

KENNEDY CHOSEN AS SENATE WHIP; BEATS LONG, 31-26



United Press International
Mike Mansfield of Montana, Democratic leader in Senate, with Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, chosen as whip.

G.O.P. Picks Scott Over Hruska in Another Gain for Liberals as Congress Session Opens

By JOHN W. FINNEY
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 3 — Senator Edward M. Kennedy moved into a position of a Congressional spokesman today—and perhaps laid a stepping stone to the Presidency—by capturing the post of Democratic whip, or assistant leader, of the Senate.

In a coup against the Southern-dominated Senate establishment, the 36-year-old Massachusetts Senator, heir to the Kennedy political organization, unseated Senator Russell B. Long of Louisiana as the 91st Congress convened.

On the Republican side, too, the liberals made surprising in-

roads on the Senate leadership. Senator Hugh Scott, a liberal from Pennsylvania, upset the once dominant conservatives by winning the post of Republican whip over Roman L. Hruska of Nebraska.

McCormack Is Retained

The House, however, remained under the control of an Old Guard coalition of New Deal liberals and Southern conservatives. Voting along strictly party lines, the House gave another term as Speaker to 77-year-old John W. McCormack, Democrat of Massachusetts. Yesterday Mr. McCormack, with the aid of Southern conserva-

tives, put down a palace revolt among a small band of liberals in a House Democratic caucus that endorsed him for the post.

On the opening day of what is expected to be a middle-of-the-road Congress inclined to cooperate with the new Republican Administration, the House and Senate were preoccupied with their own organizational problems. Not until Richard M. Nixon is inaugu-

rated as President on Jan. 20 is it expected to settle down to legislative business.

The Senate girded for another battle next week on whether to modify the anti-filibuster rule requiring a two-thirds vote to cut off debate.

The House became bogged down in a quarrel over Adam Clayton Powell, Democrat of Manhattan. Tonight, after five hours of wrangling, it voted to seat him and to punish him with a \$25,000 fine for the alleged misuse of funds while he was chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee. He also loses his 22 years of House seniority.

'Winds of Change'

In a secret ballot in the Senate Democratic caucus today, Senator Kennedy won the whip post by a surprising 31-26 margin. Faced with opposition from the entrenched Southern conservatives, the 36-year-old Senator had been given only a narrow chance of winning. His victory was all the more impressive to his Senate colleagues for the way he had been able, in a week of campaigning, to round up a decisive lead.

Senator Kennedy attributed his victory to the "winds of change" blowing through the Senate. Rather than a personal victory, he said, his election reflected a demand throughout the country that the Senate "should be a creative, positive and aggressive forum," presenting a constructive, positive legislative program.

Senator Long, Democratic whip for the last four years, attributed his defeat to the nationwide political organization

Continued on Page 16, Column 1

Continued From Page 1, Col. 6

build up by the Kennedy family.

"I had him outgunned in the Senate," the 50-year-old Louisianaian told reporters, "but he had me outmaneuvered in the ca-

Noting that he had "used all of my resources" to obtain reelection, Senator Long said, "do not think I could have been beaten by anyone else in the United States Senate."

This assessment was one generally concurred in by other Senators.

To his political embarrassment now, Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, the Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee, had weighed making the race for whip and decided he could not unseat Senator Long, one of the most powerful members of the Senate establishment.

Oil Company Backing

As chairman of the tax-writing Senate Finance Committee, Senator Long has considerable influence, particularly in arranging for campaign contributions, such as from the oil industry, for his colleagues. There was every indication that he attempted to use his influence in a personal way in his bid for a job that in the past has carried more prestige than power.

For example, on one day this week, it was learned, Senator Fred R. Harris of Oklahoma received phone calls from six oil company executives urging him to vote for Senator Long, who has protected the oil industry's tax interests in the Senate. Although he represents an oil-producing state, Senator Harris voted for Senator Kennedy.

Against this Senate power of Senator Long, Senator Kennedy had three assets at his command in his personally managed campaign for the whip job.

He had, first, the political magnetism of the Kennedy name, with its ability to draw contributors to fund-raising dinners and voters to the polls. He had the recognition among many Democrats of the need for new blood in the Democratic leadership to offset the increasingly younger, more aggressive Republican minority.

And he was aided, finally, by a widespread personal dissatisfaction with Senator Long because of his flamboyant manner and frequent disregard of the party leadership of Senator Mike Mansfield, the Democratic leader.

In the showdown, Senator Kennedy drew his support primarily from Northern and Western Senators. But he made some critical inroads in the otherwise solid Southern front by picking up the votes of William B. Spong Jr., a Virginia moderate, and Ralph W. Yarborough of Texas, who is up for re-election in 1970 and was under some political obligation for past campaign assistance from Senator Long.

