

Farmer Buncoed on His Protected Farm Implements

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When Jeremiah M. Rusk, then Secretary of Agriculture, became convinced, in 1890, that the American Harvester Company was selling farm machinery in Russia, Australia and other wheat growing countries at lower prices than it was selling them for to American farmers, he said:

This won't do. * * * The first thing the farmer will do * * * will be to make a howl against trusts and protection that does not protect. Whether justly or not, he will charge it to the Republican party. I am as certain as I can be of anything that *this mower and reaper trust will cost the Republican party hundreds of thousands of votes at the next Presidential election.*

Apparently, Secretary Rusk's prophecy was fulfilled. The fact that this and other protected trusts were caught selling their products cheaper to foreign than to American citizens undoubtedly had much to do with Grover Cleveland's election in 1892. Many others besides farmers did not relish this particular kind of tariff swindle. What effect, then, will it have on the election of 1912 when the fact becomes known that this policy of discrimination continues?

Farming Out the Farmer

Wasteful and inefficient governments used to adopt the method known as "farming out the taxes." The governments knew they would get only a small part of the amounts extorted by the tax collectors, but those from whom the taxes were taken did not vote.

In this country many taxpayers do vote. It is because farmers vote that they have long been the avowed objects of solicitude on the part of the protectionist Good Samaritan. It has paid the protectionist to try to fool the farmer, because there are about 6,000,000 farmers in the country and nearly 4,000,000 more agricultural laborers. If this body of voters were deluded into thinking that they were beneficiaries of the tariff, protection was safe. Farmers, however, do not always turn the other cheek when one has been slapped, and it would be difficult to conceive of any more direct and uncalled for slap than protection gives the American farmer by charging him extortion prices for articles of daily use on the farm while selling them cheaper to the farmers' competitors all over the world.

His Lean twenty-disc harrow, made by the Roderick Lean Manufacturing Company at Mansfield, O., comes \$7.31 higher than the same article costs for export to any farmer outside of the United States. His Universal cultivator and seed drill and his Universal garden plough No. 216,

EXAMPLES OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST "PROTECTED" FARMERS

Prices quoted to the Tariff Reform Committee's "export agent:"

	—Wholesale Price—		Excess charged American consumer as cost of "protection."	Payne-Aldrich duty—Per ct.
	Export.	Domestic.		
Ames cylinder churn, 4-gal.....	\$ 1.62	\$ 2.25	\$ 0.63 equals 37%	30
Universal corn sheller.....	6.14	7.50	1.36 "	22% 45
Universal garden plough No. 216	2.13	2.63	.50 "	23% 15
Rapid grist mill No. 10.....	1.50	2.00	.50 "	33% 45
New Century 4-shovel cultivator	22.10	27.20	5.10 "	23% 15
Lean 20-disc harrow.....	29.26	36.57	7.31 "	25% 15
Dixon's axle grease, 1-lb. (doz.)	1.20	1.50	.30 "	25% 35
Dedrick hay press, 14x18.....	208.25	250.00	41.75 "	20% 45
Collins Yankee axe (doz.).....	6.07	6.75	.68 "	11% 45
Hoes, bright Collins No. 4 (doz.)	5.17	5.75	.58 "	11% 45
Land rollers, 7-ft., steel.....	18.67	22.40	3.73 "	20% 45
Remington repeating shotgun, standard.....	15.88	19.25	3.37 "	20% \$6&35
Union rim-fire cartridges, long rifle, 22 (per M.).....	1.84	2.35	.51 "	28% 30

made at South Framingham, Mass., and his New Century four-shovel cultivator, made by the Heath Farming and Manufacturing Company of Plymouth, O., also each cost him one-fourth more than the export price. The duty on all these implements is only 15 per cent., and the farmer has heard that the price of American manufactured products is increased by only a small part of the duty. This claim is chilly comfort when the farmer pays much larger excess in price over his foreign competitor than the duty.

At no season of the year is the farmer exempt from protection's expensive solicitude.

The Rapid grist mill No. 10, made in Plymouth, O., costs him a third more than the price at which the manufacturers offer it for export. This is summer grist for the Republican protection mill. In the good old summer time too he has to pay a fifth more than the export price for Stewart's hand horse clippers.

"Protection" on Sport

When the snow is on the ground and he wants to go hunting, protection is still with him, and he pays \$3.37, or one-fifth, more than the export price for a Remington repeating shotgun. He might prefer to save that \$3.37 by buying the gun for \$15.88, the export price, instead of the \$19.25 which he does pay.

If the farmer wants to hunt bigger game he has the privilege of putting up \$28.65, which is 22 per cent. more than the export price of \$23.64 for a Remington "Peerless" rifle, which he doubtless enjoys. For the Union rim-fire No. 22 cartridges, long rifle, he has to pay nearly a third more than the export price.

The farmer's wife has a proverbially hard time and life. She has to help her husband keep the farm running, without any pay, but tries to make a little pin money by making butter. Even on this job protection, which ignores all decencies, robs her of her mite by compelling her to pay for an Ames 4-gallon cylinder churn, made in South Framingham, Mass., 37 per cent. more than the price at which the Ames Plow Company sells this churn for export.

This is the "lure" protection offers the farmers. On seventeen purchases that would be necessary on a well equipped farm the American has to pay a total of \$106.66 more than the same articles can be bought for if they are for use anywhere outside of the United States.

Excess in home over export price, chargeable to "protection:"

**REMINGTON
"PEERLESS"
RIFLE**

EXPORT \$23.64

**HOME
MARKET \$28.65**

**DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST
AMERICAN
PURCHASER \$5.01
OR 22%.**

**DUTY \$6 PLUS
35% AD
VALOREM**

