

Soft-Pedal On 'Fair Deal' Measures Marks Truman's Bid For Unity In Congress

By G. MILTON KELLY

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressional leaders foresee almost sure defeat for nearly any out-and-out "fair deal" measures on which President Truman decides to push for action this year.

They weren't saying so publicly, but in private they saw little chance for enactment of Mr. Truman's pet domestic proposals. They gave the best chance to his request for federal training of doctors and nurses and government help to the schools.

Mr. Truman himself, in his message to Congress Monday, did not even mention his previous urgent

demands for repeal of the Taft-Hartley labor relations law, or his past endorsements of the so-called Brannan farm aid plan.

He did ask for "improvement of our labor laws" and "improvement of our agricultural laws to help obtain the kinds of farm products we need for the defense effort."

In equally mild language, Mr. Truman renewed appeals for civil rights laws against racial discrimination and for a compulsory health insurance program. Even loyal administration leaders described these as certain casualties in this Congress—as they were in the last one.

The President called for more liberal unemployment compensation and old age benefits than the 81st Congress provided—and again key Democrats conceded they had virtually no hope the requests would be approved.

Mr. Truman made no mention of the St. Lawrence seaway project or statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, administration measures that the last Congress left stranded.

Truman Soft-Pedals
A casualty of the bitter religious and states' rights controversy which split the 81st Congress, federal school assistance, was spotlighted again by Mr. Truman Monday.

He listed aid to the states for school improvements as one of his 10 main legislative objectives for this Congress—with the qualification that it may have to be delayed because of more immediate defense requirements.

Senator Brewster (R-Me), member of the senate Republican policy committee and frequent critic of the administration, told a reporter "Mr. Truman apparently was careful to choose a conciliatory tone this time. The tone is far different than the one he has used. Maybe it's a step toward unity; we'll see."

Senator Murray (D-Mont), chairman of the senate labor committee, said he sees little prospect Congress would approve any far reaching changes in the Taft-Hartley act not acceptable to the Republicans.

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HEADS SCIENTISTS—Dr. Kirby F. Mather of Harvard University, above, is the new president of the American Association for Advancement of Science. He was installed at the group's annual meeting in Cleveland, O.

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