

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Washington, May 14.—As forecast in this correspondence a short time ago, the President is choosing the "right fork of the road to social and economic recovery, rather than the "left." Not by any positive declaration of policy, but by putting the emphasis on matters which appear of more importance to the conservative element of the citizenry than do a good many of the things about which there has been so much talk.

More and more it is being borne in upon those members of the Administration who are keen for reforming everything — and there are a few who are "bugs" on that subject—that until and unless business responds to what has already been put into effect, it would be folly to try to press any more far-reaching reforms upon the nation. The President sees this clearly, and so do a great many members of both houses of Congress. Some of the latter, with the primaries now starting and the election of next November staring them in the face, are wondering whether anything that they can do between now and adjournment will help to restore business confidence in time to do them any good.

Heed Constructive Criticism

The Administration and its supporters are receptive to criticism when it comes from sources which they do not regard as self-seeking. They pay little attention to what Wall Street thinks, but they do listen when representatives of constructive and productive business speak their minds, as did the members of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States recently in their annual convention. One result of that criticism is a revision of the Securities Act, with the President's full support, to enable legitimate business to obtain capital in a legitimate way from legitimate sources, without being classed with crooks and high-binders.

It is probably a fair statement that Republican opposition is not worrying the Administration any. In the nation as a whole there is nothing that can be called a Republican party today. The Old Guard is reluctant to let go its leadership, yet is calling for young blood to rejuvenate the party.

So far about the only effort to shape up politics on which to go to the electorate next election time seems to be an effort to see how close the Republicans can come to paralleling Democratic ideas. That creates much the same sort of a situation that existed in 1896, when both the Republicans and the Democrats vied with each other to see how much they could grab off for themselves of the platform of the vigorous young third party, the Populists. Between them they killed the Populist party, but its doctrines survived and every one of them is now the law of the land, save only the free coinage of silver; and that seems closer now than at any time in nearly forty years.

The Republican Outlook

There are wise old observers here in Washington who believe that the Republican party has a chance in 1936 only if it comes out frankly and squarely on the conservative side. The radicals have done all the talking for the last couple of years, until one would be tempted to think that there are no conservatives left. Some of the members of Congress who are coming up for re-election know better; there are still a few conservatives left in their home districts who are likely to vote the Republican ticket next November.

Locally, conservative thought is beginning to express itself. Washington has heard hardly more than echoes from the back country, so far; but some smart politicians believe that if the national Republican party would go on record, not as promising the same sort of thing that the Democrats are dishing out now, but almost precisely the opposite so far as Government control of business and expenditures for social reforms are concerned, it would gather recruits to itself like a snowball rolling down hill. It might not win the Presidential election of 1936, but it would have a good chance in 1940. These same observers give President Roosevelt the odds on a second term.

Brains From the Ranks

There are many indications that the so-called "brain trust" is not such a dominating influence as it was. The term, of course, is a loose one, but is used here as meaning the intellectuals who had little practical experience in administering public affairs but were installed here because of their supposed better understanding of public questions than the men who make such matters their life work.

The Administration has learned that there are many men of high scholastic attainments, thorough scholars, and with detailed, practical knowledge of how Governmental things are done, already

in the permanent Government service. These men are not party men, but efficient public servants who, for one reason or another, have made public service their life work. Some of them are men of means, who serve because they feel there is more satisfaction in using their talents for the public welfare than in piling up wealth for themselves. Some are men whose tastes are simple and needs few, who get along very comfortably on their Government salaries and who wholeheartedly devote their leisure to the study of social and economic problems in their national and international aspects.

Getting a Hearing Now

These men are now being called into conference, and some of the brain-trusters are discovering that what they have been putting forth as new and original ideas, are old stories to some of these chaps. Some ideas have been tried and didn't work; some of them are just what these permanent Government servants have been trying to get a hearing on for years.

That is one of the indications that the running of the great business of governing the United States is now shaking down into order and system; but a lot remains to be done before anyone can say positively just what the policies in effect are and in what direction we are ultimately heading.

Nation - Wide Exhibition

A great nation-wide exhibition of General Motors products will be staged throughout the country the week of June 2 to 9, inclusive.

The program calls for holding, simultaneously, sixty exhibits, each a complete showing housed under a single roof, in the sixty leading cities of the United States. Each exhibition will last a full week. Admission will be free.

The period, June 2-9, has also been dedicated to General Motors at the Century of Progress Exposition at Chicago.

Coming during the biggest spring selling season in recent years, the exhibit will, it is expected, serve to prolong automobile selling and manufacturing and hence, employment beyond the usual peak in the automotive industry.

Featuring the shows will be the latest models of General Motors cars, including new lines which have been recently introduced. There will be representative model Cadillacs equipped with either Fisher or Fleetwood bodies; the latest LaSalle, with Fleetwood bodies; Buick straight eights, including the new low-medium priced "40" models; Oldsmobile eights and sixes; Pontiac eights, and Chev-

rolet sixes, including the recently announced Chevrolet improved standard six, the world's lowest-priced six-cylinder car. All of these cars, except the standard Chevrolet, have "knee action" front wheels, developed by General Motors.

The Fisher bodies shown on the various lines of cars will exhibit the latest styling and craftsmanship, as well as the improved Fisher no-draft ventilation.

Among other General Motors products to be shown will be some of the latest developments of making life more liveable, more comfortable, apart from transportation alone. These appliances will be exhibited by the Frigidaire and Delco Appliance Divisions.

United Motors Service will be included in the list of exhibitors, and will have an interesting display of accessories. Trucks of various types, uses and capacities, built by General Motors Truck Company and Chevrolet, will be shown in many of the cities. Music by well-known orchestras will be provided in each city, as well as other features of entertainment.

A cannery and creamery for Haywood County are two new projects now under way by the farm agent.

Eighty-eight 4-H club boys of Orange County are planting yellow corn this season.

Fixing Allotments Under Bankhead Act

Ten per cent of the State's allotment of cotton under the Bankhead Act will be reserved for distribution among counties where the situation is such as to justify an extra amount.

Ninety per cent of the State allotment will be prorated among the various counties according to average cotton production during the past five years.

It was deemed necessary to reserve a part of the State allotment, however, to add to the pro rata allotment of certain individual counties where floods, drought, insects, fire or other unusual natural causes caused abnormally small crops during the base period.

"The division of crop estimates in the Department of Agriculture is now working on the calculations to determine just how much cotton each county will be allowed to sell," says Charles A. Sheffield of State College in charge of the cotton adjustment campaign. These calculations must be completed before the work of determining the individual grower's allotments can be started.

"Growers who did not sign reduction contracts will be given certificates which will permit

them to market a certain amount of cotton exempted from the 50 per cent tax of the Bankhead Act. The amount exempted from taxation will be approximately as much below the growers' average production as the amount by which contract signers are reducing their production."

Since planting time has already arrived before the county allot-

ments have been figured, a number of farmers have ascertained from county agents about how much cotton they will be allowed to plant. Then they are going ahead with their planting with the knowledge that any cotton they produce over their allotted amount will be subject to the heavy Bankhead tax.

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