

National Soil Fertility League

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE 1324-1328 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, CHICAGO :: TELEPHONE CENTRAL 6039

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PURPOSE:—LEGISLATION THAT WILL PROVIDE FOR A TRAINED FARM ADVISER IN EVERY AGRICULTURAL COUNTY MAINTAINED BY FEDERAL AND STATE APPROPRIATIONS. THE ADVISER TO BE SELECTED AND DIRECTED BY THE STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

FIRST STEP—THE LEVER BILL—NOW BEFORE THE U. S. CONGRESS.

SECOND STEP—STATE ENACTMENTS ACCEPTING THE LEVER ACT.

THIS HAS BEEN DONE

WE NOW GO TO THE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JAMES J. HILL, CHAIRMAN

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT, Ex-President of the United States
WILLIAM J. BRYAN, Secretary of State
FRANKLIN MACVEAGH, Ex-Secretary of the Treasury
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W. C. BROWN, President New York Central Lines
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DR. JOHN H. WORST, President North Dakota Agricultural College
ALONZO WILSON, Ex-Master National Grange
SAMUEL W. ALLERTON, Farmer, Monticello, Illinois
A. P. GROUT, President National Alfalfa Growers' Association
W. D. HOARD, Ex-Gov. of Wisconsin, Publisher Hoard's Dairymen
COL. JOHN B. WHITE, Ex-President National Conservation Congress
COL. HENRY M. EXALL, President Texas Commercial League
M. V. RICHARDS, Land and Industrial Agent Southern Railway
GEORGE H. CAMPBELL, Baltimore and Ohio Railway
MRS. P. V. PENNYBACKER, President National Fed. Womens Clubs
MRS. EMMONS CROCKER, Ch'm'n Conser. Com. Nat. Fed. Wom. Clubs

February 27, 1915.

Dr. Harry Pratt Judson,
President, University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Sent to you by order of the
Board of Directors.

Dear Doctor Judson:

At a meeting of the Directors of the National Soil Fertility League about three months ago, after its members had congratulated the writer upon the success of the League's work (see red panel above), one of them remarked: "What a Godsend it would be to this country if the tariff could only be taken out of politics and put upon a scientific business basis." After some discussion, the writer expressed the belief that it could be done even if it was a big contract. The Board requested him to work out a plan. He has done so. The result is inclosed in the form of a brief and a Bill. These have been gone over very carefully by our Board members and a few of our friends, who are men of large affairs. All were deeply interested and strongly impressed with it. We have decided to send out about fifty copies to representative men in various lines of business and ask them to study it carefully, to criticize it freely, and tell us just what they think about it. We believe the Bill can be passed if it is followed up enthusiastically and handled in a big way. It will take several years, and a vigorous campaign of the highest order. The value of such a Tariff Commission as is proposed, is beyond human estimate. It would prevent an enormous economic waste.

We are discussing the advisability of a propaganda to bring about the legislation indicated; and should it be undertaken it will be kept, as nearly as possible, on nonpartisan grounds, and an effort will be made to get it indorsed in the platforms of 1916. We wish your advice and suggestion. The replies will not be published, but they will help us to decide what should be done if anything. We inclose stamped envelope for reply, and will ask you to kindly return the inclosure sent herewith.

Thanking you in advance, I am
Very truly yours,

President.

Chicago, March 5, 1915

Dear Mr. Gross:-

Your favor of the 22d of February with enclosure I find on my return from an absence of some days in the east. I have long believed in the advisability of a non-partisan and scientific tariff board, and shall take pleasure in examining the plan which you suggest.

Very truly yours,

H.P.J. - L.

Mr. Howard H. Gross,
1328 - 58 S. Dearborn St., Chicago.

National

OFFICE 1324-1328

HOWARD H. GROSS, PRES.
M. U. MUDG

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MRS. P. V. PENNYBACKER, President National Fed. Womens Clubs

MRS. EMMONS CROCKER, Ch'm'n Conser.Com.Nat.Fed.Wom.Clubs

February 4, 1915.

