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The Industrial Development of Nations.

It is quite apropos to the present politico-economic situation in the United States that Mr. George B. Curtiss, of Binghamton, New York, has issued his great work on the Industrial Development of Nations. Not of the philosophes or modern times, nor of those more ancient, ever uttered a greater truism than did Gen. Hancock in his presidential candidacy of 1880, when he stated that the tariff question was a local issue, and there was not necessarily any great or broad principle in it that should dominate the entire country with an iron hand, one way or the other. When we reflect on the fact that no country in modern times was more distinctively protective in all of its legal measures concerning trade than was England, until its manufacturing industries became so large that they finally acquired more power than the old conservative, feudal aristocracy of England, and that the repeal of the duties on food stuffs to cheapen the cost of living in England for the good of the English manufacturers, was the final outcome with the establishment of what we now call free trade England. That is an England which has so legislated as to best suit its productiveness from its own point of view. When England controlled the American colonies she allowed no manufacturing on this side of the Atlantic, and endeavored to retain at home all trade that could be secured by any legislation.

Over in France the wonderful success of England in the peninsulars, wars led Napoleon Bonaparte to determine that although England controlled the bulk of the sugar production of the world in her great colonies, he would encourage a home sugar industry by adequate legislation, and from the effort of Napoleon Bonaparte a hundred years ago, there has grown up the great beet-sugar industry that produces half of the sugar supply of the entire world.

There is no great principle in this excepting that of self-interest. It is to the interest of the nation, of the states, of the countries and of the cities to take care of and look after the welfare of all of their own people. Thomas Jefferson recognized this in his writings and recommends that in the levying of duties to carry on and to pay for the ordinary expenses of government, it was wise to levy such duties as in their incidence upon trade would encourage the home production of the imported articles. There is such a thing as protection run mad, when it simply prohibits the importation of staples, and there is also such a thing as free trade run mad, when it destroys great industries that have been built up at home and which may be destroyed by unfair competition with cheap capital, or with cheap labor.

Mr. George B. Curtiss, in publishing his great work on the Industrial Development of Nations has taken up the history of the development of the leading nations of the earth and has shown wherein they possessed certain natural advantages which when availed of, brought trade to them. He follows this up with a thorough consideration of such legislation as these nations enacted for the development of their trade, whether in maritime affairs, in manufacturing, or in merchandizing. Behind them all lies the interests of the state or nation itself and of the people of the state. Whatever conclusion is finally reached by the state or nation, it is presumed to be based upon a complete consideration of all of the conditions involved, whether social, industrial, maritime, commercial, or military. From whatever point of view any given people give fair cognizance to their environment in this way, the legislation of that people is effected to suit the situation and to develop the trade of the country.

Mr. Curtiss, in his consideration of these matters, has given a historical outline of commercial history from antiquity down to modern times and especially to the early times of England under its original free trade conditions to the greater modern development from the middle of the sixteenth to the middle of the nineteenth centuries. He then turns to free trade England in 1846 and to its effect on the home industries and to the development of industries in other European countries where the conditions were dissimilar to those of England and yet where the results from a national point of view have been extraordinarily successful, although the legislation effected was from a protectionist's point of view.

Mr. Curtiss makes careful comparison of various phases of commercial legislation in the colonies forming the federal union and since their organization into the federal union, taking up separately the revenue tariff period from 1834 to 1860, which many of our older readers will remember included the great panics of 1837 to 1857, with an intervening era of distress in the states west of the Ohio River that led to multitudinous issues of so-called "shin plasters" and in the absence of money to the development of a trade bartering work for goods or work for work, such as has never been seen since those days of five or six decades ago. Mr. Curtiss then follows the Civil War period with the great industrial development throughout the country at that time up to 1892 when it became quite the thing among some politicians to say that protection in any form was robbery. The re-creation of the trade of the country under the protective policy adopted again in 1897 is discussed in full and in this way, Mr. Curtiss offers to his readers the complete digest of the industrial development of nations and in the industrial development of the United States that has ever been offered to the students of the economic government of the people by the people for the people.

First Navel Oranges.

It is proposed to celebrate in Southern California this year the thirtieth anniversary of the planting of the first navel (seedless) orange tree with a mammoth orange fair to which competition from orange-growing localities all over the world may be asked. Natural public attention in California is turned these days toward the story of how seedless oranges came to be cultivated, for this variety

of oranges has revolutionized the orange markets of the world, has added millions of dollars to the wealth of California and Florida and has converted great stretches of cheap cattle and grazing lands into valuable orange groves. A dozen communities of 6,000 and 10,000 people, of beautiful homes and smart business ways, have grown up from barren tracts in southern California because of the rapid expansion of the orange trade, which in turn was brought about by the cultivation of the navel orange.

