

## THE HOUSE YIELDS.

Acting on the Caucus Decision It Passes the Senate Bill.

It Then Passes Separate Bills Placing Coal, Iron, Sugar and Barbed Wire on the Free List—The Proceedings.

### END OF THE LONG FIGHT.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—A few minutes before noon the house democratic caucus passed a resolution, proposed by Speaker Crisp, advising the recession from the disagreement to the senate's amendments to the Wilson bill, the passing of the amended bill, the introduction of separate bills making coal, iron, sugar and barbed wire free of all duties.

### In the House.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—When the house met five minutes after the democratic caucus adjourned there were more members on the floor than at any time since the tariff bill was passed.

At 2:15 p.m. Mr. Catchings was recognized and presented the report of the rules committee providing for the immediate consideration and passage of the senate tariff bill, to be followed by the separate bills for sugar, coal, iron ore and barbed wire.

Mr. Reed made a parliamentary objection to the procedure, claiming that the tariff bill was not before the house, and indicated the republican intention to fight the bill and report in every proper way.

Speaker Crisp held that the resolution was in order and before the house. The previous question was ordered without division.

### The Rule Adopted.

At 3:30 the motion on the adoption of the rule was put. Mr. Reed called for a division after Speaker Crisp had decided it was carried. The rule was adopted amid great shouts from the democrats by a vote of yeas, 188, nays, 8. The negative votes were cast by Messrs. Cockran and Warner (N. Y.) and Mr. Robertson (La.)—all democrats. The republicans did not vote.

The special order setting apart limited time for the consideration and vote on the senate amendments to the tariff bill, was adopted by a vote of yeas 176, to nays 97. Among the democrats who voted against the rule were Messrs. Capenhart (W. Va.), Johnson (O.), Warner (N. Y.) and Robertson and Meyer (La.).

The house proceeded immediately to the consideration of the question of concurring in the senate amendments, on which two hours' debate was allowed, and Mr. Wilson (dem., W. Va.) proceeded to address the house.

### Mr. Wilson's Speech.

Mr. Wilson said he did not pretend to feel gratified at the outcome of the prolonged controversy. Whatever the measure of shortcomings of this bill in its present form—whatever be its demerits in mere schedules—this he did know—that it is better than the McKinley law. He knew, he said, that in a part of it does afford some relief to the taxpayers of this country and does clip the wings of the gigantic monopolies that are now oppressing them and blocking legislation. He continued:

"Take even those portions of the bill over which this contest between the two houses has been waged; take iron ore and coal, upon which we have confronted, and to a certain extent, unsuccessfully confronted, the great railroad syndicates of the country; yet we have reduced them both nearly 50 per cent. below the McKinley law. Take the sugar bill, over which the greatest of all the contests between the two houses has been waged. Victoria, it may be burdensome to the people as it may be, favorable to the trust as it may be, it is less vicious, less favorable to the trust, less burdensome to the people, than is the McKinley law, under which this trust has grown so great as to overshadow with its power the American people. If for no other reason then, those who believe that when they cannot take the full step which they desire, when they cannot do that which the people commissioned them to do, they must take the best they can and step as far as they can, may find some justification for an unhesitating choice between the two bills."

### WHY Produce Sufficient Revenue.

In reply to Mr. Hudson (pop., Kan.), Mr. Wilson said he had no hesitancy whatever in saying that when the schedules of the bill, with the senate amendments, get into normal operation it will produce sufficient and more than sufficient revenue for the support of the government. He would add to the answer that perhaps in the beginning the bill will not produce as much revenue as will result from it later on under its ordinary working, because he was informed, whether it be true or not he did not know, that the sugar trust, in anticipation of the passage of the bill, has imported about \$100,000,000 worth, or, it has been said, even in excess of that quantity, of raw sugar.

