

## TARIFF DOES NOT REGULATE PRICES

PRICES ARE DUE TO LAW OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND AND NOT TO PROTECTION

The following article, which originally appeared in the New York Sun, is herewith reproduced at the request of several of the leading woolgrowers of the state. It will furnish splendid food for thought, especially to some of the late democratic candidates of the state:

Years of controversy, largely political, have left in the public mind a notion that prices rise and fall in response to change in tariff schedules. It is commonly believed that a 10-cent reduction in the duty on wheat would result in a 10-cent decrease in the price of that commodity, and that its transfer to the free list would reduce its price 25 cents a bushel. It is believed that free flour, free butter, eggs, meat, bacon and other commodities, now much more costly than they were a few years ago, would mean a return to the prices of earlier days, or at least a reduction in prices to the lower level supposed to prevail in all other lands. The belief is distinctly erroneous, but it prevails and is likely to prevail until knowledge takes the place of ignorance and of mere political assertion for political effect.

Just now the wool and woolen schedules pushed to the front on the theory that reduction or removal of the tariff would enable us all to buy more clothes and better clothes, more blankets and better blankets, for a fraction of the price we now have to pay.

People accept assertions to this effect merely because they know so little about wool and woolens. A magazine writer asserts that the raw wool produced yearly in the United States is only enough to make about one pound of clothing for every person in the country. Therefore the argument appears to be that if we want woolen clothing for our bodies, woolen blankets for our beds and woolen carpets for our floors we must go to foreign markets for our supply of wool. The total world supply of wool is so limited that if the entire clip were distributed among those who want it each would get somewhat less than three pounds. The demand for woolen goods and the ability to purchase them in this and other countries have greatly increased in the last few years. The world supply of wool is no greater than it was in 1894, the earliest date for which the figures are immediately at hand.

In round figures this country produces one-eighth and consumes one-quarter of the world's present supply of wool. If the American demand and draft on the foreign product, limited in quantity, are increased by reason of a lowering or a removal of the tariff on wool and woolens, will not foreign prices respond to the law of supply and demand and go far above their present level? Such a result is probably inevitable. Whether they would after a time rise to the present American level is perhaps a question, but an almost immediate result of free wool would be a repetition of the experience under the Wilson-Gorman bill. The number of sheep in the country would decrease, the supply of wool being proportionately lessened, and the price would be affected by the decreased wool supply. It is asserted that in the less than four years' life of the Wilson bill, under which wool was on the free list, the number of sheep in the United States decreased 21 per cent. The official estimates show 45,000,000 sheep in 1894 and 36,800,000 in 1907. The lower the price of wool the less will be the number of sheep on American farms and ranges and the heavier will be our demands on the limited supply of other countries.

There seems no good reason to believe that even free wool, in itself, would seriously affect the price of our needed and desired articles made in whole or in part of wool. In this assertion there is no purpose whatever to urge retention of the present schedules. The sole purpose of the comment is to call attention to certain facts and conditions bearing on the question. For an intelligent consideration of the matter some knowledge of fundamentals is required. It is well to know that the reported 238,000,000 pounds of wool clipped in the United States in 1909 gave only 142,000,000 pounds when washed and scoured to bring it into condition for use in manufactures. It is well to know that the 266,000,000

pounds of wool imported that year shows shrinkage in washing and scouring to 165,000,000 pounds. On that basis the total world supply of wool in condition for manufacturing purposes would be less than 1,500,000,000 pounds, or perhaps about three pounds each for the users and wearers of woolen articles. It is well to know that supply is limited, and it is well to remember that price will, after all, be determined by the reaction of supply and demand. The immediate and the permanent results of downward revision of the woolen schedule is another matter, but it is well not to expect too much from reduction or removal of the tariff on raw wool.

## HAS PRAISE FOR NEW APPOINTEES

L. F. ADAMSON, ON HIS RETURN FROM CALIFORNIA, ASSERTS ODDIE HAS KEPT HIS WORD

The Goldfield Tribune of Tuesday says:

L. F. Adamson, well known locally, who acted as advance man and official stenographer with Senator Nixon's division of state candidates during the recent election, returned to Goldfield yesterday after several weeks spent with Governor-elect T. L. Oddie in Berkeley, Cal. Mr. Adamson denies any knowledge of an appointment in store for himself, but asserts that Governor Oddie's appointments generally are made up.

"The people of Nevada will be both surprised and pleased," he said in discussing the matter with a representative of the Tribune, "when they see the appointments."

"I know personally that not one of the governor's appointments will be made on the basis of political preference. He has turned down scores of men, not because they have not been good republicans, but because they had not the proper qualifications for office-holders."