Thirty years ago Los Angeles, the orange metropolis of California, was a slow, plodding pueblo of 6,000 people. To-day it is a thriving city of 125,000 people. The trans-continental railroads earned \$5,200,000 in freight on oranges last year, and 90 per cent of it was for navel orange tonnage. Since the navel orange has been cultivated some \$57,000,000 has been invested in orange growing in California—that is, in land, trees, vast irrigation enterprises, packing houses, etc., and over 12,000 men have left other pursuits to engage in orange growing and marketing.

First Grower In Poorhouse.

The strangest fact of all in this increase in wealth production and the great changes wrought in Southern California by the introduction of the seedless orange into the United States is that Luther C. Tibbets, who planted and grew the original tree, is a homeless, white-haired, tattered public charge in Riverside county. Every day he looks out from the county poorhouse across a broad valley on a vast expanse of green orange groves and superb homes and reflects that when he planted his first navel orange tree there, not a tree grew in the valley. Riverside county sends some 8,000 carloads of seedless oranges to market annually and they are worth to the growers about \$3,000,000. There was not a dime's worth of fruit marketed when Luther Tibbets set out his little navel orange trees alongside his cabin in lonely, sun-baked Riverside valley thirty years ago.

There is a wide ocean of difference between the little arid, seedy and tough-skinned orange of a generation ago and the large, smooth-skinned, sweet, seedless orange of to-day. More than that, a generation ago the orange crop of the United States came from a few districts along the Indian river in Florida and was worth about \$200,000. Now-a-days, the United States grows some 10,000,000 boxes of oranges every year and they are worth to the growers about \$12,000,000.

First Seedless Trees From Brazil.

The fine original seedless orange trees came from Bahia, Brazil, and were imported through the sense of a woman. Mrs. Nellie Desmond, of Syracuse, N. Y., was visiting her brother in a rubber camp along the Amazon, the natives brought her several seedless oranges, which were a curiosity to her. She inquired whence they came and found they grew upon a clump of freak orange trees in the neighborhood. Mrs. Desmond returned to the United States soon after and brought several of the seedless fruit home with her as curiosities. Horace Capron, who was then commissioner of agriculture, heard of Mrs. Desmond's find and entered into correspondence with her. The result was that the United States consul at Bahia was instructed to procure several of the tiny seedless orange trees and send them to the agricultural department at Washington.

They remained in the experimental garden there several years. Florida was the only orange-growing region in America then and three of the trees were sent to a grower on the Indian river, but what became of them was never known. Along in 1871 Luther C. Tibbets removed from Maine to California and, hearing that fertile government land might be had free in southern California by actual settlement upon it, he came down the coast to Los Angeles and took up, under the homestead law, a quarter section in what is now the heart of the city of Riverside. Mrs. Tibbets was then with relatives in Washington, D. C.

Tibbets Gets Trees.

To her Mr. Tibbets wrote telling where he had established a home, and asking her to go to the agricultural department and seek plants and trees suitable to a semi-tropical climate. Mrs. Tibbets was a relative of Mrs. Benjamin F. Butler, and a letter from Gen. Butler, then a member of congress, to the commissioner of agriculture, secured for Mrs. Tibbets extra consideration at the department. On condition that Mr. Tibbets would give the plants and trees careful attention and report occasionally how they fared in a new and untried horticultural field, the department sent to Mr. Tibbets, at Riverside, a bundle of tobacco plants, grape vines, Japanese plum trees and the three remaining seedless orange trees from Bahia.

All were planted at the side of the Tibbets cabin in May, 1872. They were the first horticultural efforts in that region of the state. A few months later other settlers in the valley set out little groves of seedling orange trees, and still others experimented with growing apricots and peaches. The settlers were too busy seeking a livelihood in a new and lonely locality to pay attention to Tibbets' new plants and trees, while he watered and cultivated and waited for the earliest fruit to appear on them.

First Seedless Orange Tested.

