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GLENN MARIS

Glasgow, Montana

## The Glasgow Courier

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### PROTECTION THE ISSUE

The fact becomes more and more evident that the dominant issue in the next campaign will be the question of protection, not only the protection of the American farmer, workingman and manufacturer from the flood of foreign products which was pouring into this country when the war fortunately put a temporary end to it, but the protection of the whole economic, political and social structure of the nation from the unrestricted incursion of aliens of undesirable type, tens of thousands of whom have since the war broke out returned to their native lands to perform compulsory military service.

Many as are the ways in which the present Democratic national administration has failed to make good, its most glaring failure, its most fatal blunder, has been in the matter of tariff policy after its enactment into law, the finances of the government began to run behind and the nation was plunged into a period of depression which has had a modern counterpart only in the business calamity which twenty years ago similarly followed the enactment of a Democratic tariff law. Today, prosperous as we are, it is a war prosperity, and when the present struggle is over the United States faces an industrial cataclysm in which every man, woman and child will suffer, unless in the meantime a tariff based on the Republican theory of protection is restored.

It is a case of "to be or not to be," a question of national self-preservation, and while other fundamental questions of governmental policy are at issue between the Democratic and Republican parties, this basic bread-and-butter problem is paramount. It

is realization of this fact largely that explains the decadence and virtual extinction of the third party. The former Republicans who composed it appreciate that this great issue overshadows any other differences of opinion that they may have held with other Republicans over matters of domestic policy and realize that common sense and patriotic citizenship demand that they throw the weight of their influence and their votes into the scale on the side of American prosperity.

Owing to our peculiar situation Montana has not felt the effects of the Democratic tariff fiasco as disastrously as has the manufacturing east, but before the war started we had a sufficient taste of it to realize that, comparatively independent industrially as we are, we shall suffer our share of the consequences in case relief is not obtained through a Republican Congress. Mayor Thompson of Chicago in his address here recently reflected the preponderating sentiment of the east, which knows what it is to have its factories shut down, its railroads working on short time and its workmen out of employment by the hundreds of thousands, and we should not ignore the warning.

The Progressives of Eastern Montana have taken the lesson to heart and it is a source of gratification that they have not permitted any false scruples to prevent them from returning to the ranks ready to do their share in bringing about the return of the Republican party to power. Yellowstone County has taken the lead in this respect, and nowhere is the party more firmly reunited or more active and enthusiastic than here. The same thing is true throughout all of Eastern Montana, and it is prophetic of a decisive repudiation next fall of the destructive policies and the inefficient administration of the Democratic party in the nation, as well as the bungling and extravagance of the present state administration.—Billings Gazette.

### MONTANA IS BEST

That Montana is the best state and most prosperous in the union, is testified to by the fact that the leading financial bureaus of the country and such firms as Bradstreet and Dunn unite in declaring that the treasure state is the most prosperous of the nation. At no other place can such

ideal conditions be found. The Madison Times of Virginia City puts it well in a recent editorial when he says:

"The reason that Montana is the best state in the union today is because we can and do produce a larger variety of products than any other state," says the Times. "This statement is taking in a large territory but, nevertheless we make no apology whatsoever, for Montana has got the goods.

"We produce in abundance and of quality excelled by none, as was shown at the exposition at San Francisco. We raise wheat, oats, barley, rye flax apples and all kinds of small fruits. Practically everything in the line of food products, with the exception of bananas, pineapples and grapefruit, is raised in Montana that is possible to grow in any other state.

"In forest products we are not trailing behind the list by any means and in the mining industry we lead the world in copper and are crowding the class in gold, silver, zinc and coal. Our Montana sapphires are much sought after by the tourists and experts claim them to be the best of their kind.

"Montana is a competitor for the first place in the sheep, cattle, wool and livestock industry. She is recognized as a paradise for the sportsman. We have the finest trout fishing in the world and a great abundance of wild game.

"Our scenery is unsurpassed, even in Switzerland, and tourists marvel at the magnificent beauty that opens up to them as they travel through the state.

"Montana is crossed by three transcontinental railroads which pass entirely through the state, while each one is building branch lines to tap the rich country that is tributary to the main lines, thus giving our people access to the markets of the whole world.

"Montana has unlimited water power at various points through the state, which is rapidly being developed for electrical power and it is due to this geographical distribution of power that one of the greatest transcontinental lines in the United States is now installing its first unit of nearly 500 miles of electrification for operative purposes.

"These are the many reasons why Montana is leading and others follow. It is because we do things in Montana that our resources are being developed and made to furnish an income.

### LET'S PLAY FAIR

Much has been said during the last years about co-operation among farmers, and co-operation among the business men, but very little is said on a more vital topic. Co-operation between farmers and business men. Some professional agitators seem to think it their duty to stir up prejudice and distrust between the farmers and the local business men of the town. The farmers come to believe that the local merchant is trying to do him at every chance and so he decides to withdraw his patronage and send away to some mail-order concern or to some so named co-operative organization who in turn are affiliated more or less with the mail order con-

cerns. The farmer says he can make money by sending away for his goods. Maybe he can and perhaps if he considered everything; the quality of the goods, the price, the freight, the waiting, the returning of goods that were not what you ordered, etc., the profit might not be so great after all.

But all this is beside the real question. The farmer is above all things interested in building up the community. Better homes, better conditions in the whole neighborhood are what he wants and that takes the earnest co-operation of all. Suppose Mears Poduck & Co., can save you forty cents on a pair of shoes of unknown quality. What does Mears, Poduck & Co., do to build up your community? Where does your money go? If you buy at home your dollar is kept at home helping to make money conditions easier in our local community.

