

### UNITED NEWS GIVES POLITICAL REVIEW

#### President Coolidge and Congress Are Not Getting Along

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER  
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—As the year closes Congress is once more showing its antagonism toward the White House. This comes after a period of docility such as has seldom been seen on Capitol Hill and really marks a return to normalcy rather than anything novel. Congress and the president are always potentially hostile when they are of the same political complexion.

Coolidge has been more fortunate than most presidents in having Congress with him. But his happy days seem about at an end. Congress is always alert to detect the first sign of weakening on the part of the man in the White House. And like the trainer in the lion cage, once he shows the slightest quaver of weakness, once he loses command of the situation even for an instant, he is apt to have the whole pack turn on him.

This critical moment seems imminent. It does not necessarily foreshadow the decline of Coolidge. He may come out master. It does foreshadow a struggle for mastery more ferocious than anything Coolidge has ever experienced.

**Grows Bolder**  
A series of recent incidents have indicated to many in Congress that the president is relaxing in his leadership and each day the house and senate grow bolder. It started when Coolidge went to Kansas City and delivered his Armistice Day address, washing his hands of the world court which he had fought for since he took over the presidency upon the death of Harding. That was a distinct victory for the senate ir-reconcilables.

Then opposition began to show to his plan for a flat tax reduction. House leaders felt their way a while and then grew bold enough to reject the president's proposal entirely. The president did not fight back. Instead he sent a message to Congress saying that while he would like to see

the tax reduction it would be all right if Congress insisted upon applying the treasury surplus to debt reduction.  
Next Coolidge selected one of his political workers in North Dakota for the job of U. S. marshal. The two insurgent senators from that state roared their disapproval. Senate leaders had been trying to entice them back into the party organization to hold the Republican majority together. They urged the president to recede and name someone favorable to the insurgents. He agreed to do this much to the surprise of the protesting senators who were expecting to fight about it.

Then came the fight over the cruisers for the navy. The president had opposed appropriations for even the three cruisers already authorized. The house naval affairs committee, encouraged into open belligerence by the failure of Coolidge to stand up in the tax, patronage and world court fights, openly defied the president. They went to the White House and told him they were going ahead regardless. The president offered to approve authorization for ten new cruisers to be built at some future time. The house committee, still dissatisfied, is now ready not only to authorize these cruisers but to appropriate the money to start on them at once.

**Another Fight**  
Now comes another fight developing in the same way. Coolidge nominated for the interstate commerce commission Cyrus E. Woods of Pennsylvania, a political ally of the McNamara manager

for Senator Epper. In his recent unsuccessful senatorial fight, and some years ago attorney for the McNamara coal interests. The senate interstate commerce committee has decided to hold open hearings on Woods' fitness. He is known to replace a Harding appointee, Frederick I. Cox of New Jersey, a regular republican whom—being as anyone here has indicated, Senators feel that Coolidge, in nominating Woods, has trucked to Senator Reed of Pennsylvania. For when the last interstate commerce commission appointment was made Reed announced, on the senate floor and also called at the White House presumably to support the same information, that he would hereafter oppose all nominations to the commission until Pennsylvania was given representation. If Coolidge is going to be thus sandbagged into giving a nomination to any particular state, say some senators, then they are going to play the same game.

Apparently this has started because the two Tennessee senators are fighting Woods claiming that their state is as deserving of representation on the commission as Pennsylvania. The quarrel has endless possibilities if it is going

to be pursued on this basis. The only way Coolidge can stop it will be to get his back up and make his appointment regardless of senate threats.  
This is the situation as the new year opens. Whether Coolidge will decide that the time has come for a show down is yet unclear. He may pick this as the time to fight or he may yield again and thus invite further defiance from Congress. By yielding now Coolidge will only postpone the evil day, when he must fight or be putty in the hands of Congress.

**In Background**  
In the background is the matter of Coolidge's renomination. Washington believes he will be a candidate for another term. This is only a belief based on general circumstances and does not come even by the remotest hint from Coolidge. He has not yet indicated, so far as is known what his plans are. Perhaps they are uncertain even to him. Political conditions will in the spring of 1923, determine his course. If his prestige still is high, if he has the political situation well in hand, he probably will try again. It seems inconceivable at this time that any rival republican can take the nomination away from

him. He has all southern democratic votes. He has New England and most of the western states power of appointing them to lead London is strong in the middle (Please turn to Page 5)

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### RESOURCES

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Notes receivable	765,226.00
Real Estate	7,153.50
Interest receivable	4,934.46
Furniture	1,200.00
Accounts	95.04
Taxes	991.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$803,051.85</b>

### LIABILITIES

Stock of shares	\$729,189.94
Surplus	20,469.34
Notes payable	14,900.00
Loans incomplete	18,542.76
Accounts	125.45
Undivided profits	29,823.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$803,051.85</b>

### INCREASE IN ASSETS

Past Six Months	\$ 28,932.67
Past Year	201,429.79
Past Two Years	368,779.98
Past Three Years	516,114.89

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