

The Wool Tariff.

Conference between committees of both Houses over disagreements on the House Wool-Tariff-reduction bill began on the 4th. [See current volume, page 803.]

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The "Farmers' Free List" Bill.

Conference was ordered by the House on the 3d upon all the Senate amendments to the "farmers' free list" bill, except that of Senator Gronna putting cement on the free list. Free cement was accepted, and before sending the measure to conference the House added lemons. [See current volume, page 803.]

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Congressional Reapportionment.

In the Senate, on the 3d, the House apportionment bill was adopted with two amendments inserted and three defeated. Under this apportionment the average population for a Congressional district will be 17,000 more than under the former apportionment, the district population required being 211,877. The amendments probably necessitate a conference. [See current volume, page 225.]

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The three defeated amendments were: (1) By Senator Root to retain the present number of Congressional districts, 391, instead of the proposed 433; (2) by Senator McCumber, fixing the number at 405, and (3) by Senator Reed, providing that where any State's representation in Congress is increased, its Representatives shall be elected by the State at large until the State is re-districted by the legislature "or by the people." These defeats were respectively by 46 to 23, 47 to 22 and 38 to 29.

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One of the two amendments that carried, prescribes that "candidates for Representative or Representatives-at-large shall be nominated in the same manner as candidates for Governor unless otherwise provided by the laws of such State." The other, offered by Senator Burton (Republican), provides that in case of an increase in the representation of any State the redistricting, instead of being done by the State legislature, as provided by the House bill, shall be "in the manner provided by the laws" of the State. This would leave the redistricting subject to referendum laws wherever they have been placed on a State's statute books. This amendment is reported to have been approved by the Democrats because, under the laws of Missouri the Republican Governor could veto a redistricting bill passed by the Democratic legislature and then, under the State laws, redistrict the State himself. The amendment of Senator Reed (of Missouri), noted above,

was apparently intended to remove this objection without losing the Initiative and Referendum feature of Senator Burton's, but he was defeated, 38 to 29. The Burton amendment carried by 39 to 28.

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Bryan Versus Underwood.

Congressman Underwood made a denunciatory speech on the floor of the House on the 2d, against William J. Bryan. Mr. Bryan had editorially criticized Mr. Underwood for opposing immediate action on iron and steel tariff-schedules because he was an investor in iron and steel; and Mr. Underwood denounced Mr. Bryan for falsifying. He called upon his associates on the Ways and Means Committee to bear him out in his statement that he had tried to have those schedules acted upon at once, because of his financial interests as an investor in iron and steel, but had been over-ruled by the committee. This statement was confirmed by his committee associates, including Speaker Clark. The speech was reported to have been received by the House with overwhelming manifestations of repudiation of Mr. Bryan.

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Mr. Bryan replied on the 3d, in newspaper interviews, that he had based his criticism upon a story in the Omaha World-Herald, and that if the World-Herald was incorrect he had done Mr. Underwood an injustice. He continued:

If the World-Herald report is erroneous, I have more reason to regret its publication than Mr. Underwood, for it has given him a chance to turn attention away from his surrender of the strongest argument the Democratic party has against the Republican position on the tariff—namely; its argument against the principle of protection, and his surrender of the free raw material argument. Both of these arguments are surrendered when a tariff is put on wool.

NEWS NOTES

—Peru and Colombia are at war with each other. [See vol. xiii, pages 542, 974.]

—An international aviation meet is to be held in Chicago in Grant Park from August 12 to the 20th.

—Carl M. Koedt is to describe "Edward Gates' Interpretation of the Georgan Philosophy" to the Chicago Single Tax Club (508 Schiller Bldg.) on Friday evening, August 11.

—Senator Walter Clyde Jones made at the Henry county Chautauqua on the 5th, his second speech for the Republican candidacy for Governor of Illinois. An automobile campaign began on the 7th. [See current volume, page 778.]

—Mrs. Angelina Neapolitano whose capital sentence for killing her husband was commuted to life imprisonment by the Canadian authorities, gave