If you send away your cash, your money builds up eastern business and brings profits to eastern banks. Your local merchant loses the best part of your trade, the cash trade but you expect the merchant to finance you when you have no cash on hand. Because the local merchant is financing you he must borrow at the bank.

The bank says: "Get your money in from the farmers. Money is low at the bank." The cash all went east you remember to save 40 cents on a pair of questionable shoes and now the bank must go east to borrow money from one of Mears, Poduck's banks to finance the merchant to finance the farmer for the goods that Mears, Poduck wouldn't sell him unless he paid cash. The merchant pays 8 to 10 per cent on the money the farmers sent east, while if the farmer had traded at home for cash the merchant could as well have given the farmer a discount as to pay interest at the bank. The merchant has a hard time to break even, and he gets sore because the farmer sends his orders away and he decides he might as well drive the price up when the farmer comes in to buy on credit. The farmer gets sore and when he comes home he checks his purchase by Messrs. Poduck's catalogue, and gets still more sore because he could have got his sugar 75c. less on the 100 lb. if he had had the money.

But why should we work at cross purposes. Why not get together and talk things over. The fault may be partly the merchants and it may be partly the farmers. Let us reach an understanding and work together to build up our home community. To make our business relations profitable both to farmer and merchant. Going along the customary way it means loss to both and all the profits go to outsiders. Let us take a little pride in our own community and endeavor to make that the best place on earth. The merchant still has a few things to learn and so has the farmer. But we can do better by joining hands and boosting for our home community than by nursing a grudge and trying to spread distrust and hate among our neighbors. Let's play fair!

The neutral man in Glasgow can commence to appreciate the position that the United States has been placed in during the past year of the European war.

### NO MORE FREE TRADE. (Philadelphia Ledger.)

Not foreign policy, but foreign orders, is what the democrats are really counting on to see them safely through the campaign next year.

The country did not have long to wait for the effects of free trade. Hard times came soon enough. In Philadelphia charity was taxed as never before during the winter. The condition here was symptomatic. Matters would have gone from bad to worse had not the sudden influx of orders from Europe revived the steel trade and given a new, though unexpected, vitality to industry.

The country was saved by the calamity in Europe. Democrats may be able to capitalize this situation to some extent, but it is more likely that the vast majority will thank Providence that the catastrophe elsewhere raised a new tariff wall in place of the one torn down, and so saved the nation from its own folly. In that case they will return with renewed faith to their first principles and not again trifle with an economic policy which it has been proved time and time again, is essential to the well-being of the nation.

### POOR BUSINESS

Our attention has been called to the fact that at least 75 per cent. of the packages mailed out of Glasgow for the sixth zone during the past year have been goods which were being returned to the mail order houses at Chicago and points further east marked "unsatisfactory." In each of these cases the purchaser had already sent in his money to the mail order house and during the two or three weeks that the packages were being shipped back and forth, the house had the free use of this money while the purchaser really got nothing out of the transaction but the delay in making the purchase. Chances are ten to one that he could have gone to any one of the local merchants, laid down the cash, and got a satisfactory buy for less money than he sent east for an inferior article. When you have cash to spend try it out on the home merchant. He will treat you better and you will feel a lot better for having spent your money at home.

### LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

Many fake concerns are making good money by advertising in glaring headlines: "Buy your goods at wholesale!" Thousands of people swallow the bait and imagine that they are getting such wonderful bargains by buying at wholesale. If they compared the "wholesale" price of these loving "wholesalers" with the standard retail prices, they would be surprised. If they want to compare the quality they would be still more surprised. There are a few manufacturers who make one brand of inferior quality but with the same name for the mail order concerns. The purchaser believes he is getting the identical thing until he stops to compare. Very few, however, do that and the "wholesaler" does a big business. How much does he help to build up your community? Can you guess?

Having been rebuked by Carranza the pan-American mediators may be sure they are right and go ahead.

### LOOK OUT FOR THE POLICE

All the Glasgow youngsters who have made extensive plans for raising particular Cain on Hallowe'en night will do well to reconsider and keep well under the parental roof for the next few nights, as the Glasgow police announce that they will make it exceedingly warm for the mischief-makers who start out to do damage to property, etc., this year. Heretofore the damage done in Glasgow on Hallowe'en has been exceedingly small and the local police intend to keep up the good record.

### ARE YOU EDUCATED?

A professor of the University of Chicago has evolved a series of test questions for the educated which, he avows, are the best evidences of a real education. If you can answer "yes" to all the questions you are truly educated, the professor says. Here are the questions:

- Has education given you sympathy with all the good causes and made you espouse them?
- Has it made you public spirited?
- Has it made you a brother of the weak?
- Have you learned how to make friends and keep them?
- Do you know what it is to be a friend yourself?
- Can you look an honest man or pure woman in the eye?
- Do you see anything to love in a little child?
- Will a lonely dog follow you in the street?
- Can you be high-minded and happy in the meanest drudgeries of life?
- Do you think that washing dishes and hoeing corn is just as compatible with high thinking as piano playing or golf?
- Are you good for anything yourself?
- Can you be happy alone?
- Can you look out on the world and see anything but dollars and cents?
- Can you look into a mud-puddle by the wayside and see a clear sky?
- Can you see anything in the puddle but mud?



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