

ROB FARMERS; WANT MORE.

COTTON EXCHANGE DENOUNCED BAGGING AND TIE TRUST.

Would Check Rapacity, Which Would Increase Duty and Thus Mult Growers of Millions.

New Orleans, April 10.—That the cotton bagging and tie trust, now robbing the American cotton planter of \$1,000,000 annually through unjust tariff placed upon bagging and ties, are planning to increase their own cotton crop to \$2,800,000 annually is declared in resolution adopted today by the New Orleans cotton exchange.

W. B. Thompson, president of the cotton exchange, in a letter, which he addressed to each member of congress, tells of the great importance to the South of this alleged tariff steal.

"The cotton crop of the South yields an average of about 12,000,000 bales. Of this total approximately five-eighths, or 7,500,000 bales, representing an average money value of over \$500,000,000 are exported and exchanged for foreign gold. The mere statement of these facts attests the importance of the cotton producing industry, emphasizes the obligation, which the country at large owes the producer of this crop and establishes his right to at least just treatment at the hands of the general law making power.

"Under the present tariff law, the duty on steel cotton ties amounts to 2.7 cents per bale, or \$324,000 on a crop of 12,000,000 bales. This tariff is prohibitive, as is shown by the fact that no steel ties are imported. Therefore the government tax constitutes simply and solely tribute levied upon the cotton farmer for the benefit of the cotton tie trust.

"The duty on jute bagging imposed by the present tariff law amounts to 5 1-4 cents per bale or \$630,000, on a crop of 12,000,000 bales. This tariff is to a large extent prohibitive inasmuch as it yields only about \$100,000 in revenues to the government. The balance of about \$435,000 constitutes a tribute paid by the cotton farmer to the bagging trust.

"But the bagging trust is not satisfied with its share of this impost. It desires to raise the duty to a figure which will not only prevent the government from receiving any revenue therefrom, but will enable the trust to take from the farmer four times as much as it has been able to take heretofore.

"This trust has recently made a technical test case based upon a question of chemical analysis, and has secured a ruling thereon from the board of general appraisers in New York, which will change the duty on imported bagging from the present rate, which amounts to about 5 1-4 cents per bale, to an ad valorem duty, which will amount to about 21 cents per bale. This means an increase from \$600,000 on the crop to practically \$2,500,000, all of which the trust will collect from the farmer without any division with the government.

"Thus under the Payne-Aldrich law as heretofore interpreted, the cotton producer has borne the burden of a \$950,000 yearly tax on bagging and ties and if the chemical interpretation holds, he will hereafter be mulcted in the yearly sum of \$2,800,000 for his bagging materials, all of which goes into the treasuries of the bagging and tie trusts.

"From this it will appear that not only the proposed outrage, but the present tax on bagging and ties is inadequate and wrong; and because the Western farmer has, and has had for more than 15 years, his binder twines on the free list, the tax upon the Southern farmer stands condemned on the additional discrimination."

COTTON SUPPLY SHORT.

Bull Leader Says Demands is Greater and Stock Smallest in Years.

New Orleans, April 10.—W. P. Brown of W. F. Brown & Co., of this city, indicted recently in New York in connection with the alleged cotton pool, arrived here today, having recovered from his recent illness in New York.

Mr. Brown is quoted as saying that he is extremely bullish, as the supply of raw cotton is insufficient, he says, to supply the actual requirements, until the new crop is available.

"As a matter of fact," says Mr. Brown, "I believe the supply of raw cotton in proportion to the requirements is the smallest for the season of the year since shortly after the close of the civil war."

Mr. Brown was silent with reference to the cotton pool indictments.

From ignorance our comfort flows, The only wretched are the wise. —Matthew Prior.

FAMINE IN MEXICO.

Unless Peace is Restored Very Soon Province Will be Without Necessary Food.

Auga Prieta, Mexico, April 10.—Conditions are rapidly shaping themselves in the States of Chihuahua and Sonora, Mexico, for a crisis more serious than the loss of life in battle. Americans in those two States declare that unless the rebellion is ended with peace overtures very soon, all northern Mexico will experience a famine.

Because of the spirit of unrest and general discontent prevailing last autumn, little wheat was planted then, and so intent upon rebellion have the Mexicans been that scarcely any soil has been tilled this spring. The ground has not been prepared for the corn crop, the mainstay of the people in Mexico. Supplies on hand to tide the population over the summer and into the fall are well nigh exhausted. For not only has there been no producing population, but the country has been overrun by the rebel bands, who consumed the stores laid by.

