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DILATORY ACTION ON TARIFF BILL

REPUBLICANS APPROACH CONSIDERATION CAUTIOUSLY

Big Business Pressing Republicans for Passage Only Pressure Now

Hugh W. Roberts in The State.
Washington, April 25.—The Republicans approach the enactment of the Fordney-McCumber tariff as galleys scoured to their labor. But for the insistence of "big business," it is generally believed that they would forego all tariff legislation.

For it is recognized by Republican leaders that for the passage of permanent tariff statutes the times are peculiarly out of joint. Whereas in other days the United States was a borrowing nation, it is now the creditor nation of the world and possesses more than half the gold supply of the world.

And Europe can not pay its enormous obligation amounting to more than \$11,000,000,000—and thus restore American prosperity—unless Europe is permitted to scale the tariff wall with its merchandise.

While Republican leaders recognize the foregoing facts, they are forced nevertheless to proceed. "Big business" is most insistent. "Big business" has chafed under inordinate delay which has already attended Republican efforts. The whips are cracking and the Republicans are proceeding but slowly and totally without enthusiasm.

The consuming public is already registering its protests. The Republican press is already scoring the measure which precedes before the senate. The New York Herald, the New York Globe, the New York Tribune, the Brooklyn Eagle, the Philadelphia Public Ledger, the Chicago News and other notable publications which generally subscribe to the Republican patronage have displayed bitterness.

Both Parties Oppose

But the chief contributing factor to Republican trepidation is the fact that the public, not only Democratic but Republican public, indicates unmistakably that it will not stand for the Republicans increasing the cost of living in response to the dictates of "big business."

This public has already secured one victim. Ira C. Copley, representing the Eleventh Illinois district and a member of the ways and means committee of the house, out of which came the Fordney-McCumber tariff, has been beaten in the primary election by Frank R. Reid, Republican.

Reid was a bitter critic of the administration, of the Republican congress and of Copley himself. He argued that the consuming public had absolutely no chance at a fair play as long as the Republicans permitted millionaires to organize the ways and means committee and write tariff laws which affect the dinner pail of everybody in the United States.

Had Copley, who is an experienced legislator and wealthy enough to conduct any kind of a campaign, been returned to congress despite the criticism of Reid, no fear at present would grip the heart of the Republican congress. But the people in this instance were Republicans, listened to Reid and surprised the nation by defeating Copley.

The issue was the tariff which the millionaire ways and means committee reported. The issue was well defined. From Reid's campaign literature the following is reproduced:

"Who are the men who frame the revenue and impose laws on the nation which vitally affects the business interests of every man who has something to produce or sell, every farmer who grows a bushel of grain or a pound of beef and every wage earner in the Eleventh district?"

"The committee is composed of 17 Republicans and eight Democrats. The Republicans, of course, control the committee. Eleven of them are millionaires or multi-millionaires. It would be impossible for them to legislate from the viewpoint of the consuming public."

Wealth Domineers

Following his election, Mr. Reid in a signed statement, said: "The campaign was waged against a system under which a dozen men of great

NEW BANK READY NOW FOR BUSINESS

Former Congressman Lever Heads Institution—Bank is in Palmetto Building

The State, 26.
A. F. Lever, former congressman, who recently resigned from the federal farm board to accept the office of president of the First Carolina Joint Stock Land bank, arrived in Columbia yesterday and at once began making preparations for the opening of the bank. The new institution will have offices on the fifth floor of the Palmetto Bank building and is ready now for business.

With Mr. Lever there arrived yesterday H. E. Way of Washington, secretary of the new bank, who has heretofore been in the service of the federal land bank.

The new bank, Mr. Lever said yesterday, will be under federal charter and will be under the same strict supervision as controls the land bank, and will make loans to the amount of 50 per cent of the appraised value of farm lands. The bank begins business with a capital stock of \$250,000, which is to be increased as the necessity for a larger capital becomes imperative. "With the financial backing which this institution has, it will within a few years be one of the outstanding financial institutions of the two Carolinas," Mr. Lever said.

The maximum rate of interest to be charged on loans, Mr. Lever said, was 6 per cent. The bank will loan direct to borrowers.

"I regard this as a wonderful field for such an institution, not only for us but for the service which it will perform in behalf of the general good. It is the first organization of its kind in the two Carolinas," Mr. Lever said yesterday.

