

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Washington, June 8.—There has been so much loose talk about the "split" in the Democratic party, as a result of the opposition to the President's Supreme Court reorganization plan, that some superficial observers have come to the conclusion that Mr. Roosevelt has lost his influence

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with Congress. Nothing could be further from the fact.

Mr. Roosevelt, as head of his party, is still the highly-esteemed leader to whom Senators and Representatives of the majority look for guidance; and anything the President wants which the legislative leaders regard as reasonable or desirable, he can get. There is no "feud" between Congress and the President, but on the contrary, Congress would rather go along with Mr. Roosevelt than not.

What has actually occurred is that while the Democratic members still recognize and respect Mr. Roosevelt as their leader, they decline to let him be "boss" in matters which are within the Constitutional prerogative of Congress. They no longer accept orders for the enactment of new laws without question or study, but scrutinize every Administration proposal with meticulous care. For it must be admitted that the general temperament of Congress is far less "liberal" than is that of the New Dealers who devise the new schemes of economic and social reform for which the President is the spokesman.

Power for Executive Agencies
There is no great disagreement on the desirability of most of the New Deal program which the President still hopes to put through, if not at this session of Congress, then at the next. This program includes many of the "emergency" devices, some of which the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional.

Increased power for Executive agencies is essential to carrying out the entire system of broad economic planning to which the President is committed. That means the delegation of more legislative authority to administrators, further ascendancy of the Executive Branch over the Legislative and the Judicial, and of the Federal government over state governments.

With such increased powers which the President still hopes to have granted by Congress, the control of industry and agriculture by government could be

EXPLAIN REASON ISSUING CARDS

Workers 65 Years Old Or Over Have Had Misunderstanding About Number

IS A FALSE IMPRESSION

Issuance at this time of social security account numbers to workers who are 65 years, or more, of age, is for the record purposes of the North Carolina and other State unemployment compensation programs. J. N. Freeman, in charge of the Social Security Board office at the Nisens Building in Winston-Salem, said this week.

His statement was prompted by realization that many of the older workers applying for account numbers believe they are now eligible for Federal old-age benefits. Mr. Freeman said. The Social Security Board feels that this false impression should be corrected immediately, he added. The statement continued:

"A few weeks ago the issuance of social security account numbers was extended to include workers beyond 65 years of age. This was done in order to aid North Carolina and the other states and territories in setting up records for unemployment compensation programs. State unemployment compensation laws cover employees of all ages; whereas the wages received by workers for employment after they reach 65 are not counted toward old-age benefits under the Federal program.

"The use of the account number cards will help not only the States but employers, too, because only one number will be needed for the old-age benefits plan and the State unemployment compen-

made effective. A part of the broad plan upon which the President is quite insistent is to make electric power cheaper and more abundant. There is no let-up in the pressure for improved housing for the poor by the aid of government subsidies; for making farm owners out of farm tenants, and for the shortening of working hours and the increase of wages in industry under government control.

Objectives Desirable
The tendency in Congress is to regard most of those objectives as desirable in themselves, but to fear that the methods proposed to bring them about will not be effective. There is a growing feeling that Uncle Sam has already "biten off all he can chew" in the laws already on the statute books for the regulation of labor relations, old age pensions and unemployment compensation, the stock markets, the public utilities, and all the rest of the regulatory legislation.

Even many of the Congressional "liberals" think it would be wise to wait until the new permanent bureaus set up under those laws have demonstrated whether this whole nation can be effectively regulated from Washington, before taking any further steps to extend Federal control.

This feeling is deep enough and strong enough, most experienced observers believe, to serve as an effective check upon the more radical proposals put forth by the New Deal planners. The result will likely be a compromise between the President's desire and the views of the more conservative element in his party.

That is, indeed, what usually comes about whenever Congress begins to assert its independence. Nearly all important legislation in the past has been the result of compromises. The compromises looked for will be in the general direction of leaving much more room for individual initiative than many of the New Dealers like, but progressing toward ultimate government planning and control.

It can almost be set down as a definite prophecy that it is going to be made progressively more difficult for business—corporations or individuals—to accumulate large fortunes, and the objective of the complete abolition of poverty will have come closer to realization in another year or two than it ever has been anywhere in the world's history.

Desire to Avert Split
There are many individual divergencies from the "average" point of view of Senators and Representatives, of course, as here are members in both houses. There are still many, but not a majority in the Senate and probably not a majority in the House, who are willing to go along with the Administration to any extent.

There is a small "bloc" in each house of Democrats who have turned completely sour on the President. The powerful leaders, however, are holding the middle ground of Congressional independence tempered by party fealty and the desire to avert a split which would impair Democratic chances in 1940.

sation plan. That is why the Social Security Board announced social security account numbers would be issued to workers who were 65 and more. The Board emphasized that filing of applications by these older workers was purely voluntary so far as the Social Security Act was concerned. Some workers apparently have failed to understand the reason for the extension of registration.

"Despite reports of some misunderstandings as to the purpose of the extension information received by the Board indicates that the invitation to the older workers to apply voluntarily has been accepted generally.

"Some workers have asked what taxes they will have to pay.

"No Federal tax for unemployment compensation purposes is levied on employees in commercial and industrial groups. Of the 47 States and Territories now having unemployment compensation laws only eight, Alabama, California, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Rhode Island, require contributions from employees.

"Account numbers are being issued to employees 65 years of age and over, as well as to others, through more than 45,000 post offices which are being used until June 30 in the assignment of account numbers under the Federal old-age benefits program of the Social Security Act.

"An employee may choose any one of four different ways to file his completed application. They are: (1) through his employer, or (2) through any labor union of which he is a member, or (3) by delivering it to his local post office, or (4) by mailing it in a sealed envelope addressed, 'Postmaster, Local.'

"Information on applications for account numbers, by agreements between official State unemployment compensation administrations and the Social Security Board, will be held as absolutely confidential and will be used by the State agencies as well as by the Social Security Board solely in the administering of social security laws."

Box Supper

There will be an open air box supper on the lawn adjoining Little Elkin Baptist church, four miles north of Ronda, on route 1, Saturday night, June 12. Proceeds will go to the benefit of the church.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of George P. Gray, late of Surry county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned within one year from date hereof or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

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