

WHY WOOLS ARE LOWER

WHAT THE SENATORS SAY ON THE SUBJECT.

All Grades of Wool Are Lower than a Year Ago—Manufacturers of Cigars Form a Trust to Take Full Advantage of the McKinley Bill—Failures Since Jan. 1.

Why They Have Fallen. High tariffs lower wool prices; low tariffs raise wool prices. So say Senators Sherman and Allison, Thomas Dolan, the high-tariff woolen manufacturer, and the organ of the Manufacturers' Club.

That high duties on the foreign fine wools needed by our manufacturers to mix with the wools of domestic production lower the prices of our own wools since the enactment of the McKinley tariff. The truth of this assertion is admitted by such leading men as Senators Allison of Iowa and Sherman of Ohio.

On March 24, 1870, Senator Allison said, in debating the wool tariff: "I allude to the wool tariff, a law the effect of which has been materially to injure the sheep husbandry of this country. As the law now is, the tariff upon fine wools of a character not produced in this country is 100 per cent of their value. Before the tariff of 1862, our manufacturers of fine goods mixed foreign wools with our domestic product, and were thus able to compete successfully with the foreign manufacturers of similar wools. But, being prohibited from importing this class of wools, these fine goods cannot now be produced in this country as cheaply as they can be imported. If they could afford to manufacture these fine goods, they would make a market which we do not now have for our fine wools to be mixed with other fine wools of a different character from abroad. The want of a market, as I understand it, is the reason why our fine wools command so low a price."

The following from Senator Sherman's speech in the Senate, Mar. 7, 1883, on the wool schedule of the tariff of 1883, will show that he agrees with Senator Allison as to the effect of high duties on wool. Senator Sherman said: "In 1867 the price of wool was 51 cents; in 1870, 46 cents; in 1880, which was an abnormal year, 48 cents; this was the result of the policy of protecting the wool-grower, as it is in all industries, to gradually reduce the price. Under the operation of the existing law (the tariff of 1867) the price of wool has gradually gone down."

Thomas Dolan, who was associated with Lawrence and Delano, of Ohio, in the preparation of the wool schedule of the McKinley tariff, wrote a letter to the New York World a short time ago, in which he said: "It is an interesting fact that the prices of wool are lower now than they were one year ago. This result was distinctly promised by the Protectionists during the discussion which accompanied the framing of the tariff bill."

In nearly every issue last year the high-tariff manufacturer advocated increased duties on wool, declaring that the result of such action would lower wool prices. Thus on Jan. 1, 1890, it said: "When duties have gone up, prices have gone down; when duties have declined, prices have advanced. The domestic manufacturer has always had an abundance of superior fiber at low prices under tariffs which imposed high duties upon them, and to-day pay more for wool than he would have paid under the defective tariff law of 1883, administered by a free trade administration, had not practically cut down the wool duties."

On Oct. 16, 1890, after the McKinley tariff had gone into effect, it said: "The prices of wool have always declined when the duties have been advanced, and no doubt exists in the mind of any well-informed man but they will again decline now that the new tariff law has put the duties up."

No wonder that McKinley avoids the wool question in his speeches in justification of his tariff bill when his associates in Congress and the journals, while supporting his tariff, declare that high tariffs lower wool prices and low tariffs raise them.

Who Pays the Tariff Tax?

The American Economist, organ of the Protective Tariff League, asserts that binding twine has fallen in price from 14½ cents per pound in October, 1890, to 11 cents per pound now. And a Kansas paper, taking up the cue, says, "Will some free-trader kindly tell us why the best binding twine costs only 10 cents per pound now, where it was sold for from 15 to 17 cents per pound? Does an increase in the tariff always result in reducing the price of a commodity to the consumer?"

True, binding twine has fallen in price, but not because, as the Kansas paper thinks, of an increase in the duty. McKinley and his associates tried hard to keep the duty on binding twine where it was in the tariff of 1883, but the same forces which compelled him to put sugar on the free list, namely the Representatives of the Northwestern States, also demanded as the price of their votes on his tariff that manila, sisal, grass, jute, and sunn, the materials from which binding twine is made, should be put on the free list, and that the duty on binding twine should be lowered.

The following were the changes made in the duties:

Materials.	New Tariff.
Manila.....	\$23 per ton
Sisal grass.....	\$15 per ton
Sisal.....	\$15 per ton
Jute.....	\$15 per ton
Binding twine.....	2½ cents per lb

Protected by a high tariff of 2½ cents per pound, the twine trust was able to charge the farmers high prices and force them to pay besides the duty on the raw material. Now, however, since the materials have been put on the free list and the duties on twine reduced the farmers get their twine cheap. The American Economist and the Kansas organ of high tariffism are at perfect liberty to get all the consolation they desire from this. All the farmer wants is the facts in the case, and he can be trusted to draw his own conclusions. In short he has already begun to learn who pays the tariff tax, his first two lessons being on sugar and binding twine.