One of the tiny seedless orange trees was chewed up by a cow, but for five years the two survivors were carefully attended. Then each tree bore two oranges. It was the summer and fall of 1877. A fence was built about the trees to protect them from wind and trespassers, and Mr. and Mrs. Tibbets patiently waited while the fruit developed from green bullets to great golden, juicy, pungent globes—the first navel oranges ever grown outside the swamp on the Amazon. On January 22, 1878, two of the new oranges were cut open and critically tasted by a little company of orange growers at Riverside. A new star of first magnitude rose that day in the horticultural firmament.

The handful of orange growers in California in those days began to pay attention to Tibbets' wonderful fruit. The next year the two trees bore half a bushel of oranges and from that time the name and fame of Tibbets' seedless oranges went throughout southern California. Like all new ideas and unique things in this world, the Riverside navel orange had its doubters and pessimists. There were only a few orange growers in southern California in those days, and a small part of these dared cut back a few of their seedling orange trees to gaunt stumps and experiment with budding from the Tibbets navel orange trees. The greater part of the growers believed the seedless fruit was only a short-lived curiosity.

Horticulturists Opposed It.

It is funny to read now-a-days of the arguments then advanced by California horticulturists against a general growing of the navel orange. Mr. Tibbets, however, had full faith in the new variety, and he sent samples of the new fruit to horticulturists and fruit growers throughout California. In 1880 the "Lucky" Baldwin orange grove of seventy-five acres was planted to navel oranges exclusively at Sierra Madre. It was the first important recognition of the commercial superiority of the new fruit. Six months after a syndicate of Englishmen planted a larger tract in Riverside to trees budded from the two original Tibbets trees.

Orange groves were few and far between in those days, but by 1883 the majority of trees set out had been budded from the Tibbets trees. In 1885, when the Baldwin and other groves began to bear the new navel fruit, the era of planting seedling groves came quickly to an

end. The enormous prices paid in San Francisco and Portland, Ore., for the new seedless oranges set the growers wild. James G. Blaine had a sample box of the fruit in Washington, and he wrote enthusiastically about it for the American Agriculturist.

The Parent Trees and Their Owner.

The trees stand there still, and with a little fence about them. While many a man has become a millionaire and an army of people have made independent fortunes in the orange industry in California, and as many more people have become very wealthy in the rising tide of real estate values by reason of the cultivation of the navel orange, Luther Tibbets has grown steadily poorer in purse. He sees all about the scene of his first experiments with the seedless orange trees beautiful homes and rich orange groves worth tens of thousands of dollars, all made by reason of the navel orange.

It is the old story of the poor inventor and the business man who buys the inventor's product for a song and makes a fortune. Mr. Tibbets reasoned that the first trees came from the government at Washington and that therefore they belonged to the public. He gave away hundreds of buds from his parent trees that would have been eagerly bought at \$5 and \$10 each. He became involved in litigation concerning the irrigation water on his property, and that consumed all his assets and several years of his life. He mortgaged his orange grove to travel with an invalid wife and the mortgagee foreclosed and took the property.

There have been several propositions in the California legislature to pension Mr. Tibbets, but he has never favored the idea and it has come to naught. Last fall the old man was seriously ill in his rude cabin, where Riverside county has provided for his simple maintenance for several years, and he was taken to the poorhouse.



PLANTATION QUARTERS, BERBICE, BRITISH GUIANA.

No Other Variety Planted Now. Nineteen-twentieths of all of the oranges now grown in California and Florida are seedless navels. No other variety is planted now-a-days, while four-fifths of all the old seedling groves have been by long and patient horticultural processes budded into seedless orange trees. The present prices for seedless fruit in the orange-growing localities show the demand for the fruit. Prime navel oranges now sell on the trees at \$1.45 and \$1.55 a box and second-grade navels sell on the trees at \$1.10 and \$1.15 a box. There is little care for seedlings, but a few contracts have been made for the best of them, delivered at the packing houses, for 40 cents a box.

Navel Orange Growing Boomed.

The navel orange tree does not grow so large nor does it bear so heavily as the seedling variety. A 10-year-old navel tree usually bears three boxes of fruit, while a seedling of like age will bear five boxes, but a 20-year-old seedling tree sometimes bears fifteen boxes of fruit, and ten boxes on a navel tree would be extraordinary. How long a navel orange tree will bear fruit in profitable quantities is a matter of discussion in all bodies of horticulturists. Time and experience only will tell that fact. Seedling trees, however, bear fruit in large quantities, as late as forty years and there are seedling trees at Mazatlan, Mexico, which were planted by the Jesuit padres in 1764, and which still yield some fruit every year.