What men have not entered the rebel ranks as fighters have fled from their homes and fields to escape impressment into the federal ranks or to avoid the payment of war tribute exacted by the rebel leaders.

URGING POTASH CONFERENCE.

Congressman Lever Pushing State Department in Action.

Washington, April 10.—Representative Lever, who has been urging upon the State department the importance of an early adjustment of the potash controversy with Germany, in behalf of consumers of commercial fertilizers in this country, has been informed in writing by Secretary Knox that negotiations are proceeding with the German Government whereby it is hoped a settlement may be reached through a conference of American importers and representatives of independent German mines and the German potash syndicate.

This conference the State department has suggested for not later than April 24, in New York, but no reply has yet been received from Germany. Mr. Lever has again written the State department pressing the need of prompt action.

NO TRUST DECISIONS YET.

Fate of Standard Oil and Tobacco Trust not Known.

Washington, April 10.—By reason of the failure of the Supreme Court of the United States to announce today its decision in either the Standard Oil and the tobacco "dissolution suits," another week at least must pass before the outcome of these cases will be known. Neither was any case decided today which touched in any way on the controversy of the big corporation cases.

Among other things transacted by the Court was the restoration of the Missouri two-cent fare cases to the docket for a second argument, and the assignment of the West Virginia two-cent fare case for argument on October 10, next, or as soon thereafter as possible.

STATE MUST BORROW AGAIN.

Financial Situation Deplored by Gov. Bleese—\$600,000 Needed.

Columbia, April 10.—Gov. Bleese Monday, after a session of the "Cabinet," (said Cabinet consisting of Comptroller General Jones, State Treasurer Jennings and the Governor,) deplored the fact that the State must borrow \$600,000 to run the Government. The Governor in his inaugural address called attention to this state of affairs, which, he says, is not right.

The amount of cash South Carolina needs this year is the same as last year. It will take \$600,000 to meet the appropriations before the present year's taxes come in. The Comptroller General and the Treasurer were Monday figuring on the necessary cash. South Carolina has been peculiarly fortunate in securing money at a low rate of interest. Last year the interest paid was 3 per cent.

Mr. W. G. Stubbs has sold out his haberdashery business to McCollum Bros., a new firm which will carry on the same line of business that Mr. Stubbs is now carrying on, with some additions to the present line. The new firm will consist of Messrs. H. Warren, Eugene T. and T. W. McCollum, the business to be conducted by Messrs. Warren and Eugene McCollum. The business will be turned over by Mr. Stubbs to McCollum Bros. on the first of August. Mr. Stubbs will leave Sumter at that time, but has not yet definitely decided upon the place at which he will locate.

Which would you rather be in politics—a sacred embodiment or a happy after-thought.—New York Tribune.

RECIPROCITY NOT BARRED.

CUSTOMS COURT DECALRES CANADIAN AGREEMENT ALL RIGHT.

Apparent Insignificant Protest Brings Ruling on Point of Great Importance to Nation.

Washington, April 10.—The customs court in a decision today held, in effect, that the so-called "favored nation" clause in the existing commercial treaties with England, France and Germany does not restrict the United States in effecting the proposed reciprocity agreement with Canada.

The court's decision was brought out by a comparatively unimportant contest over the rate of duty which should be imposed on whiskey imported from England and France. The principal involved is the same raised in opposition to the proposed Canadian reciprocity agreement by those who claimed it was practically forbidden by the "favored nations" clause.

A. D. Shaw & Co., a firm of New York importers, protested payment of duty on whiskey from England at the rate of \$2.25 per gallon, holding they were entitled to a rate of \$1.75 which is imposed on whiskey and other spirits from France. The essence of their claim was that under the most favored nation clause with Great Britain importations from England were entitled to be entered at the same rate of duty levied in such merchandise when imported from France and the other countries with whom similar treaties have been executed.

STATE PENSION FIGURES.

List by Counties Shows \$249,398.80 Amount Paid Out.

Columbia, April 10.—The total amount of pensions in South Carolina, as compiled by counties, shows that this year the amount paid out was \$249,398.80, according to a statement issued this afternoon. There is a decrease of 161 in the pension rolls. The number on the pension rolls of 1910 was 9,592; the number reported dead was 742. Forty-two others were dropped and six hundred and twenty-three new names were added, making a decrease of 161 for 1911. Seventy-five applications were refused.

Sumter pensioners get \$4,197. The list will be published later. Spartanburg county gets the largest amount, \$19,416.

