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THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair; generally warmer.

THE TARIFF TASK.

Tariff making, and tariff amending, are among the greatest of the tasks falling to the Congress and we, the people, are usually a bit impatient about the manner and time in which it is accomplished. Of course we are nearest to the tariff in the matter of cost and consumption and the general play of the great charge, but there 's something due the men in Washington who are seeking to make our burdens, in the line of living and doing, easier and less and freer. To those men in the national assembly who are closer to the "interests" whose businesses and concerns are affected, the tariff is not so much a matter of public policy as it is of private profit, and they are many, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, worse luck!

The temper of the present house is not conducive to too strong a fight by the "high-binders" of industry and finance, as witness the smashing rebuke just administered to the aforesaid Speaker in his effort to save his Standard Oil friends; there is a lurking sense of wrong and injustice recognized in the strenuous demands of the combines and a quick and effective sentiment against it. Conditions that the people must applaud, since no real wrong is being done the mighty claimants, even when their wishes are denied and abated. There seems, also, to be a tendency to keep the commoner staples within easy range though they may not all go to the free-list; and so the people may take some comfort in the big fight that is going on for and against them.

One trouble with the American is that he will not try to fathom the details which so hugely affect him and his living; in all our millions of interested people, there are, perhaps, a few paltry thousands that have any definite knowledge whatever of the tariff scales and charges as formulated by the government, and even fewer who give thought to the inner workings of the scientific schedules and their bearings on the individual and his business. It seems to be beyond them, and yet it is not; but the general indifference serves the end of the predatory class by allowing them to operate unhindered of the real opposition that should confront them, the real wish of the people. They do things differently in England; there, the ordinary citizen keeps in almost intimate touch with the man he sent to the Commons and the man in the Commons knows it, and governs himself accordingly. It is time we were waking up a bit and studying the evils we have let run riot for generations past.

THEY BROKE THROUGH.

It remained for the sturdy Inland Empire farmer to break through the line Portland had cast about herself as the pivotal center of all things Oregonian and jar that fine metropolis loose from some of the arrogant assumptions that were really burdening her. With 15,000 able-bodied and clear-minded men who know exactly what they want, where to go for it, and how to seek it, backed by 25,000,000 bushels of wheat every season, the Farmers' Union had no difficulty whatever in puncturing the exclusive hide of the Portland combine and making themselves known and felt.

This, or something very like it, has been the crowning fear and worry of Portland for, lo, these many, many years; she has dreaded the hour when some agency such as this would rise to demoralize the hard-and-fast little game of cinch she has been playing on the Columbia; and now the peril 's at hand, and in such shape as to affright and stagger the ambitious and progressive city up the second river from here. She is face to face with the unescapable change she has dreaded so long; she must soon do the shipping for the State, from the logical sea-port of the State and not from her own meagre and remote docks; and while she is not likely to lose much, and the State nothing, she rebels against the relinquishment of her prestige as the controlling wheat shipping market of this territory.

Astoria will benefit by the change, if it shall come to her to do this business, and she will appreciate the advantage; and she can certainly make good, and better, as to despatch and economy. We wish we might have attained to the thing upon our own initiative; but as it is, the initiative, the claim and the business, have all been supplied by the farther section, to whom it will be of even greater value and emolument than to us at this end. All this, of course, upon the predicate that the plea of the Farmers' Union is to prevail with the Inter-State Commerce Commission, a condition no one doubts will ensue upon the full and formal presentment of the arguments to be made. And we still insist, that whatever Astoria may gain in the premises Portland will lose practically nothing, in dollars, or prestige, for she will still do the actual business of the State's shipping, wheresoever the docks and elevators may be later on.

It is impossible to eliminate the Portland interest and influence from this great engagement; nor do we know of anyone who desires to cut it out or even mitigate it. Astoria wants the business because she is entitled to it as the finest and cheapest port on the Oregon coast; because she can give ampler returns on the business by the cheaper and swifter handling; and she does not care very much upon whose capital she does it. Certainly Portland money and enterprise must figure commandingly in any change that comes to this business and we are not challenging the proposition nor fighting the fact. All we want is to be placed in the sphere we belong to as a port and city, and to grow with the impetus of that rightful place and prerogative. Portland's share in the new deal will be properly taken care of and accounted for, never fear!

