

Looking In on Congress From the House Gallery

ABOUT THE MEMBERS

By CONGRESSMAN GUY U. HARDY



A gentleman has raised the question of a quorum and the roll of the house of representatives is being called. Most members try to answer all roll calls, in order to maintain a quorum and vote on all measures possible.

Now the house is filling up, so we will look over the personnel of the body. The house, if all were present, would be composed of 435 members, with delegates from Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippine Islands and Porto Rico. These delegates do not vote.

I once heard ex-Speaker Clark in praising the house say it was the most democratic parliamentary body in the world. He didn't allude to politics.

As I have met the members and have looked over the body of men I have often thought of that remark. As you now look down into the house with me I think you will realize, as I do, that this is a democratic body of men, representing, as it does, the whole of the great American republic—the greatest republic in the history of the world.

Almost every type and phase of American citizenship is represented there. It is a sort of high-class melting pot. Laborer and manufacturer; rich and poor; big brains and mediocre; wise, earnest men and near-chumps, all have seats. All classes of business and professions and all shades of political and religious beliefs are represented.

Ex-governors, ex-senators, ex-judges, ex-presidents and ex-convicts have occupied seats. The blind and the halt are well represented. Only the deaf and dumb seem to be missing, though I am of the private opinion that it wouldn't jar the feelings of the house much if some members were so stricken.

After some years of observation from the inside, I can assure you that congress is made up of a fine lot of patriotic men.

Uncle Joe and Jim Mann.
Here is a good chance to look at some of the men as they walk in. You will recognize some of them from the pictures you have seen. Uncle Joe Cannon saunters in with the cocky air of youth, chewing the cigar cartoonists have made famous. If it is a cool day he may have his hat on. He was elected to congress first in 1872 and is now serving his twenty-third term. Only twice in all these years has he been defeated and he told the house one day that the years he was out were the longest years of his life. He is 80 years old and is young for that age. I have seen him dance at a dinner party, and I have heard that he plays a little poker now and then but never gets in over a dollar or two at a time. He takes a keen interest in important legislation, has a sane view of public affairs and makes a vigorous speech occasionally.

Uncle Joe, as he is affectionately called, has declined to stand for reelection and will close his official career with the ending of this congress, after serving in the house of representatives longer than any other man.

I think I have already mentioned James R. Mann. There he is by the table. The two tables in the center of each side of the house are used by the leaders, by the chairman of the committee in charge of a bill and by others especially interested in the proceedings of the day. Mr. Mann belongs at the table on the Republican side. This is his thirteenth term in the house and he was long the Republican leader. He is not the Fourth of July style of orator but a most convincing speaker and the best posted man on pending legislation in the house. He is a terror to those who have private bills up on unanimous consent day. A bill must be innocent, indeed, or properly amended, before it gets through when he is present. I fancy that he has saved the government literally millions of dollars by his industry. In some ways he is the most valuable man in the house.

Two Party Leaders.
The other gentlemen by the table is Frank Mondell, the Republican leader at this time. He is serving his thirtieth term in the house—nearly 20 years of service—and he has been absent only four days, an unequalled record, I think. Mr. Mondell is not a lawyer, but is an able and fearless leader, a keen thinker and strong debater. He was once a laborer and later a railroad contractor in Colorado, afterward going to Wyoming. He has a hard, nerve-wrecking job, but does it very well. When he makes a motion it usually carries. Mr. Mondell will not be in the house in the next congress, as he is a candidate for the United States senate.

The leader of the Democratic side is Claude Kitchin, but I cannot point him out in front, as he has been ill at home for about a year. He is a likable chap and was a man of great force in the house. His place is being filled by John N. Garner of Texas, and a worthy substitute he makes. He is

...serving his tenth term, and for 18 years he was a unique member of the house in that, during all of that time, he never let one of his speeches appear in the Congressional Record. Since assuming leadership and speaking for the party he lets his speeches go in. The gentleman by his side is Plais J. Garrett of Tennessee, who acts as assistant minority leader. Mr. Garrett is in his ninth term. He is a keen cutter, and can roast the Republicans and their measures in a more polished, clever and entertaining way than any other member on his side of the house.