HORTICULTURAL AGENT.

Southern Railway Employs Expert to Help South Carolina Farmers.

Washington, D. C., April 10.—Prof. John F. Monroe, lecturer on horticulture at McDonald College, Providence of Quebec, Canada, has been appointed Agricultural and Horticultural Agent of the Southern Railway Company in the State of South Carolina, with headquarters at Columbia, and will enter upon his duties during the latter part of the present month. This appointment is in line with the policy of the company, as announced by President Finley, to make the work of its Land and Industrial Department as helpful as possible to the communities traversed by its lines.

CITIES START ON NEW PLAN.

Birmingham and Montgomery Inaugurate Commission Form.

Montgomery, Ala., April 10.—Two of Alabama's chief cities dropped the aldermanic form of municipal administration today for a system of commission government.

In Birmingham the three city commissioners were sworn in during the forenoon. Montgomery has five commissioners appointed by the Governor.

The Seaboard Air Line has built branch lines to Marion, Dillon, Clio, Hartsville and other towns and is now at work on a line to Darlington and Florence. The men who control the Seaboard care nothing about Dillon, Hartsville, Florence or any other of the towns, but it is the business they are after. Bishopville and Sumter have business for the Seaboard and the Seaboard is coming after it, provided the people of this town will do as much for the Seaboard as Hartsville and Darlington have done. When the Seaboard is ready to take up the Bishopville, Sumter and Charleston line, which will be in the near future, if the indications are not misleading, it will be put squarely up to the people of Sumter to say whether or not they want another railroad that will open up new territory to the business men of the town.

From a Democratic point of view, Washington is improving as a square meal town.—Columbia State.

HIS GIRL FRIENDS.

Mark Twain Dearly Loved Children as Playmates.

THE ANGEL FISH SOCIETY.

A Delightful and Touching Story About Little Margaret, One of Its Members, and the Genial Humorist—A Pretty Compact and a Quaint Letter.

Like many another great man, Mark Twain was fond of children. He never outgrew childhood, and he always chose young playmates where they were to be found. He formed curious societies of these girl friends. Back in the thirties, when he was living in Europe, he created a club which was to consist of one (only one) girl in each country of the globe, the duty of said member being to write occasionally to the chief officer, who faithfully replied to these random and far flaring messages. Of course these little girls were swept into womanhood presently, but even to the last years of his life the member who signed herself "France" remained faithful to the law.

Another club of girls, little girls, became one of the chief interests during his final years. It had its beginning in Bermuda during one of his frequent visits to those happy islands. It was called the Angel Fish club, after a gorgeous swimmer of those waters, and he gave to each member an angel fish pin as a society badge. It was a successful club, and on his return to America he elected other members, enough to make twelve in all.

His home at Redding, Conn., Stormfield, had been originally named Innocence at Home, and as Angel Fish headquarters Innocence at Home it always remained. Members with their parents visited him there, and the billiard room, where the "fishes" were likely to spend most of their time knocking the balls about, under the chief member's instruction, was called the Aquarium, and gay prints of many Bermuda fishes were hung along the walls to carry out the idea. Each member had the privilege of selecting one of these as her patron fish and of identifying it with her name.

It was in Bermuda one day when he was walking along the beach with one of his angel fish members that he picked up a small iridescent double shell, delicately hinged together. He separated it and handed his companion half.

"You will be going away from me pretty soon, Margaret," he said, "and growing up, and I won't know you any more. I shall see a great many Margarets, and now and then one of them will say she is my Margaret, but I will say, 'No; you resemble my Margaret, but you are bigger than my Margaret, and I can't be sure.' Then I will take out this shell and I will say, 'If you are really my Margaret you will have the other half of this shell, and it will fit exactly.' Then if she has the shell and it fits I shall know that it is really my Margaret, no matter how many years have gone by or how much older she has grown."

All this he said very gravely and earnestly, and the little girl took the shell thoughtfully and promised to keep it always. Next morning when she came running up to meet him on the hotel veranda he looked at her questioningly.

"You look like Margaret," he said, "but I can't be sure. If you are really my Margaret you will have a shell I gave her once—the mate to this one!"