Why discover the poles asks a lecturer. In considering this question a plan should be suggested by which human nature can be revised with some of the energy, daring and curiosity omitted.

Twelve varieties of birds were discovered by the explorers who nearly reached the south pole. The marksmanship must have been bad or it would not have been necessary to eat the faithful ponies.

A company recently formed has postponed its programme of regular aerial service between New York and Boston. A Jersey charter for the trust is ready, but the financial world is not yet persuaded.

The unexpected still happens in war. Just as Servia was said to be pacified a strom center broke loose in Oklahoma. If Poor Lo wanted a fighting chance he made a poor choice for the field of operations.

The new tariff law, it is settled, will not please everybody. But it 's certain that President Taft will have no occasion to be as rough on the result as President Cleveland was on the last Democratic tariff. "Perfidy and dishonor" are stinging words.

It is proposed to remove the dtuy of 67 cents a ton on coal. If consumers notice any difference in their bills they will be agreeably surprised. The duty was suspended during the big coal strike period, but the effect was the addition of the 67 cents to the price of foreign coal.

Congressman Payne relates that he received one day over 400 telegrams from different parts of the country in regard to a tariff item all urging the same thing. But all made the middle initial of his name B. instead of E. This spontaneous outbreak was so unanimous that it led to the discovery that one string had set the whole operation going.

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NORTH SIDE NEWS

Miss I. M. Williamson, of Ilwaco, is the accredited representative of The Astorian and will take care of all items of news, orders for subscriptions and all kinds of printing.

ILWACO

C. G. Winslow, of Oysterville, passed through Ilwaco, the latter part of last week, on his way to Portland, where he will spend several days on business.

R. A. Hawkins and L. D. Williams both of this city, departed Monday for South Bend Wash., where they will attend commissioners court, which is being held this week.

Mr. Fraser a traveling salesman from Portland, was soliciting orders, in Ilwaco the first of the week.

Fred Gold and Willard Jenkins left Monday, and expect to locate in some enterprising town or city, on Puget Sound, if they can find a suitable occupation. They received the best wishes of their many Ilwaco friends, for success in their new field of endeavor.

Miss Hazel Hughes, returned Saturday from Lebam, Wash., where she has been visiting with her uncle, Sol Markham and family.

John R. Goulter, of this city, one of the county commissioners left the first of the week for South Bend, to be in attendance at commissioners court during the ensuing term.

Mr. Eigner, of Prael & Eigner, Transfer Company, of Astoria, was a business visitor to Ilwaco, the latter part of last week.

Mrs. Williams and daughter Bertha of Forest Grove, Ore, returned home last week, after a visit with Parker Jones at the Sand Ridge.

Ben Selling and wife, of Walla Walla have opened up their cottage at Seaview and expect to stay for at least six months.

Mrs. Roy Plumb, of Chinook is reported quite ill at present, with Dr. Paul of this city, and Dr. Estes of Astoria in attendance.

Dave Hood Jr., who has occupied the position of station agent at the I. R. & N. depot, at Ilwaco and Megler, for several years, has accepted a position as purser on the steamer Inland Empire, at Celilo Oregon. Mr. Hood has made Ocean Park his home for many years and is well known in this city.

A. J. Baker of Ocean Park has purchased the hulk of the French ship "Alice" which went ashore on the morning of Jan. 15th 1909. The deal was consummated through Taylor Young & Co., of Portland, the agents for the owners of the vessels.

Tom Hoefler, returned recently to his home at Long Beach after having spent several weeks in California for his health.

A large number of Ilwaco people attended the masquerade ball given last Saturday evening, by the Jacobson orchestra, in the Sylvan Hall, at Long Beach. A special train made the run from all points along the line leaving Ilwaco at 8:30 and returning at 2:30. The prizes were awarded as follows: Mrs. S. Butts, best dressed lady; Burnice Taylor, best dressed gentleman character; Mrs. Frank Lyniff, best sustained lady character; Phil Strieb, best sustained gentleman character, and Emanuel Porter, as the most ridiculous character. The hall was beautifully decorated in signal flags, from the North Head Wireless Station, and Japanese lanterns. The "Moonlight Waltz" was a pretty feature of the evening. Everyone reported the usual good time that is always shown them at a long Beach dance.

