

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

much were the product of legislation especially secured by Cannon. I am the author of the law for the regulation and control of the forest reservations of the United States. I prepared this law and offered it as an amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill in the Senate. It was adopted by the Senate, and as adopted contained a clause which permitted any homesteader whose homestead was embraced within the forest reservation, to release his homestead to the Government and be accredited with the time he had lived upon it, and allowed to take land from the Government in some other locality. Mr. Cannon was chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the House, and chairman of the Conference Committee, and he inserted the words, "or any other claimant," so if the lands of a land-grant railroad were embraced within a forest reservation the railroad company could exchange them for any other lands the Government might possess. The Senate did not observe this interlineation in the conference report, which was read rapidly and approved without first being printed. I did not observe it. But two years afterward I found that the Northern Pacific Railroad, for instance, was receiving scrip for the sections of land of its grant which were on the top of Mount Tacoma in Washington. These thousands of acres of the snow-capped peaks and rocks of Mt. Tacoma, ten to fourteen thousand feet above the sea, absolutely worthless, were exchanged acre for acre for scrip or for locations upon the best pine lands in Idaho, Washington, or any State where the United States Government had public domain. Lands that were absolutely worthless were exchanged in this way for lands of the greatest value. A reservation was established in the Rocky Mountains along the Union Pacific road where there was no timber, and scrip was issued and the exchange made according to the provisions of this law. I stated these facts in the Senate and asked for a repeal, and suggested an appraisal of those lands that were embraced in forest reservations on top of snow-capped mountains, and proposed that the exchange be made according to value. If they exchanged a section on top of one of those mountains that wasn't worth over a cent an acre for land worth ten or twenty dollars per acre, they should not get acre for acre, but exact value after appraisal, and I also moved that all operations under the law be suspended pending an investigation by the Interior Department. The Senate passed my amendments, with a full knowledge of all the facts, showing just what frauds had been practiced and how they were practiced. The House refused to

agree to the Senate amendment, and as is customary, it was thrown into conference. Cannon was chairman of the committee on conference, and chairman of the committee on appropriations in the House, and he insisted upon standing by the railroads and continuing the frauds, and so refused to agree to the Senate amendment, but inserted a provision that hereafter railroads could only exchange for surveyed lands. But as the law provided that when three settlers in a township petitioned for the survey of the township, the government is bound to survey it if they deposit money enough to pay for the survey and issue to the settlers scrip which can be used to prove up on public lands anywhere, or be transferred. So these railroad thieves would send three men into a township who would file three homestead entries, and then make affidavit that they were residing there and wanted the township surveyed, and they would deposit the money necessary, four or five hundred dollars, to get the survey made, and then the railroads could locate their scrip upon these lands all over the township, and when this was done these three men would move on and locate in another township, and so continue the fraud. The prosecutions by the Interior Department have grown out of this legislation.

The real culprit was Cannon, and he is the man that should be held responsible for this infamous fraud, because he insisted upon this legislation in the face of full knowledge of all the facts. When the conference report came in, presented by Allison, of Iowa, who had always been the subtle tool of all such jobs passed by Congress, I objected to the conference report, and I said that they surrendered as usual to the railroads, that the action of the chairman of the committee on appropriations in the House, Mr. Cannon, and the action of Mr. Allison, chairman of the committee on appropriations in the Senate, was an unjustifiable enlargement of the grant to the railroads which was worth many millions of dollars, and I said that as usual the rights of the people had been surrendered to those corporations. I tried to get Congress to stay in session and insisted upon proper legislation in this connection, but Congress had decided, and we were then but a few hours from adjournment, and so they passed the bill, and it continued upon the statute books until 1905. After the railroads had located all their scrip or exchanged all their northern land and defrauded the public as much as it was possible, Congress, under Joe Cannon's direction, repealed the law.

Cannon and Armor Plate.

