

SENATE MORE LIBERAL IN ITS RULES

"Senatorial Courtesy" Responsible for Senate's Ascendancy Over the House—President of Senate Has Few Powers.

By Frederic J. Haskin.

Washington, Dec. 6.—It was George Washington who said that the senate is the saucer in which the tea of the house is brewed. Not only is that body fitted for such a purpose by the character given it by the fathers, but by the nature of its own rules of procedure as well. With its members elected for a term three times as long as that of a representative, and limited to two from each state, the constitution intended it to be a body in which thought and deliberation would be assured. While there has been a tendency toward concentrated one-man power in the house, in the senate any one of the entire membership may have an opportunity freely to discuss and propose legislation.

"Everybody Willing" Methods.

There are many differences in the procedure of the senate and the house. Not only is it possible for the house to cut off debate on any subject at any time, by ordering the previous question, but it can abate the right to offer amendments, thus giving the organization measure a clear track from the committee to the senate. In the senate the right to offer amendments cannot be denied to no senator, and debate cannot be ended until every senator has been heard. It is true that these rules theoretically do give to the individual senator a vast power, and they theoretically justify the assertion of Speaker Cannon that the senate legislates by an "everybody willing" method, but as a matter of fact it is an unwritten law that they are to be taken advantage of only upon extraordinary occasions.

How faithfully this unwritten law has been observed is shown by the fact that however angry the majority may become and however much it smartens under such restraint, after it is all over there is no effort to change the rules which permit filibustering. The very men who complain most when their projects are held up by a filibuster are the first to resort to it and to defend it when they are in the minority.

Can't Shut Off Debate.

Many efforts have been made to cut off the right of unlimited debate in the senate. Henry Clay advocated the adoption of the previous question rule when the sub-treasury bill of 1811 was pending, and he made a strenuous fight for that parliamentary principle. But the senate would have none of it. Again in 1850 Steven A. Douglas captained the forces who would have changed the most characteristic rule of the senate. Again in 1870 there was a fight to reverse the principle that had then obtained for nearly a century. Hannibal Hamlin and Henry A. Wheeler were the leaders of the movement. Many times since then there have been efforts of greater or less proportions to make the senate minority amenable to the previous question gag, and even Senator Allison favored the adoption of a mild closure rule.

But even if the majority did decide to change this great rule of senate procedure it would be difficult to accom-

plish the purpose, for there would be such a determined minority against it that they could stretch the fight out so long that even a large majority might not be able to write a closure rule into the organic law of the senate. The senate would have the right of unlimited debate on the motion to adopt a closure rule.

Quorum in the Senate.

The rules of the senate differ in many essentials from those of the house, and in other ways than with respect to unlimited debate. The practice of counting a quorum in the senate differs from that in the house. In the senate a quorum is counted as of those present and voting, when a vote is taken. There may be a dozen senators present who are paired on a measure and who do not, therefore, vote on the pending question. Yet their votes may be essential to make a quorum for passing the pending motion. Thus is presented the anomaly of a quorum present for the consideration of a bill but not for its passage. The men present and not voting help make a quorum for debate but not for voting.

The senate differs from the house in the character of its presiding officer, except when he is a president pro tempore selected because of the death of the vice-president or his promotion to the presidency. The house elects its presiding officer and the nation elects that of the senate. The presiding officer of the senate is that and nothing more. He cannot name the standing committee of the senate, the choice of recognition does not lie in him, and he has practically no hand in directing the business of the senate. The speaker of the house exercises all these powers.

Always Ready for Business.

The senate is a continuing body. It never goes out of existence. There are always more than a majority sworn in and ready to do business. Only a third of the members retire at a time. The house must adopt its rules at the beginning of every congress; those of the senate continue during the pleasure of that body. The house must originate all revenue measures, though the senate may amend any revenue measure to the extent of striking out every word after "He it enacted, etc." and substituting its own bill. This is a privilege which the house has often denied, but the senate has insisted upon it with complete success.

It is frequently said that the house has the right of originating all appropriation bills, and that the senate may only amend them as it does the revenue bills. This supposition is encouraged by the procedure that has come into use through custom and not through law. For years it has been the custom for the big supply bills, making the appropriations for the maintenance of the government, to be originated in the house, through the committee on appropriations, but the constitution gives the two branches equal jurisdiction over appropriations.

Stickler for Traditions.

The senate is a great stickler for traditions, as is shown by its maintenance of snuff boxes to be used, if at all, only by the ghosts of another century, but it has progressed much in the way of rules and in the estimation of the country. The house was regarded as the body of more dignity in the early days of the republic. In 1811 Henry Clay refused to be a candidate for reelection to the senate, preferring to go to the house. Otis resigned a seat in the senate to become mayor of Boston, and De Witt Clinton gave up his senatorial career in order to serve as mayor of New York city.

