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F. C. TILDEN - - - C. J. ARNOLD  
Editors

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## OUR ELECTION LAWS.

The recent trial for illegal voting illustrated very clearly the weakness of our election laws. This law, as it now stands upon the statute books, is weak in two particulars, first, in the determination of the residence of the voter, and second, in the two years naturalization feature of our state constitution. It is manifest that the mere statement of an intention to hold residence in a certain community ought not to establish the right to vote in that community. While in national matters this might not work a hardship to that community, in local matters, from the state down, it is continually working to defeat the wishes of the bona fide residents. Thus it often happens that a student, from another state, or another section of this state, comes to Greencastle, to use a local illustration, and casts his vote in the city and county elections. He is not familiar with the local conditions, except as they are explained to him by interested politicians. He votes purely a party ticket, regardless of the fitness of the men upon that ticket. He does not know them and can not, therefore, exercise any discrimination, and no one now denies that wise choice between men, not parties, is the surest means of securing decent local government. Such voters pay no taxes and have no interest, either personal or financial in the government they vote to establish. Again, many men, owning property and having homes in other states, come here to vote. They are rabid partisans, in almost every instance. They know, nor care, nothing for the interests involved in the local political fight. They cast a straight party ticket and thus aid to defeat the will of the people who must pay the taxes and live under the administration of the men elected. A revision of the law to debar such voters, at least from participation in local elections where they have no interest other than that of partisans, would work wrong to none, and would place the power in the hands of those who bear the burden both of taxes and government.

## A MATTER OF HONESTY.

We notice in a recent issue of the local Republican paper the following rather misleading statement of the Cook Ditch situation:

"As the people of Putnam County are learning what the Cook Ditch case is going to cost in round figures their consternation grows apace. The ditch proposition has been badly managed and the settlement day shows that there is little to do but go up to the trough and settle. The cost will be about six thousand dollars and a temporary loan will have to be made to cover the same."

This reminds us of a statement made by a boy to Dr. Huxley in regard to a lobster. The boy declared that a lobster was a red fish that went backwards. Huxley stated that this was a good definition, but it failed in three points. A lobster was not a fish, was not red and did not go backwards. The Cook Ditch case did not cost \$6,000, it was not badly managed, and no temporary loan is necessary to cover the expenses of the case. Thus all three points made in the above article are far from the truth. The costs of the case thus far have been some \$2,500, being

\$600 attorney fees for the attorneys employed by the county, and \$1,500 fees demanded by the dredge company, which the county may pay since we lost the suit. Incidental expenses in the case amounted to some \$200 more so that the cost to date is less than \$2,500. The dredge company has offered to compromise their damages at the high figure of \$2,500 so that at the worst the costs could be but \$5,000. Now as to the cost to the people. When the suit was begun the dredge company proposed to tear the bridges out and destroy them, and acknowledged upon the witness stand that they intended to do so. To replace these bridges would have cost the county \$12,000 to \$15,000. As it is one bridge has been preserved untouched. Two are to be removed and put back. They are removed at the dredge company's expense and put back at the county's expense, the sum required for this purpose being not more than \$1,200. At worst, then the suit has saved the county some \$6,000 or \$7,000. The temporary loan would not be for the expenses of the suit but for the replacing of the two bridges.

As to the mismanagement, let it be remembered that the case was won in two courts and reversed in two. That many of the best Republican lawyers believed in the justice of the cause, and that Republicans and Democrats worked together on the case, believing it just. The county did not get all it went after, but it has come out of the fight with more than half what it went after. The people have been saved much money, and a new law has been written through the decision of the upper courts.

Much to the disgust of the Republican party, the course of Samuel Gompers, who took the stump against Taft and in favor of Bryan, has been fully endorsed by the national convention of the Federation of Labor. Strong pressure was brought to bear by Republican leaders to secure the censure of Gompers, but he has been endorsed and Kief, who went over to Roosevelt, gets what the Republicans wished Gompers to receive. Union labor is still a force to be reckoned with in politics, and the course of the necessities of life upward since the election, and the course of wages downward is causing many to think who did not think before.

The Lafayette Courier and the Greensburg Review, representing the Republican party in two extreme sections of Indiana, are evidently not a little bit pleased over the scramble of defeated Republican candidates for state offices and congress for a strangle hold on some fat office. These papers express in unmistakable terms their belief that the Watsons, the Landises and other has-beens ought to accept their defeat as a personal rebuke and gracefully retire to the walks of private life. The Danville Republican, in commenting on the defeat of so many of the Republican candidates for congress, gives expression to some plain and palpable truths. The people of Indiana are tired and sick of the Joe Cannon style of congress and the domination of federal office holders. This is the verdict of Republican editors who have their finger on the pulse of public sentiment.—Lebanon Pioneer.