"Because a man is a good politician, or because he could organize a machine for the governor's future, is not a sufficient recommendation for Tasker L. Oddie when appointments are to be considered. I know of several, all of whom worked for Oddie before election, who have been told by him—and straight from the shoulder, too—that they could not expect any favors as far as appointments go."

"Governor Oddie promised a clean, business-like administration. He is going about it in the right way to secure it, for all of his appointees are men possessed of executive and business ability. Citizens of Nevada will have cause many times during the next four years to feel pleased with the men named for executive positions."

Mr. Adamson is also authority for the statement that Governor Oddie is contemplating various economies, some of them through the elimination of useless officials and some through broadening the scope of action of office-holders.

## OBJECT TO AIRSIP HUNTING IN CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Frank Dolliver, one of the most widely known sportsmen in California, has written a letter to the board of fish and game commissioners voicing the protest of the sportsmen against the hunt to be undertaken with an aeroplane by Lieutenant Paul Beck, detailed by the government to supervise military experiments during the aviation meet next January.

These officials propose to shoot the game in the course of a daredevil flight to be made in the Sacramento valley on a date to be selected on New Year's day and the opening of the Tanforan meet. Scottford will take his gun on board a Wright machine driven by Roy Knabenshue and Lieutenant Beck will try to bag his game from a Curtiss aeroplane driven by R. R. Young.

Originally started as a "sporting proposition" by Scottford, who believed he was aviating too high for the daring birdmen to follow, it was promptly brought to earth by Knabenshue and Young, who immediately agreed to make the flight "if Scottford has the nerve."

The terms in which the acceptance was deprived Scottford of the nerve to refuse, and the date of the flight to take place in the Sacra-

mento valley will be announced within the next few days, as soon as the details of the course, landing and starting points, etc., have been decided upon.

Dolliver claims that to permit such a hunt will establish a very dangerous precedent, in view of the rapid improvement of the aeroplane, and that such a hunt can easily be construed as a violation in letter as well as in principle, of section 626 of the penal code, prohibiting the hunting of game birds from motor boats.

An aeroplane, he points out, is commonly described as a boat or ship of the air. It is propelled through a fluid medium by a motor, and with the speed and ease of control that have been developed in its recent trials, the flying machine, he asserts, can easily become the most devastating weapon available to persons of the "game hog" type.



DICK RABE  
New musical artist at the Butler

The program of the Butler theatre for today is as follows: "The secret of the Cellar," a war drama; "A Trip Through Scotland," a scenic picture of exceptional merit; "Pharaoh, or Israel in Egypt," a very accurate presentation of the popular conception of the tenth plague, which was the one that made Pharaoh permit of the departure of the Israelites. "The Marked Trail" is a wild western picture, with bandits, a kidnaped girl, a blindfolded doctor to attend her, and a sensational rescue which ends in the capture of the entire gang. In addition, Dick Rabe, the musical comedy artist who appeared last evening, will be again before the footlights with an entire new change of program. His work last evening was exceptionally well executed and he undoubtedly will be a great drawing card all week for the popular little playhouse.

When you make up your mind to buy a bunch of mining stock in a dead camp there is no use looking at the stock. Just hand the fellow the money.

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### PICTURE FEATURES OF RANCH CULTURE

Ely Expositor: Cultural maps are now required to be filed with the state engineer by all users of water under permission granted under the terms of the state laws relating to the appropriation and use of water for irrigation and for other purposes. While this entails some expense on ranchers of the state the knowledge gained from having the surveys made ought to be worth all it costs and certainly ought to make it much easier to arrange sales of property.

### PRIZE STEER SHIPPED

Al Triefoff, the local cattle buyer, made a shipment of Christmas steers to Reno this morning. One of the cattle shipped was a steer that tipped the scale at 2200. This is the largest animal shipped from this section of Nevada in many moons. The big beef will be served in Reno, as he goes to that city for the holiday trade.—Carson Appeal.

Mince meat made out of our apple cider and brandy cannot be surpassed. Hall Liquor company. Ring up 812. 11-22-tf

### LOOK AT THE

following comparison of growth of a bank about four months old:

June 1, 1910, deposits	\$ 36,771.31
June 6, 1910, deposits	74,000.00
July 2, 1910, deposits	148,100.00
Aug. 31, 1910, deposits	297,300.00
Sept. 14, 1910, deposits	333,821.92
Oct. 14, 1910, deposits	457,486.26
Capital, paid up	\$240,000.00
Loans	\$473,261.00

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