Only Lady Representative.
Yes, the lady on the floor is a member. That is Miss Alice M. Robertson of Oklahoma, the only lady member and the second woman to be elected to congress. She was born in Oklahoma 92 years ago. Her father was a missionary to the Choctaws. Miss Alice has been teacher, a postmaster of a first-class office at Muskogee, and in recent years has conducted very successfully the largest cafeteria in Oklahoma. She is not what some are pleased to term themselves, a "new woman." She is a little old-fashioned in a way, for she stands by her convictions and is not easily influenced by organizations outside of her state. She was never a suffragist, and it may seem an irony of fate that the only woman in congress did not favor votes for women. Miss Alice is a popular member. She accepts things as they are, asks no favors on account of her sex and has more good horse sense and is less afraid to stand by her convictions, than are most of her fellow members.

That old boy up in the press gallery is General Sherwood of Ohio. He was a member of the Sixty-sixth congress, but was retired by the landslide. General Sherwood was elected to congress as a Republican in 1872, the year Uncle Joe Cannon first came in. Then he came back in the Sixtieth congress as a Democrat and served 14 years. The general is eighty-seven years of age. When retired from congress he took up newspaper work, his former profession. When asked the other day if he would run again, he said: "No, I can't afford it. I have got to work now and lay up something for old age." But late newspaper reports indicate that he may have changed his mind.

Not the Place for Oratory.
Who are the orators of the house? Well, that is hard to say. You hear many speeches in the house, but little oratory. I know several gentlemen who are noted orators in their home states whom I have never heard make a speech in the house. Those who have been used to swaying the multitude with their oratory don't get very far with it in the house and soon become disappointed in their audience. I must say the house is not a very attentive listener. The members get fed up on speeches. They don't care for eloquence. What they want are facts. Order is not very good. Members come in and go out; they talk and read; they listen if something of interest is being said, but they are not sitting there for entertainment and flowery speeches do not draw large audiences here.

A speaker is often interrupted by questions. Any member may rise at any time and ask if the gentleman will yield for a question. The gentleman usually does yield, and he often gets his set speech badly punctured and comes out with a flat tire. Many members read their speeches. President Wilson and President Harding, when appearing before congress, have always read their speeches, and Secretary Hughes read his great speech at the opening of the limitation of arms conference, so it is not necessarily a sign of lack of ability for a man to read a speech, as it is often done to guarantee accuracy. However, we have plenty of orators for all occasions and can furnish the country with a good supply for the competent.

Do the men in congress today rank up to those of the congresses of years ago? Well, yes; I think so. If you name your ideals of other days your list covers a hundred years. You are endeavoring to compare this one congress with fifty others. Of course, I do not care to back this congress against the whole of American history.

The congress is not made up of experts or highbrows or bosses or supermen. We have no breed of ruling men in this country. It is made up of a pretty good average of the citizenship it represents—men who meet their folks back home on common ground and do not tower too high above them.

Superfluous.
Walter Camp, the famous athlete and trainer, was talking about rough football.

"One of the roughest players Yale ever turned out," he said "went West to work on a ranch. The cowboys, having heard of his fame, asked him to teach them football."

"So the Yale man made up two lousy eleven, explained the rules, and wound up with:

"Mind, men, if you can't kick the ball kick an opponent. Now let's get busy. Where's the ball?"

"Oh, drat the ball," said a cowboy; "let's get on with the game."