"I am happy to be back in the state again," Mr. Lever continued, "in connection with this bank, and with me politics is forever a pleasant recollection."

"I have already turned down two invitations to fill engagements, and am here for business and not for political speechmaking."

Mr. Lever is president of the new bank; H. E. Way, secretary; J. P. Matthews, first vice president; Thomas & Lumpkin, general counsellors; the second vice president has not yet been chosen. The board of directors is composed of Mr. Lever, Mr. Way, Mr. Matthews, A. M. Lumpkin, W. B. Drake, Jr., of Raleigh; A. W. MacLean of Lumberton, N. C.; R. E. Webber of New York and F. L. Putnam of New York.

THE REPORTER SEES NO HARM IN ORDER OF SHIFTERS

All at once there is a great hue and cry against the "Shifter." The outcry, we suspect, comes from persons who do not belong to the "order," just as most of the people who "kick" against moving pictures rarely ever see a picture—not that some of the pictures are not good. This new "order," as we see it, is nothing but a little fun and innocent amusement. Some of the very best people of Newberry, men and women, young and old, belong to it. Some people can make harm out of any and everything. Way back yonder Satan tried to make harm in heaven, but was banished from the company of the good angels. We are not taking up for the Shifters. If certain good and uneasy people think it is wrong we will not dispute with them. We will only say if this order is not right, then bridge playing, where the loser is "caught," is no more right. Let these reformers go a step farther, while at it, and turn their batteries on things that need looking after right under their noses. These same persons, or some of them, have been "frolicking" rather than attending the splendid services at the First Baptist church.

The early bird used to get the worm, and now he gets a place to park his car.

wealth dominate the action of congress on matters of tariff and taxation and use their great power to secure legislative protection for themselves."

Mr. Reid, in other words, resorted to good Democratic doctrine to unseat his opponent.

SMITH HEARS PLEA FOR INJUNCTION

TELEPHONE COMPANY SEEKS PERMANENT ORDER

Recent Act of General Assembly Reducing Rates Point in Issue

The State.
Charleston, April 24.—A hearing was held in the telephone injunction case today by Judge H. A. M. Smith of the United States Eastern district court, and after hearing arguments of attorneys representing the plaintiff, the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph company, and the various state authorities, Judge Smith took the case under consideration. The plaintiff had petitioned for an interlocutory injunction restraining state officials from enforcing the recent act of the general assembly regulating the maximum price which may be charged by telephone companies in the state, and in the meantime Judge Smith had granted a temporary restraining order, and the defendants then petitioned that the plaintiffs complaint be dismissed.

The following attorneys were on hand to represent the telephone company: Grier & Park of Greenwood, W. S. Nelson of Columbia, Hagood, Rivers & Young of Charleston, Henry E. Davis of Florence and Wilcox & Wilcox of Florence. The defendants were represented by Attorney General Samuel M. Wolfe, F. A. Miller of Hartsville and Stephen Nettles of Greenville.

The arguments before Judge Smith today were mostly of a technical nature. The plaintiff alleged, in its complaint, that the new law regulating telephone rates is of a confiscatory nature and therefore unconstitutional, and in the hearing today this point was stressed, as was the point that unless the injunction were granted, the plaintiff would be faced with a multiplicity of suits in the state courts, resulting in immense penalties and fines.

Supporting its motion to dismiss the complaint, the respondents claimed that the plaintiff had adequate relief through appeal to state courts.

The question as to whether or not the motion for an interlocutory injunction should be heard before a tribunal of three federal judges was also taken up in the hearing.

The hearing commenced shortly after 11 o'clock and lasted more than an hour. The railroad commission of South Carolina and Samuel Wolfe, attorney general, are among the respondents.

DR SKINNER HAS DONE GOOD SERVICE FOR NEWBERRY

Dr. Skinner has preached powerful, most appealing and far-reaching sermons all the way through the series of meetings in the First Baptist church. He is a convincing preacher, a deep and clear thinker with his reasoning faculty developed to the highest order. We have no fault to find with this man. Like all truly great men Dr. Skinner is modest. Just as "the bravest are the tenderest, the loving the most daring," Dr. Skinner, "eloquent in his simplicity," with his wonderful grasp and remarkable range, yet exhibits the beautiful and rare trait of modesty. He draws men to him with the magnet of love. People love him because they know he loves them. The great love in his heart shines in his countenance and is felt by his hearers. We can not say all we would wish to say of Dr. Skinner. We know he would rather we say that he has done good in Newberry. This is true, and his beneficial influence will long be felt here.

