

# The Public

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A Weekly Narrative of History in the Making

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## EDITORIAL

### Protection and the Progressive Party.

One of the weaknesses of the Progressive Party platform, a weakness that goes to its very foundations, is its tariff-Protection principle. Free-traders in the Progressive Party may retort that the Democratic platform is not for Freetrade, and this is true. But the Democratic platform does demand the fullest measure of trade freedom that Constitutional barriers permit, whereas the Progressive platform pledges its supporters to tariff-Protection in perpetuity. It does this, indeed, for the benefit of wage-workers; but hasn't Protection always been demanded for that purpose? and hasn't it always failed? Aye, but the Progressive Party is to make the purpose a reality! Impossible. No party can do that. Tariff-Protection is a system of Privilege, and in the very nature of Privilege there can be no privilege for wage-workers the benefits of which they can keep. Privilege means monopoly, monopoly means concentration, concentration means power for the few, and power for the few means exploitation of the many.



### Panama Canal Tolls.

Great Britain protests against the toll-discrimination in favor of American vessels which our government intends to allow at the Panama Canal. As Great Britain does her subsidizing out of her own treasury, she doesn't think it fair that we should do ours out of the treasury of an inter-