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What's the Use? Mark Twain, after a lifetime through which he has cheered and amused his countrymen, seems growing pessimistic in his age.

Save the Trees. Gifford Pinchot, chief of the bureau of forestry of the department of agriculture, has asked the house committee on agriculture to favor the appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the use of his bureau.

Every year in the Rumi country, India, a marriage lottery—a sort of sweethearts sweep—is held. The names of all the marriageable girls and of the young men of the circle who want to get married are written on slips of paper and thrown into separate earthen pots.

Graphophones were used to help the stenographers during a recent government inquiry in Chicago when the investigators had received orders to forward to Washington a transcript of the testimony at the earliest possible moment.

These are great days for wage earners and their savings. The New York Herald of January 8 tells of 4,000 prosperous ones crowding the doors and corridors of the German Savings bank in order to get their money in during the lengthened hours which the bank grants to depositors one night in each year.

CANNON'S PLATFORM

MAKER OF THE HOUSE ON DUAL TARIFF QUESTION.

He Would Begin with Minimum Duties Adequately Protective to All Lines of Production and Then Apply Maximum Rates as Penalties for Unfair Treatment.

As an outcome of the national convention for the extension of the foreign commerce of the United States a definite step forward has been taken toward determining the future policy of this country in reference to foreign trade.

Among the numerous subjects which engaged the attention of the convention, as related to the broad question of foreign commerce the tariff was, as a matter of course, conspicuous.

Whereas, The adoption of maximum and minimum protective tariff systems and the execution in connection therewith of numerous reciprocal trade agreements by various foreign countries, notably in continental Europe, are rendering it increasingly difficult for our exporters to compete successfully for business as against specially favored nations; and

Whereas, Our government is powerless, under existing laws, to provide adequate protection to our foreign trade in such instances; and

Whereas, It has become vitally necessary to secure wider foreign markets for our increasing agricultural and manufactured products; and

Whereas, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, Asia, Australia and Africa afford opportunities for the sale of our surplus under more favorable trade conditions. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That this convention invites the earnest attention of congress to our foreign trade situation, and urges early and favorable consideration of a maximum and minimum tariff schedule based upon a concession rate of 20 per cent. from the existing rates of duties under the terms of which the president may have authority to enter into such commercial connections or agreements as may be deemed essential to the safeguarding and extension of the markets for our surplus commodities; and be it further

Resolved, That in addition to the granting of discretionary powers to the executive we urge the establishment of a permanent, non-partisan advisory board or commission, charged with the duty of studying at all times our trade relations with foreign countries, with a view toward recommending, from time to time, such modifications in customs duties or regulations as may, in their judgment, be necessary or desirable.

The resolution relating to the creation of a non-partisan advisory commission may as well be left out of consideration. No such commission ever can or ever will be created. Non-partisanship on the tariff question does not exist. It never will exist. Therefore, there can be no non-partisan commission.

The main thing accomplished by the convention was to give form and body to the question of a dual tariff system. It remained for Joseph G. Cannon, speaker of the house of representatives, to define once for all the distinction between the two types of a dual tariff. Speaker Cannon left no room for doubt on that point.

What Speaker Cannon said was, in substance and effect, that in adopting a dual tariff system devised in the interest of our foreign trade, we must start with a minimum tariff as our basis, a tariff that shall adequately protect American labor and industry against foreign competition.

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Speaker Cannon has written the Republican platform of 1908 so far as tariff and reciprocity are concerned.

MADE FOR AMERICANS.

Our Tariff, Not Devised for Europe, Is Not Liked by Europeans.

Hon. Richard Bartholdt, in an address to the Republicans of the First ward, pointed out the great reason why the Republican party will cling to the protective tariff.

That is the reason why the Republican party, which created the tariff, will defend it. Europe does not like the American tariff. But the American people prosper through it, and will retain it.

The tariff which the Republican party has devised, and which it will maintain, is for the United States only. No effort was made by the framers of the tariff to please England, France, Germany, or any other old-world country.

Although it was a foregone conclusion that the resolution would fail and thus end the long fight against the Utah senator, the roll call contained some surprises. Of the 42 votes in favor of Mr. Smoot, three were cast by democrats.

THE AEOLIAN HARP.



Once there was an old farmer who lost his voice. As he could not call his hogs, he taught them to run to the feed pen when he tapped on the trough with a stick.

Different Times. These are great days for wage earners and their savings. The New York Herald of January 8 tells of 4,000 prosperous ones crowding the doors and corridors of the German Savings bank in order to get their money in during the lengthened hours which the bank grants to depositors one night in each year.

RETAINS HIS SEAT.

SENATE REFUSES TO EXPEL MR. SMOOT, OF UTAH.

CONTEST THAT BEGAN FOUR YEARS AGO ENDS IN VICTORY FOR MORMON SENATOR.

Washington, D. C.—The four-year contest against Reed Smoot being permitted to retain his seat as a senator of the United States from Utah was ended Wednesday by 42 of his colleagues voting to sustain him, as against 28 for the resolution to unseat him.