### Mr. Reed is Humorous.

Mr. Reed (rep., Me.), the leader of the opposition, took the floor. He said his feelings were divided by two emotions. One, an emotion of regret for the democratic party, and for its position, and the other is a feeling of equal regret for the country in its position. So far as the gentleman from West Virginia was concerned, and his compatriots, there was not the slightest necessity of commenting on the difference between this scene of sorrow and the triumphal procession which carried him out of this house. He is not so joyous now, having been carried out in another branch, and more effectually. Mr. Reed continued:

"The gentleman from West Virginia and his compatriots appear before us now, not as the triumphal reformers marching to glory to the sound of their own sweet voices. They are little babies in the wood, and it will be found pretty soon that they were left by their mother in the wood." And I can hear the coming of the pinions, of the little birds bearing the ballots that are to bury them out of sight.

"But their fate is of small consequence. Their disappearance is the least of this event. I told this house, speaking on the tariff question, that one of the great misfortunes of this attempted action would be the fact that whatever basis was reached it would not be a permanent basis on which this country could do business; that that was only an effort on their part to do something, an effort which they were going to continue; and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. Wilson) signified his departure from history by talking about this being a step in the onward march. So, not even content with this senate

bill, not even content with what attacks it makes upon industries, these men at the moment when they feel their personal discredit by submitting to the bill, announce to us that it is only the herald of future attacks upon the business industries of this country. Great God! Has not this country suffered enough during the last twelve months that these men should come and say to us that their wages are to continue? I tell you that when the people of this country get an opportunity to express their opinion of you, you will listen to it more intently and with sadder hearts than you have to day, even.

"We shall not write its epitaph. That has been done by a nearer and dearer personage. That has been done by the man whose name must be affixed to this bill before it can be a discredit to the statute book. His name must be added to it. He tells you this bill is an instance of perfidy, injustice and dishonesty. Out of your own household has come your condemnation. Nay, out of your own mouths has your condemnation come. For we shall read that bold and uncompromising declaration of the chairman of the committee on ways and means that we were to sit here until the end of our term to put down the sugar trust."

"What do we have instead? Why, we have a proposition to fire one of those pogrom tariff bills for which the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Springer) was deposed from the ways and means committee. His successor, after filling the atmosphere with his outspread wings, finds his nest in some other bird's premises.

"Why not resign if you were to adopt the action of the other person? I congratulate the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Springer) upon his personal triumph. I wish I could congratulate the country upon something, and I will upon the speedy departure of incompetency."

Ex-Speaker Reed was then followed by Mr. McMillin (Tenn.), who criticised Mr. Reed for not discussing the question at issue, and proceeded to point out, as he claimed, some good features of the senate bill—free wool, free lumber, free hemp, etc.—and the reductions in the general schedules. Mr. Burrows (rep., Mich.) spoke in the same vein as did Mr. Reed. He declared that the action of the caucus which the house was about to endorse was not compromise; it was unconditional surrender.

### Cockran Heard.

Mr. Cockran (dem., N. Y.) made a strong protest against the consummation of this tariff legislation, which recalled his famous speech of protest at the Chicago convention. Mr. Cockran said:

"Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the question before this house has been somewhat overlooked. The vital point at issue here is whether the American congress is to legislate or whether some unknown, unmentioned force can block the wheels of legislation and make the representatives of the people cower in the dust and surrender they know not to whom."

"On one momentous occasion the gentleman from West Virginia, borne upon affectionate and loyal shoulders, was the central figure of a demonstration which evidenced the depth of feeling throughout the American people, long pent up, at last fondly concealed triumphant over all obstructions. To-day no more pathetic figure in the history of the world can be observed than that same leader, shorn of his support, which confronts us, confessing that he has been deserted by those in whose support he had every reason to confide, asking us to record our betrayal of every principle which the house under his leadership has maintained.

"We are told that three, four, five, six, seven or eight individuals have managed to make such a combination in the other branch that any change in its terms will be vital to the passage of the measure. If that be so, in the name of the American people, in the name of liberty and honor, let us know what they are."

