

PARTIES IN HOUSE NOMINATE LEADERS.

For Third Time Speaker Cannon is Chosen by Republicans—Reviews Work of Last Congress—Not Desirable to Foster a Controlling Power—Democrats Select John Sharp Williams—Urged Party to Stand Firmly Together in Support of Their Principles.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois was tonight nominated by the Republican members of the house of representatives for his third term as speaker, and he will be re-elected to that office upon the convening of the house at 12 o'clock Monday.

Other officers chosen were: Alexander McDowell, Pennsylvania, speaker; Frank B. Lyon, New York, door-keeper; Henry Cannon, Massachusetts, sergeant-at-arms; and Samuel W. Lamm, Minnesota, postmaster.

With the exception of the speaker, all the officials were chosen by the adoption of one resolution, which was introduced by Representative Tawney of Minnesota. It was passed without dissent. All of the successful candidates now occupy the offices for which they are designated, except Mr. Lamm, who is a new officer. He succeeds the former postmaster, who died during the recess.

The only business transacted in addition to the selection of officers was the rejection of the application of Peter A. Porter of the Thirty-fourth district of New York, for admission to the caucus.

Mr. Porter was elected as an independent, and had the support of the Democrats of his district. His withdrawal from the caucus was a surprise to the chairman of the caucus, claiming to be a Republican and asking to be admitted to a seat in the councils of that party.

Chairman Hepburn explained the circumstances under which Mr. Porter had been elected and on motion of Mr. Tawney the application was laid on the table, which action was equivalent to a denial of his request.

UNCLE JOE CANNON NOMINATED. To his colleague, H. S. Boutwell, fell the duty of placing Mr. Cannon in nomination, and when he rose to speak he was greeted by a generous burst of applause.

Mr. Boutwell's nomination of the popular speaker caused very general approval, and when it appeared that no further nominations were to be proposed, Mr. Cannon was chosen by acclamation. Messrs. Lowden (Ill.), Hansen (Iowa), and Curtis (N. H.), were then appointed committee to escort the speaker to the hall. He was received with applause and, mounting to the platform on which he had sat for the past four years, proceeded to express his thanks for the honor conferred.

In his reply accepting the nomination, Speaker Cannon dealt with a number of public questions. He justified the large appropriations of the last session of the Fifty-ninth Congress and indicated very plainly his opposition to any policy looking toward a too great centralization of the functions of government.

CANNON'S SPEECH. Following is the full text of his remarks:

"We are met to exercise the right of the majority to organize the house of representatives and we must face the responsibility that goes with that right. It has been a decade since the Republican party assumed responsibility for legislation and execution of law, and in that 10 years we have seen such prosperity as never blessed any nation. The American people are richer by many billions of dollars than they were 10 years ago, and their wealth, as represented by income from work and wage, is more equitably distributed than ever before. This has been the triumph of a people's government under laws approved by the people, and executed and carried by the people's representatives.

"But it has been said, 'Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest

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not what a day may bring forth." "We must face the responsibility for government without regard to the past. The recent shock of business that has arrested commerce admonishes us to approach our task with soberness and courage, for we are to be judged by the work of the present, not by the record of the past.

"The Fifty-ninth Congress had a prodigious amount of work put before it, and it accomplished more in the way of legislation than its predecessors in many years. I believe—and it is my opinion that the great majority of the people believe with me—that that work was necessary and was well done. But we are not going to look back with pride at the administration in a day. Law is not alone in the letter; it is the spirit of the people. In many so-called republics there is shadow of constitutional authority without the substance of either constitution or law. Only amendment and otherwise the Fifty-ninth Congress enacted much of new legislation, which is to be tried and tested. Supplemental legislation may be necessary, but it should be enacted in the spirit of justice and not to exercise power with a care that it be not for the mere exhibition of strength without the restraint of caution against injustice.

"Including the permanent appropriations, the total amount of Congress appropriated more than 1,900,000,000 for the present fiscal year—a startling amount in the abstract—but owing to our enormous production and business activity expenditures have been kept within the income of the government without creating new sources of revenue. This great appropriation brought upon us the criticism that it was a 'billion dollar session' and yet the demand made upon the Fifty-ninth Congress for more programs aggregated many million dollars more, and, if granted, would have carried us beyond the revenues brought into the treasury under existing laws.

"In providing for the public service during the Sixth Congress, we should bear in mind that the development of the country, marvelous as it is, is still in its infancy. The future will witness a development and growth more wonderful than the past has seen, and from time to time, through the decades, other congresses as patriotic as the one about to assemble, will care for the demands of the government as they are presented.

"In my judgment, it is not wise to increase the revenues of the government; neither is it necessary nor advisable to transfer burdens from the local and state treasuries to the federal treasury to foster a centralizing power and responsibility, which of necessity develops quite fast enough. "We had more than 25,000 bills before the house in the last Congress. If we have as many in the Sixtieth Congress it will, of course, be impossible to do more than select from this great mass the proposed legislation which is necessary and wise. We have been admonished by events that it is not a time for extravagance or excursions into the realm of experiment in legislation. It is to my personal judgment that we should hold fast the principles laid down by our fathers, that the federal government is one of limited powers, but supreme where it has jurisdiction, and that we should leave in the people of the states the jurisdiction not granted to the federal government, and also leave upon them the responsibility and burden of taxation for the same.

