

Washington, November 24.—While the air of Washington is full of predictions and rumors as to the policies of the second administration of President Roosevelt, a great deal of this kind of talk is in the nature of trial balloons. Suggestions are made that the President is considering this, that or the other line of action, but that does not by any means prove that the particular policy has been decided upon. The public reaction to such tentative suggestions is expected to be more influential now than it has been in the past. So far there is no program sufficiently crystallized to warrant the prediction that it will even be presented to Congress.

That does not mean that there are not numerous persons in high positions in the Administration who have pet plans which they will try to get Congressional sanction for; it is simply that the President is believed to have refrained from committing himself to any of these individual plans.

Berry and Labor

A figure who will probably be heard of more within the next few months is Major George L. Berry, who has the title of Co-ordinator for Industrial Co-operation. Major Berry is president of the International Printing Pressmen's Union, but in addition to that has large business interests and is regarded as a wealthy man.

Berry's pet idea is to bring business organizations into co-operation with the labor organizations, looking toward a voluntary set-up much along the lines of the NRA. Major Berry is a man of great force and an able public speaker, and probably can do as much in this field as anyone else who could be named. He is close in the President's confidence and enthusiastic over the project of bringing about better teamwork between employers and employees.

Washington is speculating over the probable consequences of a split in the ranks of organized labor as this may affect the Administrator's labor program. John Lewis, President of the Miners Union and leader of the revolt in the labor ranks, is regarded as having Presidential ambitions. A great many persons of influence, who would be glad to go along with his program for labor organization by industries instead of by crafts, hesitate to throw in with Lewis, it is said, because they don't like the idea of mixing up in what may turn out later to be a political movement.

Winant On Job Again

There is gratification in Washington that John G. Winant, former Republican Governor of New Hampshire, who was the first chairman of the Social Security Board, has been recalled to that post. Gov. Winant resigned last Summer in order to take the stump for President Roosevelt to reply to the attacks being made upon the Social Security Act.

Washington regards Governor Winant as a conscientious and able administrator and probably the best informed man in America on social security laws of other countries and the way they operate. It is regarded here as reasonably certain that some improvements in the Social Security Act will have to be made, and Governor Winant's leadership and counsel will be needed.

That staunch friend and supporter of President Roosevelt, Frank C. Walker, who was one of the first Roosevelt-for-President men away back in 1930, is being talked about here as the probable successor to Postmaster General Farley. The belief grows that Mr. Farley will resign on or before inauguration day, January 20, and Mr. Walker is regarded as the logical choice.

Walker has demonstrated his executive capacity and organizing ability in setting up and starting off numerous federal agencies, the administration of which was later turned over to others. The President has a high regard for Mr. Walker and if he is not made Postmaster General the probability is that he will be placed in some equally important post.

Eastman's R. R. Ideas

Joseph C. Eastman, Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, has been gradually swinging around to the belief that the only solution for the problem of the railroads is government ownership, although when he was first appointed railway co-ordinator, he

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