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First National Bank, OF BLOOMSBURG, PA.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1907

WASHINGTON

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, D. C. Jan. 24, 1907.

As there is not the slightest prospect of tariff revision at the present session, one ought to be thankful even for such a thing as "near revision." Secretary Root has advanced a proposal for a maximum and a minimum tariff that ought to prove something of a palliative measure while real revision is still lying dormant. There is a meeting in Washington this week of a committee for the encouragement of American foreign trade. This body is meeting simultaneously with the National Board of Trade, representing all the Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce in the United States. Secretary Root delivered an address before this body this week in which he suggested a variable tariff as a better thing for the country than reciprocity treaties. He pointed out that with the present high tariff law no foreign country was given any inducement to treat the United States exports on a preferential basis. Other countries knew that no matter what they might concede us they would be no better off commercially in the end. He said, on the other hand, that if the President were given discretion in scaling down the duties on certain articles to a maximum of 20 per cent. of the present rates he would be in a position to negotiate with other countries and offer them something tangible in return for preferential treatment at their hands. This contention was reasonable enough and is quite true so far as it goes, lacking a complete revision of the tariff, it is a very excellent plan and one that ought to be adopted. But both friends and enemies of the tariff know that revision ultimately will have to come. That the majority of schedules under the Dingley law are now inordinately high and work a hardship on the entire population when the need for them in fostering infant industries has long since disappeared. Anything short of a decent and far reaching revision can be considered little else than a make shift, though even with a generally reduced tariff Secretary Root's plan for a maximum and minimum rate of duty is one that could well be considered.

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Congress contemplates an appropriation and probably will vote on it this week which is of interest to all southern states having swamp lands within their borders. There are 6,000,000 acres of these lands and most of them are in the southern states. The plan contemplated is to drain them and reclaim them as agricultural land and the appropriation will be with a view to ascertain just what this reclamation scheme would cost and how land values would be enhanced under it. Much of the work has been done in a tentative way by the Geological Survey already. Topographical maps which are being made of the whole United States have been extended over these swamp areas and the drainage line indicate very accurately what an immense amount

of valuable ground could be reclaimed at a comparatively trifling cost. The scheme officials have in mind is more or less on a par with the irrigation work which the national government is now carrying out in the west. The land would be drained at a comparatively small cost and sold to settlers at decidedly increased value. The money thus gained would be used to drain and reclaim other land which in turn would be sold. Thus the reclamation work would be an endless chain till the whole of the six million acres had been reclaimed. Work already done by private enterprise shows that the drained land is among the best of the agricultural land in the world and the plan looks very promising.

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Hope is rising among the friends of ship subsidy over the prospect of getting such a measure to a vote on the floor of the House at the present session. A bill providing for an annual appropriation of not more than \$3,750,000 has been reported out of the House Committee and will probably get a hearing in the House itself within the next few weeks. The plan is voluminous in detail and provides for many South American and trans-Pacific lines employing a total of about forty ships all of which will have to be built in American shipyards owned by American citizens and repaired in American dry docks. There is not much question that if such a measure ever passes the House it will go through the Senate with the greatest ease, for here is the stronghold of ship subsidy. But the democratic members of the House promise to fight the bill uncompromisingly and have announced their intention to filibuster against it as long as possible.

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Quite a tempest has been raised in the social tea pot over the announcement that Chile contemplates raising the rank of her legation here to the dignity of an embassy. There is now only one ambassador from South America, the one from Brazil. If Chile raised the rank of her representative it will of course necessitate raising the rank of our present minister to Chile. This will entail some expense but is a social luxury which we probably would be willing to pay for. However, the pinch comes from the fact that if Chile does raise the rank of her legation here she will undoubtedly soon be followed by Argentine and a number of the smaller South American Republics. This would give a lot of the little countries' representatives in Washington equal in rank to those of the great powers of Europe and this is a thing which the great powers are very loath to see happen. Consequently there is much heart breaking and jealousy under the surface, not owing so much to the political, as to the social aspects of the case.