Mr. Collins, returned to his home in Vancouver, Wash., Monday after spending a few days in Ilwaco, last week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McKensie of Portland arrived the first of the week and have opened up their cottage at "the Willows" for the coming summer.

Thomas Massney, is in the city at present, and is slowly recovering from an attack of the la-grippe.

J. H. McAfee and J. W. Wade, were among the business visitors to Astoria the first of the week.

A large gang of Chinamen arrived Saturday morning, and will be employed in the McGowan cannery, during the coming season.

J. A. Howarton, returned Wednesday, from Knappton, where he attended the annual meeting of the North Shore telephone directors, held at that place Tuesday.

Wilson Graham returned home, the first of the week, from the Nasel, where he had been working in a logging camp for the past month or two. He returned, preparatory to getting his traps in readiness for the coming fishing season.

Orin Belknapp, of Chinook was a business visitor to Ilwaco Wednesday.

Miss Connie Robinson, of the Wallicut was in the city Thursday, doing some shopping, and visiting among her Ilwaco friends.

Everyone is making preparations for the big masquerade ball to be given Saturday evening April 3rd in the Sylvan Hall at Long Beach. Mr. Seaborg, who has a large assortment of suits to rent, reports a rushing business along that line.

Jeff Nye, departed the first of the week, for Portland Oregon.

Peterson & Co. of this city had their spring opening of millinery, the first of the week, and showed all the leading styles that are so much n evidence, for the spring. Their store was decorated very artistically in ferns and flowers.

Mr. H. Nott is making some repairs on the interior of his barber shop on main street, and on the adjoining building. He is re-papering and re-painting both buildings.

Mr. Collins of Vancouver, Wash. was a business visitor to Ilwaco the latter part of the week.

A very quiet but pretty wedding was solemnized last Sunday evening, at the Methodist parsonage at 6 P. M. when Harry Rowe, and Mrs. L. E. Palmer of this city, were united in marriage by Reverend Holliday. The couple received the hearty congratulations of their many Ilwaco friends.

Mr. McAdams of Portland Ore. was in the city the latter part of the week trying to secure an option on about 1200 acres of cranberry and peet land.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Groff are the proud parents of a baby boy, born Friday.

Mr. Hagon, of the Wallicut was in Ilwaco Friday on business. He will soon commence operating in his logging camp, and he will give employment to a large number of men.

AMUSEMENTS

THE GINGER BREAD MAN

Why is it that musical shows are such spell binders? And why is it that good dramatic plays very often lack patronage when a Comic Opera Company will pack the house to suffocation? The answer is a simple one. The average musical comedy or comic opera offers so much variety in entertainment and so much diversity of interest that one is not only entertained, but enthralled for the time being. The brilliancy, the glare of unusual lights, the pretty costuming and the almost fairiesque scenery, combined with enchanting music, up-to-date and amusing comedy, the stage everywhere covered with femine beauty and you have the answer.

Everywhere you turn there is something to delight the senses and enchant the eye. The story may be light and fanciful, but it is usually sufficient for the purpose and the pretty chorus members, the graceful dancing, with the variety of embellishment that our later day producers give to it, plunges one into a world of novelty and pleasurable bewilderment.

The Ginger Bread Man is a creature of this school, bright, attractively beautiful in melody, apt and smart in its trite sayings and comic development, sensationally clever and clever in its sensations, it offers one a world of novelty in its continued unfolding charm.

The book is by the late Frederick G. Ranken, who has many clever productions to his score, and the music by Al Baldwin Sloane, has earned for him a reputation from coast to coast. Mr. Sloane has been responsible for many beautiful scores and his music has a piquant charm that is irresistible, although written by a musician, which Mr. Sloane undoubtedly is, he has the faculty of writing melody and music that is tuneful, yet classical and at the same time utterly devoid of clap-trap.

