

The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Dec. 13—The session of congress which will begin on January 3 will be confronted by a greater variety of problems, both foreign and domestic, than any of its predecessors since the World War. Old-time Washington correspondents look forward to perhaps the stormiest session since that of 1917.

For one thing, this is a presidential election year and every proposal of the President will come under closer scrutiny and be more subject to attack by his political opponents than has been the case in any preceding congress under this administration.

While the Republicans have only 23 senators out of 96, and only 169 representatives out of 435, there is such a decided split in the Democratic party that nobody can forecast the outcome on any vital question which may come before the congress. The division in the Democratic party being in the nature of a revolt against the "New Deal" policies of the President, it follows that whatever Mr. Roosevelt proposes will face the possibility of a coalition of disgruntled Democrats with the Republicans to defeat his program.

Truce Ended

The truce which enabled the passage of the revised neutrality act definitely ended when the extra session came to an end in early November. The coming session promises to be a battle to a finish over the major issue, which is, in effect, whether Roosevelt runs again.

It has been hinted in some quarters which are often well informed, that Mr. Roosevelt may make a public announcement early in the new session, disclaiming in unmistakable language all desire for a

renomination. Such a declaration would clear the air for the consideration of public business on its merits, though there would still remain the inevitable struggle between Democrats and Republicans for political advantage in the 1940 Presidential campaign.

The field in which there is likely to be more discussion than any other is that of international relations, which have taken a new and alarming turn since the revised neutrality act was passed. Not only has the situation in the Far East become more immediate concern, but in Europe the menace of Soviet Russia has been added to that of Germany.

While the general feeling in Washington is that neither Russia nor Germany offers an immediate threat to the security of the United States, and that the Japanese-Chinese situation is not likely to get to the stage of a threat to the Philippines, which this country is bound to defend if attacked, nevertheless there has been in the past two weeks a decided revival of the "war jitters" which had everybody in Washington stirred up last summer.

Nation's Sole Spokesman

This situation works to the advantage of the President, since he is the nation's sole spokesman in international matters, short of ratification of treaties or an actual declaration of war. It is generally conceded here that Mr. Roosevelt's outspoken indignation at Russia's invasion of Finland reflects an almost universal popular feeling. His general conduct of European relations in the present war has met with such popular approval as to increase the probability of his reelection in case he should decide to run again, and should the interests of the United States seem to be seriously threatened.

There is a strong feeling in congress that its members should interfere as little as possible in the European mess, but there is an almost equally strong feeling being expressed that the activities of the state department in negotiating trade agreements with various nations ought to be looked into. The belief that American interests have

not been best served by some of Mr. Hull's deals is gaining strength, especially among members from agricultural states. It is certain that the demand that such trade agreements, which are authorized by the Smoot-Hawley tariff bill, should be subject to ratification by the senate, will be put forward with vigor, especially by Republicans. The traditional division of the two major parties on the issue of free trade vs. protective tariff may come to the front once more.

In Strong Position

The President is in a strong position to press his requests for improvement in all phases of our national defense, and congress is scared enough of being involved in a possible war to be in a mood to give him about what he asks. The question of how the money will be provided brings up the question of increasing taxes or increasing the national debt. The present outlook most observers agree, is for an amendment to the present law limiting the national debt to 45 billion dollars.

Both farm relief and work relief will again be vital issues. Secretary Wallace has a new scheme for processing tax to provide funds for farm subsidies, which some regard as certain to stand the test of the supreme court, which killed the old AAA. A general investigation of WPA is on the cards, with nobody, much, in either party, wanting to go on record as opposing liberal relief appropriations in a Presidential year.

The "dope" here is that Representative Dier will get all the money he needs to continue his investigation into Communism and other anti-American activities.

COVE CREEK SCHOOL TO GIVE OPERETTA

A Yuletide operetta, "When Christmas Comes," will be given in the Cove Creek school auditorium on Thursday evening, December 21. The production, given under the joint directorship of Miss Anna Mae Sherwood and Mrs. Gladys Bligam, will be one hour long; those participating have been chosen from the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh

grades. One high school boy, Welsh Tester, also has a leading part. The operetta is based on the child's viewpoint of Christmas and contains a large number of songs to be rendered both vocally and instrumentally.

Basketball Games Friday

The first games to be played in the Cove Creek gymnasium will take place Friday evening, December 14, when the local squads meet the boys' and girls' teams of Mountain City high school.

PROFITABLE

One acre of alfalfa has paid more than twice as much as any other acre on the farm of W. S. Phillips, unit demonstration farmer in the Wing community of Mitchell county.