Death of Mrs. Gruber

Mrs. Carrie C. Gruber, wife of Mr. Geo. C. Gruber, died at her home in the Beth Eden section on Tuesday night at 11 o'clock, from the effects of a paralytic stroke received only on the previous Friday evening at 6 o'clock, at the age of 64 years, and was buried Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, at Beth Eden church, service by Rev. L. P. Boland. Besides her husband, she is survived by one sister, Mrs. Gilliam Fulmer of Newberry.

MEMBER DEFENDS SHIFTERS' ORDER

Claims Organization is for Promotion of Good Fellowship and Harmless Fun

To the Editor of The State:
In behalf of the Royal Order of Shifters, of which I am a member, and in order to correct some of the unjust statements which have been circulated about this organization, I wish to set forth some facts regarding it.

1. The Shifters is only a harmless organization for the promotion of harmless fun and good fellowship. The fact that it has grown so fast, to be so strong, and the fact that many of the most influential and enlightened of our citizens are members should convince anyone of the truth of this statement.

2. It is very inexpensive to become a member. In fact, the only expense is a small initiation fee, which will be refunded to the initiated if he lives up to the requirements or the oath.

3. There is nothing in the organization to compel any girl to associate with any boy or anyone else with whom she does not desire to associate. If there were any such provision does it seem possible that members who have wives, sweethearts and daughters would advise them to join? And would any self respecting girl tolerate this practice? Yet every member will advise their best friends to become members. Ask any member if he is sorry he became a member. The vast majority will tell you that the Shifters is the greatest organization of its kind ever begun, and that his only regret is his failure to join sooner.

Finally, I wish to emphasize the fact that the Shifters is an organization for the promotion of good fellowship and harmless fun. Any attack made upon this organization must come from someone who does not understand the high ideals and aims of the order. It must be remembered that "idle tongues will wag," and that "he who knows least talks most."

NEWBERRY COUNTY ROAD BONDS SOLD

Newberry county sold on Tuesday afternoon \$200,000 worth of road construction bonds running 40 years at 5 per cent for \$204,660. The sale is regarded here as a decidedly good one. The buyers of the bonds are Stacy & Braun of Toledo, Ohio. The county also let the contract for constructing 37.6 miles of top soil roads in the county to the Newell Contracting company for \$102,941.25. This mileage includes eight and a half miles between Pomaria and the Richland county line; Bush river church road from city limits out five miles; the Calks' Ferry road from Prosperity to the Lexington county line, seven and half miles; Ninety-Six road between Whitmire and the Brick house, five miles; Belfast road from near Longshore to the eleven mile post near Dominicks, five miles; Kempson Ferry road, six and six-tenths miles from Rocky branch to Saluda line at Alligator Rock bridge.

WHAT SOME ONE ELSE TOLD SOMEBODY ELSE

The State on Wednesday made pleasant mention of two young ladies stopping over in Columbia on a hike from Miami, Fla. We allude to this to say that after we had spoken respectfully of two young women "hikers" in Newberry last week, someone told us that someone else told him that he had been told that it had been said that if people had seen them talking to a certain man it would not have been good for their reputation. This reporter is not the sort of man to think that because a girl is lively and friendly she is not all right in every other particular, although "birds of a feather flock together." Those young traveling girls do not know the character of a stranger they happen to meet. But that is where girls make a mistake. There are men in this community, married as well as single, with whom to be seen in company with a decent girl would be dangerous to that girl's reputation. This little incident shows how ugly reports get started, and then they spread like the blaze from a match in the prairie grass.

SEVENTEEN LIVES LOST IN FLOOD

SCORES OF RESIDENCES SWEEP AWAY IN FORT WORTH

Flood Most Severe in History of Texas City With Trinity River at Thirty-six Feet

Fort Worth, Texas, April 25.—Seventeen probably dead and property damage estimated at approximately \$1,000,000 is the toll of a flood which swept Fort Worth early today, carrying before it scores of residences and small buildings, overflowing hundreds of acres of land and inundating several city streets.

The estimate of possibly 17 dead was made by L. G. White, in charge of Red Cross relief. The flood was confined chiefly to the lowlands adjoining the tributaries of the Trinity river. Marine, Sycamore, Clearforks and the Trinity river were swollen, overflowing the bottoms nearby.

