

of the Senate where a vote means a record, but what of his action in committees and in caucuses and behind closed doors? It is there that the real legislation of Congress is effected. And it is in this quiet hand to hand work that Mr. Sullivan excels. Is there anything in his political career from first to last that would indicate a support of policies looking to the elimination of monopoly and privilege? Has not the man been all his life a dealer in as well as an upholder of privileges, and a beneficiary of monopoly? Mr. Sullivan is known as a man of his word, and a man who sticks to the friends who stick to him. It were easy for such a man to maintain the appearance of good faith in the open, while using all his great power in opposition in secret.



Were there but the one alternative of sending to Washington Sullivan or Sherman, the democratic Democrat would still be confronted by a plain duty; for an avowed opponent in the open were to be preferred to a false friend in secret. But the voters of Illinois have another alternative. They can, by electing Raymond Robins, send to Washington a man who not only will act wholeheartedly with Mr. Wilson's friends, but who will lead those friends to a still more advanced position in the realization of democratic principles. As Frank H. Bode so well puts it in his address to the down state Democrats: "The election of Robins to the Senate will strengthen the hand of Wilson tremendously. The election of either Sullivan or Sherman will seriously undermine Wilson's influence." Office seekers have given hostages to fortune, and must maintain at least the appearance of regularity; the unthinking rabble are regular because they know no better; but men who are really men cast their votes for principle and for such men as will carry out that principle.

S. C.



Construing Language to Conceal Thoughts.

Chicago's contract with the Illinois Telephone and Telegraph Company provides for forfeiture of the system to the city under the following conditions:

If at any time after June 1, 1911, the company shall not have in operation or shall cease to operate a telephone system serving 20,000 bona-fide subscribers,

The company has never served 20,000 bona fide subscribers. Under this clause therefore, the meaning of which seems about as clear as the English language can make it, very few persons can see any reason why the city's right to take

the plant should be questioned. But unfortunately for Chicago, one of these few happens to be its corporation counsel, William H. Sexton. Mr. Sexton holds that the clause does not mean what it says. He holds that the word "serving" does not mean serving, but means that the company must have a system ready to serve 20,000 subscribers provided that many want it. Since the company had the system he holds that, in the meaning of the contract, it was "serving 20,000 bona fide subscribers" even though that number of subscribers never existed. He further declares that this is the kind of reasoning in which the courts will indulge. In other words, if Mr. Sexton's opinion is correct, the city was fooled into accepting an agreement which did not mean what it plainly said. If the courts should uphold such trickery, as Mr. Sexton thinks they will, then once more convincing evidence will be furnished of the folly of any city placing any confidence in the good faith of any privilege-seeking corporation. Why accept agreements which turn out to mean something different than represented at the time of contract? Why depend on courts to uphold agreements if they must sustain quibbles of that kind?

S. D.



The Railroad Rate Case.

Are the railroads still paying interest and dividends on the stocks and bonds with which they have been loaded, as the result of such transactions as were disclosed in investigation of the New Haven, and of the C. H. & D.? Are they still paying monopoly prices for supplies to the Oil Trust, Steel Trust, Coal Trust and similar monopolies which their own managers are helping to uphold? If they are, then there is not the slightest justification for allowing an increase in rates.

S. D.



Dr. Andrew A. Forsythe.

The death of Dr. Andrew A. Forsythe, mayor for sixteen years of the city of Monroe, Louisiana, marks the close of a career that made a distinct addition to American government. For it is due to the executive ability, the personal integrity, and unremitting persistency of this remarkable man that the city of Monroe stepped direct from the status of a country village to a thriving city without experiencing the trials of franchise monopolies in private hands. The street car system was built by the city and operated by the city, and it was a complete success from the first. The question of

municipal ownership never presented itself to Monroe as it does to other cities; the street cars were owned by the city from the very beginning. And they were literally owned, for Mayor Forsythe had such a keen business sense that the earnings quickly discharged the indebtedness that had been incurred. It was in this that is to be found his chief contribution to American politics. He did not damn the municipal ownership idea by giving into private hands the paying features, while retaining for the city those that were not self-supporting. When the travel on the cars, because of the smallness of the city, seemed insufficient, the mayor bought 200 acres of land outside of the city, and established an amusement park, fair grounds, race track, and a magnificent salt-water swimming pool. The use of these popular features made the street car system one of the most profitable in the country. The time-honored custom heretofore has been for the city to furnish at its own expense these incentives to travel, and to allow the privately owned companies to reap the benefits.



But let no one imagine this was child's play. Dr. Forsythe, from the day he consented to give up his fine medical practice and devote his time to the service of his fellow citizens, was fought as bitterly by the leading business men of the city, as was Tom Johnson in Cleveland. And during the whole sixteen years of his service he had to fight for each re-election as though he were a public enemy. The more successful he made the various municipal activities, street cars, electric lights, water, etc., the more persistent was the demand that they be sold to private companies. And when all other means failed, the "business interests" took the question into the legislature—as was done with Tom Johnson in Ohio—and the mayor had to fight for the charter of his city. Had he had less moral courage he long ago would have given up the fight; and had he lacked unflinching physical courage—for his fight required both—he would have had to flee for his life. But it is to be said to his credit that his enemies could not trick him, bribe him, or intimidate him. And now that the man is gone there doubtless will be a movement started to erect to his memory a fitting monument. But Dr. Forsythe, like Tom Johnson, and many others who have made sacrifices for the people, needs no other monument than the work he has done. And the city of Monroe can find no better way of showing its appreciation of its great mayor's services than by continuing the work he began.

S. C.

Franklin Spencer Spalding.

Through the death on September 26 at Salt Lake City of Right Reverend Franklin Spencer Spalding, Episcopal bishop of Utah, the cause of humanity lost a brave and able defender. Bishop Spalding belonged to that class of clergymen who see that it is at least as much a violation of morality to knowingly uphold legalized wrong as it is to steal a horse or to covet one's neighbor's goods. Having seen this truth, he fearlessly preached it and lost no opportunity to urge his brother clergymen to do the same. He thought the practical application lay through the doctrine of Socialism, but he was none the less willing to work with those of other economic creeds who aimed to remove fundamental evils.

S. D.



WHAT CANNON'S RETURN MEANS

Joe Cannon has been nominated for Congress. For over forty years he was a member of the House of Representatives, and as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and as Speaker, he was most powerful in shaping legislation. In fact he was one of the leaders of the band that in both Houses of Congress for two generations dominated the affairs of government. Under their guidance all legislation was directed to the granting of special privileges to corporations, giving them power to tax and exploit the people of the United States. The tariff became the chief vehicle for the robbery of the public and its beneficiaries were the chief contributors to the great campaign funds collected by the Republican party to demoralize the voters of the nation, the granting of subsidies in the form of compensation for carrying the mail, the purchase of armor plate and the building of ships. In fact concessions and privileges of every sort and character not only to the public service and industrial corporations, but the financial institutions of the country received the chief attention of Congress, and these privileges were so profitable that the halls of the House and Senate swarmed with innumerable lobbyists whose vocation it was to appeal to the ordinary members of both branches with whatever argument was necessary, being assured in advance of the ardent and powerful support of Joe Cannon and the other leaders in the House and Senate.

A few concrete illustrations of Cannon's methods should be of interest to his constituents in the coming campaign.



Cannon Author of Land Frauds.

The land frauds of which we have heard so