

**WASHINGTON**  
**WHAT**  
**IS**  
**TAKING**  
**PLACE**  
**BY**  
*Frank R. Reynolds*  
**UNITED STATES SENATOR**

If any evidence was needed that the Seventy-fifth Congress, with its top-heavy Democratic majorities, would not be a "rubber-stamp" Congress, it has been furnished in the controversy over the President's plan for changing the judiciary. This plan has become the dominant legislative issue and threatens to delay, if not engulf, less important proposals which in more normal times would seem of such magnitude as to demand early action. But proposed changes in the basic scheme for our government have always, and should have first attention.

It is interesting to note that the heart of the controversy over the Courts is not one of purpose, but rather the best means of attaining the objectives sought. There are a comparative few who do not concede that some changes in the basic plan of our Government to meet modern conditions are necessary - situations that have arisen since the Constitution was drafted. But how? That is the most momentous question in the national capital today.

The President's plan calls, of course, for legislative authority to name six new members of the Supreme Court, increasing the membership to fifteen, should justices over seventy years of age fail to resign. That was the program submitted to Congress. Other proposals were promptly advanced and the situation that has resulted brings up three questions.

Does the President's plan offer the soundest approach to a problem that vitally affects every citizen? Would it be more desirable to submit the question - a slow process - to the people for final decision? Would it be feasible to enact a legislative requirement that all rulings by the Supreme Court hold laws unconstitutional by a two-thirds majority? Such a majority is now required in the Senate on more momentous questions. The President contends his plan is the only sure means for prompt and effective action, as the Congress considers the proposal from every angle.

But as I have said, even the most severe critics of the President's plan realize the need for some changes in our basic scheme of Government. Every statement on the subject since our founding fathers is being scanned and quoted. What John Marshall said, what John Jay said, what Justice Taney said, what Justice Chase said, is being broadcast to the country by radio and carried to the nation in the press.

Yet with it all there seems to be a sincere desire on the part of all members of Congress to preserve the progress we have made in Government, and at the same time correct the conditions that prevent further progress at a time when we truly stand at the crossroads in national and international affairs. How can we best do this from the standpoint of the present and the future? It may be the President's plan or it may be a compromise. The Constitution was compromise document and the legislative course of our nation has been consistently marked by compromise.

And whatever John Marshall or John Jay said, some things are self-evident. Neither of these illustrious statesmen of the past ever rode in an automobile. Neither of these outstanding lawyers ever heard a radio. And none of the food for these great justices ever came from a chain store. Obviously, they could not correctly plan for these new conditions. The President is sincere in his desire to meet these conditions and those who ardently support him believe that he will be the more equitable, more effective, and more logical than the plan he has advanced.

**Daughter Honored**  
**On 15th Birthday**

Seven Springs, March 12th — A birthday party was given Saturday night, February 27th by Mrs. J. L. Sheppard of Pink Hill, in honor of the fifteenth birthday of her daughter, Mildred.

The numerous guests enjoyed many games. Mr. Floyd Smith with his violin and Miss Mattie Pearl Smith at the piano entertained the guests by playing popular selections.

One of the most enjoyable parts of the party was the buffet supper. The birthday cake was one of the most attractive features of the supper.

The guests were as follows: Misses Amelia Grady, Helen Parker, Nellie Patterson, Audrey Simmons, Viola Southerland, Evelyn Smith, Annie Mae Smith, Lillian Albertson, Mavis Sheppard, Mattie Pearl Smith, Dorothy Lee Smith.

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**Blue Mold Attacks**  
**Tobacco Seed Beds**

Blue mold has become a serious threat to the 1937 flue-cured tobacco crop in North Carolina, said E. Y. Floyd, of State College.

Reports of widespread damage have been received from Georgia, South Carolina, and the border belt of this state, he said, and a number of seed beds in the old and new belts have been attacked. Maggots, or the larvae of a small black fly, and freezes have also injured a number of seed beds in the old and new belts, Floyd added.

The best defense against, he said, is to stimulate the plants to a more rapid, thrifty growth. Small, weak plants are usually killed by blue mold.

For small plants, a top dressing of well rotted stable manure, or chicken manure, chopped fine and spread over the seed bed will do better than nitrate of soda to stimulate growth.

Or the manure may be put in a tow sack, filled 3-4 full, and placed in a barrel of water to soak 24 hours. Then sprinkle the water over the bed with a sprinkling pot or other device that will not pack the soil.

An equal amount of plain water should then be sprinkled over the bed to rinse off the plants.

After plants are an inch or more high, three to five pounds of nitrate of soda should be applied to each 100 square yards of bed.

When small black flies, or midges, are found under the seed bed canvas, Floyd continued, maggots are usually at work in the soil,

and two pounds of naphthalene flakes should be applied under the canvas to each 100 square yards of bed.

In the old belt, he added, beds that have been damaged by freezes should be reseeded.

A milk route to pink up whole milk for sale by Polk County farmers to the Biltmore Dairy has been organized in Polk County.

Twelve Montgomery County farmers will conduct demonstrations in tobacco growing this season.

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