

# This Week IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Jan. 3—As the new Congress gets down to business and the legislative program for the session begins to assume form, members of both houses find themselves wondering how they are going to work out a compromise between the demands for continued and increased spending of Federal funds, on the one hand, and for economy and retrenchment on the other hand.

There is no doubt that the temper of the 76th Congress, on the whole, is toward economy. Leaders and a great part of the membership of both parties would like to cut expenditures. But the pressure of well-organized lobbies, added to what are generally regarded as necessary extra expenses, may easily prove too much for the well-intentioned ones who would like to see the Federal government get out of the red by keeping its costs within its income.

If the present feeling that it is necessary to balance the budget continues, those most experienced in estimating future actions of Congress look for a broad increase in taxes. The hope, of course, is that general business will pick up so that the national taxable income will be large enough to provide all the money necessary.

But unless there are definite indications of such an increase in the course of the next few months, the tax bill which will be enacted before the end of

## Two Free Tickets Each for Ladies Pictured Below



Down the street they came, arm in arm, to walk right into free tickets to the Lyric theatre if they will kindly call at The Tribune office and ask for them. Next week there will be others who will be photographed and presented tickets. It could be you, so when you see The Tribune photographer, don't dodge, smile.—(Tribune Photo.)

June is likely to contain considerable increases in the higher brackets and probably an extension downward of the income tax base to include several million persons who now pay no direct taxes to the Federal treasury.

### To Amend Social Security

Among the items which will call for greater expenditures is the plan for amending the Social Security Act to make payment of Old Age Benefits begin in 1940 instead of 1942, and to increase

the benefits for those now approaching the retirement age of 65.

Some changes in this law seem certain, as an answer to the demands of the Townsend Plan advocates and others seeking universal Federal pensions for the elderly. The project of submitting a Constitutional amendment for old age pensions to the people probably will not be carried through, but it is fairly certain that the whole Townsend Plan

and similar projects will have a thorough airing at committee hearings and in debates on the floor of both houses.

As another measure of social security reform, the prospect is for lively agitation in favor of some plan of providing medical care for everybody, whether at government expense or by a system of voluntary or enforced individual contributions. Sentiment on this idea has not yet "jelled" in either house to the point where the likelihood of such action can be estimated, but it is certain it will be a subject on which there will be much discussion.

### Farm Problem

One of the organized demands which Congress will have to face is that of the Farmers Union for a continuation of the Agricultural Act of 1938, with an appropriation of 800 million dollars. M. W. Thatcher, legislative representative of the Farmers Union, has served notice on Congress that if this is not granted the result will be a rebellion in the Middle West which cannot be put down without the use of the Army.

Few take that threat too seriously, but the farm relief problem is still a perplexing one. Secretary Wallace points to the recent vote on the continuation of the cotton quotas as proof that the farmer likes his present program, and he will be insistent in his demand for its continuation.

The Work Relief problem is another difficult one. The general feeling in Congress is that the whole relief problem should be turned back to the states, with such Federal aid as may be required.

The WPA matter touches on the conflict between Congress and the Administration, which is not as serious on the surface as it is in the private conversations of members of both the President's party and the Opposition.

The fear of Federal domination is a constant and growing one regardless of party lines, whether through WPA and other Federal spendings, or by other means. Political parties rest on their state, county and municipal organizations, and every Congressman and Senator wants to preserve all the political power possible for his local organizations, which in the long run are responsible for his nomination and election.

### Critical of WPA

Senator Rush Holt, Democrat, of West Virginia, the youngest Senator, who has been extremely critical of the political activities of WPA in his state, has announced that he will introduce a resolution declaring it to be the sense of Congress that the time-honored precedent limiting a President to two terms should not be broken. Strictly speaking, that is none of Congress' business, but Congress made it its business in 1928, adopting a resolution designed to head off what was feared by many in his own party to be the ambition of President Coolidge for a renomination that year. Mr. Coolidge had announced in 1927 "I do not choose to run," but that was not enough for his enemies in his own party.

There seems little likelihood that such a resolution would be adopted even if Senator Holt should offer it. If he follows the advice of his own party leaders he will not do anything which would be so well calculated to destroy party harmony. Harmony is what both wings of the Democratic party are seeking now. How far they can achieve it is still in doubt.

There is a revival of talk about

the party restoring its ancient "two-thirds rule," which would put practical control of the party back into the hands of Southern Democrats, since no candidate could be nominated without a two-thirds vote of the convention.

### Couldn't Fool Him

"Johnny, Darling! Don't be afraid of that police dog. He won't hurt you."  
"Yes he will, Muvver. He's tasting me now."

A preacher at the close of his sermon discovered one of his deacons asleep. He said, "We will now have a few minutes of prayer. Deacon Brown, you lead!"  
"Lead?" said Deacon Brown, suddenly awakening. "I just dealt."

"Darling," cooed the little woman, "I've just read that a man up north exchanged his wife for a horse. You wouldn't exchange me for a horse, would you?"  
"Never," dutifully replied her husband, "but I would hate to be tempted with a good car."

### EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executors of the estate of Mrs. Ida Shores Cockerham, late of Surry County, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned within one year from date of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons owing said estate will please settle at once. This December 12, 1938.

ESTELLE COCKERHAM AND E. C. COCKERHAM, Executors of Ida Shores Cockerham, Deceased.  
W. M. Allen, Attorney. 1-19

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