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of a comic opera, and laughter and applause filled the house.

What of the result? The unusual and almost inexplicable ending caused a thousand questions as to the meaning of the armistice. Did it mean that the regulars had won over enough of the insurgents to obtain a truce in the fight and time enough to rally their forces, and form some new plan of action? Or were both sides weary and worn to the limit of physical exhaustion and glad of an opportunity to defer the final struggle for a few hours and give all a chance to freshen themselves for it?

"We have lost nothing," said Representative Norris. "This postponement means not a thing more than that we have deferred consideration of my resolution until tomorrow. The issue is not affected at all and the insurgents stand solidly and unbroken now just where they stood twenty-four hours ago."

Worn and haggard, his unshaven face drawn and pale and his eyes red and swollen from sleeplessness and hours of intense application, the leader of the little band of insurgents which has held the balance of power in the house through one of the most dramatic periods in its history, made this declaration immediately after the house had voted to adjourn. He, himself, had voted to remain longer in session.

"The insurgents who voted for this postponement did so because they believed it might provide an easier way to the accomplishment of what we are striving for, and I do not disapprove of their action in the least. It will give us opportunity to confer with the leaders of the regulars and see how far they are willing to go in conceding us victory.

"You may be sure of one thing, we shall not compromise principle, and we will be found voting at the finish for just what we voted for at the start."

Representative Champ Clark, leader of the minority and his chief lieutenant, Representative Underwood of Alabama, were satisfied with the situation at adjournment, although with their solid party they had voted against it.

Concerning the conference of the republican

regulars and the insurgents which was held today, and will continue tomorrow morning, Mr. Clark had this to say: "They may agree upon something that we democrats can also stand for, but I don't believe it. If they get together on something that we don't believe in, we will fight it, and you can depend on that."

Upon Mr. Clark has fallen the great burden of the battle for the past two days from the democratic side, and he showed the effects of the long strain. When the motion to adjourn was put and carried he arose slowly from his seat on the democratic side and made his way wearily out of the chamber, apparently glad that a respite had come.

Representative Underwood was more specific as to what attitude the democrats might be expected to take when the house convenes tomorrow.

"If the regulars and insurgents come together upon any basis which does not provide for the election of a new committee on rules by the house and the elimination of the speaker from that committee, the democrats will oppose it to a man," he said.

It was said today that the attitude of Speaker Cannon himself is the greatest stumbling block in the way of a compromise. The speaker declines to be eliminated from the rules committee.

Speaker Cannon looked fresh as a peony, considering the tax on his strength during his all night vigil. From noon yesterday until 2 o'clock this morning he sat almost continuously in the chair or stood near the rostrum.

The nap which he took in his office at 3 o'clock this morning, lasting an hour, constituted almost his entire rest. When the house adjourned today he showed little of the weariness naturally expected from a seventy-four-year old man who had been under such a strain. He and Miss Cannon had a dinner engagement for tonight. When Miss Cannon telephoned to know whether he felt able to keep this engagement, he responded enthusiastically that he certainly was going to that dinner.

A GREAT STRUGGLE

At 9 o'clock in the morning of Saturday, March 19, the regular republicans and the insurgent republicans through their representatives, held a conference seeking to get together. They could not, however, agree.

The house of representatives met at noon Saturday. Immediately Gaines of West Virginia, regular republican, moved to adjourn. There was great disorder and Speaker Cannon announced he was ready to rule on the resolution offered by Norris of Nebraska providing for the change in the rules committee. Gaines insisted on his motion to adjourn being put. The speaker put the motion and it was defeated by a roar of noes. Then the speaker announced his ruling, holding that the point of order against the Norris resolution was well taken. The republicans cheered. Norris appealed from the decision of the chair and moved the previous question. The previous question was ordered by a vote of 182 to 160—a majority of 22 for the democrats and insurgents.

The speaker then announced that the vote would be on the question, "shall the speaker's decision be sustained." The speaker called Mr. Olmstead of Pennsylvania to the chair. The vote stood 160 yeas to 182 nays.

The speaker's decision being overruled, Norris of Nebraska then offered a substitute resolution in words as follows:

"There shall be a committee on rules, elected by the house (hitherto the committee of five, like all house committees, has been appointed by the speaker) consisting of ten members, six of whom shall be members of the majority party. The speaker shall not be a member of the committee, and the committee shall elect its own chairman from its own members.

