

The United States Tariff Commission is urging the enactment of a "bargaining tariff," even in advance of a general revision of the tariff law.

A higher tariff for the United States has been forecast by Chairman Fordney, of the Ways and Means Committee of the next United States Congress, who will be the author of the new tariff bill. He emphasizes the importance of the home market, which, in normal times, consumes between 90 and 93 per cent. of the entire production of the United States. "I am not in favor," he says, "of chasing rainbows around the world to find a market for our surplus, which in amount is only about 7 per cent. of our normal production, and at the same time neglect our home market and open the bars to the flood of goods offered us, made by the cheap labor of the world, to the detriment of our own laboring people."

Congressman Gillett, of Massachusetts, who will be Speaker of the House of Representatives in the new United States Congress, says: "At the earliest opportunity there should be passed by the Republicans of the House a protective tariff measure which will provide more abundant revenue and prevent an inundation of foreign goods produced by cheaper labor."

Senator Primrose, who will be Chairman of the Finance-Tariff Committee in the new United States Senate, said, in a speech before the Manufacturers' Club of Philadelphia: "Once again we must take up the task, under new and unprecedented conditions, of framing a protective schedule which will provide adequate protection for American capital and labor and secure the industrial independence of the United States; a protective tariff which will very largely open the Mexican market to the American producer thus enabling us to maintain the high scale of wages required by our living standards, and start the nation once more upon a triumphal march of development and progress. We must prepare for it not, as heretofore, against foreign competition from nations which were either free trade or largely had merely a protective tariff, but as against industries of nations aided in every conceivable way by government, subvention, subsidies, contracts, regulations, and tariffs. In other words, a protective tariff system is more vitally necessary to the United States in the immediate future than ever before in its history. Without its proper enactment, distress and perhaps ruin will stare our people in the face. We must proceed in a heroic way."

Mr. Frank W. Mondell, Congressman from Wyoming, who will be Republican leader in the House of Representatives at the forthcoming session, states that there will probably be "a revision of the tariff with a view to providing rates that will be protective under the new conditions brought about by the war."