Mr. Wallace B. Heckman,
Corn Exchange National Bank Building,
C h i c a g o.

My dear Heckman:

I inclose you copy of the brief and
Bill on the permanent Tariff Commission.

It seems to me that if a country-wide
propaganda could be started before politics will claim
all the space next spring, it would be an effective
thing to do. I shall be glad of your judgment and that
of President Judson upon the soundness of this proposi-
tion; its value to the country. This organization has
a very broad and valuable list that will be available
for this purpose. We can reach twenty millions of
people every week.

Thanking you in advance,

Very truly yours,



This Brief is not for publication. Will you kindly read it and return in attached prepaid envelope, and write me how it appeals to you. Is it sane and sound?

HOWARD H. GROSS,
1328 First National Bank Bldg.,
Chicago.

In 30 Years of
"Tariff Tinkering"

We Have Had
5 Revisions of the Tariff and
2 Attempts at Revision.

RESULT?

Nobody Satisfied.

Business Upset
Hundreds of Millions
Money Loss
Millions of Workers Distressed

THE NEED

A NONPARTISAN PERMANENT TARIFF COMMISSION

A Sane Tariff Policy
and
Scientific Adjustment

CAN THE TARIFF BE TAKEN
OUT OF POLITICS?

=====

This Brief is not for publication. With your kindly
 regard it was returned in attached envelope.
 and with me how it appears to you. Is it
 Howard M. Jones
 1208 First National Bank Bldg.
 Chicago.

In 30 years of

"Tariff Timor"

We have had

2 Revisions of the Tariff and
 2 Attempts at Revision.

RESULTS

Wobly Satisfied

Business Unsett

Removals of Millions
 Money Loss

Millions of Workers Displaced

THE NEED

A NONPARTISAN PERMANENT TARIFF COMMISSION

A Sound Tariff Policy
 and
 Scientific Adjustment

CAN THE TARIFF BE TAKEN
 OUT OF POLITICS?

A BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF A PERMANENT
TARIFF COMMISSION WITH BROAD POWERS.

Many a likely colt has been made a balky horse by an ill-fitting harness that made his back and shoulders sore, Many thousands of good citizens have balked at a tariff enactment that did not in their opinion fairly distribute the burden. This made them sore, so instead of pulling for the old party, as usual, they went over to the opposition. Under such conditions, politicians of the opposition can frequently so successfully spread the dissatisfaction that the "ins" go out and the "outs" come in. Not infrequently, however, the people afterwards find that the remedy is worse than the disease.

The time that can be given by a Congressional Committee to the consideration of a Tariff Bill with its thousands of items covering every field of production, is wholly insufficient for the purpose, even if the Committee should have before it full and reliable information. This it has never had. Under prevailing conditions, the Committee must work largely in the dark, or act upon information from inspired sources. The rates upon a few items generally consume a large part of the time; therefore, hundreds of other items slip through without much scrutiny. THERE NEVER HAS BEEN AND NEVER WILL BE, UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS, A FAIR AND WELL-BALANCED TARIFF ENACTMENT. Is there a remedy?

A TARIFF POLICY.

There seem to be two fundamental needs:

- (a) A tariff policy that will stand for such and only such a degree of protection to the home producer of products from the soil, the factory and the mine as shall be found necessary to offset the increased cost of production due to the higher scale of wages paid to American labor over and above the amount paid to the foreign worker, together with the proper consideration of the difference in the cost and standard of living, and having also in view the adjustment of the tariff rate so it will produce the tariff's full proportionate share of the money required for the Federal Treasury.
- (b) A permanent Tariff Commission with the broadest powers possible under the Constitution, to study the whole subject and report facts, and recommend such changes in the schedules from time to time as may be necessary to make the rate fit the facts and conditions, and without impairing the necessary revenue.

A PERMANENT TARIFF COMMISSION.

