

REVISE TARIFF SPEEDILY, SAY BUSINESS MEN

Delay and Uncertainty are Keeping Enterprises Affected at a Standstill.

INSURGENTS MAY MAKE LAST STAND

Fight on Rules Would Hold Up Measure Probably for Months.

(By Sheldon G. Cline.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Members of the ways and means committee of the house and the finance committee of the senate, as well as party leaders in both houses of congress, are being deluged these days with "hurry up" messages. They all relate to the tariff, and the tenor of all is the same. "Hurry up," they read, "and get the tariff bill passed and the agency over. Our business is at a standstill until we know how the schedules affecting us are to be changed."

The messages do not come alone from those interests which enjoy special benefits under the tariff. Many of them are from men engaged in industries which are not protected at all, but which are affected because of the uncertainty of tariff legislation.

Delay is Inevitable. If the history of the Dingley bill is repeated, it will be nearly six months yet before the new tariff act is ready for the signature of President Taft. The fifty-fifth congress, called to an extra session by President McKinley for the purpose of tariff legislation, convened on March 15 and the bill which it passed was approved by the president on the following 24th of July. The ways and means committee had the Dingley bill ready and it was reported from that committee to the house on the first day of the extra session.

The coming extra session will convene about March 15—probably on that day, as the 15th falls on Monday. The ways and means committee, now at work on a tariff bill, will have the measure ready to report forthwith, and it will depend on the two houses of congress whether it is possible to put the bill through in a short time, than was required to pass the Dingley bill.

There was no such pressure for speed in enacting tariff legislation at the beginning of the McKinley administration as there is today. The country was then in the slough of financial depression, and had been for several years. The wound to business then was much deeper than it is today and was expected to require a longer time to heal. Business experts tell us there is nothing at present warring with industry except uncertainty as to tariff legislation. And, judgment from the tone of letters reaching the capital, the interest of the business world is not so much as to the character of the legislation as it is in having it passed as speedily as possible.

Insurgents to Fight. One possibility of delay lies in the determination of the house "insurgents" to amend the rules of that body when they come up for adoption at the organization of the sixty-first congress. The rules will have to be adopted, of course, before the tariff debate can be gotten under way, and those who believe the speaker should be shorn of some of his power regard the opportunity as an exceptional one. By holding up congress and preventing tariff legislation until the rules question can be fought out, the attention of the entire country will be centered on that issue, and that is exactly what the insurgents want. They believe the house organization would have to give way in the face of the public sentiment which would be created.

Changes in Rules. There are three important changes which the house "insurgents" demand. First—That the power of naming committees shall be taken from the speaker. Second—That this power shall be vested in a committee on rules and committees. Third—That the present committee on rules shall be abolished and that in its stead shall be created a committee on rules, committees and order of business, to consist of fifteen members: nine from the majority party and six from the minority party, and that they shall be selected according to geographical location. Other minor changes will be demanded, but in the three outlined above lies the crux of the fight in the house. There is none of the minor demands which the "insurgents" are not willing to waive, except possibly that there shall be a weekly call on the house calendar.

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M. V. MOORE WOMEN'S OUTFITTER, 41 PATTON AVENUE.

Position of Minority.

The present house organization is not going to yield to these demands without a fight. The candidacy of Mr. Cannon for the speakership no longer is involved, as it is conceded he will be re-elected practically without opposition. Some of Mr. Cannon's friends have declared he would not accept the speakership of all the practical power of the office would be taken away, but Mr. Cannon himself has not said so, but is likely to.

The ability of the house "insurgents" to compel the changes in the rules they demand depends on the willingness of the democratic membership to cooperate with the republican republicans. Such cooperation by the democrats would represent the bulk of the situation. The democrats alone cannot force any changes in the rules, though they have cried out bitterly against them. The program of the republican "insurgents" does not go far as the democrats would like to go, but it is a long step toward the democratic position, and if the reasoning that a half loaf is better than none shall prevail the Cannon organization in the house, strongly entrenched as it is, will be overthrown.

Senate Has Last Say.

After all, however, it rests with the senate to say how long shall be required to pass the tariff bill. The constitution provides that measures for the raising of revenue shall originate in the house, but there is no restriction on what the senate may do to a tariff bill after it has originated. The coming tariff bill is likely to very largely take its final shape from the moulding it gets at the hands of the senate veterans. There is no tariff maker in the house today of sufficient strength to largely impress his personality on the bill, and there will be little hindrance to the senate in working out its own will.

LURED FROM HOME TO DEN OF FIENDS

New York Furnishes Another "White Slave" Case With Little Girl.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—A "white slave" case which aroused indignation at police headquarters was discovered yesterday when Christina Braun, thirteen, of No. 559 Central avenue, Weehawken, was found in a moving picture show in East Fourteenth street, sitting with a young man and weeping bitterly.

The manager telephoned the detective bureau that he thought there was something suspicious, and three detectives arrested the man and girl. The child said she had been lured from her home and virtually sold prisoner.

