

# MYSTERY OF "THE 2,200"

## Why They Lost Their Government Jobs

Dropping of 2,200 U. S. workers as "security risks" is stirring up a big fuss in Washington—as much politics as anything.

Rumors are out that spies are everywhere. Democrats say their party is being smeared. The 2,200 are a hot issue.

Actually, very few are fired as loyalty risks. A "security" case can involve anything from a blabbermouth to a traitor.

A figure of 2,200, dropped casually by President Eisenhower, is being built into a mystery of national importance, involving political fortunes in the November elections—and other things.

Mr. Eisenhower let out the information that 2,200 persons had been separated from the Government pay roll as security risks during his first year in office.

There was an immediate uproar. Questions leaped up on every side. Were all of these 2,200 spies? Did Mr. Eisenhower mean to say that there were 2,200 disloyal Government workers? Was the President trying to tell the country that there were 2,200 Communists on the pay roll when the Democrats left office?

**Demands were made** for a breakdown of the 2,200 figure. Charges and protests, denunciations and denials swept the country.

Actually, the struggle is one involving the November congressional elections. It reaches out for the votes of the 2.3 million Government workers and their families, distributed across the country. If the Democrats can emerge as the friends of the Government worker, with the Republicans as his persecutors, the issue might be decisive. There could, conceivably, be enough votes to turn an election. And, again, it might prove a dud.

Democrats, scanning the horizon for issues, believe this one is worth trying on for size. Some politicians figure that each Government worker ought to be able to swing as many as four votes. If these political strategists can put over the idea that Government workers are being branded as disloyal, the issue

## "SECURITY RISKS": What They Are, and How Many

### President Eisenhower Defines A "Security Risk" As:

1. A person unreliable or untrustworthy because of behavior, misrepresentations, personal habits, mental health or outside pressure.
2. One who commits sabotage, espionage, treason or sedition.
3. Anyone who associates with spies, foreign agents or Communists.
4. A person who advocates overthrow of the Government by force or unconstitutional means.
5. One who belongs to Communist, fascist or subversive organizations.
6. A person who gives to another any security information in violation of regulations.
7. One who serves the interest of a foreign government.
8. One who declines to testify before a congressional committee, claiming protection of the Fifth Amendment.

### On One or More of the Above Grounds:

2,200 out of 2.3 million Government workers were separated from their jobs in 1953.

Of 737 who have been identified —

300 lost jobs in State Department. Number of disloyal not disclosed.

166 dropped by Post Office Department. No official figures on disloyalty.

132 discharged by Commerce Department with 23 cases involving subversion or disloyalty; 36, morals; 73, other security grounds.

130 let out by Treasury; 4 termed disloyal.

8 separated by the Justice Department; 1 a former Communist.

1 Communist found in Agriculture Department; "a number" fired on other security grounds.