The flood is the most severe in the history of the city according to old time residents. Trinity river stood at 36.7 feet at noon and was still rising. The gauge measured only seven feet yesterday. With the break of the East First street levee late today it was believed the water on being released would spread out, losing some of its force.

Coming on the heels of rains, the heaviest in the history of Fort Worth, and a wind and electrical storm, the flood took scores of people by surprise. The lowlands adjoining Sycamore creek were the first to suffer and at one time water was standing level with the roofs of residences.

Word reaching here tonight from points north of Fort Worth indicates that a further rise of the water is expected. Rescue workers are laboring tirelessly in bringing relief to flood sufferers.

With boiler rooms of the city power and light plant flooded, residential Fort Worth is spending a night in darkness. No drinking water has been available since early morning.

With the city facing a night of darkness 500 members of the American Legion are patrolling the streets, augmenting the police force.

Many highways were covered with water, cutting off traffic.

Fort Worth, April 25.—John J. McCain, Fort Worth city engineer, issued a statement tonight, in which he declared that the levees around the city which broke here early today and flooded lowlands of this city were "dynamited by unknown parties" and that an investigation by a grand jury would be demanded immediately.

"It is our opinion that the levee did not break of its own accord but was dynamited and as soon as the situation is relieved we are going to place the facts before the grand jury and demand an investigation" McCain declared.

"This decision is based upon a report made to me by John J. Lyden, field supervisor and a member of the levee board for the last 12 years, in which he declared he had men patrolling the levee all Monday night and all day Tuesday and that it was his opinion that the levee was dynamited."

"We are not placing the blame upon any one but we are going to place the facts before the grand jury."

St. Louis, April 25.—More than 3,500 persons are homeless and at least 1,500 homes in the Trinity valley between Arlington Heights and Fort Worth, Texas, are inundated, according to advices received by the Southwestern division of the American Red Cross here tonight.

New Orleans, April 25.—The Mississippi river rose one-tenth of a foot here today, the gauge standing at 22.6 feet. The previous high record here was 22 feet in 1912. A maximum of 23.4 has been predicted by May 15 to 20.

Official reports of satisfactory levee conditions continue to come into federal, state and parish levee engineers today. Topping and blanketing of low embankments was in progress throughout the day all along the lines but flood control agencies declared no serious difficulties had been en-

FINANCIAL DEPRESSION CAUSES MUCH CONCERN

Harvie Jordan Writes From New York of Observations Among Banking Interests

The State, 26.
Investigations among leading banking and business interests of the metropolis of the nation convince me that the present financial condition of the country and the enormous losses resulting to agriculture and business as a result of the drastic deflation policy inaugurated in 1920, is being viewed with deep concern in this section of the nation's concentrated wealth.

With twelve billion dollar losses by the American farmers, most of which is still unpaid, the depreciation and sacrifice of Liberty bonds by the masses, and the wreck and ruin of a multitude of bankruptcies, this condition has generated a nightmare of serious alarm in the minds of many leading financiers in the East. These multiplied billions of losses, now being held in check in many local departments of trade and small banks, must inevitably find their way into and be unloaded on the strong boxes of the great centers of finance. There can be no escape from this ultimate result. The farmers are unable to pay off debts contracted in an era of unparalleled inflation with deflated dollars and a continuing period of low market values for staple farm products. The truth is gradually finding lodgment in the minds of our big financiers that without credits or cash farmers can neither stimulate production nor liquidate past due obligations.

It is now generally conceded, even in Wall street, that the debacle of artificial deflation went too far and that the distribution of the enormous losses in the agricultural sections can not be held in suspense much longer. When the day of final settlement and liquidation comes, the overflow of losses upon the small streams of the country must automatically be absorbed in large measure by the great financial centers of the nation, because ultimately the decks now loaded with debts must be cleared and the final toll of deflation accounted for.

