

July 5, 1946

Chairman Eccles

Appointment of the Joint

Kenneth B. Williams

Committee under the Full Employment Act.

The President of the Senate appointed July 2 the Senate members of the Joint Committee under the Full Employment Act. They are Senators O'Mahoney, Murdock, Tunnell, Myers, Democrats, and Senators Taft, LaFollette, Bridges, Republicans. Senator O'Mahoney was a co-sponsor of the bill and the other Democratic Senators have a liberal voting record. Senator Murdock participated in the Senate debate on the bill and both he and Senators Tunnell and Myers were opposed to restrictive amendments. They were joined by Senator LaFollette. The inclusion of Senator Taft, who was the leading critic of the bill is politically desirable because it places responsibility on him. The position of Senator Bridges is less clear and he was absent during the Senate debate.

The House members of the Joint Committee were appointed several weeks ago. They are Patman, Outland, Hart (N.J.), Huber (Ohio), Democrats, and Bender (Ohio), Judd (Minn.), Rich (Pa.) Republicans. Patman and Outland were the leading House members favoring a strong full employment bill. Of the Republicans, Rich is a strong opponent of the bill. Bender, however, is frequently liberal on domestic matters and Judd is inclined to be liberal on international issues.

On the whole, the choices for the Joint Committee are highly favorable, far more so than might have been expected. If strong appointments are made to the Economic Council, there is a real possibility that the Full Employment Act will become an effective force for the adoption of liberal Governmental policies.

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