At first the senate legislated behind closed doors. Washington, in a letter to David Stuart said he thought this course was pursued in order to avoid speaking to the galleries, a practice which he observed was much too common in the house. At the second session of the first congress there were only two votes cast in favor of opening the doors of the senate when legislative session. The doors were not opened to the public until the second session of the third congress. The senate was very strict about the attendance of members while it was sitting, and if a senator was absent without excuse for more than 15 minutes, his name was posted up on a slip of paper and left there until he chose to explain his absence and to ask the senate to take it down.

Liberal to Minority.

The procedure of the senate in legislative matters is much more liberal to

SOUTHERN MEN MEET TO BOOST

500 Delegates From Southern States Attend Commercial Congress.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The second Southern Commercial congress, composed of representatives of all of the states of the south, was opened this morning in the large assembly room of the New Willard hotel. The congress, which will continue over tomorrow, has for its specific object a discussion of colonization, agriculture, manufacturing, good roads and other subjects relating to the development of the resources and industries of the south, and with this purpose in view, nearly 500 delegates, the majority of them appointed by the governors of the southern states, were present when the opening exercises began.

President Taft was represented in the person of Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel, who called the delegates to order and delivered an address of welcome. Rev. U. C. B. Pierce delivered an invocation, after which John M. Barker, president of the congress, declared the assembly ready for business. The chief address of the initial session was made by Thomas L. Field of London, who spoke on "The Opportunity for Southern Propaganda in the British Isles and Europe."

F. A. Holtmann of Houston, Texas, occupied the chair at the afternoon session. John Barrett, director of the International Bureau of American Republics, told of the opportunity for southern trade in the South American republics, and General Julian S. Carr of Durham, N. C., spoke on the subject of manufacturing opportunities in the south.

The minority than that of the house. While diverse ways and means are contrived by a resourceful leader like Senator Aldrich to keep his hand on the throttle and his eye upon the rail, while the minority is rendered innocuous in opposition; the right to amend is never cut off, and the minority is given the power to manufacture all the political capital its ability and acumen will permit. That is why the great political issues of the recent past have been made up in the senate. There the majority cannot escape going on record on any proposition upon which the minority is determined that it shall be recorded.

"Senatorial Courtesy" Wins.

It is provided by the senate rules that a senator may be required to vote on a pending measure, and several times in the history of that body motions have been made to compel senators to cast their votes. But in every instance such an effort has failed, it being held that the senate has no power to compel a senator to vote if he wills not to do so. The house cannot compel a member present to vote either, but by forcing him to help constitute a quorum although he abstains from voting, it has largely escaped the predicament in which the senate has sometimes found itself.

Most writers who have studied the subject of the relative influence and importance of the senate and the house in the affairs of the government agree that the secret of the ascendancy of the senate over the house is due more to the liberality of the rules under which it operates than to advantages conferred upon it by the constitution. "Senatorial courtesy" is responsible for many evils, no doubt, but it is a practice founded upon the spirit of fair play which is the cardinal principle of Anglo-Saxon peoples.

Tomorrow—The American congress.

THINGS DOING IN CONVENTION CIRCLES

New York, Dec. 6.—Many of the large cities of the country have sent delegates to the American Civic Alliance congress, which began here today. The object of the meeting is to devise a means for coordinating civic activities throughout the country and also to discuss methods for the study and solution of political problems.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 6.—The annual convention of the Journeymen Painters and Decorators' International Union assembled in Cincinnati today with an attendance of delegates from many cities of the United States and Canada.

San Angelo, Texas, Dec. 6.—A large attendance marked the opening of the West Texas Development congress here today. A large number of prominent speakers are scheduled for the several days that the gathering will remain in session.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 6.—The annual convention of the National Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers began a four days' session in this city today.

Amherst, N. H., Dec. 6.—The winter livestock show was formally opened here today by the governor general.

NATIONAL CORN SHOW OPENS AT OMAHA

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 6.—The third annual National Corn show opened in this city today, to continue through the week. The exhibition is in many respects the largest and most notable affair of its kind ever held in America. More than 30 states are represented. While corn and its products form the principal part of the exhibition, there are also elaborate displays of oats, wheat, barley, rye and other cereals.

A total of \$50,000 is offered in prizes for the exhibition. Among the special prizes is an offer of \$2500 in gold, which will be given by James J. Hill, the railroad magnate, for the best display of small grains and grasses. The contestants for the Hill prizes are limited to the grain growers of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, Idaho and Washington. Professors of several of the leading state agricultural colleges are to act as judges of the contest.

