

Chain of Institutional Features to Yield a Veto to the U.S. South, 1920-50

Balance Rule: Equal number of free and slave states, therefore equal number of U.S. Senators: Missouri Compromise, 1820, ended California Compromise, 1850

Balanced Tickets: Democrat and Whig parties nominate a free and slave state candidate for President and Vice President, 1832/36-1856/60

Balanced Views: Neither the presidential nor vice presidential nominees oppose slavery, each is acceptable to both regions, in context of above.

Balanced Conventions:

Both conventions enforce the second and third through their conventions.

The Whigs are too divided to do otherwise, united behind the middle (Clay)

The Democrats use the 2/3rds rule for nominations, 1832-1936.

Result: No bill opposed by regional minority (which becomes the South) can become law, if all national elected officials from the slave state South united. Either it cannot get a majority in the Senate, if slave state Senators united in opposition and they are either a majority themselves or are able to get at least one non-slave Senator to side with them. Or, the vote is tied in the Senate vote and the vice president votes it down, siding with the South. If the VP sides with the North and the bill passes, the President will veto, and with the Balance Rule, no veto can be over ridden.

Problem: The Democrats enforce balanced tickets and balanced view via the two-thirds rule that is voted in by simple majority.