

## F. D. R.'S PLANS FACING BATTLE OVER APPROVAL

Rumblings of Discord Are  
Heard as Congress Pre-  
pares to Meet.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—A Congress that is less amenable to White House desires than in the past will determine, in the special session opening Nov. 15, whether President Roosevelt's four-fold program is to bring a further concentration of bureaucratic power in Washington.

If the legislation asked by the President in general terms during his recent "fireside chat" were to pass in the form in which it was put forward last session, the recent pyramiding of authority in the executive branch of the Government would be continued. But the rumblings of resistance are already audible.

The Wage-Hour Bill, for instance, was still sewed up in the unfriendly House Rules Committee when Congress adjourned in August, and that will be its status when the special session meets. As to farm legislation, Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith (D. S. C.) of the Senate Agriculture Committee has been openly cool to Secretary Wallace's plans.

The "Seven TV's" Bill for regional planning is certain to be contested by lawmakers usually found on the side of the utilities—who are legion. Any many aspects of the plan for reorganization of the Federal Government have for months been the target of denunciation in Congress.

### Who Will Draft Bills?

It may be that the President is newly willing to let Congress work out the details of this legislation. Congress, he said, "is an essential instrument of democratic government." But Mr. Roosevelt has in the past been far from complacent when congressional hatchetmen carved up bills he had sponsored.

The question of delegation of Congress' power to a new bureaucracy was raised vehemently last session in connection with the Wage-Hour Bill. As passed by the Senate, 66-28, this bill would give a five-man Presidential board great authority to vary wage-hour standards for geographical, industrial and seasonal reasons. There is a widespread demand that Congress itself stipulate the variations and exemptions, instead of delegating this power.

When the bill finally is forced from committee to the floor of the House, it will be fought not only by critics of bureaucracy but also by Southerners, fearful for their historic wage differential, and very likely by various partisans who wish to keep alive the Justice Black issue. Mr. Black, as a Senator, was a sponsor of the bill.

The Farm Bill, particularly if the Agriculture Department calls for compulsory crop control and the Wallace ever-normal-grain plan, is certain to be fought by those who in the past have combatted regulation from Washington of the rugged agriculturalist.

### States' Rights Debate Likely

The Regional Planning Bill would give President Roosevelt the right to appoint seven sectional authorities, spanning state lines, which would presumably supersede state governments in charting future flood-control, irrigation and water-power developments. Here an encroachment on states' rights and on individual initiative will be charged.

The plan for reorganization of the executive branch of the Government will face its greatest opposition because of its proposal to do away with the office of controller General (vacant for more than a year) and abolish the present praetorium of expenditures which many Federal officials have found irritating.

An earlier feature of this plan, under which the President would have been empowered to place independent commissions such as the TOC and SBC under Cabinet departments—which are subject to po-

## R. O. T. C. Cadets Promoted



Among 30 young cadets in the Manual Training High School R. O. T. C., who have been promoted, are (left to right) Reid McFall, first lieutenant; Roy Brandes, major; Robert Fechtman, captain, and Stenka Angelkovich, first lieutenant.

litical controls—has apparently been abandoned. In his "Fireside Chat" the President did not go into details on any of these plans. But neither did he give any hint that he has receded from his desires as previously indicated.

## CATHOLIC LAYMEN DEFEND REBEL AID

Al Smith and Others Reply  
To Protestant Note.

NEW YORK, Oct. 14 (U. P.).—A group of 175 Roman Catholic clergymen and laymen made public today a statement defending Catholic support of the Spanish rebels and attacking the Spanish Loyalist government.

The statement was a reply to a recent "open letter" of Protestant clergymen and laymen, which asked American Catholics to say whether they were in accord with the pastoral letter of Spanish bishops supporting Gen. Francisco Franco's revolt.

The Catholic group, which included former Governor Alfred E. Smith and Martin H. Connolly, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, charged that the Protestants' letter

"not only misrepresented the facts and the issues of Spain but it has also tended to create a species of religious war in the United States." The Catholics defended the Spanish bishops as having acted on behalf of the preservation of religious and civil liberties and of all the functions of democracy. They denied that the bishops had aligned themselves in support of nazism or fascism, and charged that if Gen. Franco were defeated the Loyalists would end democracy in Spain and establish a dictatorship like that of Soviet Russia.

They challenged American Protestants to say whether they were in accord with a regime "which carried on a ruthless persecution of the Christian religion since February, 1936," and termed the Loyalist Government a mixture of Socialists, Communists, Anarchists and Syndicalists.

The statement, made public by the Rev. John La Farge, associate editor of America, National Catholic weekly, denied charges of Rebel

atrocities, and declared that Communists had massacred virtually all priests and set fire to churches in the areas they controlled in an attempt to destroy the Catholic religion. It charged that 14,000 Catholics had been executed by the Loyalists.