In May, 1890, the McKinley bill was advocated by its author on the express ground that it would check the business of foreign merchants and diminish the importation of competing foreign goods. Then its advocates did not want to conceal the fact that this was its chief purpose; they wanted their countrymen to know it. In October, 1891, they not only seek to conceal this purpose, but try to make people believe that the real object of the bill was to increase the importation of foreign goods. McKinley himself, when a year and a half ago "viewed with alarm" the five per cent increase in the value of our imports, and promised that his bill would check such importations, now "points with pride" to the fact that imports have really increased, and applauds Senator Sherman while the latter boasts that the law comes nearer the ideal of free trade than any previous tariff act. Evidently the lesson of the elections of 1890 was not lost even upon McKinley.—N. Y. Evening Post.

A CORRESPONDENT asks the Cleveland Leader where the money required for the payment of the sugar bounty, obtained, "from the duty on imports, or

directly or indirectly, from the people of the United States." This inquiring person appears to have "taken a long view" of the subject, for it is not paid by the people of this country, but is contributed to the National Treasury by foreign manufacturers. The Leader makes this reply: "Most of the money paid, as bounty to the producers of sugar comes from the duty on imports, but it is a direct outlay by the people of the United States." How can it be a direct outlay by the people of this country if the duties are paid, not by them but by foreigners?—New York Times.

TRUST IN CIGARS FORMED.

How the Manufacturers Will Take Full Advantage of the McKinley Tariff.

This time it is the cigar manufacturers. McKinley added several boards to the already high fence around the cigar industry. The duty on ordinary cigars is now from 150 to 200 per cent. Of course, only expensive cigars are imported, on which the duty, being mostly specific, is much less. Domestic prices have been advanced several points, but they are still often below the level of the top of the new tariff fence. The situation is telling on manufacturers who consider it a disgrace to their calling to let such an opportunity go to waste.

Large cigar manufacturers of New York, Poughkeepsie, and Binghamton held a meeting early in October. The objects of these meetings, as reported in the papers, were to form a cigar trust, with a capital of \$25,000,000, to crush the life out of small manufacturers and labor unions, and to raise prices.

Mr. Theodore H. Allen, of 18 Broadway, in whose office the meetings were held, is the reputed father of this immense trust. He admits that meetings were held, "but," he says, "they were to discuss business prospects and possibly to devise some means of reducing prices."

Motions of smokers will await with anxiety the outcome of this attempt to "devise some means of reducing prices." They know how extremely difficult and risky it is for a single manufacturer to lower prices when profits become so high as to impinge upon his sensitive conscience. The people are becoming accustomed to these meetings held for their benefit. They expect philanthropic manufacturers to go to much trouble and expense to lower prices. Consumers might at first resist reductions if they thought that only a few firms were concerned.

There are 15,000 to 20,000 cigar manufacturers in the United States, but less than 200 control the majority of the capital. Whether or not these 200 can so easily as to kill out, or buy out, the majority of the small manufacturers, and suppress the small manufacturers, it is certain that the McKinley tariff will have greatly favored large and discouraged small manufacturers. One of the ways in which it did this was by increasing the duty on tobacco to be used as wrappers from 75 cents to \$2.75 per pound. As Sumatra tobacco (about the only kind heretofore used as wrappers) costs only from 40 to 60 cents per pound in Amsterdam, the rate of duty is nearly 500 per cent. Small manufacturers, with little credit and less capital, were unable to buy more than a few bales of Sumatra tobacco before the duty was advanced. These were exhausted in a few months and now these unfortunate manufacturers, unable to pay \$3.50 per pound for wrappers that their competitors \$3.00 are trying to compete in the trade that domestic tobacco is just as good as imported wrappers. The trade is only convinced against its will and is incurring more and more towards the wealthy manufacturers who still have on hand from one to two years' supply of Sumatra tobacco, and who take pleasure in supplying goods in familiar wrappers. The small manufacturers are now weakened from heavy losses of McKinleyism and can offer but feeble resistance to the attacks of their more fortunate and aggressive brethren.

TARIFF SHOT.

Since 1816 we have had three periods of high tariffs, one period of a moderate tariff with incidental protection, and three periods of low tariffs. How the price of wheat has been affected by the tariffs during these periods is as follows:

1. Period of moderate tariff, with incidental protection, 1816 to 1824, wheat, \$1.20 per bushel.
2. Period of high and prohibitory tariff, 1825 to 1832, wheat, \$1.10½ per bushel.
3. Period of the low compromise tariff, 1833 to 1842, wheat, \$1.35 per bushel.
4. Period of high tariff, 1843 to 1846, wheat, \$1.02 per bushel.
5. Period of low revenue tariff, 1847 to 1857, wheat, \$1.51½ per bushel.
6. Period of lower revenue tariff, 1858 to 1860, wheat, \$1.42 per bushel.
7. Period of high and prohibitory tariff, 1861 to 1890, wheat, \$1.23 1-6 per bushel.