He got no further. The tall man was promptly produced, and it fitted exactly. He returned to America, and somewhat later Margaret received a letter—one of the pretty letters he was always writing to children. In it he said:

"I am always making mistakes. When I was in New York six weeks ago I was on a corner of Fifth avenue and saw a small girl—not a big one—start across from the opposite corner, and I exclaimed to myself joyfully, 'That is certainly my Margaret,' so I rushed to meet her. But as she came nearer I began to doubt and said to myself, 'It's a Margaret, that is plain enough, but I'm half afraid it is somebody else's.' So when I passed her I held my shell so she couldn't help but see it. Dear, she only glanced at it and passed on. I wondered if she could have overlooked it. It seemed best to find out, so I turned and followed and caught up with her and said deferentially, 'Dear miss, I already know your first name by the look of you, but would you mind telling me your other one?' She was vexed and said, pretty sharply: 'It's Douglas, if you're so anxious to know. I know your name by your looks, and I'd advise you to shut yourself up with pen and ink and write some more rubbish. I am surprised that they allow you to run by a baby carriage any time. Run along now and don't let the cows bite you.'"

"What an idea! There aren't any cows on Fifth avenue. But I didn't smile. I didn't let on to perceive how uncultured she was. She was from the country, of course, and didn't know what a comical blunder she was making.

Margaret, with her mother, called when they returned to America. When the cards were brought to him he looked at hers and said:

"Well, the young lady, her name seems familiar, but I can't be sure it's my Margaret without a certain token which she is supposed to carry as a proof." The shell came up without delay. He took the two halves now to a jeweler and had them set in gold as charms. One of these Margaret wore on a ribbon about her neck, and the other he linked to his watch chain, where it remained till he died. What a sweet fancy it all was!

He spent the last months of his life in Bermuda in the home of one of his angel fish, Helen Allen, daughter of the American vice consul there. She was his dearest companion, and it will be her life-long happy memory that she brought to and comforted his final days. Alber Blacow, Paine in Ladies' World.

Losers must have leave to speak. —Gibber.

WHITE MAN KILLED IN ROW.

George Phillips Meets Death in a Row at His Home Near North Friday.

Oranburg, April 12.—George Phillips, who lived near North, was shot and killed in a row at his home Friday. His son, Victor Phillips, is charged with the shooting. Jerome Harley and Victor Phillips got in a row at the latter's home, Victor went into the house. In a few minutes Harley followed, but the elder Phillips the father of Victor, stopped him. Just at that time Victor, it is charged, emerged with a shot gun and fired at Harley, but killed his own father, who was holding Harley. It is understood that Victor Phillips claims that he did not do the shooting.

ISAAC SANDERS SHOOT NEGRO.

Expected that Negro Will Recover from Wounds Received Sunday.

Sunday afternoon Mr. Isaac Sanders a son of Mr. C. W. Sanders, of Hagood, shot a negro named Hannibal Gourdin, wounding him severely. The negro was drunk at the time of the shooting and had narrowly escaped being shot once before that day by one of the chaingang guards who was prevailed upon by others to desist when he started to shoot him.

It seems that the negro came to the house of Mrs. Alston and coming up the back steps asked Sanders to give him some money. Sanders refused and told him to go on away from there and then pushed him down the steps. The negro insisted upon Sanders giving him the money and, when Sanders told him that he did not have any, called him a vile name. Sanders told him to shut up and the negro again cursed him and went on around to the front of the house and started up the steps to enter it when Sanders, who had gone in the house in the mean time and secured his pistol, shot at him several times, wounding him in two places.

TEDDY WELCOMED AT FROSTY TIME.

Light Snow and Cold Wind Fail to Chill Warmth of Roosevelt Reception.

Missoula, Mont., April 11.—A light snow and cold wind did not serve to dampen the enthusiasm of Missoula's reception to Theodore Roosevelt when he arrived here early today.

Mr. Roosevelt's first engagement was an address to the students of the State university at 11 o'clock. His principal address came in the afternoon, and was a talk to the citizens. A visit to the military post and a banquet, followed by a reception, completed the program.

News from Manning.

Manning, April 10.—At her home last night, after a very brief illness, Mrs. Fannie S. McFadden, relict of Mr. John S. McFadden, passed away in her 72d year.

She was a consistent member of the Manning Presbyterian church, and her benefactions to the poor, her sympathy to the bereaved and her ministrations to the sick and dying will long be remembered when she is dead. She was a mother in Israel and her children rise up and call her blessed, her splendid sons and womanly daughters attest what a true, wise and loving parent she was. Her relatives and connections by marriage embrace the county of Clarendon.

She leaves surviving her four sons: Messrs. S. M. McFadden, of Baltimore, and J. McD., Jack M., and C. A. McFadden of Manning, and five daughters: Mesdames W. T. Lesesne, J. H. Hawkins and Fannie J. Sauls, Misses Sudie and Minnie McFadden, besides several brothers and sisters.