Broken-Down Organ Responsible for 'Silent Night'

*Silte nacht! Heilige nacht!
Alles schlaeft, einsem wacht.
Nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar,
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf "in himmlischer ruh!"
Schlaf "in himmlischer ruh!"*

It was near the Christmas season in 1812 when Franz Gruber, organist for a tiny Arnsdorf church in Austria, practiced one stormy evening in the Tyrolian church. Suddenly the organ broke.

Rushing to the 25-year-old parish priest, Joseph Mohr, he cried: "Father, unless we can find music so simple it can be sung without rehearsal our Christmas service will be without any music."

The young priest, called out into the storm to a home where a first born son had just arrived, returned a few hours later and wrote the words; Gruber stayed up all night writing the music.

The child born on the Mayflower during its epic voyage to America was named Peregrine White.

A total of 560 farm boys have entered in 10 newly organized 4-H Clubs in Caldwell county.

Big Food Values

that give you an

EXTRA SLICE

from your

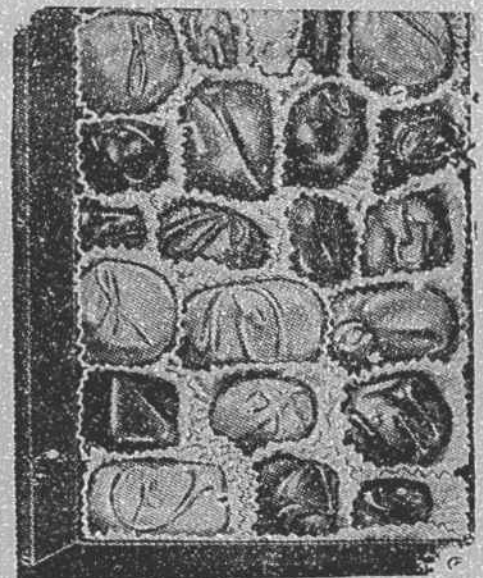
Grocery Dollar



Smithey's prices for food during this Christmas season will reaffirm your faith in Saint Nick! You've never seen such low prices on groceries at this season before. Stock up on everything you need. You'll save!

HOLIDAY CANDIES

- Chocolate Drops, rich, creamy with a good chocolate on white tasty cream, lb. **10c**
- Mixed Candies, 8 different kinds, 32 different flavors, pound **10c**
- Love Drops, speaking for themselves, pound **10c**
- Stick Candy, flavored peppermint, lemon, cloves, cinnamon, banana, saffras, orange and more peppermint, 2-lb. box pure stick **20c**



- Brazil Nuts, free shelling, pound **15c**
- Walnuts, soft shell, pound **17c**
- Mixed Nuts, selected, pound **19c**
- Layer Raisins, pound **10c**

- Flavoring, pure, bottle **10c**
- Cocoonut, loose, pound **19c**

We also have a most complete line of gifts that you would like to give, and those which you would appreciate in receiving in our up-stairs or Dry Goods Department.

SUGAR, Lb. . . 5c

Smithey's wants everyone to have a happy Christmas. Thus, we will trade, swap or exchange that which will bring about that desire for Ducks, Chickens, Eggs, Hams, Roosters, Feathers, Beans, Cabbage, Potatoes, Tobacco, Corn, Fruit or Cash.

Welcome, Tobacco Men!

Smithey's

THE GREAT BARGAIN GIVERS



VEGETABLES FRUITS, NUTS AND CANDIES!

- LETTUCE—large heads of Iceberg, each **10c**
- CELERY—fancy stalks special at **10c**
- BRAZIL NUTS—extra large, pound **20c**
- ORANGES—fine Florida, dozen **15c**
(Bag, \$1.00)
- GRAPEFRUIT—good and juicy, 3 for **10c**

Plenty of Holiday Candies at Low Prices!

Boone's Home-owned and Operated Grocery and Meat Market is ready for the Holiday season with excellent foods and meats at reasonable prices. Check the items listed in this advertisement and come to see us. There are hundreds of others at prices equally attractive

- PEAS, No. 2 cans, 2 for **20c**
- SUGAR, pure cane, lb. **6c**
- PINEAPPLE, medium size cans **19c**
- STUFFED OLIVES, bottle **25c**
- DATE NUT BREAD, 8 1/2-oz. can **15c**
- SALAD DRESSING, quart jar **25c**
- MINCE MEAT, 2-lb glass jar **25c**
- CRANBERRY SAUCE, can **15c**

SHOP IN OUR MEAT MARKET FOR THE FINEST MEATS AND DRESSED POULTRY AT REASONABLE PRICES

HOLLAR'S GROCERY

HOME-OWNED AND OPERATED