

June 26, 1935.

MEMORANDUM -

TO - MR. MCINTYRE

FROM - MR. ECCLES

In accordance with telephone conversation re appointment of Bob La Follette to fill the vacancy on the Senate Banking and Currency Committee caused by the death of Senator Cutting, I have discussed the matter with Senator Fletcher and he favors Mr. La Follette's appointment and is going to talk to Senator Robinson about it.

I have talked to Mr. La Follette and know he would like very much to be on this committee and would be willing to give up one of his other committee memberships. He is my choice as I feel he understands banking and monetary matters better than any other member of the Senate and he is in full accord with the Administration's banking program. He would be a great help not only now but in future years and would add leadership and strength to the committee, which is all too conservative and reactionary regarding banking legislation. He also has a real following among the progressive Republican Senators as well as the confidence of the Senate generally.

I understand that Senator Robinson has authority to fill vacancies of this sort without taking the matter up with his committee. There is good reason for suggesting to Senator Robinson that this appointment be made, as out of a membership of 20 on the Senate Banking and Currency Committee the Democrats are entitled to 14.58 members, the Republicans 5 members and others .42 members. With the vacancy created by the death of Senator Cutting the membership now stands - Democrats 14, Republicans 5, and others none. The Republicans have their full quota on the committee and it would, therefore, seem that the Democrats could, without criticism, appoint an Independent to fill the vacancy and that would be particularly true in the case of Mr. La Follette, whose appointment to the Senate Banking and Currency Committee would simply mean his transfer from one of the other committees on which he is now acting and which I understand he is willing to give up, the Democrats appointing a Democrat in his stead on the committee from which he is transferred.

I hope the President will feel that he can make this suggestion to Senator Robinson.

P.S. This matter should be taken care of today if possible.

*From
Sen Fitcher*

MEMORANDUM

The enclosed statement shows the line-up of Democrats, Republicans, Farmer-Labor and Progressive members in the Senate.

On the basis of percentages, Democrats are entitled to 72.91% of the total membership on each Committee; Republicans, 25%; others, 2.09%.

Out of a membership of 20, the Democrats are entitled to 14.582 members; the Republicans, 5; others, .0418.

With the present vacancy caused by the death of Senator Cutting, the membership now stands: Democrats 14; Republicans 5; others none. Hence, it should be observed that the Republicans have their full quota of members on the Committee.

The Democrats are 14 or a little over one-half of a member under their proportionate share, and may without criticism lay claim to the seat for either a Democratic member or assign it to either of the other Independent members of the Senate.

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Representatives in the Senate

<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Farm Laborite</u>	<u>Progressive</u>
70	24	1	1

Democrats 70 out of 96 = 72.91%

Republicans 24 out of 96 = 25.0%

Others 2 out of 96 = 2.09%

Representation on Committee of 20

72.91% of 20 = 14.582 Democrats

25 % of 20 = 5. Republicans

2.09% of 20 = .0418 Independents