"We are hopelessly discredited because our cowardice makes our surrender disgraceful.

"Mr. Speaker, I desire to state here that in my humble judgment the measure which we are now asked to pass is a more obnoxious protective measure than the McKinley act, which it is designed to supplant." [Cries of dissent on the democratic side and jeers.]

Mr. Cockran ridiculed the action of the house conferees in having gone forth to meet the senate conferees, and then having turned and fled at a shadow without having met the enemy in conflict at all. Said he:

"Thus you stab tariff reform in the house of its friends. You surrender the dignity and independence of the house to secure the passage of a bill which will so firmly entrench protection in popular favor that this generation never will see another successful effort to overthrow it."

"If we are to swallow this whole obnoxious bill, then in the name of fair play, in the name of property, in the name of decency, in the name of American liberty and American freedom, let the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. Wilson) tell us to whom we are surrendering, tell us who are who constitute the new force in this government, and without reserve the character of the action which he asks us to take, that we may judge the depth of the infamy into which we are invited to descend." [Applause.]

Speaker Crisp Takes the Floor.

Speaker Crisp was recognized amid much applause, Mr. Tracy (N. Y.) being in the chair. Mr. Crisp said he wished to publicly assume his full share of responsibility for the action about to be taken, and expressed the belief that it was in the best interest of tariff reform. He referred to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Cockran) as spending but little of his time in attending to the business of the house, and as indulging in pyrotechnics about principle while plain practical business men were seeking to obtain some relief for a suffering people. "Half a loaf is better than no bread." Therefore we will take the senate bill." Mr. Crisp, continuing, said:

"We will send to the senate crystallized into the form of acts passed in this bill half-making sugar free, making coal free, making iron free, and making barbed wire free.

I want to say as far as I am concerned, I was willing to continue the negotiations for a better bill so long as there was any hope of obtaining it. But when the conferees of the part of the house, in whom we have the utmost confidence, who are familiar with all the facts, tell us that in their judgment we must take this bill or be remitted to the penalties of the McKinley law, I do not hesitate a moment. I take the senate amendments.

"If there is a sugar trust in this country which is dominating legislation the republican party created it. And though this bill does not destroy that trust, as we wish it did, it takes away more than one-half of the protection to that trust.

"Coal, bituminous and large slack, 15 cents per ton.

"Precious stones, cut and unset, 25 per cent ad valorem; set, 30 per cent.; cut, 10 per cent; glaziers and miners' diamonds free.

"Logs and sawed lumber and timber (save tropical woods) and wool are free.

"Tin plate, 1-15 cents per pound after October 1.

"Marble, rough, 50 cents; dressed, 85 cents per foot (cubic).

"White lead and red lead, 1/4 cents per pound.

"Under the internal revenue sections of the bill, playing-cards are taxed 2 cents a package.

"An income tax of 2 per cent. on incomes above \$4,000 is provided for; also a tax on corporations of 2 per cent. Whisky is taxed at \$1.10 per gallon and the bonded period is fixed at eight years.

fections upon his absence that "it was an evidence of the growth of Georgia chivalry, since Alexander Stevens was replaced in the speakership by the present occupant of the chair."

The speaker disclaimed any intention of reflecting on Mr. Cockran, but the incident caused much confusion and it was many minutes before order could be restored.

Mr. Wilson Makes a Correction.

After this exciting scene Mr. Wilson arose and corrected a statement he had made in his opening to the effect that \$100,000,000 worth of raw sugar had been purchased by the sugar trust in anticipation of the passage of the sugar schedule of the senate bill. He had been mistaken, he afterward learned. The trust had purchased 448,000 tons.

"How much is that in dollars and cents?" called out a senator.

"About \$25,000,000," replied Mr. Wilson.