High School Notes

School opened on Sept. 4 with 180 students enrolled as follows: 3 specials, 37 seniors, 30 sophomores and 64 freshmen. The officers of the classes are: Freshman, Harry Tucker, President; Walter Anderson, Vice President; Lillian Tucker, Secretary and Treasurer; and Miss Ryder, Class Adviser. Sophomores: Walter Severence, President; Paul Powers, Vice President; Catherine Gabriel, Secretary and Treasurer; Marion Lamb, Class Representative, and Miss Barry, Class Adviser. Juniors: Beatrice Sheldon, President; Jean Gould, Vice President; Agnes Zirr, Secretary and Treasurer; Florence Stranahan, Class Representative; and Miss Brakel, Class Adviser. Seniors: Noah Richards, President; Ramona Haltom, Vice President; Ruth Gould, Secretary and Treasurer; Lewis Johnson, Class Representative; and Mrs. Heyd, Class Adviser.

Foot ball practice has started with several new men and there are prospects for a good team again this year. An accident marred the usual practice last Wednesday when Sheldon Johnson broke his collar bone. The convalescent is reported to be improving fast.

At a student body meeting the president, Carlyle Stranahan, appointed a committee to find out the cost of the production of an annual for this year.

The Dramatic Club has organized with the following officers: Alfred Gabriel, President; Arline Heyd, Vice president; Ruth Gould, Secretary; Mary Lamar, Reporter; Noah Richards, Manager and Mrs. Heyd, Treasurer and Director. Several good plays are anticipated.

Last week at the expense of the freshman class, Richard Goynne favored the student body with a song.

The Sophomores tried to haze the freshman, however the tables were turned, and the Sophomore President suffered the indignity of being taken down by a freshman boy. By way of settlement, it was arranged to have a tug of war between the sophomores and freshmen, on the Trask River Tuesday evening, the upper classmen acting as judges.

He was a lover of athletic sports, and while in college studied journalism and took an active interest in literary affairs, and for some time he was employed in his uncle's newspaper office.

In the year 1897, at the age of 21, he came to Oregon and for several years edited the Springfield News at Springfield in this state. Early in 1917 he came to Tillamook and for about six months was night foreman in the Coates Lumber Co.'s mill. He enlisted in the coast defense, heavy artillery and was stationed at Fort MacArthur, San Pedro, Calif., ranking as first sergeant, 10th Co.

On July 20, 1919, he was united in marriage to Georgia Myrtle Zimmerman, who survives her husband. They resided in Los Angeles, Calif., until May 1, 1922, when they came north for his health, to Tillamook, Oregon, where the deceased made his home until the day of his death.

During his last illness, covering a period of several months, all that could be done for the restoration of his health was done and his faithful wife had the sympathy of all their friends.

He was a member of No. 357 B. P. O. E. of Eugene, Oregon, and the Masonic Lodge No. 422 of Eagle Rock City, Calif., and of the Eastern Star Lodge No. 313 of the same city. He was also a member of the American Legion, post No. 8 of Los Angeles, Calif.

The deceased leaves to mourn his early death, his beloved wife as stated above; his aged parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Howard of Boaz, New Mexico, and a sister, Mrs. Edra B. Junge, of Weed, Calif. Mrs. Junge and her husband's father were present at the funeral.

The funeral services were held in the Masonic Hall on Sunday afternoon at two o'clock. At the services the B. P. O. E. male quartette, and Rev. Dark of the Methodist church and Rev. McRea of the Presbyterian church participated. The services at the grave were conducted by the Masonic fraternity, and the pallbearers were brothers of the American Legion from the local post.

BRIGHTON

Miss Sarah Pederson of South Bend, Wn., returned to her home Sunday after spending a few days with her sister Mrs. W.B. Foster.

Miss Bedwell of Oregon City is the guest of Mrs. Melvin McCord.

Mrs. Keatley of Castle Rock is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. W. A. Rowe.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Craig spent the week end in Tillamook, visiting their grandson, who was injured in an accident recently.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Foster and children motored to Tillamook on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gee children spent Sunday in Wheeler.

Mr. and rs. T. B. Watt have returned from a week's trip to Portland.