The Ginger Bread Man has a fantastic little story which concerns creatures with which every one is familiar, but it puts such dialogue in their mouths and is served in such an irresistible way that one is irresistibly entertained in its development. The Characters are unusual and their methods totally unlike anything that we can recall in comic opera, therefore its novelty is appealing, and even if the play were not such good entertainment a night spent listening to Sloan's music is always well spent. Mr. Sloane is responsible for such compositions as: "Coming Through the Rye", Lady Teazel", "The Mocking Bird," "Jack and the Bean Stalk" "Broadway to Tokyo", and "Sargent Kitty"; all tuneful operas, many of which succeeded on the strength of the score alone.

The principal numbers in the Ginger Bread Man are; "John Dough" "The Evil Eye"; "Do you believe in Santa Claus" "Every little Something" "Old Ramesses" "The Beautiful Land of Bon Bon" and "Moon Moon" The latter song is enchanced by the appearance of a little girl sitting on the crescent of the new moon and floating dreamily through a clouded sky. The Sun's reflection brightens up her face while she sings this sweet refrain.

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"THIS IS MY 55th BIRTHDAY

Dr. Moses Smith Cross, professor and for some time acting president of the University of the Pacific, at San Jose, California, was born April 8, 1854, at Lightsville, Illinois. He was graduated from Northwestern University in 1881 and from the theological seminary of the same university the following year. In 1884 he went to Europe, where he spent the next five years in study, principally at the universities of Leipzig and Berlin and the National University of Greece. Prior to going abroad he had served two years as professor of Greek, Latin and Hebrew at Northwestern University and upon his return from Europe in 1890 he accepted a similar position at the University of the Pacific. In 1906 he became acting president of the university. In addition to his reputation as an educator Dr. Cross is well known as a clergyman and a writer.

CREATING A STOCKING TRUST BY CONGRESS

WOMEN PROTEST AGAINST PAYNE BILL ON COTTON HOSIERY.

NEW YORK, April 7.—That the rise in the cost of cotton stockings to the majority of Americans, which is threatened in the Payne bill, is rousing to protest the people of every state, county and town in this country was reported in this city to-day. Careful canvas of the customers of store keepers and salesmen in touch with the people of every section of the land has been made from the head quarters of the National Wholesale Dry Goods Association here for several weeks and the results show that few persons of moderate means do not resent the present plan at Washington to shut out the cheaper grades of hoisery and let a local trust make its own price. Instead of paying a quarter for a pair of cotton stockings, it has been calculated, most American families must be charged thirty-five and fifty cents for an inferior grade of goods if the proposed schedule is adopted.

Facts and figures showing that every man, woman and child who wears cotton stockings will be taxed for the benefit of the little group of men who make them here are to-day being sent to Washington by consumers in every part of the country. From the official statistics the dry goods men have compiled for their inquiring customers the records of the manufacturers who are seeking protection and profit at the expense of the people. In the last eight years it is recorded that the production of the American hoisery mills has been doubled while there has been no increase in the importation of the stockings which they would shut out altogether by a prohibitory tariff rate. Only 15 per cent of all the stockings sold in this country are imported, it is shown, and with this slight element of stimulating competition removed by the Payne bill, a control would be created which would put all Americans at the mercy of arbitrary trust prices.

That the wealthy few will pay more for their silk hosiery, which is left unchanged on the schedule, while the families of moderate means must be heavily taxed for their cotton stockings is reported to be the chief cause of complaint from the great majority of men, women and children throughout the country. It is declared by the retail merchants that the people of their communities are charging this feature of the tariff bill with being most unfair class legislation. The lower the present price of cotton stockings, the higher will the price be raised as the result of the proposed schedule, it has been clearly shown, and among the working men and women of the land the general resentment is reported as being most emphatically expressed.

While the business men who handle cotton stockings would be able to meet this situation, officers of the dry goods asociation said today, it would be the poorer people of the whole land who would bear the burden of the proposed increase in tariff. Only inferior goods could be bought at greatly advanced prices by men and women of moderate means, they asserted, if the extreme protection demanded by the manufacturers here was allowed to become law and create a cotton stocking trust.

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