Start and maintain a propaganda that will strongly urge upon Congress the creation of a Tariff Commission of five members, to be composed of men of the highest qualifications

and adaptation for the work, the salary to be Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) per annum; and in addition to the general powers, to investigate cost of production and industrial conditions throughout the world; and authority to employ experts and investigators for that purpose,- the Commission shall have power to take up, on its own motion at any time, the study and investigation of any item or collection of related items in the then-existing Tariff Act, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the tariff rates given on such items are either insufficient or are in excess of the amount necessary to offset the increased cost of home production over the production abroad. The Commission to report thereon to the President and to Congress as promptly as may be, together with its recommendations in the premises.

The Commission may likewise take up such investigation upon petition from producers or importers or dealers, or any other parties directly interested, wherein a specific change of the rate is asked for on any item or number of related items of the Tariff Act; and if the Commission shall be satisfied that the matter complained of is of sufficient importance and that the petitioners are acting in good faith, it shall be the duty of the Commission to hold hearings upon the questions raised in the petition and it shall consider evidence both for and against the proposed change. It shall have power to appoint experts and special counsel to assist it in the hearings and to verify the evidence. At the conclusion of the hearing, which shall be full and impartial, the Commission shall, within six months or sooner if it shall be able to do so, report its findings to the President and to Congress, with such recommendations as the facts disclosed seem to warrant.

TO WHAT EXTENT CAN THE TARIFF BE TAKEN OUT OF POLITICS?

When a political campaign approaches, the "outs" study public sentiment to ascertain wherein and to what extent the "ins" have failed to satisfy the people; to find the most vulnerable point of attack. It may be a charge of extravagance, corruption, excessive taxation, the breaking of pledges, unjust discrimination or class legislation,- it may be any or all of these. As the campaign proceeds, the "outs" concentrate their efforts upon two or three "issues," and upon these they must either win or lose. The "ins" are on the defensive; they must stand or fall by the record made, as it is viewed by the great mass of voters. Example: In 1908 the people felt the rates in the Dingley Tariff were too high; a surplus was piling up,- and they demanded that the rates should be lowered. Mr. Taft was elected upon a platform pledged to a downward revision. The Payne-Aldrich Act followed, and this the people repudiated as not being the downward revision they had been led to expect; the "ins" went out, and the "outs" came in. Four years later they have given the country the Underwood Tariff, which is now on trial. If, however, the Payne-Aldrich Act had been one that the people would have accepted as a downward revision made in good faith, and Congress had committed itself to a permanent Tariff Commission that should at once take

and compensation for the work, the salary to be Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) per annum; and in addition to the general power to investigate and report on the production and industrial conditions throughout the world; and authority to employ experts and investigators for that purpose; - the Commission shall have power to take up on its own motion at any time, the study and investigation of any item or collection of related items in the line of the Tariff Act, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the tariff rates given on such items are either insufficient or excessive of the amount necessary to offset the increased cost of home production over the production abroad. The Commission is to report thereon to the President and to Congress as promptly as may be, together with the recommendations in the premises.

When the Commission may likewise take up such investigation of any item or collection of related items, or of any items or collection of related items, wherein a specific change of the tariff is asked for or any item or number of related items of the tariff is asked for, the Commission shall be notified that such action is desired or is of sufficient importance and that the position is being in good faith. It shall be the duty of the Commission to hold hearings upon the questions raised in the petition and to shall consider evidence both for and against the proposed change. It shall have power to appoint experts and special counsel to assist it in the hearings and to verify the evidence. At the conclusion of the hearing, which shall be full and impartial, the Commission shall, within six months or sooner if it shall be able to do so, report its findings to the President and to Congress, with such recommendations as the facts disclosed seem to require.

