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# SHARP FIGHT AGAINST FORDNEY TARIFF BILL

Democratic Filibusters Against the Emergency Measure—A Western Senator Describes it as the Most Iniquitous Piece of Legislation the Country Has Ever Seen—Features of the Bill are Roundly Condemned.

Washington Dec. 27—Efforts of Republican leaders to end today what they described as a Democratic filibuster against the emergency tariff measure, were unavailing.

A Democratic motion to send the measure to the commerce commission instead of the finance committee was laid on the table in the senate by a vote of 33 to 12, but Senator Harrison, Democrat of Mississippi, promptly moved to refer the measure to the inter-state commerce commission and the fight over the bill was continued.

Senator Harrison denounces Republican senators for attempting to hasten prosecution of what he declared was the "most iniquitous piece of legislation the country has ever seen." He asked: "If any statesman could blame Canada if she retaliated on us for placing this duty on her wheat?" "What say you senators of New England, whose factories have grown rich manufacturing materials for Canadian export?" he demanded.

Senator Harrison finally withdrew his motion to refer the bill to the inter-state commerce commission, explaining it was only by making such a move that he could obtain time to express his views. Senator McCumber then moved to refer the measure to the finance committee and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Characterizing the measure as an embargo bill and a "shocking proposition," to restrict United States commerce, Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, acting Democratic leader, earlier in the day, proposed that the bill instead of being referred as a tariff measure to the finance committee, be sent to the commerce committee. He charged that the Republicans proposed to "rush through" the measure, practically without consideration.

### Deny Embargoes.

Acting Chairman McCumber, of the finance committee Senator Smoot, of Utah, and other Republican leaders denied that the legislation contemplated embargoes.

Senator Hitchcock said the bill's policy was "suicidal." "Its purpose is to erect tariff barriers and not to raise revenue," said the acting Democratic leader.

"At this time of all others this country ought not to raise tariff barriers against any nation in the world. We are a creditor nation and must have a market for our surplus. What we need above all else is to be business with other nations not to raise tariff barriers to prevent other nations from paying part of their debts with their products."

Senator McCumber contending that the bill did not propose an embargo on wheat said that that its actual protection against Canadian wheat, when the difference in exchange was considered was but 3½ cents a bushel.

"This idea of protecting the wheat grower by a tariff," Senator Hitchcock replied, "is either a delusion and a snare, or a confidence—a gold brick game. What the American wheat grower wants is credit and wide and unfettered trade. He is not going to be deluded by this gold brick that is offered him."

Senator Hitchcock said Canada was one of the best customers of the United States, buying twice as much as it sold the United States.

Senator McCumber replied that nearly the entire Canadian wheat surplus was coming to this country, "at the same time when we are trying to find a market for ours."

"We must close the top of the barrel," he added, "while we are drawing off our surplus from the bottom."

## STRIKERS WERE STARVED INTO SUBMISSION

(By Alexander Barks, staff correspondent C. A. N. S.)

Petrograd, Dec. 27—Bolshevist methods of dealing with labor troubles are exposed in an "Appeal to the International Proletariat," in which the Moscow printers describe the terror and persecution they are suffering at the hands of the Bolshevik government for having advocated the principle of independent Trade Unionism. They were subjected to a prolonged course of terrorism, and finally all Trade Union officials were arrested. The Appeal continues:

"A section of the workers went on strike and demanded the release of the arrested officials. The ruling party then resorted to means which the bourgeoisie of any other country would never dare to employ. The strikers were refused food, a measure which, considering the present conditions in Russia, is a most cruel and unheard-of step. The leaders who had advised a strike were at the same time arrested."

These measures proved successful. The strikers had to resume work and under the pressure of terrorism there were forced to vote a resolution expressing their "contempt" for the Trade Unionist Central Administration.

## WANT THE FEES EQUALIZED

Chicago, Dec. 27—Robert M. Sweitzer, county clerk, proposed to the Finance Committee today that the price of marriage licenses be raised to the same scale as dog licenses. A marriage permit costs \$1.50 and a dog license \$3.

"I don't see why the fee for a married license should not be raised to the dignity of that for a dog license," Mr. Sweitzer said. A young man about to be married is so full of joy and hope that I am sure few, if any, would object."

## A GRAND OLD FEMINIST

(Special Correspondence, C. A. N. S.)

Berlin, Dec. 27—Minna Cauer, the famous German feminist, has just celebrated her eightieth birthday. For decades Frau Cauer has been the spiritual head of the struggle for equal rights for women in Germany. In the dark past of Absolutism she was persecuted and ridiculed; but nothing daunted, she fought bravely, supported by the best elements of international womanhood. Frau Cauer was congratulated by the President of the German Republic and numerous political and social organizations.

## DOUGHBOYS ON THE RHINE

(Special Correspondence, C. A. N. S.)

Coblenz, Dec. 26—U. S. Senator A. T. Faulkner, recently in Coblenz, stated there is little likelihood of the American troops being withdrawn from the Rhine. According to him it would be inopportune for the Allied Governments to consent to the withdrawal of the American contingent within measurable time, in spite of the Washington agitation for evacuation.

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