

CONGRESS MAY HEAR PRESIDENT READ MESSAGE

By David Lawrence (Copyright, 1920, by The Journal) Washington, Dec. 1.—Congress gets back next week for its regular December session, but whether President Wilson will deliver his annual address in person, as he has done so many times before, or whether he will send it to be read by a clerk as the president used to do, is still undetermined.

The president himself wants to make a farewell appearance at the capitol and is said to be well enough to do so. Yet there is always a risk with one who has a nervous breakdown that excitement might bring on a recurrence of the same trouble. Whenever any decision has had to be made involving a risk to the president's health, the members of the president's family have always played safe by avoiding the risk altogether. That's why it seems unlikely that Mr. Wilson will go to congress, though he is strong-willed and may insist upon doing it. There are, on the other hand, those who think the president might be persuaded to postpone his visit until the close of the session in March and say goodbye then.

MESSAGE SUBJECT UNKNOWN As for the contents of the presidential message which is being prepared, no inkling has been given. From a political viewpoint, if for no other, there will be recommendations that congress reduce the burden of taxes and also cut the cost of living. Of course, it is unlikely that the Republicans, who are in the majority in both houses, will permit any action to be taken on the recommendations of a Democratic president, since their own president will take office in three months and call an extra session of congress to adopt a legislative program. The Democrats, however, talk of wasted time and opportunity and will not lose the chance to accuse the Republicans of dilatory tactics and political expediency.

On the other hand, the Republican leaders already counter with this query, would President Wilson sign a Republican tax bill? Especially one that proposes the raising of revenue by imposing a protective tariff? White House officials say Mr. Wilson would sign a tariff bill if it followed the lines of suggestions on that question which he

has already made to congress. The president has favored protection for important industries and others whose economic relationship to the tariff question has been disturbed by war, but he has by no means indicated that he would sanction the kind of a tariff bill which the Republicans would put before him. To work out any kind of tariff bill would take practically all of a session of congress, and leaders of both sides agree that unless there was an assurance of compromise the time would be wasted, but the Republicans who want high protection care nothing about a compromise bill, and without any influence from the White House, the tariff bill that would be drawn up would be strongly protectionist.

COMPROMISE IS LIKELY Even Warren Harding will have his troubles keeping the advocates of a high tariff from going to extremes, so the prospects of a compromise bill are brighter under the next Republican administration than in the short session of congress about to begin.

Practically the same situation exists with regard to taxes. Efforts will surely be made to get relief from tax burdens and it will be more difficult for the Republicans to ignore the tax question than the tariff. It is fully expected, for instance, that the president will in his message take occasion to approve the suggestions for a reduction of taxation to be made by Secretary Houston in his annual report of the treasury department. If those suggestions meet with popular approval, it is thought the Republican majority will be compelled to begin hearing and make a start on the question, lest it be too long delayed or swallowed up in the mass of questions sure to be coming up in the extra session under the Harding administration.

DEMAND FOR ACTION RECORDS Some definition of policy will be required from the Republican leaders as soon as the session opens next week for the pressure from all parts of the country seems to be growing for some kind of an emergency resolution to take care of the December payments of income taxes. The suggestion has been made that instead of adopting a policy which would enable the treasury department to exercise discretion as to the individual cases of firms absolutely needing a postponement, a resolution be adopted postponing the payment of all December taxes to February or March and rearranging the time of payment of 1921 taxes. The Republicans would prefer to tackle the whole tax question afresh in the extra session of congress, but they may be compelled to permit the passage of an emergency resolution. The treasury department is opposed to the idea, but it is doubtful whether President Wilson would justify in exercising a veto if congress took full responsibility for the postponement and the consequent effect upon the government's resources.

Douglas Budget Ready Roseburg, Dec. 1.—The county court of Douglas county has completed the county budget for 1921, totaling \$152,134.

THREE NATIONS SEEK LINCOLN, NOTORIOUS SPY

By Karl H. Von Wiegand (Universal Service Staff Correspondent) Berlin, Dec. 1.—Sentence of death, to be secretly carried out, is said to have been passed upon Ignatius Trebitch-Lincoln, former member of the British parliament, but better known to fame as "international spy," by three secret military groups in as many different countries.

It will, therefore, not be surprising should Lincoln, who was chief press censor in the Kapp revolution last March, turn up missing some day.

Lincoln is a Hungarian Jew whose parents live in Budapest. He emigrated, became a minister of the Church of England, and then managed to be elected to parliament.

He was arrested in New York after the outbreak of the war at the request of the British government on the charge of being in the espionage service of Germany. There he wrote a book, "The Revelations of an International Spy." As the United States government refused to surrender him on a political charge he was extradited on a charge of forgery and given three and one-half years in England.

As a result of his activities in the Kapp revolution a warrant was issued for him in Germany. He is alleged to have engaged in the service of some of the Russian reactionary groups, is said to have obtained some of the plans of one of the Hungarian secret leagues of officers, and is also reputed to have been in the confidence of a little group of German militarists engaged in anti-Bolshevik plans with the White Russian officers' league.

MYSTERY IN M'CORMICK'S TRIP ABROAD

LONDON, Dec. 1.—(U. P.)—Senator Medill McCormick of Illinois, who is reported to have come to Europe to sound out statements on the project of forming an "association of nations" as advocated by President-elect Harding, surrounded his mission with a cloud of mystery today.

McCormick denied he was the "Colonel House" of the Harding administration. But despite this, it was generally believed he was here on some definite errand. This impression was heightened when he took a suite at the Claridge, where Count Sforza, Italian foreign minister, and his staff are quartered.

"My journey has a political significance whatever," the senator said in an interview. "I hope to spend two or three weeks in studying the European economic situation. Also I have a lot of friendships to renew and many acquaintances to dig up. If possible, I intend to visit Rome, Warsaw, Paris, Prague and Berlin."

"Bill" Hart Wins \$87,779 Judgment Against T. H. Ince

Universal Service Staff Correspondent Los Angeles, Dec. 1.—William S. Hart, widely known motion picture star, obtained a judgment of \$87,779 against Thomas H. Ince, film producer, in Superior Judge Work's court today.

The large amount awarded Hart by Judge Work was claimed by the movie star as due him under a contract entered into with Ince in June, 1917, by which Hart was to be the star in a number of western pictures which were to be produced and marketed under the direction of Ince. Hart claimed one half of the profits.

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