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More lions have been discovered

For that Dandruff

There is one thing that will cure it—Ayer's Hair Vigor. It is a regular scalp-medicine. It quickly destroys the germs which cause this disease. The unhealthy scalp becomes healthy. The dandruff disappears, had to disappear. A healthy scalp means a great deal to you—healthy hair, no dandruff, no pimples, no eruptions. The best kind of a testimonial—"Sold for over sixty years."



in the path of the Panama Canal progress. Considerable ado is being made over a report that there are no foundations where the great Gatun dam will eventually be located. Now the Gatun dam will be the biggest thing of its sort in the world. It is the keystone to the whole structure of a lock canal across the isthmus. At one time or another covert opponents of the Canal scheme have intimated that borings on the south of the proposed dam show no rock foundation, but only a thin stratum of clay underlain by mud. Last week the Committee on the Canal called for a specific report on this point from the Isthmian Canal Commission. The report together with borings on the spot was transmitted, but the Commission asked that this information be held as confidential.

ELECTION REFORMS.

Whatever may be the motive for the movement for an amendment of the State Constitution doing away with the February election, it is one which will command the approval of many citizens regardless of party affiliations. Too much time and money are spent in the formalities attending the choice of public officers, and the disturbing effect of year-long electioneering campaigns is an economic waste that cannot but be harmful. If an arrangement could be devised by which municipal, on the one hand, and State and national elections, on the other, could be wholly separated, the chance of divorcing municipal from State and national politics would be greatly increased.

Possibly this can be done, but it must be obvious that isolated attempts to correct defects in our election machinery are liable to do more harm than good. A genuine ballot reform, that will simplify the duty of the voter at the polls by eliminating duplication of names and abolishing the party square, is just as vital a feature in the programme of election legislation. Then, too, the operation of the registration laws, and perhaps of the uniform primary law, may reveal weaknesses and errors that will have to be corrected.

A far better way of approaching the problem, and one in accordance with the new political regime, would be the appointment of a non-partisan commission to study the whole question and prepare a harmonious and complete measure for the consideration of the people. By this means the suspicion of partisan advantage that is sure to attach to any project fathered by the "leaders" would be removed, and the prospect of real and lasting reformation would be immensely greater than by any tinkering that can be done by unrelated and inharmonious bodies of citizens.

—Phila. Record.

Envelopes

75,000 Envelopes carried in stock at the COLUMBIAN Office. The line includes drug envelopes, pay, coin, baronial, commercial sizes, number 6, 6 1/2, 6 3/4, 9, 10 and 11, catalog, &c. Prices range from \$1.50 per 1000 printed, up to \$5.00. Largest stock in the county to select from. Entrance through Roy's Jewelry Store.

Other Inaugurations in May.

Henry Houck and Robert K. Young Will Take Places Then.

The inauguration of Henry Houck as secretary of internal affairs and of Robert K. Young as auditor general will take place in May. The time of inauguration was made different from that of governor because of a desire not to have too many changes at once and because of fiscal arrangements. The constitution in Article IV, Section 21, prescribed that the secretary shall serve four years and the auditor general three, the latter, like the State treasurer, not being eligible for re-election. Mr. Young will be the thirty second man to be commissioned auditor general and the eighteenth to be elected by the people, as from 1789 to 1845 the auditors were appointed by the governor and after 1850 elected. The constitution created the office of secretary of internal affairs in 1873 and nine men have been commissioned as secretaries, although the office of surveyor general which was merged into it, was the oldest in Pennsylvania being naturally the most important under the proprietary government, formerly established under the commonwealth, in 1781 and kept up under the title until 1875.

CASTORIA.

Beware of cheap imitations. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

OPPOSED TO REPEAL OF VACCINATION LAW.

Dr. Dixon Says Legislature Should Let Act Alone.