TO WHAT EXTENT CAN THE TARIFF BE TAKEN OUT OF POLITICAL

When a political campaign approaches, the "outs" study public sentiment to ascertain wherein and to what extent the "ins" have failed to satisfy the people in the most vulnerable places and sectors. It may be a campaign of exaggerated exaggeration, excessive taxation, the breaking of promises, unjust discrimination or class legislation - it may be any or all of these; but the campaign process, the "outs" concentrate their efforts upon two or three "issues", and upon these they must either win or lose. The "ins" are on the defensive; they must stand or fall by the record made, as it is judged by the great mass of voters. In 1908 the people felt the rates in the Dingley Tariff were too high; a surplus was being up - and they demanded that the rates should be lowered. Mr. Taft was elected upon a platform pledged to a downward revision. The Payne-Aldrich Act followed, and this the people repudiated as not being the downward revision they had been led to expect; the "ins" went out, and the "outs" came in. Four years later they have given the country the Underwood Tariff, which is now on trial. If, however, the Payne-Aldrich Act had been such that the people would have accepted as a downward revision and in good faith, and Congress had accepted it as a permanent tariff legislation that should be only a

steps to ascertain wherein and to what extent, if any, there was over-protection or under-protection, and had assured the people that the rates would be readjusted upon the recommendation of a capable, fair and impartial Tariff Commission,- it would have been impossible then to have made the tariff an issue in the Campaign of 1912. There can be no question of it.

Just so long as Congress persists in blindly building tariff schedules and continues to blunder - as it must - and with no provisions for a speedy correction of errors, the party responsible will be building its own coffin at the same time it builds the tariff schedules. In such enactments there should be provision for elasticity for the correction of errors. It must be obvious that an ironclad enactment can never be made to meet changing conditions to the satisfaction of the people. If, however, the tariff-making shall be put upon a scientific, economic basis, Congress being aided and advised by a Tariff Commission having the public confidence, it will be absolutely out of the question to make the tariff an issue in a political campaign - there won't be enough in it for the purpose.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT.

Public sentiment is the strongest force in the world. Whenever the public determines it wants a certain thing done in a legislative way, Congress and Legislatures always yield to it. In this lies the fundamental safety of popular government. Some of us remember the long and earnest demand for Civil Service - the merit system as against the spoils system; and how the politicians fought the change, and how they were compelled to yield, and how many politicians careers were wrecked because some of them held out against the public too long. We remember the political opposition to the Australian Ballot; the Preference Primary; and the direct vote for Senators,- in all these the politicians were obliged to yield. Whenever the people are thoroughly aroused, they get what they want. There have been a number of efforts made for Tariff Boards and Tariff Commissions, both temporary and permanent; numerous Bills have been introduced, and one came very nearly passing, but it was talked to death by the politicians at the close of the session. Mark this: NONE OF THE BILLS SO FAR PRESENTED, GIVES THE COMMISSION THE LATITUDE AND THE POWER THAT IT MUST HAVE IF IT SHALL ACCOMPLISH WHAT THE PEOPLE WILL DEMAND AND EXPECT OF IT. Most of these Bills provided for a Commission to study the question, and to "speak when it was spoken to"; it was given no power of initiative, no power to hear complaints or to make recommendations. Its duty was to collect information and give it out only when the President or Congress asked for it. The compensation generally was \$7,500 per annum, while the Federal Reserve Board are paid \$12,000. Unless public sentiment is speedily developed in a large way and crystallized on the proposition, that the people demand a strong, efficient and well-paid Tariff Commission with broad powers, as indicated, Congress will probably pass an Act giving the people the shadow instead of the substance (see comparative memo. on Page 6), and then tariff-tinkering will go

on in the same old way. If we are to have a change in the method of tariff-making that is worthy of the day and generation we must have a nonpartisan Tariff Commission, the personnel of which will command the full confidence of the people and it must be given authority and facilities to deal with the subject in a big way. Given this, public sentiment will surely see to it that the recommendations of the Commission are followed by Congress.

The Commission will be sort of a Tariff Court, to which any industry that feels aggrieved may apply; and upon a showing that it has been unjustly dealt with and that relief is necessary, steps will be taken to have it forthcoming.

Under the Constitution, Congress cannot delegate the enactment of tariff rates to a Commission. It can and should, however, delegate to such Commission, general supervision over the preparation of tariff schedules; and Congress should be guided by the expert advice that such a Commission would be able to give. Congress has the power to wholly disregard the recommendations of the Commission, and absolutely ignore it; but any members of Congress taking this attitude would probably not be returned by their constituents.

A TARIFF SURVEY.