There is strong outspoken sentiment in Wall street against the inauguration of an agricultural bloc in congress. This is neither surprising nor unexpected. The policies of the government have so long been controlled by big business concentrated finance in the East that any attempt by congress to enact measures of real benefit for the South and West is looked upon with suspicion and undisguised objection. Farm legislation of any kind in congress, particularly if related to finance, arouses both indignation and resistance among those who breathe the atmosphere flowing through the skyscrapers of lower Manhattan. This is not due to any sentiment antagonistic to the welfare of the farmers as individuals or to the agricultural industry as a whole. It bespeaks a jealous fear that the enactment of federal legislation relating directly to agricultural finance may encroach upon the rights and emoluments of centralized banking and curtail the powers of Wall street in its supreme control of the banking interests of the nation. Some of the big trade papers of Wall street, reflecting the sentiment of big banking interests in that section, bitterly assail the senatorial agricultural bloc and every agricultural measure introduced in congress which in anywise tends to bring financial relief to farmers, even in this crucial hour of their financial distress.

The new system of agricultural counteracted at any point.

Natchez, Miss., April 25.—A serious slough appeared in the Mississippi between Byrne and Buckridge, about 11 miles above Newellton, La., today. A crack about 40 feet long with clear water showing developed. The threatening condition caused great apprehension for a time and men were rushed from adjacent points to combat the new trouble. Late reports from Newellton stated that the levee is now in a satisfactory condition.

Engineers stated that all levees in the Fifth Louisiana levee district are holding.

ERSKINE STUDENT WINS FIRST PLACE

PRESBYTERIAN AND NEWBERRY SECOND AND THIRD

J. C. Reid, Jr., Takes Initial Honor With "A Nation's Temptation"

The State.
Greenwood, April 21.—J. C. Reid, Jr., of Charlotte, representing Erskine, won first place tonight in the annual South Carolina intercollegiate oratorical contest. His subject was "A Nation's Temptation."

Second place was won by Louis C. LaMotte of Clinton, representing the Presbyterian College of South Carolina. His subject was "Wasted Resources, Blighted Lives."

Karl Kinard of Johnston, representing Newberry college, won third place. His subject was "The Price of Permanent Peace."

Nine colleges were represented in the contest this year, which was held in Lander college auditorium. In addition to the winners, the following spoke: R. I. Herbert, Wofford college, "The Rights of All and the Desire of One;" A. C. Phelps, the Citadel, "The Place in the Sun;" C. J. Campbell, Furman university, "Crowning the Uncrowned;" Isadore Givner, College of Charleston, "America's Need;" Fant Kelly, University of South Carolina, "The Sovereignty of Good Will;" R. W. Coursey, Clemson college, "An Ideal National Character."

Mr. Reid, winner of first place, is 21 years of age. In 1920, he won second place in the state oratorical contest. He is a member of the baseball squad of Erskine college and a member of The Erskinian staff. Judges in the contest were: Dr. William Way, Chester; Judge C. C. Featherstone, Greenwood; A. C. Todd, Laurens; J. B. Park, Greenwood; Dr. F. Sheppardson, Chester.

The annual oratorical contest is one of the most important events in the college year among South Carolina colleges and annually attracts large numbers of visitors.

Bledsoe-Davenport

Miss Thelma Bledsoe and Mr. Jack Davenport were married on Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock by Rev. J. E. Meng.

credits for short term farm loans now pending in congress will doubtless be vigorously opposed by these large banking interests, their satellites and supporters. Wall street banking interests appear to be obsessed with the idea that the destinies of American finance is a divine heritage which they alone must exercise for the benefit of every department of American life; and that any encroachment upon such rights by government even is an unpardonable sacrilege.

Wall street bankers have undoubtedly rendered a great service to thousands of local banks throughout the agricultural sections of America, but there has never at any time in the past been displayed any spirit of altruism toward the sections to which such banking services have been rendered. The nation's demands for a broader and more comprehensive system of finance have grown beyond the fixed set rules and regulations of Eastern finance. The farmers of the nation can no longer look with safety to the bank vaults of the East nor to the federal reserve banking system as now dominated by Eastern banking interests for satisfactory short term agricultural credits in the future. They have their eyes turned upon the Goddess of Liberty towering above the capitol at Washington where the authorized representatives of the people sit in judgment upon the nation's affairs.

It has been a long drawn out struggle, and the great masses of the people have borne the sufferings and trials of financial oppression until they are well nigh exhausted and almost mendicant upon their own domain. But a brighter day is dawning, the country will rebuild its shattered fortunes and enter upon the pathway of the future with renewed hope and safeguarded by a system of federal agricultural credits that will forever protect the agricultural industry of the nation from the fearful catastrophe of the past two years.