Harrisburg, Jan. 23.—When asked today what he thought of the agitation to have the Legislature repeal the vaccination law, Doctor Dixon, State Health Commissioner, said that the records of the past two weeks in his department should convince the people of the State that the only thing they have to do to have smallpox run riot through Pennsylvania was to take down the barriers that are thrown against it by vaccination. "A few days ago," said Doctor Dixon, "we received word that a child that had never been vaccinated had been brought from Watkins, N. Y., to Wells, Bradford County, and had attended a school in Wells township for three days and was suffering with smallpox. "The disease spread rapidly, and there were striking examples of the penalty for the unvaccinated. In one household all the members of the family, except a young girl who had been vaccinated, were stricken down with smallpox. There was not much trouble when that outbreak started to get the unvaccinated in that community to submit to vaccination. "Another unvaccinated child was recently brought into a small village in Cumberland County from Ohio, and three other cases was the result. Only the other day we received a message stating that a resident of Columbia had gone to pay a visit to a neighboring State, and upon his return home went down with smallpox. "When we have endeavored to have the vaccination law enforced in the rural communities we have frequently been met by the statement that there had not been a case of smallpox in the community for years, and therefore, the people saw no necessity of being vaccinated. But to quote the strong argument of Chief Justice Mitchell, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, "immunity for forty years in the past affords no guaranty of immunity for even forty days in the future, if a chance visitor from an infected locality or a borough resident returning from a visit to such locality should bring with him the germs of infection." "How true was the picture that Justice Mitchell drew has been shown by the imported cases of smallpox, which the State Department of Health has been called upon to fight within the past few days. "Germany and Japan are making smallpox in their empires almost a thing of the past by vaccination laws far more rigid and far-reaching than the one we have in Pennsylvania, and which the anti-vaccinationists declare they are going to use their influence with the present Legislature to repeal. If the Legislature takes any action regarding vaccination I can only express the hope that it will be a step forward toward making our law a more effective barrier to smallpox rather than to move backward to such a prevalence of smallpox as existed in Germany and Japan before those countries began to fight this horrible disease by compulsory vaccination."

ANTHRACITE OUTPUT.

Nearly Six Million Tons Less Than in 1906.

December shipments of anthracite continue to show a decrease, and the aggregate for the entire year of 1906, 55,698,595, was the smallest in any year since the strike year of 1902, when the tonnage aggregated but 31,200,890 tons. Compared with 1905, which was the banner year in the anthracite coal trade, with its aggregate tonnage of 61,440,201 tons, there was a shrinkage in 1906 of 5,711,606. This was due in a large measure to a stoppage of the mines in parts of March and April, pending the adjustment of the miners' grievances, and later on to the lack of transportation facilities. The greatest decrease in tonnage is shown by the Lehigh Valley, with a falling off of 1,535,866 tons, and the Reading next, with a decrease of 1,324,207 tons. The Pennsylvania made the nearest approach to maintaining its 1905 tonnage, its aggregate of 4,856,004 tons for 1906 being but 34,631 tons short.

TOWNSEND MEN'S GOOD SUITS \$4.00 MEN'S GOOD OVERCOATS \$18 for \$10. \$13.50 for \$8 WE MOVE IN TWO MONTHS. TOWNSEND

Blanket Bargains! Cotton Blankets 10-4 size in gray, white or brown start as low as 49c the pair. The 75c values for 65c. The 85c values for 70c. Fancy Stripe Cotton Blankets in blue and white, brown and white or pink and white combinations 10-4 size—regularly \$1.00 the pair now 89c. Extra size (12-4) White Cotton Blankets, regularly \$1.50, now \$1.25. Heavy Chester Gray Blankets, 11-4 size, regularly \$1.75, now \$1.50. White Cotton Blankets 11-4 size, regularly \$1.25, now \$1.10. Silver fleece Blankets 11-4 size, regularly \$3.75, now \$3.15. White or Gray Wool Blankets 11-4 size, regularly \$4.00, now \$3.50. Gray " " 11-4 " " 4.75, " 4.00. White or Gray " " 11-4 " " 5.00, " 4.25. Gray " " 11-4 " " 6.50, " 5.25. Gray " " 11-4 " " 7.00, " 5.98. Beautiful White Wool Blankets 11-4 size with pink, red or blue borders—the very acme of perfection in blankets from the very best people in the business—bargains every one. Those marked \$7.00 are now \$5.98. Those marked \$9.00 now \$7.75. Those marked \$8.50 are now \$7.25. Crib blankets reduced proportionately.

BED FURNISHINGS Sheets, Pillow Cases and Counterpanes all at a saving. COTTON COMFORTABLES Prettily covered with Silakine and Sateen \$1.00 ones reduced to .85 \$2.98 ones reduced to \$2.50 1.25 ones reduced to 1.10 2.25 ones reduced to 1.98 1.75 ones reduced to 1.50 2.50 ones reduced to 2.15 2.39 ones reduced to 2.00 DOWNS QUILT—with covering of the finest Sateen, beautiful colorings. \$4.50 kind reduced to \$3.98. \$6.00 kind reduced to \$4.50. F. P. PURSEL. BLOOMSBURG, PENNA.

Cut off that cough with Jayne's Expectorant and prevent pneumonia, bronchitis and consumption. The world's Standard Throat and Lung Medicine for 75 years. Get it of your druggist and keep it always ready in the house.