

It May Not Be Coalition But It's Mighty Like It

Conservative Elements Among Both Democrats and Republicans are Disposed to Stand Together Against the Radicals

By DAVID LAWRENCE

Washington, Dec. 14.—A coalition of conservative elements in the Senate and House is developing, which is for the moment blocking the radicals.

The refusal of the Democratic caucus to adopt a resolution proposed by its own radicals providing for a fusion with the insurgent Republicans in an attempt to overthrow the House Republican organization and re-arrange the places on the slate of committees is an outcropping of the same conservatism which on the Senate side led Senator Bruce of Maryland, Democrat, to abandon party lines and vote for Senator Cummins of Iowa, Republican, for the chairmanship of the Interstate Commerce Committee instead of Senator La Follette, Republican, or Senator Smith of South Carolina, Democrat.

Not that Mr. Smith is a radical but the insurgent Republicans had thrown their support to him to prevent Mr. Cummins' election and Senator Bruce made up his mind that a victory for Mr. Smith under the circumstances was a triumph for the radical elements.

Back of the fight in the Senate is an anticipated struggle on the famous section "15 A" of the Transportation Act which Mr. Cummins sponsored and which the radicals wish to see repealed.

The railroads of the United States want that section of the law retained as do many of the investors who hold railroad securities. The clause fixes the limit of railroad earnings annually and makes it necessary for the Interstate Commerce Commission in making freight rates to take into account this legal limit of earnings. The western radicals are insisting that this section of the Transportation Act is blocking a reduction in freight rates. Mr. Bruce comes from Maryland where prominent constituents have been leading the fight for the retention of the earning clause of the Transportation Act. It isn't a matter of persons in the Senate but a matter of principle and in this case party lines tend to disappear.

Over in the House the Democrats of the conservative group have taken a position somewhat analogous to Mr. Bruce in that they refuse to become involved in a combat of personalities but wish to vote on principle. The resolution proposed by the radical Democrats would have meant, if adopted, a working arrangement with insurgent Republicans so that the slate of committee places would have been upset. To win Democratic support, the insurgent Republicans promised to allot an equal number of places to the Democrats and Republicans on important committees. The argument advanced by the insurgent Democrats was that the proposition should be accepted in order to insure liberalization of the rules, the same thing for which the insurgent Republicans fought when they delayed the election of Representative Gillett to the speakership last week.

But the conservative leaders in the Democratic caucus won out by stating that the rules were going to be liberalized anyhow and that the Republican leaders had pledged themselves to consider revision of the rules in thirty days. There would be ample opportunity, said men like Representative Garner of Texas, to consider changes in the rules and the Democrats could vote then as they pleased, those who believed in liberalization joining with those of the Republican party who believed likewise.

But in the meantime to put the Democratic party in the position of obstructing progress by insisting on committee places for individuals through a trade with the insurgents of the other party was held to be unwise. Hence the Democrats were pledged to vote for the plan of committee organization announced last week, which is based on the ratio of Republicans and Democrats elected to the House. The willingness of Democrats to accept the procedure even when sponsored by the Republicans is in conformity with precedent and insures Republican support some day if the Demo-

POOR OLD HORSE IS ABOUT DONE FOR

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 14.—The horse, the old-fashioned animal that has been the mainstay of the farmer and the laborer, is being replaced by the motor power, from the tractor that made them beasts of burden, were increasing rather than diminishing in number. But now comes Professor E. L. Furlong, curator of the vertebrate collection at the University of California, with the prediction that the horse will be virtually extinct on the American continent in another century.

Professor Furlong is so confident of his supposition that he has started for posterity a collection of all modern specimens of the equine family. His collection will rest in the museum of the University of California.

Reverend the outstanding opinion of modern conservationists is the opinion of Professor Furlong. "All the tractor and the automobile are taking the place of the horse in rural life. As the usefulness of the horse passes, so will the necessity for his existence. Before many years the use of a horse for the purposes with which he has been identified since time immemorial will be a curiosity. In another hundred years you may find horses in zoos. I am sure you will not find them anywhere else."

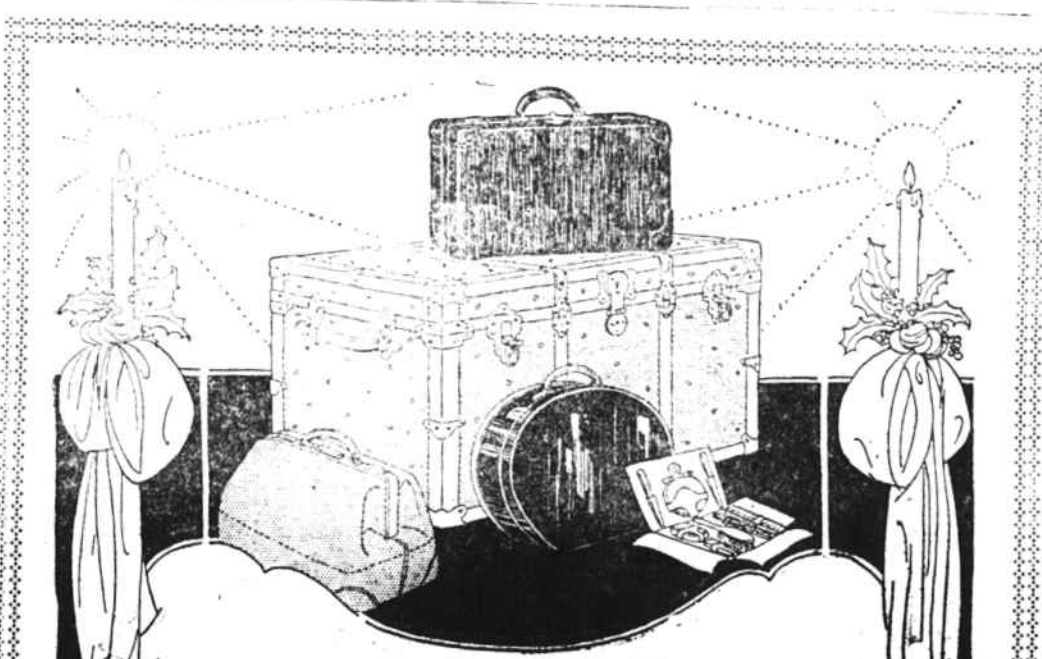
BRITISH LIKE BREAKFAST FOOD

London, Dec. 14.—England is to be introduced to breakfast foods in various form of wheat. A company has been formed to make the breakfast foods from wheat grown in Eng-

land. At present such breakfast cereals from the United States are almost entirely imported. The new factory will produce a wide variety of breakfast foods from wheat grown in England.

When the debate on rules comes up, the fight for committee places will be over, the House will have been completely organized and the liberalization of the rules will be considered on its merits. Thus the Democrats are aiding their Republican brethren in steering an even keel in a sea of radicalism.

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