Long's Supporters

Senator Long, nominated for

leader of the liberals, got the votes of most of the Southern and Southwestern Senators.

But in return for political favors or because of his power as Finance Committee chairman, he was supported also by some Northern and Western Senators, such as Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut, whom he defended against censure; Vance Hartke of Indiana, a member of the Finance Committee; Gale W. McGee, who comes from the oil-producing state of Wyoming, and Gaylord P. Nelson, whom he permitted to become chairman of the Senate's Select by withdrawing himself.

The Long vote that was causing the most gossip in the Senate cloakrooms was that of Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota, the candidate of many Democratic liberals for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Senator McCarthy had been under considerable pressure from his former liberal supporters, such as the Americans for Democratic Action, to sup-

port Senator Kennedy. But earlier this week Senator McCarthy told Senator Kennedy he would vote for Senator Long because a Kennedy election would result in the illusion rather than reality of leadership reform and thus tend to retard actual reform.

Sitting in a Capitol Hill restaurant after the vote Senator McCarthy was twitted on his vote by a Democratic campaign aide. Alluding to the fact that during the Democratic convention Senator McCarthy at one point had said he would be willing to support Senator Kennedy for the Presidential nomination, the aide asked:

"How is it that you can vote for him as Pope but not as pastor?"

To this gibe from a fellow Roman Catholic, Senator McCarthy smilingly replied:

"I can think of a lot of people I would like to see as Pope but would not like to see as my pastor."

Speculation on Vote

Senator McCarthy fended off all reporters' requests for explanation of his vote. But the widespread speculation was that in voting for Senator Long, Senator McCarthy, a member of the Finance Committee, was reflecting obligations to his committee chairman as well as his differences with the Kennedy family, dating to 1960 when he nominated Adlai E. Stevenson against John F. Kennedy for the Presidential nomination.

Three members of the Finance Committee broke with their chairman and thus risked political retaliation — Senator Harris, Albert Gore of Tennessee and Abraham A. Ribicoff of Connecticut.

moved from his back row seat where he has played mostly a silent role, to a front row seat only one removed from the Democratic leader's chair. In terms of his political future, the move was symbolic.

In a Democratic party now thrust into an opposition role in Congress, Senator Kennedy has emerged as a spokesman for his party, which he said was his primary objective in seeking the post.

But the whip job also could be a stepping stone to the Presidential nomination, as it was for Hubert H. Humphrey. Or should a vacancy occur in the leader's post, Senator Kennedy would be in a favored position to move into the leadership, and thus follow the route of Lyndon B. Johnson to the Presidential nomination.

But Senator Kennedy brushed aside suggestions by reporters that the whip position could give him a political base for seeking the Presidential nomination in 1972.

A 'Time-Consuming Job'

"I do not believe it has implications of that kind," he said. "It is an extremely time-consuming job which will give me responsibilities in the Senate and will keep me busy there."

But then with a cryptic grin, he added: "You know you can talk to people here on the floor."

With Senator Kennedy at his side, Senator Mansfield, who was unanimously re-elected Democratic leader, appeared to be considerably reinforced

in his role. The expectation was that Senator Mansfield would emerge as a party spokesman on foreign policy and Senator Kennedy on domestic issues.

Reflecting the attitude of the Democratic Congressional leadership, Senator Mansfield, in a speech before the Democratic caucus, pledged that the Democratic majority would "cooperate in every reasonable way with a Republican Administration."

Largely by winning the votes of several Republican newcomers, Senator Scott beat out

Senator Hruska, a conservative, for the post of Republican whip by a 23-20 vote. His victory over the conservative phalanx in the Republican minority was all the more surprising since Senator Hruska had been supported by Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen, re-elected as the Republican leader. Until the vote, Dirksen aides thought the job would go to Senator Hruska.

Senator Dirksen, who in the last two years has had difficulty keeping the liberals and moderates in line, dismissed

the vote as "no victory for the liberals" and predicted it would bring "no great changes" in Republican policy.

Senator Dirksen noted that the election today of Senator Gordon Allott of Colorado as chairman of the Republican Policy Committee would put a conservative in charge of a



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Senator Russell B. Long arriving for Democratic poll.

group that he expects to take a more active role. By a 25-18 vote, Senator Allott beat out Robert P. Griffin of Michigan for the No. 3 job in the Senate Republican hierarchy.

But Senator John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, one of the Republican liberals restless under the Dirksen leadership, said the Scott election "provides political balance in the leadership."



Associated Press

Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, left, Republican leader in House, congratulates John W. McCormack, Massachusetts Democrat, upon being sworn in for another term as Speaker.