"We hear much of the power of the people above and beyond parties, but responsibility for error is never divided. You have for the third time honored me with the nomination as speaker. I accept this as a duty as well as an honor—a duty to the membership of the house and to the country in organizing this body for effective work. I shall assume this office, not as a personal privilege, but as a grave responsibility, well knowing that you and the people are looking to me for responsibility upon my shoulders. I hope to discharge the duty devolving upon me generally to your satisfaction, though no man is given the wisdom of recognizing the full ability of each member of this body; and even if it were it is only in the great committee of the whole house that all can be fitted to their energies and capabilities.

DEMOCRATS CHOOSE WILLIAMS. Washington, Nov. 30.—By agreeing to elect in nomination for speaker John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, the Democratic members of the house today in effect decided to continue him in the position of minority leader for the Sixtieth Congress. The nomination of Mr. Williams was agreed on by a caucus of the Democratic members held in the hall of the house of representatives beginning at 2 o'clock today.

Representative Henry D. Clayton of Alabama presided at the caucus, and Ryan of the Buffalo, N. Y., district, was chosen secretary. Immediately after the organization of the caucus had been completed, Representative Thomas of North Carolina was recognized and he proceeded at once to place Mr. Williams in nomination. There was no opposition and Mr. Williams was selected by acclamation. Mr. Thomas said in part:

"Re-elect him minority leader, fellow Democrats, and from whatever part of the Union of states you come, whatever your personal views as to Democratic policies, you will find him fair to all, aggressive yet conservative; the best type of southern statesmanship; a person in equal rights to all and special privileges to none; which opposes monopoly, which stands for strict construction and states always for the rights of the people and the states. "For four years he has led the Democratic hosts upon this floor. Always at the root of every bill, he has been bold, adroit, skillful, honest, courageous and successful. His fact and ability as a debater have been unsurpassed by any leader of the minority without exception in my opinion.

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FOR OTHER OFFICERS. Candidates for the other offices were designated as follows: Charles J. Edwards, Texas, sergeant-at-arms; J. Terrell, North Carolina; doorkeeper, H. E. Graper, Tennessee; postmaster, H.

LAST LIVER

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REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Washington, Dec. 1.—The report of the commissioner-general of land office, R. A. Ballinger, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, was made public today. It shows that subsequent to March 1 more than 2,000,000 acres of public lands previously held under blanket orders of suspension, were restored to entry. Nearly 10,000,000 acres were released from withdrawal in the same period.

"The most rigorous effort," says the commissioner-general, "is being made with the force at my command to restrain unlawful and fraudulent practices in the public land states and to secure evidence to prosecute those guilty of violation of the law. The field force is totally inadequate in numbers to reach all such offenders, hence the gross offenders are more particularly sought for."

The report condemns as obsolete and absurd some of the existing land laws, in particular the act of March 3, 1857, governing the patenting of coal lands. "Title having passed, the government possesses no guaranty that as a public utility the coal lands are available to supply the market. On the contrary, these lands have almost uniformly passed into the hands of speculators or large combinations controlling the output or the transportation so that the consumer is at the mercy of both in the greater portion of the west."

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INTERESTING FEATURES OF SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1.—There are many interesting features of the Sixtieth Congress, about to assemble here. In a large number of instances the men who will be included in this body of national legislators come with records of active careers and success in their various walks of life.

The senate will be the largest in the history of the country, as it will be composed of 92 members, the increase being made by the admission of Oklahoma, whose two senators will be Robert L. Owen and T. P. Gore. These senators will not be given their seats, although they will great credentials tomorrow from the governor of the new state, until after their formal election by the legislature, which will ballot for the senatorship on Dec. 16. They have both been designated at primary election, however, and only the formality of a ballot will be required to perfect their credentials.

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Jersey succeeded Senator Bryden, and Norris Brown, formerly attorney-general of Nebraska, comes with a record of anti-railroad prosecutions in his state. Jefferson Davis of Arkansas has a reputation as a fiery orator that may cause Senator Tillman to look to his laurels. Simon Guggenheim of Colorado has gained a great reputation in the business world through his connection with the American Smelting & Refining company.

The senate will have a majority of more than two-thirds Republicans, so that it will be possible for the majority to control legislation even ratify treaties, without a vote from the minority.

The house of representatives also has a large Republican majority, there being 222 Republicans and 168 Democrats. There will be many interesting and picturesque characters in the house.

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With the two senators from Oklahoma there will be 17 new members of the senate, which includes successors in Senators Morgan and Pettus. The new men include William Borah, who recently came out victorious in land fraud cases in Idaho, and Jonathan Bourne, Jr., of Oregon, whose advocacy of a "resonant legislative term" for the president brought him into national prominence some time ago. It was at a dinner given in this city by Senator Bourne that the story of a five million-dollar "conspiracy fund" to defeat the president but is-lection was brought forth. Frank C. Higgins of New

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Shipments have already begun to arrive, and arrangements have been made with such standard publishing houses as Hargis Brothers, McMillan & Co., Dodd Mead & Co., Scribner's, Little & Brown, and many others for their standard works. Even though it is a little early yet, people who want to select books for their friends can have them set aside and carefully held until near the holiday dates.

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