P.Se to the NEWS

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cAHTER'S APPOINTMENTS

President-elect ,Timmy f:P.rter is spending a large share of his time this month digging through some 7,000 names of job applicants nnd other possible appointees to fill the 2,200 positions in his Etdministration that are not covered by Civil Service. The public impression is given that his appointment power extends only to that limited number out of the millions of Federal employees.

Democratic Presidents have never permitted Civil Service to impede their political objectives. Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson ruthlessly eliminated holdovers -- Civil Service to the contrary notwithstanding -- and used every possible tactic to put liberal Democrats **on** the payroll and keep them there. No holds were barred in their purge of nepublicans from the previous administration.

Franklin Roosevelt set the precedent in the Commerce Department in the early days of the New Deal. Under "emergency" powers, he fired several hundred holdovers from the Hoover Administration and put a freeze on all new hirings. Then he established the NRA in the same building -- with all new personnel.

The new employees were hired through the employment office of the Democratic National Committee -- not transferred from the Commerce :uepar tment or other Federal bureaus. Two years later when the NEA was declared unconstitutional, all the NRA employees were hired directly into the Commerce Department and blanketed into Civil 3ervice.

Vhen President Truman wanted to load his friends in the Pendergast machine onto the Federal payroll, he peremptorily closed some agency

(more)

offices and then reopened them in Kansas City. This shook many,. em.ployees off the Federal payroll, and opened up plenty of Federal jobs to reward the politi̓cal machine that elected him.

After John P. Kennedy became President, he abolished the entire Federal agency dispensing foreign ai!l, thus elimina·ting oll the F:inenhower 12(ilf'Ointees. I(ennedy then immediately cre,a"ted a rH'W .i.cu:rdg:n giveaway agency under a new name -- and hired a new staff of all Keu:nedy supporters.

l"reside:nt Keu:nedy was particularly adeJ»t 111 using the t.et1hniqlU:! called "reorganization" in order to bring his people into the F'ederal GovornmP11t st every e,chelon. rrliis is a perfectly leg;:d dr:nr:lce :fo\· outrna:neuvering Civil Service. Under a "reorganization" :plau, th, P:n: sident can abolish agencies, bureaus, divisio:tis and jobs -- and then creatH :new ones to take their place. He can make up u.i:ff e:ren.t titles for the same old jobs so they become ev ilablc for new personnel.

The technique of "reorganization" requires R few smart an skillful lowtn· -echelon employees to the neceBsary detail work. Prestdent Km:u:i.edy had such people in ample supply, and it appears that Governor Carter l.u:w, too. Presi(lenta Eisenhower, Nixon anil Ford never sr emer1 to h.nve **such persons** on their sta:ff s.

'J!hf'! lJ1H',rals have always used this :poU.ticeJ. tool w:itL. con::nwu1rnte skill in order to pack the bureaucracy with their fellow liberals. Presidents Eisenhower, Nixon and Ji'ord deluded themselves into thirddng that Civil bervice was a total bar to anyorg,a11izod effort to ehm1g;e the ideological bent of the bureaucrats.

Another teclmique of the Kennedy Administrati.on wcu, to c:ff e.et a total changeover of consultants. There are thousands of so-celled tr consul tan ts II who work varying amounts of time for various Feclttra1 agencies at per diem pay. One of Kennedy's first acts after h oming Presideut was to send all the consultants the1t1 on the payroll n cordial sof·t-soap letter thanking them profusely :for all their past ,9e.rvj_ces t and j_uforu:d.ng them that "the new 1\dministratlon was el:i..minating ti11 consultants aml would have no further need for their se.rviees. J:: couple of months later, Kennedy hired all 11ew consultants of his **own** ehoo d.ng.

One of' the ma,j or n;r:rnons why oonsf.irvatives find it ha.rd. to lu,ng ou to poliii1ical office after they are elected is that they do not understand that patronage is the name of the game. It does:n' t take , ()r.ystal brdl to predict thf:lt ,Jirmny Carter is not 1ik(3ly to mnke that mil3take.