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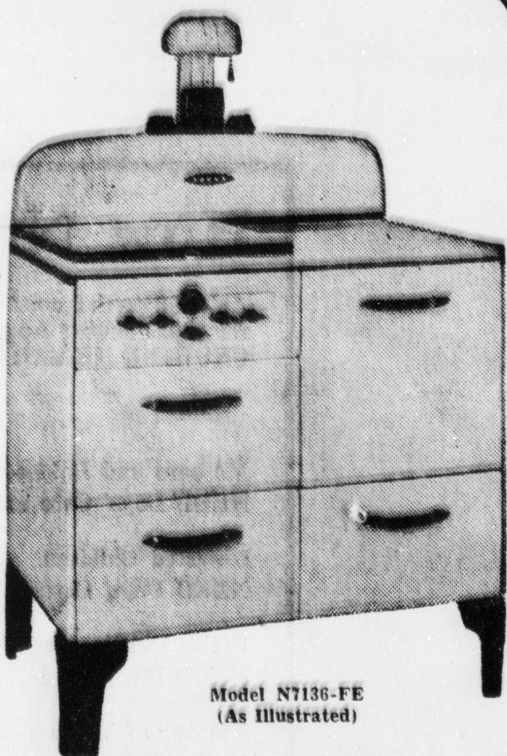
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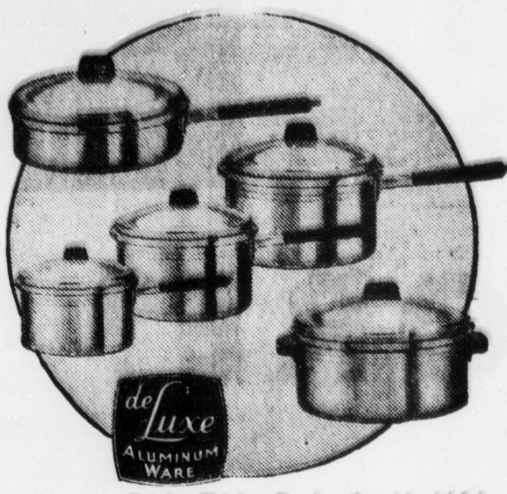
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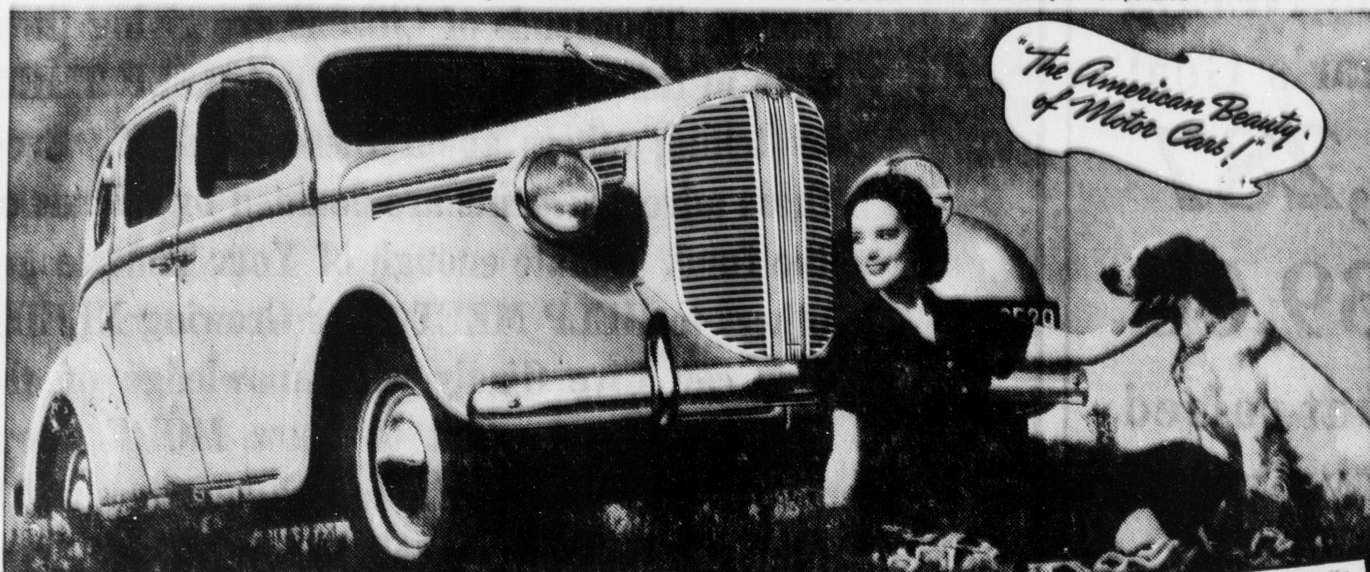
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