In locating a place, one must have a base-line and a principal meridian. In a Tariff Enactment there must be two factors:

1. - What revenue may be expected from an item at a given tariff rate? and how would it affect the revenue if the rate were increased or decreased a given amount?
2. - What rate is necessary in order to put the home-producer upon level conditions in our market, with the foreign producer, considering wages, standard of living, and cost of raw material?

With the above factors fairly-determined, intelligent action is possible. from either a "high-protective" standpoint or a "revenue tariff." In either case, the burden, whatever it may be, should be fairly distributed; and that means FULL KNOWLEDGE AND A SCIENTIFIC ADJUSTMENT.

IN TARIFF-MAKING WE MUST HAVE A BASE-LINE AND A MERIDIAN TO COME BACK TO, OR WE WILL GET LOST.

TWO KINDS OF TARIFF COMMISSIONS.

The Real Thing

If the people rise up and demand it, they will get this kind.

The Shadow Substance

If they leave it to the politicians, they will get this or nothing.

Full Powers of Investigation.
Power to Make Reports and Recommendations.

Power of Initiative.

Power to Hear Complaints.

Salary \$12,000 per Year.

Bill Automatically Carries an Annual Appropriation of \$300,000 to Maintain the Commission Permanently.

The Commission Can Only be Wiped Out by an Act of Congress Signed by the President. A Committee Cannot do it.

This Makes Provision for a Permanent and Efficient Commission of Standing and Influence.

It is the Substance and not the Shadow.

Power Limited to Investigation.
To Report Facts only when Called Upon to Do so.

No Power to Recommend. Just Clerks.

No Power to Hear Complaints.

Salary \$7,500 per year.

Bills Pending Carry No Appropriation, or an Appropriation for Only One Year.

The Matter of Appropriations is left optional with the Appropriations Committee and Must be Dealt with Annually.

A Failure to Make an Appropriation kills the Commission. In this manner Taft's Tariff Board was wiped out while doing Splendid Work.

A Tariff Commission having an uncertain future with poor pay and with only the powers of a clerk will not now attract capable men, or produce the results desired. It is, however, admirably suited for political purposes. For example: Congressman "A" 'phones the Commission that he wishes all the facts on file that tend to prove that wool should be put on the free list; later Congressman "B" calls for such facts that would show that the tariff on wool should be increased, - neither wishes conclusions drawn from all the facts, but such unrelated facts that will suit their respective purposes - and there you are.

If a strong and sustained fight is made, the people can get a real and useful Commission that will be of inestimable benefit.

Let the people be apathetic, or ask only in general terms for a "Tariff Commission," and it is probable that Congress will respond with the shadow instead of the substance.

The Commission that this Brief urges does not and cannot take away any of the powers of Congress. It does not bind Congress in any way. If, however, its work is good, the personnel is high, and the public is back of it, - its influence will be compelling.

A BILL TO CREATE A TARIFF COMMISSION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

Section 1.

THAT, There is hereby created a Tariff Commission, to be composed of five members, the same to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. One appointment shall be for a period of three years; one for a period of four years; one for a period of five years; one for a period of six years; and one for a period of seven years. The appointments thereafter shall be for a period of seven years. In case of a vacancy, the appointment shall be for the unexpired term. No vacancy in the Commission shall impair the right of the remaining Commissioners to exercise all the power and function of the Commission. Not more than three members of the Commission shall belong to the same political party. No member of Congress or one who is a member-elect, shall be eligible to appointment. A Commissioner shall not engage in any other business, vocation, or employment; nor shall he be financially interested as a producer, importer or dealer of any of the items named in the tariff schedule, provided, however, the President may disregard this prohibition, if in his judgment the good of the service is promoted thereby. Any Commissioner may be removed by the President of the United States for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. The Commissioners shall each receive annually a salary of Twelve-Thousand Dollars (\$12,000). The Commissioners shall appoint a General Secretary at a salary of Seventy-five-Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) per annum. The Commissioners shall have power to employ such clerical and other help as may be necessary for the conduct of the business of the Commission; and to further employ such investigators, experts, scientists and statisticians from time to time and for such length of service as the Commission may deem expedient, and to fix the compensation therefor in each case. The Commission may discharge any employee at any time for any reason satisfactory to itself. The Commission is hereby given authority to send its agents and investigators anywhere either at home or abroad, for the purposes of this Act. The principal office of the Commission shall be in the City of Washington, D.C., but the Commission may hold meetings anywhere within the United States. It may delegate and send one or more of its members to any part of the United States or to foreign countries, for the purpose of investigation and ascertaining facts and information necessary for the purposes of the Commission and as contemplated by this Act. All expenses of the Commission or its members, necessarily incurred, or by its employees, in making investigations or for other official business outside of the District of Columbia, shall be paid on presentation of itemized vouchers therefor, approved by the Chairman of the Commission. Should said Commission

