry when only a short time is involved? In a few months at most the work ordered by Congress will be in shape for the consideration of that body.

The President has just complimented his democratic opponents on their course in the matter of reciprocity with Canada, and they deserved his praise. They did not play politics with the pact. But they are playing politics now, and in combination with a republican faction having for its object, first, his defeat for renomination, and, failing that, his defeat for re-election. He is looking, or should look, the fact squarely in the face. Tariff revision is not in hand, but political maneuvering, with the presidency the inspiration, is. His opponents, democrats and republicans, are very capable men, and know the game. They are not likely to overlook anything. Which should be a warning to him to keep his own eyes wide open.

The Commissioners and Living Cost.

Secretary Wilson should give specifications together with his criticism of the District Commissioners for their failure to do something to reduce the cost of living in this community. He says they have failed to perform their part in that they have not devised a way to lower the scale of food prices and relieve the necessity and oppression of the poor. If the Secretary would offer a few suggestions of how this can be done by municipal officials he would confer an inestimable benefit upon not only the District of Columbia, but on every other city in the land.

Mr. Wilson intimates that the trouble lies with the middlemen, who stand between the farmer and the consumer. Unquestionably a large part of the "cost of living" goes to those who distribute the necessities of life. Whether it is imperative thus to interpose a mechanism between the source and the use is a grave economic question, not to be answered by mere dictum, and involving many considerations. It is easy to say "Abolish the middleman," but if this were possible what would become of the middleman? He and all his helpers would be deprived of livelihood. They would be thrown upon the labor market, and their competition for employment would necessarily affect the earning power of every individual in the community. Would not this change bring about a net loss to the average consumer?

The District Commissioners are not open to criticism for their failure to "do something" for the consumer. They have plenty to do administering the laws passed by Congress. That body has exhaustively and laboriously investigated one branch of the food cost question through a subcommittee, and has come to no definite conclusion. Lacking law, the Commissioners would be in a pretty pickle if they were to go forth as crusaders against the high cost of living.

Steel trust investigation again links the name of "Stanley" with exploration into remote and uncertain regions.

Life is one investigation after another for the interstate commerce commission.

Easily Traced Crime.

The other morning a retired business man was found dead in his room in a New York hotel, obviously the victim of a burglar. Within a few hours the murderer had been traced and caught, and New York now hails the achievement as a triumph of detective work. As a matter of fact, it was an extremely simple and easy case. The criminal was an amateur at his job. He did everything successfully, but made the serious blunder of leaving behind him the bottle from which he poured the chloroform that he used to take his victim's life. This bottle bore the label of the druggist in Newark from whom the chloroform had been purchased, and by this means the drug was traced in a short time to the murderer's landlady, who had bought it to kill a puppy and a kitten, and from whom he had obtained it without her knowledge. This clue was so direct that it only required a short period of police questioning to obtain the entire story from the slayer and his roommate, who became an accessory after the fact by pawning the dead man's watch for his friend.

Had it not been for the telltale label on the bottle, there would have been room for some real detective work of the story book kind. The criminal might have been traced through the pawnshop, possibly without much trouble, or, failing such a direct clue, there remained the possibility of the landlady being sufficiently intelligent and honest to put together the facts that Broker Jackson was killed by chloroform and that her own bottle of the drug was missing, having been suggestively noticed a few days previous by one of her boarders. A deduction from these facts might have led her to the conclusion that the slayer of Jackson was under her roof, and communication with the police would have quickly established a convicting line of proof. There would seem to have been no chance for the successful concealment of a crime thus committed.

It is a shocking commentary upon the terrible wastefulness of crime that Jackson was slain for the paltry sum of $24.75, of which $18 was obtained by the pawning of his watch. It is true that the slayer expected a larger loot. Many cases of this kind have occurred before, where the lives of wealthy men have been taken on the false supposition that they carried large amounts of money about with them.

Marching Through Georgia.