A dozen different orange growers in California, says the New York Times, have exercised horticultural science so as to produce better qualities of navel oranges. These qualities are a smoother and thinner rind, more spherical fruit and sweeter juice. There is the Thompson seedless improved orange, the kid-glove navel, the Durate navel, the Pomona excelsior navel and the Raymond Malta navel—a peculiar combination of Malta blood and the original navel orange.

Orange growing boomed all over southern California. In 1886 over 5,000 acres of new land that had been sheep and cattle ranges were converted into navel orange groves. In 1887 over 6,000 more acres were made orange groves, and in 1888 some 800,000 navel orange trees were planted in 8,000 acres of comparatively virgin soil. The money there was in growing navel oranges was on every one's lips in southern California. Some men who had gone earliest into producing the new variety made almost incredibly big profits on their investments. The most spontaneous and remarkable real estate boom ever known anywhere occurred in southern California in 1886 and lasted until 1888.

Towns like Pomona, Ontario, Redlands, Tustin, Monrovia, Sierra Madre, Corona, Highlands, and Azusa, in the orange-growing localities were unknown before 1885, and grew to several thousand population in a few years. Land that had gone begging at \$30 an acre sold readily at \$800 to \$1,000 an acre, when its adaptability to navel orange production was shown. The railroads brought 12,000 people to southern California every month during 1887. Everybody talked navel oranges and the great profit there was in the business, and people who had nurseries of orange trees grown from navel buds made fortunes in one or two years.

In 1888 and 1889 tiny budded trees suitable for planting in groves sold for \$1.60 and \$2 each. All the seedless orange trees in this country have been propagated from buds from



OLD STYLE FILIPINO SUGAR FACTORY.

INTERESTING NEWS.

STATE, NATIONAL AND FOREIGN.

Gathered and Condensed for Our Readers Benefit.

STATE NEWS.

The New York Legislature has legalized the investing of savings banks of that State's funds in purchasing Louisiana State bonds. Governor Hall requested this while on his trip to New York for the purpose of selling the bonds.

Facts lately uncovered in the effort to produce evidence that would disprove the now probably proved contention of Walters that the child is not the Dunbars, and upon which unrebuted defense Governor Brewer justifiably bases is right to refuse extradition until more conclusive refuting evidence is brought forward, connect Walters with the possession of three boys, and with complicity in the killing of a negro about ten years ago near Sandersville, Miss. The humane attitude of Governor Brewer in this very trying case is indeed indicative of an all-man Governor of Mississippi. That the guiltless should be punished by revengeful mobs is at least explainable, but the hastening of a man out of a State where justice is more possible, because of the forgiveness of the victim, into the home State of the child, where an aroused people may in their madness punish the innocent, because man men must have sacrifices, would indeed be most unholy, and the Governor who would do other than Governor Brewer did would be morally, if not legally, held for the murder of such an accused man or woman. The method of railroad men to prison, or even to the gallows, who have neither friends nor money, is an emblem of a barbarous people, and in civilized States such methods should not exist. There is a cowardice attached to this kind of manhandling. The defenselessness of the prisoner is alone the reason for this oppression. Governor Brewer deserves praise for his protection of the rights of this one individual. The disclosed facts are not all against the kidnapper. Had the man been sent immediately to Opelousas without opportunity for defense being given, who knows but that his body may have hung in horror from a telegraph post or pierced with holes and lay in the fields the food of carrion crows and buzzards. And what a feeling would have hung over that city, if in the future, they should learn their mistake and know that they had killed an innocent man. Nature haunts the evildoer with the sight of the evil he has done.

A break in the levee in front of the Travell plantation, eight miles below Melville, La., on the Atchafalaya River, occurred, flooding portions of Pointe Coupee and Iberville Parishes.

Through investigation it has been found that the child now in the possession of the Dunbars, while it may not be theirs, is not also the child of Julia Anderson, whom Walters claimed was the mother. The Anderson woman makes a sworn statement, claiming her child was unscarred, that her child borne no marks.

The oil steamer Gutthel sunk alongside of the Standard Oil Company's docks at Baton Rouge. She was from Tampico, Mexico, recently, with 26,000 barrels of crude oil. She was yet unloaded. The oil went down with the sunken steamer.

The levee at the lower end of Lake St. John, near Gibson's landing, fifteen miles below Waterproof, La., broke, and water is pouring through a 3,000-foot break and flooding the Concordia swamps. The levee at the point where it broke was considered strong and so called in the report of a recent inspection.

Last week the New Orleans Custom (Continued on page 4.)