require the attendance of any witness, either in Washington or elsewhere, not being the home of said witness, such witness shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid to witnesses in the Courts of the United States. Any Commissioner or the Secretary, or any other person designated by the Commission is hereby authorized to administer oath or affirmation and to serve notices.

Section 2.

It shall be the duty of said Commission to investigate the cost of production at home and abroad upon all articles which may be by Act of Congress now in force or that may be hereafter enacted, made the subject of Tariff legislation, with special reference to the prices paid for domestic and for foreign labor, the hours of service and the standard of living; also the prices paid for raw material, whether domestic or imported, entering into manufactured articles, for the purpose of determining the difference between the cost of manufacturing such articles in the United States and articles of foreign manufacture of similar kind and quality; and shall tabulate and set forth all detailed information obtainable with respect thereto, and all other matters relating thereto that may be useful to enable the Commission to ascertain as nearly as possible whether or not a tariff duty thereon is necessary or expedient and if so the amount of duty that it is necessary to impose by the United States upon the importation of such articles, in order to place the American manufacturer on equal footing with foreign producers of such articles. In reaching its conclusion, the Commission may take into account the difference in the cost and standard of living at home and abroad by the workers engaged in the industry.

Section 3.

THAT, Said Commissioners shall have power to subpoena witnesses, to take testimony, to administer oath, and require any person, firm, corporation or association engaged in the production, importation, dealing in, or transporting any article under investigation into the United States; and require them to produce all books and papers that may be called for relating in any manner thereto and pertinent to such investigation. For these purposes, said Commission shall have all the powers and remedies granted or provided in the case of any other Board or Commission created by Act of Congress. The Commission may from time to time adopt such rules, regulations and methods of procedure as it may deem expedient for the purposes of this Act.

Section 4.

The Commission may require the production of such evidence or information as it may deem advisable for its confidential use, and in such manner as it may in each case determine. It shall not be required to divulge such evidence or information, or the names of the persons furnishing the same, and none of the evidence or information secured under the provision of this Section from any person, firm, copartnership, corporation or association, shall be made public, in such manner

that the same will be available for the use or information of any competitor or rival; and the Commission may adopt such rules regarding same as it may deem proper and sufficient for the purpose.

Section 5.

The Commission shall upon direction of the President of the United States or by the Ways and Means Committee of the House or the Finance Committee of the Senate, undertake any special investigation relating to or bearing upon the subject of tariff legislation, and shall report thereon as soon thereafter as it is able to do so.

Section 6.