Gov. Wilson has been invited to Georgia to address the legislature, and of course will accept. The Georgians are interested in him and he in them. They are in search of a presidential candidate, and he is in search of delegates to the democratic national convention. They want a look at him, and he is more than willing to be inspected.

The state has always been hospitable toward presidential booms. It does not indorse all it examines, but its interest is keen in the industry. When it hears that a boom has been launched, or is on the point of launching, it sits up and takes notice.

There was the case of Judge Parker. When his New York friends decided to put him forward for the nomination of 1904, and saw the advisability of outside notice, they settled upon Georgia as the place for the national introduction. Accordingly they arranged for an address by their favorite before the state bar association. This was appropriate, because, although with his eyes on the White House, Judge Parker was on the bench, and a political address at a political meeting, or before the state legislature, might have provoked criticism. He appeared, spoke and conquered. The impression he made helped him both there and elsewhere, and he won the nomination even over Mr. Bryan's objection.

Not so fortunate was Lieut. Gov. Chanler of New York a few years later. When he decided to offer for his party's national leadership he thought of Georgia, and his friends secured him an invitation to visit the state and make a speech. But he inspired no enthusiasm, and nothing came of the maneuver. His recommendations were slender. Youth, wealth and ambition made up his bundle, and Georgia decided it was too light for the place sought. And it was.

Gov. Wilson is of much more consequence than was Mr. Chanler, and he should give his hosts something to think about. They know him, but only as an educator. They have read his books, and the sons of some of them have attended the school he used to keep. But what manner of politician is he? What does he propose for the salvation of the country? They want to see him, and hear from him by word of mouth. There is no pledge of support in the invitation, but at most a chance for the governor to make new friends.

Of course the introduction to the legislature will be made by Governor-Senator Smith, who has no place among the presidential aspirants, but is now and then mentioned for the vice presidency. Shall we now hear of the ticket of Wilson and Smith? New Jersey and Georgia to the fore? Mr. Bryan thinks well of both men, although Gov. Wilson opposed him in 1896, and Gov. Smith supported him under protest.

It begins to look as if Castro went to Venezuela because of a mistaken impression that it would be a quiet, comfortable place to spend the summer.

Judson Harmon may feel some gratitude to W. J. Bryan for not undertaking to place him in the always unsafe position of "a logical candidate."

It will probably be a long time before Dr. Wiley is found in a position that will justify the germs in proclaiming a day of general rejoicing.

Once in a while a member of parliament engaged in an effort to speak is compelled to suspect that there is something wrong with the British sense of fair play.

Experiments with some forms of the referendum abroad do not commend it as a peace promoter.

Germany and England.

Apparently Berlin is disposed to take advantage of a phrase in the speech in commons the other day of Prime Minister Asquith to move out of a situation dangerously inimical to international peace. Mr. Asquith said that England would not interfere in any territorial arrangements between France and Germany outside of Morocco. This was tantamount to the suggestion by England of an adjustment of the German claim by a concession in some other quarter. In short, England avowed no particular interest in anything France and Germany may do that does not involve the establishment of the latter on the western coast of Morocco or any other part of northwestern Africa leading to the creation of a German strategic base commanding the British trade routes to the Cape.

It is not yet indicated whether France has any definite proposition to make on these terms. The French government seems to have slackened somewhat in its activity since the demonstration, through the speech of Lloyd George and that of Asquith, of England's acute interest in the case. Now, however, it is for France and Germany to act together toward a pacific solution if such a solution is really desired. There would seem at this time to be no particular desire on Germany's part to go to war. If war were wanted at Berlin it could very easily be arranged. Insistence upon a west Moroccan port would place Germany in the position of inviting hostilities, for evidently England is primed for all eventualities, recent orders to the naval stations having given plain proof of a determination to resist German encroachments upon certain proscribed territory.