Hartley Will Contest.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 6.—The contest to test the validity of the will of Mrs. Frances C. W. Hartley, widow of Marcellus Hartley, the West Orange millionaire, came up for hearing before Judge Davis today. The contest was brought by Mrs. Helen H. Jenkins, a daughter of the testatrix, who was bequeathed only a diningroom table, although the estate is valued at considerably over \$1,000,000.

Oklahoma's 2 Cent Fare Cases. St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 6.—When the cases brought by various railroads to test the validity of the Oklahoma 2 cent passenger fare law are called for trial in the United States circuit court here tomorrow it is probable a postponement will be asked by counsel for the state of Oklahoma to give them more time for preparation.

Raincoats and Overcoats



We have received by express this week a lot of NEW STYLES different in FABRIC and PATTERNS from those sold earlier in the season. If you want the LATEST and BEST, it will be to your interest to come to this store of GOOD VALUES, where MODEST PRICES always prevail.

Boys and Girls

No one yet has a large lead in the contest for those FIVE AUTOMOBILES which we are going to GIVE AWAY. It is worth while striving for. It costs you nothing save a little energy and perseverance, and you might own an AUTO of your own, with a capacity of ten miles an hour, if you will only try. BEGIN TODAY.

BEN SELLING LEADING CLOTHIER

TRY BLACK HAND MEN AT TOLEDO

Government Weaves Strong Case Against "Society of the Banana."

Toledo, Ohio, Dec. 6.—The term of the federal court which convenes in this city tomorrow will be made notable by the trial of a dozen or more alleged members of the notorious band of black hand assassins, known as the Society of the Banana, who are declared to have been extorting large sums of money from terrified victims in towns and cities of Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Indiana and New York for at least two years past. The postal inspectors who have been gathering evidence in the cases for many months say they have no doubt of securing the conviction of every Italian under arrest.

John Amicon, a wealthy produce dealer of Columbus, will be the principal witness for the government, the case having been woven around threatening black hand letters addressed to him. Last January Amicon and his brother, who is a member of his firm, found a dynamite bomb on their porch, with the following letter wrapped around it:

Want \$5000 From Each. "Mr. John and Charlie: We wish \$10,000, \$5000 from each. Therefore search for friends to bring this sum to Pittsburgh at once, if you value your life. This which you found is a sample, but if you go to the police you are lost. Therefore consult with the other members of the family before you act for the law cannot watch you the year around. Therefore do not confide in any one, but think of your wives and children. THE EXTORTIONATION."

Subsequent to the receipt of the bomb John Amicon received more letters with demands and threats, which were mailed at Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. Instead of disposing of his business and fleeing the country, as other victims of the black hand gang are known to have done, Amicon promptly communicated with the Italian ambassador. The latter placed the matter in the hands of the United States postal inspectors.

who promptly went to work on the case.

Detectives Learn Much.

It was learned by the inspectors that similar threats had been made against wealthy Italian merchants in Dayton, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and other cities. They learned also that after the receipt of each letter by Amicon, Salvatore Ventoia of Columbus and Salvatore and Antonio Lima of Marion would appear at Amicon's place of business and remain in the vicinity several days, possibly to learn if Amicon had selected the two friends to take the \$10,000 demanded to Pittsburgh.

As a result of this information, by clever detective work the inspectors ascertained that Lima, with his friends, had organized a society known as the "Society of the Banana," with branches in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Marion, and with affiliations among notorious Italians in Chicago, Buffalo and other cities.

Find Evidence.

Early last June a general conference of the postal inspectors was held, and skilled men went to Columbus, Marion, Bellefontaine, Cleveland and Denison, and with search warrants swooped down upon the unsuspecting conspirators, taking possession of all books and papers found on their premises, together with a great mass of correspondence.

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Woman's Power Over Man

Women's most glorious endowment is the power to awaken and hold the pure and honest love of a worthy man. When she loses it and still loves on, no one in the wide world can know the heart agony she endures. The woman who suffers from weakness and derangement of her special womanly organism soon loses the power to sway the heart of a man. Her general health suffers and she loses her good looks, her attractiveness, her amiability and her power and prestige as a woman. Dr. R.V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N.Y., with the assistance of his staff of able physicians, has prescribed for and cured many thousands of women. He has devised a successful remedy for women's ailments. It is known as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is a positive specific for the weaknesses and disorders peculiar to women. It purifies, regulates, strengthens and heals. Medicine dealers sell it. No honest dealer will advise you to accept a substitute in order to make a little larger profit.

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