The Commission may, on its own motion, take up a special investigation of any item or collection of related items in the then-existing Tariff Act, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the tariff rates on said item or items are largely in excess of the amount necessary to offset the difference in the cost of producing said articles in the United States over the cost of producing like articles in any foreign country and transporting the same to the seaports of the United States. Upon conclusion of its investigation, it shall report to the President and to Congress, the results of its investigation, together with any recommendation the Commission may deem expedient and proper. The Commission may likewise take up such investigation upon petition from producers or importers or dealers, or other parties directly interested, where a specific change of rate is asked for on any item or number of related items in the then-existing Tariff Act; and if the Commission shall be satisfied that the matter complained of is of sufficient importance and that the petitioners are acting in good faith,- it shall be the duty of the Commission, as soon thereafter as may be consistent with its general duties, upon due notice, to hold a hearing for the purpose of determining whether or not the change in the tariff rate asked for is well-grounded in fact and should be made. The Commission shall fully and fairly hear evidence both for and against the proposed change. It is hereby authorized to employ such counsel and experts in aiding it in such investigation as it may deem advisable; and to fix the compensation of the same. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Commission shall within six months, or sooner if it is able to do so, after having verified the facts and evidence presented, make a report thereon to the President and to Congress, setting forth the essential facts either with or without a recommendation, as it shall see fit. It shall be the duty of the Commissioners or any of them, upon invitation, to sit with the Ways-and-Means Committee of the House of Representatives and the Finance Committee of the Senate, to assist in the preparation of tariff schedules, or to furnish information in respect thereto.

Section 7.

THAT, The Commission hereby created, shall acquire and take over all the data, property, equipment, books, papers and records of the Tariff Board appointed by the President, pursuant to Section 2 of the Tariff Act approved August 5, A.D., 1909. Said Commission shall have authority to call upon any existing Government Department or Bureau for information on file in such Department or Bureau, which it may require in connection with the work authorized by this Act; and it shall be the duty of such Department or Bureau to furnish the same. It shall be the duty of the Commission to make or cause to be made, a study of the classification of the various items that appear in the existing Tariff Enactment and the classification of similar articles in the tariff schedules of the principal commercial countries of the world, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the several items are fairly and properly classified; and, if not, to make such recommendation as will properly fix the status of such items in the tariff schedule.

Section 8.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act and paying the salary and expenses of said Commission and its employees, there is hereby permanently appropriated for each and every fiscal year beginning July 1, after the passage of this Act, the sum of Three-Hundred-Thousand Dollars (\$300,000). For the first fractional year, between the passage of this Act and the beginning of the next fiscal year, the appropriation shall be a pro rata proportionate sum.

Section 9.

This Act may be amended or repealed at any time by Congress. The passage of this Act hereby repeals any Act or parts of Acts conflicting herewith.

Section 7

THAT, the Commission hereby created, shall exercise and take over all the duties, powers, responsibilities and functions of the Tariff Board appointed by the President pursuant to Section 2 of the Tariff Act approved August 2, A.D., 1909. The Commission shall have authority to call upon any existing Government Department or Bureau for information on file in such Department or Bureau, which it may require in connection with the work authorized by this Act; and it shall be the duty of such Department or Bureau to furnish the same. It shall be the duty of the Commission to make or cause to be made a study of the classification of the various items that appear in the existing Tariff Schedules and the classification of similar articles in the tariff schedules of the principal commercial countries of the world, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the several items are fairly and properly classified and, if not, to make such recommendation as will properly fix the status of such items in the tariff schedules.

Section 8

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act and paying the salary and expenses of said Commission and the employees, there is hereby permanently appropriated for each and every fiscal year beginning July 1 after the passage of this Act, the sum of three hundred thousand Dollars (\$300,000). For the first fractional year, between the passage of this Act and the beginning of the next fiscal year, the appropriation shall be a pro rata proportionate sum.

Section 9

This Act may be amended or repealed at any time by Congress. The passage of this Act hereby repeals any Act or parts of Acts conflicting herewith.

The University of Chicago
Office of the Counsel and Business Manager

ROOM 1204, 134 SOUTH LA SALLE ST.
TELEPHONE FRANKLIN 214

Feb. 11, 1915.

President Harry Pratt Judson,
The University of Chicago.

My dear President:

Mr. Howard H. Gross has presented what seems to be a bill for an actual tariff board, having powers which would give such a board real value. If you have time to glance at it and have any opinion on it, he would like an expression of it. It is an endeavor in the right direction, it seems to me. If the subject does not interest you, do not bother.

Yours very truly,

Enc.

Wallace Heckman
H.

The University of Chicago
Office of the General and Business Manager

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL AND BUSINESS MANAGER
530 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
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William H. Hall

Enc.