

SHIELD OF CALM  
FRENCH'S STORM  
THE USE

Attempt to Conciliate Wrathful  
Insurgents Is Made by the  
Regulars

Norris Scores Cannon for Biting  
Speech and Calls Him Do-  
ting Old Man

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would hold no meeting before the republican caucus.

The democrats, through Minority Leader Champ Clark, acting for their caucus chairman, Representative Clayton of Alabama, who is absent, called their caucus for Wednesday night.

Three of their selections are sure to be Champ Clark of Missouri, Fitzgerald of New York and Underwood of Alabama.

Nothing but unanimity of sentiment is expected in the democratic meeting.

Some of the committee began work again today by tomorrow it was expected the grind of legislation, including measures of President Taft, again will be in full swing.

Prior to the convening of the house at noon today there was general inquiry by all members, regardless of party or faction, to ascertain the exact situation. On the surface it seemed there was to be no immediate trouble.

The calendar of the house for Monday included consideration of many minor measures under the rule of unanimous consent. This fact alone, presenting a total absence of any issue upon which any party or section of the house might have a quarrel, today was likely to be one of calmness.

There was apparently no disposition by anybody to renew hostilities.

Regulars Ready for Business

The regular republicans of the house were ready to go ahead with business. Outside of what was before the house itself the pressing matter of importance with them was the caucus to be called on the subject of the new rules committee.

The republican caucus said on this subject: "I have just arrived at my office, and have as yet conferred with no one about it."

It seemed settled also that the insurgents would enter the republican caucus for the selection of six members of the majority party of the new rules committee.

Insurgents are not instituting upon themselves anything which they would not be averse to accepting.

Representative Norris, author of the resolution which provides for the old rules committee, said today: "We do not insist on representation. All we want is a committee of fair men. I have no doubt the insurgents will accept the resolution unless something is done by the regulars to cause trouble. It all depends upon the attitude of the other fellows. If they want to accept the opportunity they now have to go ahead everything will be right. What will happen can not be foretold."

Fight for Principle

"I voted against the Burleson resolution to declare the speaker's chair vacant," continued Norris, "because it was a fight for principle and not one of personalities. I did not wish to see the house precipitated into chaos and disorder from which it probably would not emerge for weeks, to the detriment of important pending legislation."

"Speaker Cannon's speech before the Illinois Republican association Saturday night, in which he called the Burleson resolution a lot of cowardly meanness, was but the vapors of an old man's mind. It represented the statements of a senile man who was filled with venom and vengeance because of a crushing defeat which he had suffered as a result of his tyranny."

"Our victory already had been won when we deprived the speaker of his most powerful weapon, the appointment of the rules committee. I had only a moment to think it over and I decided it was better to place party welfare above personal revenge."

"I voted for Cannon for speaker at the beginning of the present congress not because I was a friend of his. He had insulted and humiliated me and he had taken me from all important committees. We had not spoken for two years. I voted for him because of these facts because I did not want him to have opportunity in future to discriminate against me and declare that he did so because I was a 'bolter'."

"I still believe in the Saturday when I voted to retain Cannon in the chair. Events, I believe, will justify me."

It was suggested to Norris that if the republican caucus should name six members dominated by Speaker Cannon the new rules committee scarcely would differ from the old one, and the "insurgent" victory on the rules question would be practically vitiated.

"History may show so much in the present congress," answered Norris, "but in the years to come it will be in evidence. We have taken the speaker from himself, the rules committee and have taken the naming of the other members out of his hands. The members of that committee hereafter will not be under the slightest obligation to the speaker, but will be responsible to the house alone for their appointment."

"Also the house can change the rules committee if it does not obey the wishes of the house."

Denounces Speaker's Attitude

Norris vigorously denounced the attitude assumed by the speaker toward the "insurgents" since the vote Saturday.

"It all depends upon how the republican majority conducts itself toward the 'insurgents' in the future, as to what our own actions will be," he continued. "When the speaker denounces us as 'cowards' he is but widening the split in the party and making our insurgency more intense. We are not cowards, but were honest, conscientious men when we voted last Saturday not to de-throne the republican speaker of the house."

Norris said there was no meeting of the insurgents in sight, although they were in a position to get together at a moment's notice.

The democratic position apparently was one of entire satisfaction with the situation. The democrats contemplated no violent hostilities, for the present at least.

