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MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1915.

THE PROPHETS WHO NEVER PROPHESEY ANYTHING WORTH KNOWING ABOUT

THE FEAR OF legislation is an inheritance. It dates back to the days before democracy, when the nod of a king sent a man to the stake, confiscated his property and, perhaps, his wife. But such things long since disappeared. They went before the Bubonic plague, but after the Black Death.

It would be difficult to find many industries in the United States that have been injured in any legitimate activity. The Louisiana state lottery, and the liquor business are not in point, for such damage as legislation has done to them, was done upon the theory that they are enterprises not wholesome for the state.

Ordinary industry in these days is usually benefitted by legislation, and not often injured. But the owners of such industry often continue in the old fashioned fear, inherited from a long line of forefathers, and confirmed by the saws and sayings of a long line of individuals steeped in the lore of the past, but as innocent of today and of tomorrow as babies in their swaddling clothes.

It is remarkable to see strong men trembling over a proposed tariff change, who do not even shudder in the presence of a new discovery, or invention, though it may be potent to injure, or destroy, the occupation which claims their attention.

The Danbury hat manufacturers trembled before every tariff change, like an idolator before his Moloch. All the time the bicycle, the automobile and the cloth cap was coming nearer to deal the felt hat business a terrible blow.

While Danbury hat makers were boosting E. J. Hill, as the high priest of the tariff idolatry, who would keep the wrath of the deity from their door, it never occurred to him, or to them, to mention the cloth cap.

Hill always saved his people from any tariff damage because the tariff had no teeth. It couldn't bite. But he couldn't save them from the cloth cap, because Hill isn't a front seer, but a hind sight prophet. He probably doesn't know now that the cloth cap hit the felt hat industry a terrible wallop, so that the industry has been almost revolutionized.

The Salts Textile company had a shudder every time the tariff was mentioned, but while tariffs were booming in 1907 and 1909, they had a terrible setback. And now that tariffs are not booming, according to Mr. Hill, are very prosperous.

How much, one wonders, was the slow business of 1909 to be attributed to the passage of the upholstered chair as a dust accumulating device, and how much of present prosperity is due to the development of imitation furs, so that fabrics which once upholstered chairs, now upholster ladies, taking the place of the animal skins which used to be worn.

The Farmer will warrant that the movement for plain furniture, easily kept free from dust, did this organization more harm, than any tariff did it either good or harm.

And so a lady in Paris, a pretty lady of doubtful character wore a hat with a feather that stuck straight out, and forth with the great industry of ostrich farming was ruined. In places as remote as South Africa and Arizona, the bottom fell out of the ostrich market, and birds were, and still are offered, at \$3 up, with no takers.

But Mr. Hill always supposed that ostrich farming must go on forever, if the tariff remained high. It is a peculiarity of the tariff prophets that they never under any circumstances really know anything that would be really useful, or helpful, to industry.

So of the Textile business, or branches of it. Which were more damaged by narrow skirts and no petticoats, than they ever had been by foreign competition, or any kind of a duty. Instances might be multiplied almost indefinitely, of change, and ruin that has followed upon the heels of invention, fashion, or the plentifulness or scarcity of this or that commodity.

What industry wants is fewer prophets who know the awful things the tariff will do, and never does, and more persons with a little plain wisdom, who can predict a week or two ahead what really is going to happen.

Our Mr. Hill will be much more useful when he learns to declare ahead of time the effect of synthetic indigo on the farm produced indigo; when he commands fashion to stand back, and the cap, the narrow skirt and the straight feather to be abandoned; when he forbids war, because it will make carbolic acid, dyes and a thousand other things scarce; to the very real damage of industries that the tariff is always going to ruin and never does.

Commission government promises to get rid of the fogies and the ignoramuses in municipal government. But what shall we do to be rid of ignorance and stuffed prophets in the national legislature? This is the pressing problem.

MAKING IT COSTLY

THE UNNECESSARILY expensive character of the Stratford avenue bridge, proposed by the Bridge commission, is shown by the bidding. The bridge proposed by the City Plan commission could have been constructed well within the appropriation, and a large saving could have been made.