And now Andrew Carnegie has declared for tariff for revenue only, and even Uncle Joe is out for revision downward. This will be an awful surprise to the Manufacturers Association, but it will be welcomed by the long-suffering consumer, who grasps at these promises as drowning men at straws. Democracy has accomplished something if it has forced such obstinate stand-patters as Uncle Joe into line for revision downward.

Governor-elect Marshall still insists that the business of a governor is to enforce the laws, not to influence legislation. He does not propose to place either himself or his party in the position of Hanly and the Republicans. The people of Indiana never did, do not and never will like one-man government and Hanly has made it more unpopular than ever.

way of legislation. The one watchword is "economy," and upon all other propositions the greatest conservatism and care in giving to the people an honest, clean and faithful administration. Mr. Jackson has been misrepresented and the attitude of the Democratic editors has been misrepresented.

The Democratic editors realize that the Senate is controlled by the Republican party which put upon the statute books the County Option law. If the Senate repents its action and desires to repeal or to change the law, it will be the consistent thing for the Democratic senators and representatives to stand for legislation in accordance with their platform pledges. It is not the Democratic party that is so anxious to get into liquor legislation, it is the Republican party that is anxious to through its Anti-Saloon League allies. Democratic editors and Democratic leaders generally believe that the special session of the legislature took the issue out of politics and it was conceded that the upper branch would be controlled by the Republican party making it impossible for the Democrats to substitute their plan for the Republican plan without Republican help. If the principle of County Local Option was right before election, it is right since the election and it is up to the Republican Senate to stand for its convictions. If it was a makeshift to carry an election and failed to work; if it was a bunko game to catch voters; if it is not based upon principle, but was merely a plan to carry an election—then the Republican senate can repudiate its recently enacted law and the Democratic party will try its hand at giving the people of Indiana some legislation for the regulation of the liquor traffic. The Democratic party will not shirk its responsibility, nor make a cowardly cry that everyone who does not endorse every detail of the plan is a hypocrite and an unworthy citizen.

It is up to the Republican Senate. Will the Republican Senators stand for their own law and their own platform declarations or is success at the polls on election day, their only criterion of right and wrong? Will the Republican Senate repudiate its pretensions of morality and sanctity like the local organ of righteousness? If the Republican senate repels its own hasty legislation, if the Republican Senators want a new deal, based on common sense and collective experience, they can get it by intelligent co-operation with the Democratic majority in the House and a Democratic Governor, who is ambitious for one thing only—to give all the people of Indiana the best administration that lies within his power.

The Democratic party in Indiana is anxious to make the most of its opportunities afforded by a temporary success. It will do nothing rash. It will be guided by the principle that it is the instrument by which the people can get what they want, not a swelled up institution that tells the people what and whom they want.—Sullivan Daily Times.

## Tariff An Unnecessary Burden.

In New York, a few days ago, Mr. Straus, one of the great merchants of the country, said to a group of newspaper men that if he could be permitted to carry out a plan he has he could convince every consumer in the United States that the present tariff tax is a needless burden in nearly every instance. "Instead of having the Government collect duties as the customs houses," said he, "I would let the imported goods go to the shelves of the retail merchants undisturbed. On one side of my store I would have the domestic made goods, and on the other side the imported goods. My customers could come in and take their pick. Near the store's exit I would station the collectors of customs. So long as my customers purchased on the side of the store containing the domestic goods they would not be stopped by the collectors as they were passing out. But each purchaser of imported goods would have to pay the tax before leaving the store."

"For instance, if a woman saw a dress pattern on the imported side of the store that pleased her she would purchase it, paying the store's price, and on reaching the exit would be notified that she must pay the duty on the goods. Suppose the store fixed the price of the pattern at \$30 and the duty was 40 per cent., the customer would be required to pay \$12 as she passed out. Now, if we could inaugurate a system like that in the United States the consumers would soon discover who paid the tax. Would they consent to pay such a tax? I think not."

But there is no possibility of the United States Government putting in to effect such a plan as the New York merchant proposes. Evidently the tariff—a high tariff—is here to stay, and the only question is whether Congress will, at the coming short session, afford any relief to consumers. If the people who pay the tax could be heard possibly something would be done; but the unfortunate thing is that the consumers, being unrecognized, do not get their side of the story before the committees in Congress which control the making of a new tariff bill. And yet there are some encouraging signs. For in-

# Cloaks for Women and Girls at Moderate Prices



In urging your attention to Cloaks in the higher prices—we don't want you to lose sight of the fact that

**\$5.00, \$6.50 and \$7.50 buys good, warm, serviceable and stylish Cloaks for Women—**

That

**\$10.00 will purchase the best Cloaks you have ever seen at the price.**

## Cloaks for Little Folks and School Girls

We are proud of the Cloaks for school girls that we have in stock—they are so much better than usual for the price—

**\$5.00 will buy choice of a big assortment of handsome Cloaks—that in former seasons would have cost at a fair prices \$6.00 to \$7.50.**

## Cloaks for Little Ones

In ages from 3 to 6 years are made largely this year in the popular bear skin fabrics—and we show them in white and all the various colors as well as fancy weaves—

Prices on Bear Skin Cloaks are \$2.50, \$3.50 and up.