NO ONE KNOWS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—As the house of representatives Monday night adjourned over until to-day, the tariff bill cannot be sent to the white house before. It will be enrolled and carefully compared when both houses are in session, and will receive the signatures of Speaker Crisp and Vice President Stevenson. The bill then will be taken to the president, who will then have ten days (exclusive of Sundays), or until Monday, the 27th, in which to act on the bill.

A great deal of pressure will be brought to bear on the president by democratic senators and representatives to induce Mr. Cleveland to sign the bill, but the authoritative statement made that it is the present intention of the president to let the bill become a law without his signature, can be reiterated. It is stated by friends of the president that he has freely expressed this purpose to those entitled to know who have questioned him on the subject, but has said that he will thoroughly consider all phases of the matter. A member of the cabinet said that if the president should change from his present inclination and affix his signature to the bill it would be accompanied by a statement in explanation of his reasons therefor.

The president has repeatedly told his friends that he could not sign the bill, but many of his closest personal friends have urged him to sign the bill without delay. Several reasons were urged, among them the fact that the opening of fall trade was close at hand and that a delay of ten days might result in serious loss of customs revenues.

Another reason stated was that congress was anxious to adjourn. With the exception of two months the members had been in constant attendance for over a year, and it was represented that, now that their work was practically accomplished, it would be hardly fair to compel them to remain here in idleness, when no positive good could be accomplished thereby.

He was advised to forego his scruples in the matter, sign the bill and return it with a message which would leave no room for doubt as to his views thereon.

It is estimated that during the next ten days the receipts from internal revenue will amount to between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000, and the government will lose the increased whisky tax to this extent. In view of the depleted condition of the treasury this argument probably will have weight with the president.

DISTILLERS ACTIVE.

MUCH WHISKY BEING TAKEN OUT OF BOND—REVENUE INCREASE EXPECTED.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15.—There was great activity in the United States internal revenue office here Tuesday following the final passage of the tariff bill. Distillers are anxious to get their whisky out of bond at the present revenue rate of 90 cents, and the receipts were phenomenally large.

There are in bond in this district 37,917 packages of whisky, containing 1,617,541 gallons. The largest distiller in the district has already withdrawn all his whisky. With importers of merchandise the situation is different. It is to their advantage to leave goods in the bonded warehouse until the law goes into effect, when the duties will be reduced.

Imports aggregating in value nearly \$2,000,000, the largest ever bonded here at one time, are now in the warehouse. The owners will take advantage of the reduction in the new law.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Treasury officials anticipate a very great increase in the receipts from internal revenue sources within the next ten days in case the president allows the tariff bill to become a law by withholding his signature. During the next ten days the internal revenue receipts are expected to reach \$1,500,000 a day.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Aug. 15.—The passage of the tariff bill has already made itself felt in this district by a marked revival of business. Stocks in all lines of manufacture had been reduced to minimum, especially in iron, steel and glass. Tuesday several large orders were received by local manufacturers and many more are expected.

In some lines of business the demand began as soon as the passage of the tariff bill was assured, and the telegraph wires were kept busy Monday night with orders for goods. It is asserted that a slight reduction in wages will be necessary in the case of glass-workers, tin-plate men and the workmen in some branches of the iron and steel trade, but this has been conceded, the scales generally allowing for reductions to fit tariff changes. The dispute will be over the size of the cuts.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—A few instances of immediate improvement in local business as a result of the late tariff enactment were found Tuesday. Business men generally were much gratified that the end of the lingering battle had been announced, and opinion prevailed that speedy recovery of business would result.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—The board of pardons maintains the sentence of death imposed upon Cesario Santo Geronimo, the assassin of President Carnot, condemned to die Friday next.

## WILL HE SIGN IT?

Speculation as to the President's Action on the Tariff Bill.

ALTHOUGH Urged Strongly to Sign It Without Delay, It Is Thought He Will Allow It to Become a Law Without His Signature.

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