Approaches were included in the City Plan bridge, which could have been used as extensively, or the contrary, as might have been advisable.

As it is the city will have the poorer bridge for the larger sum, repeating its experience in pavements.

BEGINNING AT THE BEGINNING

THE REMINGTON Arms and Ammunition Company appears to do business without much regard to some of the current superstitions in Bridgeport. It gave its people an eight hour day, while the Bridgeport Manufacturers' Association vigorously opposed the policy of an eight hour day.

Now it announces a purpose to build a number of cement houses, getting advantage of quantity production, which it will sell to its workers at cost.

This solution of the housing problem was one of the first that presented itself to the Good Housing Association, but this organization, reflecting upon the consequence of such an action, wandered away into perfectly useless methods, such as

producing good housing by multiplying the restrictions for building, as to make it more difficult and more costly to build.

THE BUILDING CODE

WE CANNOT agree with The Telegram that the building code, resurrected from the dust of long ago, is legislation Bridgeport ought to adopt. This code is not designed for Bridgeport. It is filled with contradictory provisions. It was brought together from many inappropriate sources with a pair of shears, which were used vigorously on a code devised by the Insurance companies, and on a code then in use in Milwaukee. A little perusal of its pages will convince anybody that it is unsuited to Bridgeport.

H. C. HOOVER, BELGIAN RELIEF FUND CHAIRMAN, FORTY-ONE TOMORROW

To a young American, a native of Iowa, was given the opportunity of presiding over a humanitarian movement unique in the world's history, and so well has he fulfilled his mission that his name will be held in grateful remembrance by the Belgians for centuries to come. Herbert Clark Hoover, chairman of the American Relief Committee in Belgium, was born at West Branch, Ia., and he will be forty-one years old tomorrow. Although still a young man, he has had an adventurous career, as his profession of mining engineering has involved visits to many out-of-the-way corners of the earth. A native of the Hawkeye State, he became a California by adoption, and at the age of twenty-one was graduated in mining engineering from Stanford University. His first important work was as assistant to the Arkansas Geological Survey. In 1895 he joined the United States Geological Survey in the Sierra Nevada mountains, and the following years he was engaged as assistant manager of mines in New Mexico and California. In 1897 the young engineer left his native land to go to western Australia, where he became chief of the mines staff of a big company. After two years the mines closed he proceeded to China, where he was appointed chief engineer of the Chinese Imperial Bureau of Mines. While holding that important position he carried on extensive explorations in the interior of the empire, visiting places where white men were practically unknown and were considered by the natives to be devils rather than humans. Mr. Hoover was in Tientsin during the Boxer rebellion, and took part in the defense of that city against the rebels. In subsequent years Mr. Hoover was interested in various Chinese mines and other industries, and was consulting engineer for many British corporations. His reputation as an engineer became international and he was made a member of the leading engineering societies of France, Belgium and England, and a fellow of the Royal Geographical society. When the war broke out Hoover was in London, and he was chosen as best qualified to supervise the American relief work in Belgium—work to which he has devoted all his time and energy, and in which he has been ably assisted by Mrs. Hoover.

BELGIAN NEUTRALITY TREATY SIGNED 45 YEARS AGO TODAY

Today marks the forty-fifth anniversary of the signing of a treaty between Great Britain and Belgium, by which the neutrality of Belgium, which had been guaranteed by an earlier convention of all the great European powers, was confirmed and asserted. Two days later Great Britain and France broke out into a similar treaty, and the fear, then widespread in Belgium, that the little country might be drawn into the Franco-Prussian war, was definitely and finally allayed. It was a day of rejoicing among the Belgians, and warm gratitude to Great Britain was expressed by the King and officials of the Belgian government.

When the present war broke out Belgium was protected against aggression not only by the guarantee of the independence of Belgium, but by the treaties of 1870 which Great Britain forced upon Prussia and France. It was these treaties which became but "scraps of paper" when "military necessity" sent the armies of the Kaiser swarming over Belgium last year.