High tariffs depressed the price of wheat; low tariffs raised wheat prices.

Two Pictures Contrasted.

During the last fifteen or twenty years farm values all over the East have declined from 25 to 100 per cent. Many have been abandoned and others are mortgaged for all or more than they are worth. Several Eastern States already have state-farm commissioners, to advise means for saving the farms. Many Eastern farmers think that the cultural depression is caused by the opening of immense farming tracts in the West, where cattle and grain can be raised so much cheaper than in the East. But during this same period the West has suffered in the same way, and mortgages have been even more numerous here. There must be some cause that operates alike in both East and West.

It is barely possible that we have had too much "home market" during this time for the benefit of our farmers. If the "home market" theory be true it would naturally be supposed that farmers most protected manufacturing centers would be the most prosperous. The Mohawk valley is filled with the knitting mills of the United States are at Cohoes, Amsterdam, Little Falls, and at other points in the valley. These mills are protected by duties of from 50 to 100 per cent. Some of the biggest carpet factories are in the valley. The duty on carpets will average 80 to 100 per cent. Remington guns and typewriters are made at Ilion. Edison's electric works at Schenectady employ 7,000 or 4,000. Linseed oil is manufactured in large quantities at Amsterdam. These are but a few of the highly protected industries that flourish in this valley.

The birth of her child brought presents of a dozen cradles to the Duchess of Fife, a pointed encouragement of an "infant industry."

There is nothing which this age, from whatever standpoint we survey it, needs more—physically, intellectually, and morally—than thorough ventilation.—Ruskin.

ALMOND meal sprinkled in the bath makes the skin soft and white.

exception to the rule. Wherever protected manufacturers congregate, there farm values decline most rapidly. This movement probably can be explained by the class who have up to date made the farmers believe that they should tax themselves on all the manufactured articles used to purchase these invaluable "home markets."

Manufacturers understand the beauties of these home markets. Do the farmers understand them as well?

NEW LIES REFUTED.

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SUPERSENSITIVENESS.

A person who has not done anything to distinguish himself is generally not allowed queer habits. Eccentricity is not for common people. But for Washington Alston, one of America's most noted painters, all things were right. His excessive sensitiveness was shown in many ways.

When India rubber overshoes began to be worn he was induced to purchase a pair for his health's sake, but he could never put them on or remove them except with a pair of tongs.

But that same sensitiveness showed itself in another way. His scrupulous conscience was illustrated by an incident occurring in 1816, when he was in urgent need of money.

Had just found a purchaser for one of his pictures, but thinking the matter over alone in the evening he concluded that the subject of the painting was such that at some time it might have an immoral effect on some perverted imagination.

He immediately went to his patron's house, paid back the money, took the picture home and burnt it.

This was sensitiveness worth having.

There is no more hurtful plan for any young man than to buy a thing on the installment plan, especially things of which he has no pressing need, such as watches and jewelry.

When you have the money to spend and are not in a mood to invest it so that it will increase your worldly possessions, we can certainly not object to your spending it as you like. But to run into debt for things you can easily get along without is simply suicidal.

The Arkansas girl who was without shoes and stockings, and comfortable clothing for the winter, felt that she could get along without those presumed necessities of life, but feeling really she was suffering for a bosom pin." Too many young men seem to be suffering for gold watches. Buy what you can pay for and defer some luxuries till you can afford to pay for them.

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FASHION—FRIVOLITY.

THEY ARE NOT AT ALL ANALOGOUS.

Women Who Dread Fashionable Life—An Existence Filled with Tasks, Care, and Responsibilities—How the Fashionable World Enjoys Its Country Seat.

For Women to Read.

MOST people have an idea that because fashion and frivolity both begin with the same letter they are very much one and the same thing, but as is generally the case with this popular idea, it is the reverse of the truth. While a guest at the country seat of a leading lady of fashion last week, writes our New York lady correspondent, she said to me, with a sigh: "I dread to think of a return to town. Fashionable life has so many cares, so many responsibilities, so many tasks. It is not merely a question of clothes, as the world imagines it to be, but the labor and your time are also upon you. The clothes are the mere outward sign of your ability and fitness to pose as grand lady, as society leader, as committee woman, as patroness. But the season grows later and later every year."

The autumn fêtes at the country seats are taking on a particular effulgence this autumn, and I must say that I don't blame a refined and elegant lady for looking forward with such delight to these few weeks as mistress of the manse. Here in large rooms and wide halls she may display her most graceful toilettes, here she is queen, everyone bends to her, compliments her, consults her, obeys her. It is not like the narrow field of triumph in the town drawing room, where she must share her scepter with a score of others. No, here she is the lady of the castle. Her training and goings and sayings are noted and studied, for this great room is her domain and these broad

lands are her domain.

For the first time in the history of the world, the world imagines it to be the labor and your time are also upon you. The clothes are the mere outward sign of your ability and fitness to pose as grand lady