"Resolved further, That within ten days after the adoption of this resolution, there shall be an election of this committee and immediately upon its election, the present committee on rules shall be dissolved."

The Norris substitute resolution was then adopted by 193 yeas and 153 nays.

There was a great demonstration on the part of democrats and insurgents with the announcement of this vote. Speaker Cannon then asked the indulgence of the house. He declared that he had tried to do his duty and said there were now two courses open to him. One was for him to resign and the other was for the democrats and insurgents to declare a vacancy in the office of speaker. He said it would be cowardly for him to resign and so he announced he was ready to entertain a motion to declare the office of speaker vacant. Burleson of Texas, democrat,

promptly offered a resolution declaring the office of speaker to be vacant and providing for the immediate election of a speaker.

Promptly Norris of Nebraska moved to adjourn. He pressed his motion and the regular republicans and the democrats joined forces to vote it down. They succeeded by a large majority. Norris then demanded a roll call on his motion to adjourn. Fourteen insurgents supported the demand, but the speaker ruled that the number was not sufficient. The question then reverted to the Burleson resolution. Speaker Cannon called Payne of New York to the chair. As Hayes of California, Norris of Nebraska and other insurgents voted against removing Cannon, the regular republicans jeered them. The Burleson resolution was defeated by 155 yeas to 191 nays. This was the signal for a great demonstration on the part of Cannon republicans and after the house had adjourned the speaker held a reception in front of the speaker's stand.

The only republicans who voted in favor of declaring the office of speaker vacant, was Carey, Cooper, Lenroot and Nelson of Wisconsin; Davis and Linberg of Minnesota; Murdock of Kansas, Gronna of North Dakota and Poindexter of Washington—nine in all. The democrats voted solidly for the resolution.

An Associated Press dispatch says: Democrats tonight described the victory as one tending toward good government and as a harbinger of democratic success in the next national election. Regular republicans said the democrats had weakened their issue of "Cannonism" and that the house is left with a good working republican majority. Insurgent republicans said they had won a great fight for a great principle. These statements epitomize the opinions of the three shades of party politics in the house.

The following insurgent republicans, thirty-five in all, voted with the solid democratic side, against the motion to table Norris' appeal from the decision of the speaker: Nelson, Kopp, Carey, Cooper, Davidson, Lenroot, Morse, of Wisconsin; Davis, Lindbergh, Miller, Steenerson, Volstead, of Minnesota; Kendall, Hubbard, Good, Haughn, Pickett, Woods, of Iowa; Hinshaw, Kinkaid, Norris, of Nebraska; Madison, Murdock, of Kansas; Howland, Johnson, Taylor, of Ohio; Ames, Gardner, of Massachusetts; Foelker, Fish, of New York; Poindexter, of Washington; Martin, of South Dakota; Gronna, of North Dakota; Fowler, of New Jersey; Hayes, of California.

The insurgents had estimated their strength at thirty-three, but they gained three, Howland, Johnson and Taylor of Ohio, and lost Parsons of New York, who heretofore had voted with them intermittently. Martin of South Dakota was also considered an accession.

LABOR TROUBLES

The president of the Firemen's Brotherhood sent a letter to the railroad committee at Chicago notifying him that if the entire controversy was not submitted to arbitration a strike of 25,000 firemen would be inevitable.

Danger of immediate strike of 27,000 locomotive firemen was averted at Chicago when the differences were submitted by agreement through arbitration.

Washington dispatches say that the government will also intervene in the Bethlehem Steel company strike where a large company of men have been out for more than a month.

A general strike of leather workers on horse goods, involving all the leading cities and about 4,000 men, has been ordered. The men demand increased wages and an eight hour day.

The hearing before the arbitration board in the proposed firemen strike in Chicago was marked by a determination on the part of the working men to bring the hearing to a prompt conclusion at a determination on the part of the railroad managers to refuse to submit to arbitration certain rules governing discipline and authority over working men.

The switchmen in the railroad yards at Chicago were given an increase in wages of two cents an hour, allowance of time and a half for all overtime. About four thousand men are affected. The Illinois state board of arbitration granted this increase.

The Philadelphia street car strike is still on.

The explanation for the proposed increase in the second class postage rates is not that it is necessary to tax the magazines and periodicals more, but it is necessary to do something to call attention from the fact that it costs 800 per cent more to carry the mails than it does to carry the same number of pounds of express.