Great Britain's role as protector of Belgium was more successful in 1870, when the Emperor Napoleon and the soon-to-be empire of Bismarck's creation engaged in conflict. When France and Germany clashed Belgium feared a hostile attack, and she had always played the role of a prize hung up for greedy and powerful nations to squabble over. Again her geographical position made her a buffer state between hostile powers. Hoping for the best, Belgium fully expected the worst. She promptly put her little army on a war footing and prepared to sell her independence dearly. Both her French and German borders were lined with troops and hastily improvised defenses.

England's position made it necessary that Belgian neutrality should be preserved, if the island kingdom was to be saved from having a constant menace at her very gates, but aside from this self-interest the British people were tremendously aroused by the unhappy plight of their neighbor. Genuine sympathy as well as the instinct of self-protection animated the British in their demands upon Prussia and France.

The British government formally and definitely announced the "intention to maintain the integrity of Belgium," and solemnly warned both France and Germany "not to violate the neutrality of Belgium." There was no mistaking the earnestness of Great Britain, and both of the warring nations fully realized that to fail to heed the warning would involve war with England. Both nations therefore lost no time in signing the proffered treaties, and Belgium, for the time, was saved.

As a result of Britain's intervention, Belgium was spared all the horrors of that war, and for once a great conflict raged about her borders while the latter remained inviolate. In September, 1870, a number of French troops passed into Belgium, but their mood was far from belligerent, as they were fleeing from the disaster at Sedan, and entered Belgium only to escape capture by the Germans. They immediately laid down their arms and were interned by the Belgians.

The experience of 1870 gave the Belgians confidence in the power of the treaties by which they were protected—a confidence which it now seems was sadly misplaced.

No work is being done in the oil fields of Mexico.

STORM INTERFERES WITH SCHEDULE OF CARS IN STRATFORD

Lightning and Rain Conspire to Cause Delays to Trolley Traffic.

(Special to The Farmer.)
Stratford, Aug. 9.—Trolley traffic was interfered with by the rain storm yesterday afternoon. At Washington bridge, lightning struck a trolley feeder and burned it out. Trolleys were held up nearly an hour. Several feet of water under the railroad viaduct caused the cars to be stalled there for many minutes. Several automobiles that attempted to pass through the water were stopped by way with flooded engines. One New York automobile was pulled out by a trolley car.

The Cupheag club will hold its annual clambake on the property of Samuel Lewis, August 21. The annual field day of the Housatonic grange will be held August 12 in the neighborhood of Trolley street, a clambake that will be served at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

The past sachs of Okenuck tribe will hold their annual banquet at the Stratford hotel tomorrow evening. Many past sachs from other tribes will attend. The Housatonic Improvement association has been formed by residents in the neighborhood of Ferry Boulevard. Munson W. Hazen has been elected president.

ARCHBISHOP LAUDS GERMAN-AMERICAN FOR LOVE OF FLAG

St. Paul, Aug. 9.—Delegates to the 16th annual convention of the Federation of German-American Catholic Societies, which began a four days session here yesterday, settled down to the transaction of business today at the Cathedral. J. Q. Juenmann, of St. Paul, national secretary, submitted his report.

Archbishop Bonzano, papal delegate to the United States, brought greetings to the convention from Pope Benedict. Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, praised the loyalty of the German-American Catholics to the Stars and Stripes. "We love America, we love its flag," he continued, "but greater than all we love the freedom of the Star Spangled Banner which puts the powers of monarchy in the hands of every citizen at least once a year at least when he goes to the polls. We ask no special privileges."

EXPECT 2,000 NAMES ON COMMISSION PLAN PETITION PAPERS

Members of the Commission Form of Government League are confident that they have 2,000 names on their petitions for the vote on commission form of government. At a meeting tonight to be held in the board of trade room all the committeemen from each district who have been circulating the petitions are expected to report and if the requisite number of names, 1,900, have been procured, the petitions will at once be forwarded to Mayor Wilson.

