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Our National Capital

Events of Interest from the Seat of Government by the
News Special Correspondent, J. E. Jones

"WE NEED THE MONEY" expected to "blow off" very shortly. The country appears to be in a turmoil, and Congress will fulfill the useful office of giving people something directly tangible to quarrel about.

Washington, D. C., December 11.—Soley, it is claimed, because of the need of revenue in these abnormal times, and not as a confession of the failure of the Democratic tariff law, the administration recently announced its purpose to recommend to Congress the continuance of the present duty on sugar. In the administration circles there was instant approval to this suggestion when it was broached by Secretary McAdoo. The Republicans naturally favor the higher or tax, and they are unkind enough to intimate that the election of a Progressive in Louisiana as a protest against the tariff law, has been in a measure responsible for the way in which the Democrats have been supporting the suggestion to restore the old duty on sugar.

Senator Underwood tacitly agreed to replace the old rate, as soon as he had talked with the President. Senators Walsh and Myers of Montana, Martine of New Jersey, Chamberlain of Oregon, Williams of Mississippi, and Fletcher of Florida, were openly in favor of the suggestion from the outset; and it developed very shortly after most of the Senators and Representatives arrived, that the Democrats would support President Wilson and his advisers in restoring the old sugar schedule. Of course this takes any particular credit that may be claimed away from the Republicans, and while the latter are inclined to criticize somewhat, and to accuse the party in power of going back on its principles, the report is that the unusual conditions of the country have made it necessary to raise more money for public purposes. The Democrats say they are absolutely consistent as their policy always has been that of a tariff for revenue. Of course a great many people insist that only the refiners would be benefited by free sugar—and perhaps right down in their boots many political leaders in both parties are convinced that this is another splendid reason for restoring the duty on sugar.

Progress in Mexico

Advices received in Washington indicate that the rehabilitation of the country is progressing satisfactorily. A statement issued by our State Department says that two-thirds of the railroad equipment was destroyed during the six years of the insurrection. One of the problems of the Mexican administration is to resume regular traffic as quickly as possible. The best news that comes from Mexico is the reported success of the Carranza government in carrying out its agrarian policy. Large estates that were divided among politicians and plunderers are now being divided into small farms and sold to small farmers. Particular attention is being given to locating former soldiers of the government along the lines of the railroads, so that while they till their lands they may be within a day's call of their country, should their services be needed in the army or navy. Since the Villa movement shows every evidence of being on the wane, the chances are that General Carranza will be able to succeed. He has pledged that there will be elections at an opportune time, and he insists that that time has not yet arrived, since so much of the country remains in arms.

The Congressional Mill will be grinding in a few days, and the stokers are getting up a full head of steam. In fact there appears to be so much fire under the boilers that things may be

The Small Merchant Will Win

The reputable merchant interests of the country are expecting to find relief from the evils of cut-throat competition indulged in by some of the big city stores and the mail-order houses, through the Stevens bill, which appears certain to pass the present session of Congress. Mr. Edmond A. Whittier, Secretary of the American Fair Trade League says that nearly 75 members of Congress have voluntarily declared that they will support the bill. The proprietors of two of the biggest department stores in New York City have joined the ranks of the Stevens bill advocates within a week, and announce that they are tired and disgusted with the dishonest methods by which trade is sought through cutting prices on standard articles of merchandise and "making it up" on inferior goods which are sold at prices far above their value. The sentiment among the Congressmen who have returned to Washington, clearly indicates that they feel that the time has come for the federal government to help enforce respectability in merchandising, in the interest of the consumer, and in the aid of the country merchant, who is being driven by the mail order catalogue houses. The evidence is all to the effect that the small merchant must do his business in a fair and square manner, in order to hold the patronage of the public. On the other hand, the same exacting public follows the lure of fictitious "bargains," and whether it be in his Christmas shopping, or at any other period of the year, the number of people who make their money at home and send away for goods, is constantly increasing. The small merchants all handle brands of nationally known goods which are called for by their customers. Now Congress, through the Stevens bill, proposes to stop the catalogue and mail order houses, and some of the large city stores from using cut-throat methods in handling established lines of goods as a bait in moving inferior articles. The results of investigations by the Bureau of Corporations and Federal Trade Commission, as well as the report of a committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce, all find in favor of consistent regulation of resale prices. And when this is done, the small town will, in a measure, come into its own.

Womans Suffrage in Washington

The leaders of the woman's suffrage movement have evidently not been disheartened by reason of adverse results in the Fall elections, and a campaign is under way at the national capital to center efforts upon Congress. The suffragists wish to secure an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that will give full and nation-wide enfranchisement to women. There will be requisite a two-thirds vote of each of the houses, after which the amendment would go to each of the States for ratification. When two-thirds of the States have accepted an amendment the fact is duly promulgated and the law becomes effective.

The suffrage leaders, can do business much better with small bodies than with large ones, and they therefore feel that more could be done by the national movement, as Congress would

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pass the measure along to the States, and the suffragists would concentrate their efforts upon one legislature after another until they had secured thirty-six ratifications.

The attitude of many of the administration leaders is in opposition to this program, and among those who are opposed is President Wilson, who insists that the States should take the matter up and settle it. In view of the recent elections the women are heartily satisfied with this method. They ascribe their defeat to various causes and the Woman's Congressional Union, which has taken upon itself the responsibility of fostering the movement in Washington, is giving plenty of signs of activity. A good many Congressmen who have been prominent in the suffrage cause, have rather weakened in their activity since the recent elections.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Pursuant to an order of Hon. Eiba Reynolds, Surrogate of the County of Allegany, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of Olivia Dimick, late of Andover, N. Y., deceased, to present the same with proper vouchers thereof to the undersigned Executors of the Last Will and Testament of the said deceased, at the Law Office of Crayton L. Earley, in the Village of Andover, N. Y., on or before the 15th day of May, 1916.
Dated November 4, 1916.
AMY, J. ADAMS,
FRANK S. CLARK,
Executors.

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