"A strange woman spoke to me in Weehawken on Wednesday," she said, "and invited me to come to New York to see the sights. I came with her, and she took me into a store and bought a long coat and skirt for \$12. She made me put these on; then took me to what she said was her home. I don't know where it was."

"Thursday afternoon she took me to moving picture shows and left me standing on a corner. Two men came up and said: 'How's things in Weehawken?' I guess she told them about me. One took me to a hotel, saying the woman would meet us there."

The hotel was identified as the notorious House of Lords, in Houston street. The young man, without the little girl's knowledge, had registered for the two as man and wife. He kept her in the place all night.

While he was absent for a time another young man forced his way into the place. The child screamed, and a bellboy put the second man out. Yesterday morning the two men took the girl to Fourteenth street, where they introduced her to the one who was with her when the detectives arrived. The other two were quickly arrested. The one who took the child to the hotel was Luciano Stel, twenty years old, of No. 169 West Houston street. His companion was Ciro Masconi, twenty-six, of No. 49 Prince street. The youth arrested at the picture show was Michael Russo, twenty-four, of No. 182 Mott street. Ernest Miller, the hotel clerk, and Stewart Lakin, the bellboy, also were arrested and held.

NOTED DRIVERS ENTERED.

(By Associated Press.) NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 7.—George Robertson, winner of the Vanderbilt cup race, the Belmont Park race and holder of the world's record for twenty-four hours, has entered for the one hundred mile and one hundred mile club, and will race a mobile club, February 20, 21 and 22. He will drive a 89 horsepower simplex car. His entry gives the great Orleans race, with Lewis, Stange, Ralph De Palma, Robert Burman, Jimmy Ryan and Dennison heading the list of noted track performers.

BEVERIDGE, THE ENEMY OF THE STATEHOOD BILL

May Be Able to Block Passage of the Measure During This Session.

CONGRESS ALREADY AN UNWIELDY BODY

Reduction of Membership in House is a Difficult Proposition.

(Special to The Citizen.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Do you remember how heroic was Senator Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana when he was battling for joint statehood for New Mexico and Arizona? He filled pages and pages of the congressional record with reasons why those territories should no longer be kept out of the statehood

committee on territories has acted favorably on the bill providing for separate statehood, and there will be no difficulty in passing it through the house. If there is any hope of favoring the bill by the senate, Beveridge who is chairman of the committee on territories, is well supposed to be present action at the present session of congress. That New Mexico and Arizona will eventually come into the union as two states is now certain.

Why They Object.

Many reasons have been urged against the admission of New Mexico and Arizona as separate states, some sound and some ridiculous. That their populations are small is admitted, but that is a fault which the future will remedy. Irrigation is going to do a lot for the territories, and a family can live in comfort on ten acres of irrigated land. This means a lot to the way of population growth.

There is one objection, however, and it has been a very pointed one in the senate, which cannot be overcome. The admission of the new state would mean four or five senators, and there is violent opposition in the senate to further increasing the membership of that body. There are now 56 senators and Arizona and New Mexico states would give 36. The senate seems willing to increase its membership to 94, but falls at 96. It is rather difficult for the layman to understand this straining at the matter of two additional senators, but there are a great many things about the United States senate which

THE PRICE OF FOOD IS ON A WAR BASIS

Average in New York Today Higher Than in Civil War Times.

(Special to The Citizen.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—As a result of the general complaint against the high prices of food stuffs, a competent investigator set out last week to learn just how much foundation there was to the stories. Not only was the investigator astounded but the published results of his investigations have astounded New York. He used for comparison the prices prevailing at the height of the civil war, when every commodity was at a premium, and the war time prices averaged lower than the New York prices of today.

No one yet has come forward with anything like a satisfactory explanation of this condition. Under all economic laws which have governed in the past, this should have been a year of low prices. Crops have been abundant, it has been a twelve-month of financial stringency and there has been peace throughout the world. In the past this combination always has made for low prices, and it is up to the economist to explain why the natural order of things has been reversed this year.

Incomes Have Lagged.

It is all too true, of course, that incomes have not traveled upward at the rate prices have. This applies to the incomes of both rich and poor. The former have had to give up many luxuries, the latter have had to give up many things they had regarded as necessities, sufficient food being the most vital of them. On the upper west side fresh eggs are selling at 50 cents a dozen, a higher price than they ever reached in war times. Many families in New York live on an income of a dollar a day. They can't eat many eggs when eggs are selling at five cents a piece. Tub butter brings 40 cents a pound. Chickens are as high as 35 cents a pound and even pickled side pork, the meat mainstay of the poor, has advanced to 20 and 22 cents a pound. The prices of beef have not increased during the past year, but they are enormously high as compared with five years ago. Very few food stuffs show a lower price, and the general average is 20 to 25 per cent higher than even one year ago. The average of incomes is lower today than it was twelve months ago. Every one believes the country is on the verge of boom times. Ordinarily higher prices accompany booms. If they do in this case a great many more people will go hungry before incomes catch up with the increase in prices.