Motor Tractor For No. 7 Company Will Arrive In Few Days

The new motor tractor which will draw Engine No. 7 for the local fire department is expected to arrive in Bridgeport from the works of the American & British Manufacturing Co., at Providence the latter part of this week. Captain Clifford L. Dyreau has returned from Providence where he witnessed the assembling of the tractor and was instructed in driving the apparatus.

Bridgeporters At N. E. O. P. Annual Outing

A number of the local members of the New England Order of Protection attended the annual outing of the state organization Saturday at Momaugum. There were athletic contests and a baseball game between Elm Tree lodge of New Haven and Electric lodge of Meriden. A shore dinner was enjoyed. Among the officers present were Supreme Vice Warden Thomas J. Sullivan of Boston and Supreme Secretary Daniel M. Frye both of Boston.

Business Men To Hold Annual Outing At "Rock" This Year

The annual outing of the Bridgeport Business Men's Association will be held August 18, at Savin Rock. Special cars will carry the members to New Haven and a start will be made from Cannon and Broad streets at 12:30 o'clock.

MOTORCYCLE PINS RIDER UNDERNEATH

Sven Johnson of Portchester was injured in a fall from his motorcycle yesterday on his way to this city from Savin Rock. While passing through Milford his motorcycle skidded on the polly tracks and turned turtle, pinning Johnson underneath the machine. He was taken to the emergency hospital here where several stitches were taken in a long cut on his left leg.

Brigadier General Scott Suggested To Make Peace in Mexico



GEN. HUGH L. SCOTT

That General Hugh Scott, chief of the army staff and famous as a conciliator in the Philippines, on the Mexican border and among the Indians, has been chosen definitely as the envoy to present to the rival groups in Mexico the necessity for an agreement, was partially admitted in Washington. It was stated officially that he would be an excellent person for the mission and that he stood a good chance of being chosen. It was stated that the negotiations would not be given an indefinite period to agree. A time limit is a certainty. If chaos still reigns when this limit expires the Pan-American conference will put their own candidate into the field.

HARMONY KEYNOTE IN ANNUAL OUTING OF "SEVENTH CLUB"

Jealousies Buried When Guests Unite In Attacking Tremendous Feast.

Harmony reigned at the 17th annual outing of the Seventh District Democratic club at Forest Grove yesterday. Old political foes shook hands over the chowder bowls and there was every indication that the Democrats of the old Seventh are united once more and that there will be no primary contest or internal dissension in the district this year. Many officials and politicians were present and enjoyed the outing although before all had been served with dinner torrents of rain drove those present into the pavilions.

Clam chowder, broiled steak, baked beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, etc., were served from 12 o'clock until 2 o'clock. The sheep roast with green corn and vegetables was served at 3:30. The tables were cooked and served under the direction of Senator John M. O'Connell. The Seventh District club now has nearly 300 members and has club rooms at Barral avenue and Milne street. The outing yesterday was arranged by former Alderman Thomas W. Reddy and former City Sheriff Thomas Lovely.

After the dinner there were music and boxing exhibitions. No speeches were made. This is the first time in 17 years that the outing has been held at Forest Grove, all previous gatherings having been held at Columbus park, formerly Langenberger's grove. Among those who attended the gathering were Aldermen John H. Coughlin, John F. Toole and William F. Corr, John F. Brady and Richard Murphy; Stephen Boucher, former Democratic Town Chairman Michael Dwyer; Hugh Lavery, chairman of the Democratic town committee; John M. Donnelly, former Alderman William M'Coy, Frederick Schemp and Thomas Fay of Hartford.

FALLS OFF BACK PORCH 30 FEET TO GROUND

Axel Swansol of 427 Shelton street lost his balance yesterday morning and toppled over the railing on his back porch. He fell two stories to the ground, 30 feet below. He was taken in the ambulance to Bridgeport hospital where an X-ray examination of his injuries was made at 9 o'clock this morning that proved the extent of his injuries to be a severe concussion of the brain and not a fractured skull as was at first believed. His condition is very much improved today and is favorable to recovery.