This affair as it has developed up to date has proceeded quite distinctly along characteristic German lines. The kaiser's government has made a bid for what it knew it was not entitled to get, trusting to foreign weaknesses and hesitations and complexities to slip through to the goal. This is quite on a par with the German demand for and acquisition of the Kiaochow peninsula in China, following the virtual seizure of the Liaotung peninsula by Russia. Germany then made the plea of the murder of missionaries in the interior as an excuse for demanding territorial indemnity, at the same time citing Russia's grab of Japan's spoils of war as justification. Had England been as prompt then to interpose objection as at present the map of China today would present a different appearance.

Romances between opera singers and millionaires have not been so numerously reported since Cavalieri disclosed the meager allowance on which an opera singer expects a husband to support himself.

One of the most striking features of the Lorimer discussion is the occasional expression of martyrdom which ex-Senator Hopkins is naturally called upon to assume.

There is a certain disposition among republicans to regard La Follette as altogether too busy with perilous politics to be a safe custodian of a presidential boom.

Several base ball clubs managed to make up their minds some little time ago about who is not going to win the pennant this year.

It is not known whether Alfred Austin was permitted to get his coronation ode to the king's attention as a private communication.

Pride of authorship sometimes goes so far as to make a weather forecaster seriously attempt to defend all his bulletins.

Beverly, Mass., is again in a position to give that once overbearing town called Oyster Bay the supercilious stare.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Quotations.

"You don't use many quotations from Shakespeare."

"No," replied Senator Sorghum. "Quotations of that sort would command more respect nowadays if Shakespeare were listed on the stock exchange."

Luck.

"Any luck on your fishing trip?"
"Yes. The fish were right lucky."

A Monopolist.

The busy bee a store of sweet
Has long accumulated.
No doubt his proper fate he'll meet
And be investigated.

A Sigh for the Plumber.

"Blessings brighten as they take their flight," said the ready-made philosopher.

"Yes," replied Mr. Growcher. "I'd give a good deal to go home now and have them tell me that the water pipes are frozen."

The Real Figure.

"That prima donna hasn't much of a figure," said the coldly critical person.

"You have the wrong idea," replied the impresario. "In order to admire her figure properly you must quit looking at her and think about her salary."

The Consummation.

The scientist
In learned terms
Prepares a list
Of dreadful germs.
With manners rude
And tricks unfair,
They're in the food
And in the air.
Whate'er you eat,
You risk an ache.
In fear complete
A breath you take.
But science yet
Will find a way
This constant fret
To quite allay.
Wisdom will win.
A day will come
When all dwell in
A vacuum.

The International Lobbyist.

From the Cincinnati Times-Star.

There was one development in Washington after the passage of the reciprocity bill by the Senate that has not attracted wide public interest, but which is still of considerable importance.

The army of lobbyists which has spent recent months in Washington fighting reciprocity on behalf of various large business interests packed up as soon as the Senate vote was announced and started north for Ottawa. It will probably be heard from at the Canadian capital in the weeks to come.

Reciprocity was put through Congress in the face of the opposition of many private interests. Those most familiar with the ability and character of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and his remarkable hold upon the Canadian people, have little doubt that eventually the same result will be attained north of the international boundary. In the meantime that extremely up-to-date development, the international lobbyist, will make Laurier's path just as much harder than it ought to be as they can.

Grade Crossings Must Go.

From the New York Times.

The problem of grade crossings presses more and more for an early solution. The number of persons killed or maimed in this and neighboring states every year is appalling. Something is being done, no doubt, to lessen the number of such crossings and their annual harvest of dead and wounded, but not enough is being done, and that not fast enough. Such accidents have really become so frequent that they are treated as a matter of course until public attention is arrested and public feelings shocked by some particularly horrible accident such as that which occurred at Winfield, in Queens borough, a few days ago. But accidents almost or quite as serious, though not so spectacular, are happening each week throughout this state.

Written or Unwritten.

From the Kansas City Star.