The Smoot resolution was called up soon after the senate convened. Every seat in the galleries was filled and during the actual voting the floor of the senate was crowded by members of the house and employees of the senate.

There have been numerous speeches made for and against Senator Smoot since the resolution to unseat him was reported from the committee on privileges and elections, just prior to the adjournment of congress last year.

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SEVEN LIVES WERE LOST.

A French Man-of-War Ran Into and Sank an American Steamer.

New Orleans, La.—In hazy weather, the French cruiser Kleber last night rammed and sank the American fruit steamer Hugoma in the Mississippi river just off New Orleans.

The Kleber, just arriving from Havana, was rounding a sharp turn and the Hugoma, drifting with the six-mile current, turned directly into the man-of-war's path.

Some of the crew scrambled upon the bows of the cruiser before the latter backed free, while others lowered boats and one or two jumped into the river. The launching of boats was extremely difficult, for when the ships struck, the Hugoma rolled far to starboard, remaining there until the cruiser backed, when the fruit ship immediately listed far to port and began to go down.

JEROME IS BAFFLED.

His Endeavors to Disconcert Thaw's Wife in Her Testimony Fail.

New York.—In continuing his cross-examination of Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw on Wednesday at the trial of her husband, District Attorney Jerome brought out the fact that in 1902 Stanford White deposited \$13,350 with a New York trust company with instructions that it should be paid to the Nesbit girl at the rate of \$25 a week.

Mrs. Thaw's inability to remember a number of other things about which Mr. Jerome questioned her was by far the most material element in the cross-examination.

Washington.—On the 20th the senate by a vote of 42 to 28 decided that Reed Smoot, senator from Utah, should retain his seat. The senate passed the naval appropriation bill. The river and harbor bill was passed. The house passed the postoffice appropriation bill.

Chillicothe, O.—Fire Wednesday night destroyed the business section of Bainbridge, a village 20 miles southwest of here. The fire originated in a livery stable and destroyed the town hall, the postoffice and a number of stores. Loss \$100,000.

Albany, N. Y.—Gov. Hughes has recommended to the senate the removal from office of Otto Kelsey, state superintendent of insurance, on the ground of unfitness for the position.

JEROME DELVES DEEP.

His Cross-examination of Harry Thaw's Wife Is Merciless.

New York.—Under the stress of a cross-examination in which District Attorney Jerome gave no quarter, Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw broke down upon the witness stand Thursday. With blinding tears burning their way down cheeks which from ashen white had flushed to crimson, she admitted that after her first experience with Stanford White her relations with the architect continued for several months. But this was not all. There were other confessions damaging to her character.

Mrs. Thaw admitted that in 1903, after the return from Europe, she spent the night at Thaw's apartments in New York and that for three weeks he and she occupied connecting apartments at the Grand hotel in this city.

Mrs. Thaw made what was considered perhaps her most damaging statement to the defendant when she said she had showed her copies of cablegrams that were being sent to Stanford White from Europe asking him to use his influence with a man in London to prevent Mrs. Nesbit from "raising a fuss" and interfering with Evelyn continuing in the company of Thaw.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review Tells of Favorable Conditions.

New York.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Weather conditions have been favorable for trade and transportation in most sections, but a few adverse reports are still received and total transactions again felt the curtailing influence of a holiday.

Industrial returns are uniformly encouraging, mills and factories having so much business in sight that no machinery is idle except in cases where fuel deliveries are unsatisfactory or the labor supply inadequate. Farm staples are fairly steady in price.

A CHICAGO TRAGEDY.

Wife of a Millionaire Politician Murdered an Alleged Blackmailer.

Chicago, Ill.—Webster H. Guerin, alias Louis Fisher, proprietor of the Harrison Art Co., was on Thursday shot and killed in his office at La Salle and Van Buren streets by Mrs. Flora McDonald, wife of Michael C. McDonald, a millionaire, who was for many years the democratic "political boss" of Chicago.

The motive for the killing is not exactly known. Mrs. McDonald became hysterical and was unable to make a connected statement. From what she has said, however, it is believed that for some time Guerin had obtained money from her by the threat of making certain disclosures to her husband.

Washington.—In the senate on the 21st the entire session was devoted to consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill. The house spent the day in debate on the sundry civil bill.

Detroit, Mich.—Five trainmen were killed and two others injured Thursday when an express train on the Michigan Central railroad, west-bound, which left this city for Chicago at 2:27 p. m., collided with an ice train two miles west of Ypsilanti. The express train was composed of express and mail cars only.

Washington, D. C.—Hon. James Bryce, the new British ambassador to Washington, accompanied by Mrs. Bryce, arrived here Thursday.

Even the heroine who by waving her red petticoat saved the fast express from destruction has had to give up her pass. Thus do the sins of the unjust fall upon the just.

All Merzi, the new shah of Persia, is described as a man who possesses an iron will. Also he has more stepmothers than any other ruler now extant.

The greatest consolation in your dying hour will be the remembrance of the truth you have told and the good deeds you have done.

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