The funeral services took place this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Manning Presbyterian Church, and the edifice was filled to its utmost capacity with sorrowing relatives and friends. Rev. A. R. Woodson of the Presbyterian and E. H. Studer of the Methodist churches officiated.

The interment was at the Manning cemetery.

The pallbearers were: Messrs. A. D. McFadden, Sidney Dwight, Alban and Austin Sauls, grandchildren, and C. A. and L. H. Harvin, nephews. Honorary: Messrs. W. C. Davis, Charlton Duran, Louis Apple, E. B. Andrews, A. S. Lewis, E. P. Ervin.

The floral offerings were numerous and beautiful.

His countrymen are looking against him that President Taft would consider it necessary to write a 49-cent message explaining to Congress why he should hold a one-paragraph special session. New Orleans Times-Democrat.

None so deaf as those that will not hear. —Matthew Henry.

TAFT TO SEE FIRST GAME.

Will Toss Out Ball Inaugurating Baseball Season in Washington. Goes on a Pass.

Washington, April 11.—President Taft today received his annual pass, entitling him to admission to games played anywhere on the American league circuit during the 1911 season, and tomorrow, with Maj. A. W. Butt, his personal aide, and C. D. Hillis, his secretary, will occupy a box in the front row at the American league park here to see the Nationals and Boston open the season. The president will toss a ball from his box to start the game.

On Saturday the president plans to play his first game of golf this year on the Chevy Chase links.

CITY BONDS SOLD.

Bonds Sold to E. H. Rollins & Sons of Boston, Mass.

The \$25,000 forty year bonds were signed up and sold Monday to E. H. Rollins & Sons of Boston, Mass., at a premium of \$541.75.

These bonds go to pay for the paving of Main street and were voted for in a special election held in February. As the bonds are now issued this probably means that it will not be long before work will begin on Main street. There were nine bids for the bonds besides the bid which was accepted.

In The Police Court.

There were not many cases to be heard in the Police Court Tuesday by Recorder Lee, but those that were heard were cases that helped out the city somewhat along financial lines.

I. A. Ryttenberg was fined \$3.00 for exceeding the automobile speed limit in his automobile.

Jim Harvin was tried for assault and battery and also on the charge of cursing. He pleaded not guilty, but the witnesses put up by him to sustain his plea were not reputable enough to be given much credence and the Recorder sentenced him to pay a fine of \$30 or to serve 30 days on the first charge and \$10 or 20 days on the second charge.

Walter Stansill was tried in his absence on the charges of carrying concealed weapons and disorderly conduct. He was found guilty and his bond of \$30 was forfeited to the city.

Happiness in Old Age.

Long life is a blessing when old age does not bring with it the darkness of pessimism. The Oslerian theory that a man's life-work is over when he reaches the age of 60 is refuted every day by the experience of men and women we know and honor. Some of the most powerful forces in finance, in government, in diplomacy, in the law, are past that limit, which no man or woman need dread.

The other day John Bigelow, 93 years old, sailed from New York for a pleasure trip of three or four months through Europe. Though it has been a generation since he was minister to France and a force in politics and diplomacy, he is as light-hearted as a boy. The most interesting speaker at the Woman's Missionary Congress in New York recently was a woman who half a century ago went with her husband into the heart of unknown Africa and there helped plant the seeds of the mission that have borne such abundant fruit. Mrs. Mary A. Wright, 82 years old, a few Sundays ago, began the leadership of a Bible class of a hundred women in First Baptist church of Burlington, N. J. For 65 years she taught a class in the same school, but had to go to a hospital a year ago, threatened with blindness. She received a welcome from hundreds who gathered to honor her and testify to her great influence for good in the community.

Fanny Crosby a few days ago celebrated her ninety-first birthday. She has been blind ever since she was 6 weeks old, but no poet of her time has contributed more to the hymnology of the church than she has; none has a wider influence. She has written more than 6,000 hymns, among them such well-known favorites as "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" and "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross." She is "youthful and vigorous in spirit," the dispatches say, " hale in body and clear in mind," and she hopes to live to be 100 years old. In the birthday sentiment she sends out to her friends, wherever they may be, she gives something of the secret of her own long and happy life:

Let everyone strive to make this world a little happier for other people. That is the best sentiment and the best model I can give you.—Baltimore Sun.

If South Carolina ever erects a monument to any other than her own sons, this man must deserve that we know of, Dr. Seaman Knapp, recently discussed.—Florence Times.