To Philip Sober.

When a woman who asked Philip of Macedon to do her justice was snubbed by the petulant monarch she exclaimed: "Philip, I shall appeal against this judgment!" "Appeal!" thundered the enraged king. "And to whom will you appeal?" "To Philip sober," was her reply.

It is difficult for the layman to understand.

In the house, now, the matter of growing membership is one of grave concern. Not only does the admission of new states bring new house members, but there has been a steady increase to keep pace with the growing population of the country.

Every well informed member of the house realizes that it would be a much more efficient working body with one-half its present membership. It is proposed that in fixing the apportionment after the federal census of 1910 the membership shall be largely reduced, requiring a readjustment and consolidation of congressional districts. But there is not one chance in a thousand of such a prospect ever being carried into law.

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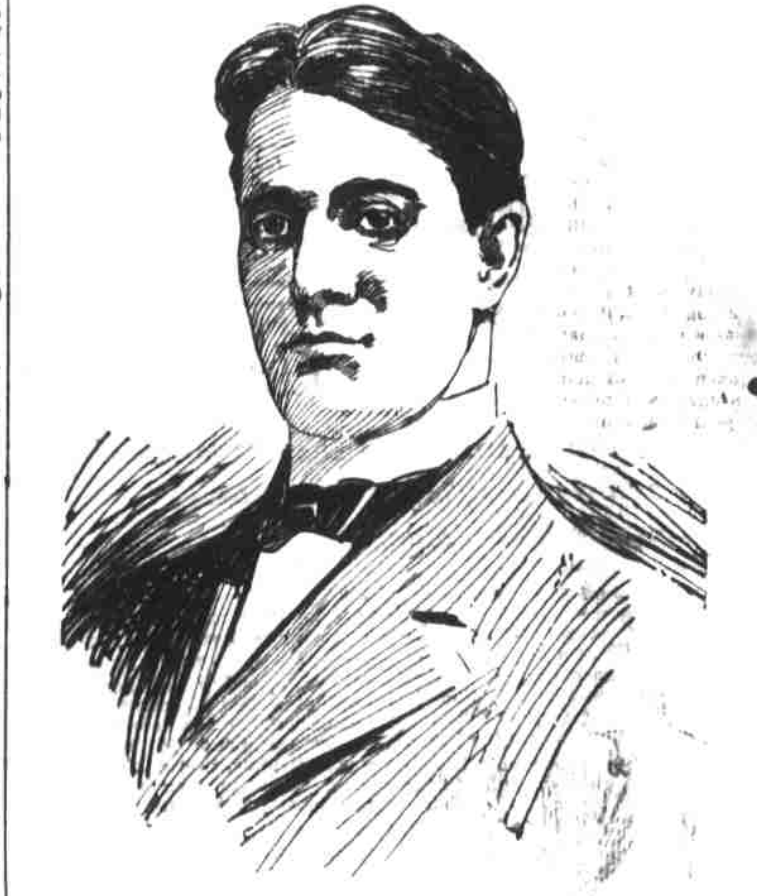
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Albert J. Beveridge.

of states. It mattered not that New Mexico and Arizona didn't want to come into the Union as one state. Beveridge knew better than did the territories themselves what was for their good, and, besides, didn't it appeal to patriotism to have all contiguous American territory within the union.

The story of how Beveridge and the other joint statehood statesmen finally were forced to consent to submit the question to a vote of the people of the two territories and how the verdict was against joint statehood is well known. The point is that the time has now come when the territories can have separate statehood. Beveridge and the other one-time senators will consent. The house

FURY OF SHOALS DEFIES ENGINEERS

Construction of Lighthouse Near the Hatteras is Most Difficult Problem.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—A unusual incident has been manifested by members of the house and senate in the reported sinking last week of a ship off Diamond Shoals, Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. The construction of a lighthouse at this point has engaged the attention of congress for years, and today they say they would build little more prospect than the one already there than there was when Virginia received her state's vote from the east world.

The difficulty of carrying a lighthouse has proved a task to engineers for every century has added to the temptation to officers. At present Captain Albert F. Boile of New York is considering making another attempt to construct a lighthouse there. To him was given the last permission to try his skill, but the lack of financial aid has had to have interfered with the engineer's work. Within the last two weeks he has been in consultation with members of the interstate and foreign commerce committee of the house, with a view of asking again for legislation for the construction of a lighthouse.

Making a Record.

Sir George Thackeray told a curious little anecdote regarding an interview he had once had with Thackeray. The novelist was engaged at the time in writing "The Virginians," and in the middle of the conversation he commenced to ask each of the young men in the company what was the greatest length they had ever jumped. The greatest jump claimed was twenty-two feet.

"Well," said Thackeray, "then I will make Washington jump twenty-four." So reputations are made.—London Standard.

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