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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1909.

JAMMING THE TARIFF BILL THROUGH

The entirely mechanical way in which the House can dispose of a great piece of constructive legislation is illustrated by its decision to come to a vote on the tariff bill, regardless on the day after to-morrow.

There was some opposition to this theory of lightning celerity and hang the expense; the rule went through by a majority of only 16. Twenty Republicans voted against it, which more than offset the four Louisiana Democrats who supported it.

But the sentiment in favor of quick action by the House is undoubtedly strong. It springs from two causes. One is the belief that pending tariff legislation is hurtful if not devastating in its effect on business.

The other reason that haste through the House finds much favor is that its inactivity in the pending legislation is generally recognized. Everybody understands that the Senate, and in particular Mr. Aldrich, is going to make the tariff law, and that the discussion in the lower body is something of a meaningless ritual.

In England, where just the same ground has been gone over, this question has been generally answered, in effect, affirmatively. Mr. Gladstone said: "As to compensation, the licensed victuallers ought to be dealt with exactly on the same principle as every other class in regard to which a vested interest has been permitted to grow up."

A PROBLEM IN MORTGAGES. A correspondent who has a fondness for kicking up trouble, no matter what the exigencies of the weather, submits the following for adjudication: X owns Whiteacre. X borrows \$1,000 on Whiteacre from A. B. preparing the mortgage, which was witnessed and delivered, but never returned.

Witten A's loan. B's mortgage recorded. X then borrowed \$1,000 on Whiteacre from C. who had his mortgage recorded. The property was sold under all three debts for \$1,500. This problem has been the delight and joy of moot courts far and wide, and we positively decline to seek to settle it.

MARY GROGAN'S FAME. Humble Mary Grogan, of New Brunswick, N. J., is earning public acclaim of a sort which many a bad old captain of industry would be glad to buy at a great price, but can't.

A big-tented animal show and circus is to visit Oyster Bay this summer. The Pullman Company is going to cut the rates on upper berths, thus making it more of a pleasure for a tourist to take his brains out against the car roof.

Artful persons are rising from time to time to inform us that the foreigner will pay the tax on gloves and hosiery. Thus the number of puny jokers in the tariff situation is constantly increasing.

LICQUOR PROPERTY AND PROHIBITION LAWS. It looks as if Tennessee might give us a thorough testing of the constitutionality of prohibition, as now legislatively provided for in the Southern States and others.

Editorial Comment on Governor's Criticism of the Balfour Licensing Bill. Governor Claude A. Swanson, of Virginia, who for thirteen years was a member of the National House of Representatives, has just published a situation in that body in the American Review of Reviews, and in an able and temperate criticism of the rules which suggest a remedy by no means radical or revolutionary.

Instead of Cold Doughnuts and Candy for the Poor. A new idea in public school life, the introduction of soup kitchens for the pupils, has been adopted at Indianapolis. The head of one of the schools of that city conceived the idea that if the pupils could be served at noon with a hot bowl of nourishing soup it would benefit them physically and mentally.

Borrowed Jingles. "White and a little lamb; it's fleece was white as snow. Would Mary's mother have said? Why, what a question! Not she! She kept the lamb in luxury for many, many years."

MERELY JOKING. Only Change. "What do you think of women's hats this spring?" "Bocker: 'There has been a revision upward.'—New York Sun.

When Trouble Comes. "Isn't it a lot of trouble to pick out your own cows from that big bunch?" "Longhorn: 'No, stranger. My trouble's over. I tried to pick out some other fellow's cows.'—Cleveland Leader.

Shouldn't Count It. "Issue which just recovered from typhoid fever, you have charged me for four weeks' calls; I will pay for only three weeks." "Doctor: 'I called you every day for four weeks, Mr. Isaac.'—Life.

THE OBSERVANT PARAGRAPHERS. "There is some hope for the boy who has been driven into the bathtub, but there is no hope for the boy who has been driven away from the mirror."—Athens Globe.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL. A peat-gas plant is being erected near Svadala, Sweden, which will transform power from peat into electricity, and this with the prospect of installing a peat-burning town for consumption by municipalities and industrial plants.

SWANSON ON RULES. Editorial Comment on Governor's Criticism of the Balfour Licensing Bill. Governor Claude A. Swanson, of Virginia, who for thirteen years was a member of the National House of Representatives, has just published a situation in that body in the American Review of Reviews, and in an able and temperate criticism of the rules which suggest a remedy by no means radical or revolutionary.

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THE COURTS OF EUROPE. Lord Gwydyr's new suit of his line, has had somewhat long to wait for the family honors and titles which he has won in the House of Lords, for, older than King Edward, he is nearly seventy. But in spite of this, he is justified in looking forward to the enjoyment of his newly acquired property and dignities for at least a quarter of a century, as his face is more than twice that of a man who has just passed away, rather suddenly and unexpectedly, in enjoyment of his property.

THE VIRGINIAN AND BALTIMORE. Will New Railroad Hurt Coal Trade in the Maryland Metropolis? The enthusiasm which has greeted the opening of the Virginian Railroad at Norfolk and the reception to the builder of that road seem to indicate that the Virginian is a great sentiment left in that part of Virginia. That this new railroad will be of enormous advantage to Norfolk and to the two Virginia cities for many years to come is a business man as Mr. H. H. Rogers, industrialist, has pointed out. The construction of the new road is almost like an industrial romance. The Virginian is for many years that paid for it out of Standard Oil dividends, as did the railroad system and the beautiful hotels on the east coast of Virginia. In these enterprises received a certain substantial solace for trust oppression.

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STATE PRESS. The News, however, does not believe that the State Committee will consider any argument based upon the fact that the Democratic voters of the State will be unable to measure up to the requirements of a wholesome, patriotic deliberation, if called to meet in convention. It is a plea that might suit a politician, but it is not one which well has expiring when applied to one that possesses vitality, strength, boldness and initiative. And for once we regret that the notion has even been mentioned in this connection.—Lynchburg News.

Business and Reform. "Hang reform, it hurts business," says the Richmond Times-Dispatch, "is a cry long since familiar. It would be decidedly refreshing now and then to hear some strong voice ringing out: 'Hang business, I say it hurts reform!'"

Dr. Eliot's "Liberal Education." Editor of the Times-Dispatch: "Dr. Eliot is a man who is not only a great scholar, but a great teacher. He has a way of speaking that is clear, concise, and to the point. His book, 'Liberal Education,' is a masterpiece of scholarship and common sense. It is a book that every student of the law should read. It is a book that every student of the law should read. It is a book that every student of the law should read."

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The Merchants National Bank, of Richmond, Virginia. A bank account is a true friend in any kind of trouble. There are misfortunes in business as well as in life. They are always easier to bear if you have money. Expenses go on just the same. No human institution could be more sure than our Bank. Our loans are well distributed, both as to amount and class of business represented, of high grade and remarkably clean. Give us your account now. 300 INTEREST ALLOWED ON SAVINGS DEPOSITS—COMPOUNDED. "Safest for Savings."