It has lately been demonstrated that the constitution of England, which is unwritten, is at least as powerful as the Constitution of the United States, which is written. A people, a nation, is not going to upset its habit of being a nation simply because it has not at some earlier time set down "in black and white" general rules to govern its conduct at all emergencies. Those who believe that the written Constitution is all that keeps Americans from destroying each other's property and sinking into insignificance as a nation are historically ridiculous.

Harvesting Ruined Crops.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Extra help is in demand all over the country to harvest all of those ruined crops.

Does He?

From the Detroit Free Press.

We'd like to know when Artist Frederick Pinney Earle gets any time to paint pictures?

Might Have Done Better.

From the Cleveland Leader.

The opposition that has developed against Dr. Wiley may lead him to the conclusion that he did not select his poison squads judiciously.

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Arch-lift

Shoes

—The Shoes that are to the feet what medicine is to the body.

Styles for Men and Women

—When the arch of the foot gives way the most distressing footaches follow. Every muscle of the foot is under a severe strain, and flat-foot follows. Our Arch-lift Shoes lend the support that is needed to relieve such foot troubles. Fitted by our professional shoe fitters, they afford relief from the first try-on.

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Every Fur of known quality and tested reliability will be represented, and the advantages in buying now will be obvious to all, because of the fact that the same Furs and Fur Garments, or Furs and Fur Garments of equal style and value, will be priced at from

One-quarter to One-third More When the Season Opens.

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Our Midsummer Clearance Sale

Women's High-Grade Shoes.

It is only natural that an active selling season should leave us broken assortments in many lines of shoes, but they must be sold as well as those that have met disposal throughout the season. Our stock sheets indicate the total number of pairs to be just 300.

They are all Summer Shoes and in this season's accepted styles—all our own carefully selected, made-to-order stock of highest quality and efficiency. The leathers represented in the various lots are patent calfskin, patent coltskin, gun metal calfskin, dongola kidskin, tan Russia calfskin and a few black suede and velvet.

The entire size range is covered in the combined collection—a fitting for every foot, but, of course, not all sizes in any one style.

The regular prices given are the prices at which these lines represented have sold throughout the season. At the clearance price they present an opportunity for economy which the most affluent cannot afford to overlook.

Clearance Price, $1.95 the Pair.
Regular Prices, $3.50 to $5.00.

Third floor, Tenth st.

Women's Imported Lingerie and Negligees at Greatly Reduced Prices.

Excellence in every particular is a strong and impressive feature of the garments in this sale, and we wish this to be firmly established in the mind of every woman.

Particular choice of each individual can be granted, we believe, partially if not entirely, because the styles are so numerous, but in many cases very incomplete, as they should be at this time of the year.

Next in importance to the variety of styles and the advantages of selection resulting therefrom is the greatness of the reductions—the lowest possible for which garments of this high character can possibly be offered.

Gowns, $6.95, $12.50, $15.00 and $18.50 each.
Were $10.50, $18.50, $22.50 and $35.00.
Drawers, 95c to $3.95 pair. Were $2.00 to $7.50.
Chemises, $2.95 to $3.95 each. Were $4.75 to $6.50.
Negligees and Tea Gowns, $15.00, $18.50, $25.00 and $35.00 each.
Were $19.50, $22.50, $45.00 and $60.00.

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Price, small bottle.....15c

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At your terms and rates. For a few days only. And $1.00 free for this coupon. Main 920-M.
New York Loan Co.,
1301 G STREET. Room 21.

NO MORE HIGH RATES
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POTOMAC FINANCIAL CO.
Organized for the purpose of loaning money to those who cannot afford to pay high rates, on FURNITURE, PIANOS, TEAMS and to SALARIED EMPLOYES on plain note without security.
$10 AND UPWARD.
$50, Payable Monthly, $5.45
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We will make you a lower rate than any one else, no matter what that rate is, providing you are GOOD ... We are catering to the better class of business.
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LONG OR SHORT TIME.
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LOANS
On Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry. 3%
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Is the place to borrow money on furniture, pianos and teams at
CUT RATES
7 payments of $1.90 pays $10 loan.
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