## CLOAKING.

We own 3 pieces of 58 inch—heavy cloaking—and own it at less than half its real worth. **75c a yard buys this heavy cloaking** and for a girls school cloak—the amount needed would cost you from \$1.50 to \$2.50.

## WOMEN'S TAILORED SUITS

**Decidedly Cheap in Price.**

We have a number of handsome Tailored Suits that you may have for \$10.00, \$12.00 and \$15.00.

The styles and qualities of these Suits compare very favorably with Suits sold for a half more earlier in the season.

**ALLEN BROS.**



## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Thoughts from men of affairs upon questions of the Day.

### Up to the Senate.

The short winded reformers, who for a few months have been making a strong plea for temperance men to come to the rescue of the perishing and dying political machine into which they were born, are very much concerned about the views of the publisher of the Daily Times on the County Option Law as it stands on the books.

Being disposed to satisfy these young and zealous advocates of temperance reform the writer will say

that the published reports of the statements made by State Chairman Stokes Jackson were wrong entirely and were published by a Republican paper for the purpose of injuring the Democratic party. Mr. Jackson did not recommend the immediate repeal of the County Option law. He said that the Democratic party would not take its advice from the Anti-Saloon League, or the Liquor League, but would be guided, solely, by what the plain people, who are trusting the Democratic organization want in the

stance there are numerous local Irish organizations throughout the country struggling bravely to increase the trade between the United States and Ireland. In connection with the movement to organize a "home-going" movement among Irishmen in the United States shall lower the duties on the principal products of Ireland, or take them on altogether, and thus stimulate Irish industries—stimulate them without injuring any industry in the United States.

The linen industry, in which Ireland excels the world, might be cited as a case in point. The duties on linen in its various stages of manufacture average from 50 to 60 per cent. They were levied to encourage the development of the linen industry in the United States, but the result has been so slight that it is questionable whether Congress in the forthcoming tariff session will think it necessary to continue the duties on so high a scale. They constitute an appreciable tax on consumption, and as this country offers practically no rivalry in production which legitimately can demand protection, the linen schedules present an inviting field for negotiation. The imports of linen from all countries in 1907 amounted to \$21,000,000, of which about \$15,500,000 came from the United Kingdom, virtually Ireland

and Scotland. Glancing back through a series of years it will be noted that the proportion of imports of Irish linens is equally heavy. The import of linen handkerchiefs in 1907 was \$2,700,000, of which practically all came from the United Kingdom. The import of German handkerchiefs was only about \$10,000, and of fabrics, to which the first set of figures refers, it was about \$2,300,000, or a little less than the combined import from France, Belgium and Austria-Hungary.

The total imports of handkerchiefs valued at \$2,700,000, paid duties of \$1,500,000, or an average of between 55 and 60 per cent. Irish conditions in the manufacture of linens are unique because of local peculiarities of water and climate, and it is found necessary to transport even the German fiber to Ireland to bleach it properly. A simple test of the commercial world may be made by any shopper who will go to the linen department of a great dry goods store and ask for an American article. She will be informed that while a little toweling is made in this country, practically all the linens sold over Ireland.

Another Irish product is potatoes.

The statistics of import in this commodity vary tremendously, according to yield. Doubtless the duty of cents a bushel on potatoes would be surrendered by the United States because of the fear of American farmers that their prices would suffer. As a matter of economic fact, however, leading eaters have been for the imported article, with duty added, for example, 85 cents the Maine product and 65 cents a bushel for the Irish or Scotch potato paid.

It is a noteworthy fact that more than forty years our trade with Ireland has shown every year to be more favorable to the United States than for an Aroostook potato, accustomed to pay 20 cents a bushel with the exception of two years, 1896 and 1907. High water mark was reached in 1880, when the exports over imports was \$40,000,000. It was as high as \$30,000,000 in 1898. Imports from Ireland increased very slowly, but throughout the whole long period exports have been dwindling twenty years, with occasional exceptions as in 1898, 1900 and 1901.

Accidents will happen, but the regulated families keep Dr. Thompson's Electric Oil for such emergencies. It subdues the pain and heals the