

much—comes from his adoption of democratic policies with which Mr. Bryan is most conspicuously identified. Among thoughtful democrats there is little or no difference of opinion upon these points, and the conclusion is irresistible that Mr. Bryan is not only the proper nominee on account of his devoted following, but because he is pre-eminently the most available man in the party at this juncture. We hope the danger is not so serious as it appears to the Dubuque paper, but manifestly the fear is not an idle apprehension, and it behooves southern newspapers to sound a note of warning lest delegations to Denver be composed of men who will abandon Bryan after a formal observance of instructions."

GOVERNOR HASKELL of Oklahoma addressed the democrats of Wichita, Kan., saying in part: "Republicanism never was further away from Lincolnism than it is today. Show me the true adherers to the policies of the nation's greatest president and I will show you a democrat. Roosevelt may talk of the good things that are in store under republican administration, but when it comes to a practical thing, as a railroad rate bill, Aldrich compels him to subsidize. When it concerns a reform measure, Cannon compels him to wait until after the next election. When he speaks of a currency reform, Cannon and Aldrich both say, 'Wait a little longer.' Is it any wonder then that Roosevelt in his desperation and disappointment, issued his 12,000 word special message, last January confessing that the thirty-eight years of republican government brings us to the point where he himself condemns everything as radically bad and is wholly unprepared to suggest efficient remedies. Fortunately there is a remedy. Bryanism is in actual practice in Oklahoma, expressed in the most practical constitution ever written for the government of the people and by the people. We have fully demonstrated that Bryanism means good common sense and efficient government when put to a test. If spread from ocean to ocean it would mean a new era, where the government would be ruled by the people instead of being controlled by special interests."

REPUBLICAN leaders of the house grew desperate in their efforts to hold control so effectively as to prevent the passage of reform legislation. Many exciting scenes have occurred on the floor of the house recently. The republicans adopted several rules to check the minority. One of these rules was to enable the speaker to arbitrarily declare a recess at five o'clock every day. Mr. Dalzell subsequently reported another rule which the republicans put through by sheer force of numbers. The rule provided that hereafter a general appropriation bill that has been considered and amended in committee of the whole house shall be put on its passage under suspension of the rules and that a majority, and not a two-thirds vote, shall carry the bill through. The object of the rule is to prevent the democrats securing roll calls on motions forcing votes on amendments.

THREE TIMES on April 9 the democrats in the house caught the republicans napping and forced them to produce a quorum. At one time when a vote disclosed the absence of a quorum Speaker Cannon applied the old Reed rule and declared a quorum to be present. While the amendments to one appropriation bill were being read Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, overlooking the rule, demanded to know if there was to be any debate. "No debate," sharply replied Speaker Cannon, bringing his gavel down with several resounding whacks. "I'll bet the tobacco trust is in there all right," Mr. Gaines remarked heatedly.

WHILE THE employers' liability bill was before the senate Mr. Bacon of Georgia declared that great railroad corporations exercise an important influence upon the political fortunes of the country. In New York, he said, \$100,000 had been raised on one occasion on the suggestion of a high official and used to influence the election. His reference was readily recognized by senators as being aimed at the president and his letter to Mr. Harriman. He said he would not call any names in connection with that statement. Senator Foraker asked whether the Georgia senator would not call the name of the "high official" he referred to, but

Mr. Bacon said he did not wish to do that. "I think it is only fair to the 'high official,' said Mr. Foraker, "to state that he contradicts that story and applied an ugly word to the man who set it afloat."

DURING THIS debate Senator Gore of Oklahoma, taking a letter from his pocket, said he wished to read it, as throwing light upon the subject under discussion. The paper proved to be a copy of a letter dated October 14, 1904, recently published, which began: "My Dear Harriman," and was signed "Theodore Roosevelt." Mr. Gallinger, addressing his question to Mr. Bacon, asked if he thought it was right to introduce the name of the president in this debate. "I am not responsible," said Mr. Bacon, "for bringing in the president." Mr. Gore quickly responded that he did not think that the president should write a letter he was unwilling to have read. Later Mr. Gore said in regard to the Roosevelt-Harriman letter that he was responsible for the reading of the letter to the senate. "I would rather be responsible for the reading of that letter," he said, "than responsible for writing it. If that were a proper letter for the president to write to an undesirable citizen there should be no impropriety in my offering it to this senate. If that is an improper letter I am sorry the president wrote it. That is my apology." The bill was passed without amendment and without a division.

SENATOR TILLMAN of South Carolina speaking to a representative of the Atlanta Georgian, said: "We have a magnificent chance to win. A spirit of unrest and discontent is abroad with the republican party. I believe that with Bryan and a strong man with him we can win. Everything now points to Taft as the republican candidate. He is supposed to represent and typify Rooseveltism, but I believe Taft as president would be another man compared with Taft as secretary of war. He is a pretty independent spirit, and I do not believe Roosevelt or any other man could control or dictate to him. If Taft makes peace with the Wall Street crowd, and it seems probable that he will, I believe it would strengthen democratic chances of success. Roosevelt has appropriated a large part of the democratic principles. He has talked much, but accomplished actually in good for the masses very little. There are many important laws on the statute books that

he has not enforced. In lecturing through the northwest last summer I found thousands of republicans who will vote for Bryan, because they know he stands for things Roosevelt stands for, and did so before Roosevelt even thought of them. Of course there is the old conservative Cleveland wing of democrats who would probably go to Taft or whoever the republicans nominate. It is a crowd that follows the party that promises least in the way of reforms. Wall Street and that crowd hate Bryan now even worse than they ever have, which is saying much. With them it is anybody to defeat Bryan, and you will observe that most of the hubbub against him comes from that crowd."

IT IS VERY satisfactory to now and then have a great light shed upon some question that has long bothered us. "Puck" tells a story that may shed a great light on the vexed question of "what caused the recent financial flurry?" The New York paper tells us that the reporter, after surmounting many difficulties, managed to reach the private office of the Great Man of Finance. The Man of Finance wheeled about in his chair and proceeded to talk graciously concerning the panic, much to the surprise of the reporter, who had anticipated great trouble. Said the Man of Finance: "I do not mind being quoted to this extent, to the effect that I believe that the present uneasiness has a cause. Cause and effect go hand in hand. Everything would now point to the fact that money in various quantities is hard to get readily. No doubt the origin lies somewhere or other; I am positive that there is an origin. The money market fluctuates under different conditions. It is just now fluctuating; this, I would say, is due to the different conditions. The run on the banks withdraws the money from the banks, which tends to exhaust the supply from the banks. If a bank has no money the shortage is felt among its depositors. Thus it is clearly seen that the result is only due to the effect of the cause. Do I make myself clear? Now, please try to quote me exactly, as I do not wish to leave any false or uncertain impression on the public as to my stand on this great question. Good morning." After having carefully digested this very lucid explanation, Commoner readers will no longer wonder why we had the panic, although they may wonder greatly at the tremendous possibilities of our language, which, it will be remembered, has been defined as something with which to conceal our thoughts.



"C-C-C-COME, LET'S B-B-BE FRIENDS"