"We are in the best position we have been in for 20 years," said Minority Leader Champ Clark. "I looked for no trouble today, nor perhaps tomorrow, but no one can foretell just what will come of the effort to select a new rules committee. There is no trouble on this side of the house, but you can't tell about it over yonder."

Numerous conferences are in progress on all sides regarding the situation. Several of the important committees began sessions again today. The Taft legislative program was put in

motion once more, after three days of waiting on the result of the fight, and the consideration of the administration railroad bill was before the committee having it in charge.

Believes Insurgents Weak

Representative Sims of Tennessee is among the democrats who denounced the action of the insurgents in not joining hands with the democracy in the vote on the Burleson resolution to de-legate the speakership vacant and directing the immediate selection of a new incumbent of that office.

"We ought to have a new speaker today," said Sims. "We would have a new speaker if the insurgents had shown a yellow streak when the critical time arrived. They proved they were still under the old czar's thumb."

The galleries were almost filled when the house convened today, the crowd evincing expectation of developments in the storm of last week.

Representative Murdock of Kansas in a group near the speaker's rostrum was talking over the situation. Representative Foster of Vermont, who voted with the regulars, but was classed in the recent democratic speech by Representative Kitchin of North Carolina as a "democratic insurgent," a title which Foster immediately repudiated, although asserting his independence, joined the group.

Sherley of Kentucky, the democrat who offered his resolution to depose Cannon and elect a new speaker, was discussed as a possible democratic member of the rules committee.

Results Are Discussed

Sherley and Smith of Iowa, a member of the old rules committee, and others were in a group talking over the result of the battle. Sherley contended that if the democrats had taken the same attitude he did in trying to fight the resolution, the regular republicans would not be claiming a partial victory for the speaker.

Representative Hayes of California, who voted against the Burleson resolution, declared he had voted for what seemed best for the party.

"When Cannon had resigned instead of making the bid he did for sympathy," he said, "we would have elected another speaker before the end of the week and the republican party would not have been obliged to carry the burden of Cannonism through the coming campaign. It is ridiculous for Cannon or any one else to say chaos or anarchy would have reigned if the speaker had resigned."

"The regulars and the 'insurgents' would have had no difficulty in getting together in choosing his successor."

Another insurgent who voted with the regulars, declared that he would not enter a republican caucus unless he was assured that the men to be selected would be satisfactory to the insurgents.

"I fought for a principle last week," said Hayes, "and I refuse to throw away the fruits of the victory we won. They would gain anything if we allowed the regulars to name the committee and put on men who would continue to act as Cannon has on that committee in the past? It is ridiculous."

"I shall have to know just who the men are that are going to be named before I go into the caucus. We don't want to name insurgents, but we demand good men."

Practically all of the insurgents were

agreed that Representatives Dalzell and Smith would be allowed to retain their places on the rules committee. Around the four which the republican caucus will choose is evidently where the fight will center.

The insurgents announced that they would see President Taft about it as soon as he arrived in Washington.

Changes Are Planned

A complete revolution in the system of business in the house—a change that proposes transfer of the control of the legislative business to the committee on the floor—was announced as the result of Cannon's denunciation of the Illinois association Saturday night. Already a proposed measure has been drawn by a prominent insurgent and may be introduced at any moment.

The resolution would create a committee on committees, to consist of 15 members, nine of them to be republicans and six democrats, all to be elected by the house.

This committee would be vested with the duty of selecting committees instead of leaving that power in the speaker's hands. The membership would be distributed geographically, so that the interests of every section would be protected. The resolution proposes even greater power for that committee—jurisdiction of conference reports and of appropriation bills—thus enabling the 15 members representing the members of both parties to control the house's business.

It is proposed to give the general committee power to take business out of the regular standing committees in the event of dissatisfaction with the way business is being administered in the regular committees. There is no specification as to insurgent representation on that committee, the insurgents not being insistent or apprehensive on that score.

Insurgents Are Praised

Many of the insurgents are receiving telegrams from not only their constituents but from outside districts, expressing opinions on their course, mostly commendatory, the insurgents say.

Victor Murdock of Kansas, who stood for the retention of Cannon on the committee and the elimination of the speaker as a member of the rules committee and as speaker of the house, has been flooded with telegrams. He says all of them commended his action.

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