Poncho Blankets For the boys in their summer camp. \$1.50 to \$1.75.

CANOE CUSHIONS Used as life preservers. Have the buoyancy to hold a person up 48 hours in water. Special 95c

RUBBER COLLARS Just the thing for summer wear. Collars 20c & 25c Cuffs 40c per pair

WATER WINGS 19c & 23c

BATHING CAPS 25c to 98c

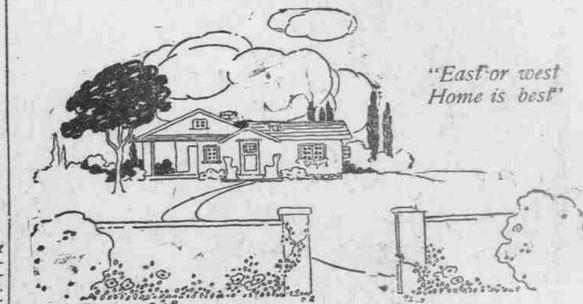
THE ALLING RUBBER CO. 1126 MAIN STREET

Farmer Want Ads. One Cent a Word

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Established 1857

The August Sale of Furniture Continues this week.



"East For west Home is best"

Through this entire week the Furniture Department is at the service of all those who are desirous of re-furnishing any room or any part of the home. Nearly everything in the department is offered at the discount of 20 per cent., with the reservation of office fittings and filing devices. Diningroom chairs are less 10 per cent. In addition are special lines which show reductions amounting to more than the discount.

Library and Parlor Sets.

Adam Set of three pieces in solid mahogany with upholstery of pale green French tapestry. A very attractive and graceful design with carved urns on the tops of the pieces and other distinctive Adam markings. Was \$88.50 for \$65.00

Solid Mahogany Set, three pieces, divan and chairs with high backs, and covering of green panne velour. Was \$71.50 for \$50.00

Solid Mahogany Set, three pieces, divan, and chairs with wings, covering of green flax velour. Was \$136.00 for \$75.00

Mahogany finish set, three pieces, velour covering with full upholstered backs. Was \$54.50 for \$32.00

Imitation Mahogany Set, three pieces, with loose velvet cushions. Was \$31.25 for \$25.00

Library Sets.

Imitation Mahogany Set with Spanish leather cushions, a very satisfactory design for library or living room. Was \$60.00 for \$48.00

Solid Mahogany Set, large davenport and armchairs, solid mahogany with broad arms, beautifully marked, seat cushions and backs of English morocco. This set will be broken if desired.

Davenport, was \$110.00 for \$50.00
Armchairs, were \$54.50 for \$28.00

Club Chairs and Rockers

Full upholstery of Spanish leather, was \$35.00 for \$24.50
was \$32.00 for \$22.50

Large Turkish chairs of red Spanish leather, hair-filled with numerous small springs over back and arms, was \$70.00 for \$50.00

Do not delay. A week goes quickly.

Although discounts are removed from the Basement Furnishings there are numerous special lines that remain to be closed out. It will pay to make frequent visit to the China and Kitchenware Departments.

The D. M. Read Company.

RADFORD B. SMITH

FAIRFIELD AVE. VARIETY STORE BROAD ST. CO-OPERATIVE—CAR FARE FOR CUSTOMERS—PROFIT SHARING WITH EMPLOYEES

COUPON GOOD Tuesday, Aug. 10

Men's Twenty-five Cent Balbriggan Drawers with Coupon Tuesday 13c—2 pairs for 25c

We have a surplus of this good underwear, small sizes only, 30 and 32. Will fit youths or small men. It goes Tuesday at 1/2 price.

Our Five Cent Bargain Wire Fly Traps. Regular ten cent kind—5c Tuesday.

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HIGHLAND SPRING WATER

A healthful, invigorating drink which is absolutely uncontaminated by impurities of any kind and has passed the most rigid tests.

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