The community was saddened by the death of Mad-tin Sheasley Sunday at Tillamook hospital. Mr. Sheas-

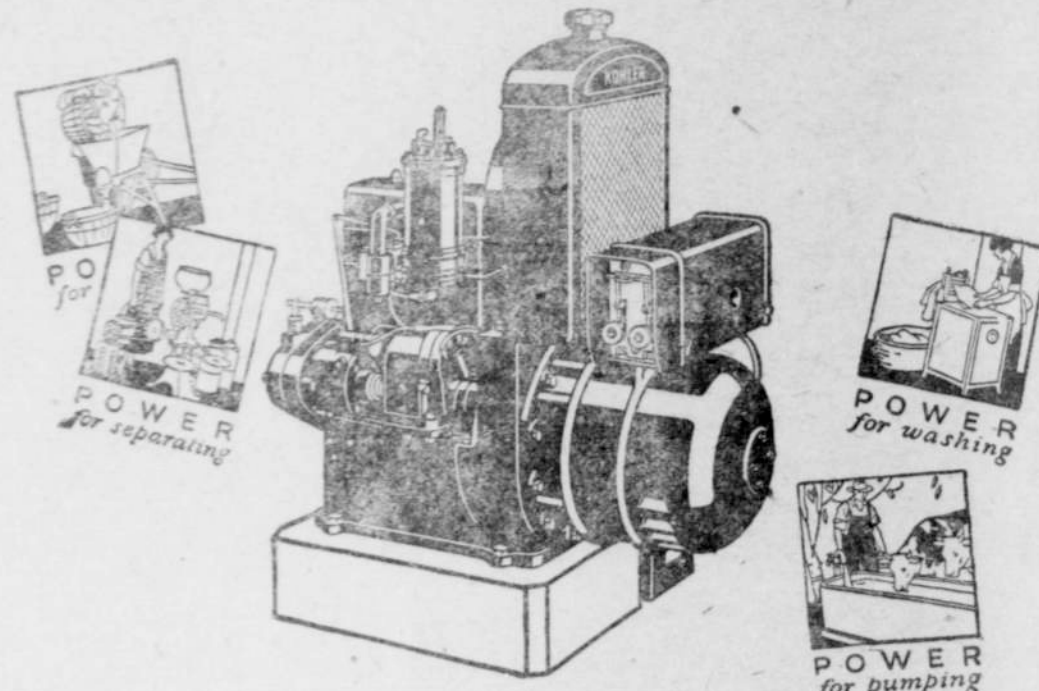
ley was injured while at work two weeks ago. Besides his widow and four children he leaves a host of friends to mourn his death.

CIRCUIT COURT JURY LIST

Jury list for the October term of Circuit Court which convenes at the Court House in Tillamook, October 2, 1922, at 9 a. m.

A. C. Everson, Real Estate, Tillamook; A. C. Browning, Farmer, Blain; A. A. Compton, Farmer, Woods; E. T. Haltom, Merchant Tillamook; A. J. Wilks, Farmer, Tillamook; J. L. Gay, Farmer, Tillamook; H. E. Warren, Laborer, Bay City; Fred Thun, Farmer, Cloverdale; A. W. Phelps, Farmer, Tillamook; G. M. Coughran, Farmer, Cloverdale; Wm. Fletcher, Farmer, Tillamook; Ed. Jacoby, Farmer, Bay City; A. M. Ginn, Farmer, Tillamook; Chester McOlsen, Clerk, Tillamook; Peter Becker, Tailor, Tillamook; R. B. Miller, Auto Man, Tillamook; Carl

Posetti, Farmer, Blain; R. C. Magarrel, Farmer, Tillamook; Jesse Earl, Farmer, Tillamook; P. O. Light Farmer, Cloverdale; Solie Smith, Farmer, Tillamook; Chas. McKillop, Farmer, Hebo; M. N. Bays, Farmer, Cloverdale; James Kodas, Farmer, Bay City; J. B. Housy, Merchant, Tillamook; Geo. Williams, Farmer, Tillamook; Thore Hanger, Farmer, Bay City; J. M. Traxler, Truck Driver, Cloverdale; James H. Woods, Farmer, Blain; Gus. Wiklund, Farmer, Tillamook.



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