For several years the Senate of the United States limited the price to be paid for armor plate. The armor-plate manufacturers were in a trust, everybody admitted that. Carnegie Steel Works and Bethlehem Steel Works were in combination, and they always bid for just half of what the Government wanted, and always bid the same price. Everybody admitted there was no competition. The Senate limited the price to \$300 per ton, and under that provision no armor plate was purchased. Two years afterward the Senate passed an amendment to the navy appropriation bill limiting the price of armor plate to \$425 per ton. These companies were asking \$550 per ton and were selling the same plate to the Austrian government for \$250 per ton, and the Senate amendment provided that if the Secretary could not buy armor plate for \$425 per ton, that the Government should immediately commence to construct an armor-plate plant and make its own armor plate. Joe Cannon was chairman of the committee on conferences in the House, and he absolutely refused under any circumstances whatever to submit to the Senate amendment, but insisted that the armor-plate makers should have their price, although they were in a trust. These facts were well known to him and to every member of both Houses. The armor plate manufacturers always contributed to the Republican campaign fund.

**Cannon and the Tariff.**

I could go into the details of the Congressional Record with regard to the duty on white pine. The Senate reduced the duty from \$2, the price fixed by the House, to \$1 per thousand. Cannon refused to agree to the Senate amendment, and insisted upon \$2, which was finally allowed. Under it the lumber dealers of the whole country have formed a combination and have plundered the consumers, according to their own statement, of thirty-five millions per year.

These facts were known to Cannon and to both Houses when this duty was put on. It was well known that it would not furnish any revenue to the Government or any protection to build up an infant industry, but it simply put \$2 a thousand in the pockets of the owners of timber, who were already too rich. The statement of Mr. Winchester and other lumbermen that if they could get \$2 on lumber, it would be worth thirty-five million dollars each year, was read in the Senate. And yet Mr. Cannon will stand pat on the tariff, or have it revised by its friends. Who are the

friends of the tariff? Why, of course, the friends of the tariff on lumber are the corporations and the enormously rich people who own the timber. The friends of the tariff on steel are the steel trust. The friends of the tariff on agricultural implements are the manufacturers of agricultural implements who sell plows and other machinery in South America and in Europe for one-half what they sell it to the farmers of America. Who are the friends of the tariff on tobacco? The tobacco trust. Who are the friends of the tariff on woolen goods and on cotton goods? The manufacturers of these articles, who are in collusion to maintain the price to the limit of the tariff and thus rob and plunder the American people. And, according to Cannon's program, they are the people who are to revise the tariff if it is to be revised. It seems to me the tariff ought to be revised in the interest of the people of the United States rather than of the special interests Mr. Cannon serves. His election to Congress would be in the interest of the scheming jobbery that has curst and controlled the Republican party for the last twenty years. As the candidate of the corporations and the greedy trusts and the plundering rich, he is the ideal, and no other interests will be considered by him if he succeeds. He will have the support of Rockefeller, of Aldrich and the great gambling railroad managers of New York.

R. F. PETTIGREW.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

WHAT INFLUENCED MAINE.

Dover, Maine, Sept. 26.

The State election in Maine on September 14 resulted in the election of Oakley C. Curtis, Democrat, as Governor over Wm. T. Haines, Republican, and Halbert P. Gardner, Progressive, by a plurality of about 3,000. The legislature, formerly Republican, has a Republican majority of one in the Senate, while the Democrats have the same majority in the House, thus being evenly divided on joint ballot, with four Progressive members holding the balance of power. The four Representatives to Congress—three Republicans and one Democrat—were re-elected.

The campaign was fought by the Democratic party on the issue of endorsement of the Wilson administration; by the Republicans on their old stand-by, the Prohibition question; while the Progressives mainly devoted their attention to criticism of the acts of the two older parties.

Two interesting features of the result was the large increase of the two older parties' vote over the Presidential vote of two years ago, which can mainly be accounted for by the unusually fine weather, and the slump in the Progressive vote of about 31,000, or two-thirds of the 48,000 cast two years ago for Roosevelt. This last had several con-