

stretcher. He looked wonderingly around. The surgeons drew closer as his back was bared and the nurses sponged him. Prof. Jonnesco moved quietly about, mixing his solution. American surgeons were to see for the first time how Jonnesco produces spinal analgesia. This boy had been a noisy patient in the ward and had even made a fuss while being prepared for the operating room. His right leg was crippled, due to infantile paralysis. He sat up, with the nurse supporting him, and was absolutely silent as the noted foreigner felt with his finger to locate the exact spot on the back where a puncture should be made. There was nothing repellent about what followed. It was all intensely interesting. The puncture was made between the twelfth dorsal and the first lumbar regions, about a third of the way up the spine. Three centigrams of stovaine to one-half milligram of strychnine was the strength of the solution in this instance. Anaesthesia was produced in about two minutes. The boy was laid down upon a pillow and his eyes remained open. He took note of everything that went on about him. The whimper when the lance touched him lasted just a moment and was evidently caused by fright and not by any unpleasant physical sensation. Some of those in the amphitheatre were sure that he laughed more than once while the doctor, who sat at his head, screened his eyes and talked with him. When he was asked how he felt, as he was being bandaged, his answer, 'I am all right, I feel fine,' came without a quaver. The second case was one of dislocated hip joint. This was a girl of about twelve. Five centigrams of stovaine and one milligram of strychnine were used. A solution of the same strength was used in the hernia case, and when a woman, thirty-five years old, was operated on for an old leg fracture, the maximum strength—ten centigrams of stovaine to one milligram of strychnine—was employed. Each of the four subjects retained consciousness. Not one made the least trouble. A person scratched by a thorn makes more to-do about it than these did."

IN THEIR predictions that Mr. Taft may yet join hands with them, the republican insurgents are simply "whistling through a graveyard." An Associated Press dispatch printed in the Omaha World-Herald says: "President Taft called Vice President Sherman and Speaker Cannon into conference today and for more than an hour the three were closeted in the president's private room, while visitors cooled their heels in the waiting rooms of the executive office. When Mr. Sherman and the speaker left they declined to comment on the consultation, declaring that it was not a subject for public discussion and that if any information was to be given out it must come from President Taft. The latter declined to talk. Leaders in congress, however, are of the opinion that the conference dealt with the legislative program to be followed in the present session. It is known that the president is highly desirous of enacting legislation that will have the approval of the country at large and he is more or less committed to the establishment of certain policies. His desire that the coming legislation be above criticism is said to be accentuated by the attitude of the democrats, who are planning to seize upon every republican mistake to make good the declaration of Champ Clark, minority leader in the house, that the next house will be democratic. One of the chief demands the president has made on congress is that there must be greater economy in appropriations. Representative Tawney, chairman of the house committee on appropriations, was with the president early in the day."

WRITING IN the Philadelphia North American the Washington correspondent for that paper describes the plans of the insurgents in this way: "There are at least twenty-five republican members who will vote, if necessary, with the democrats to defeat any measure they believe to be wrong, and they calculate, with every reason to regard their conclusions as accurate, that as many more will side with them when an actual test of strength is made over a proposition of public importance. The plan to be carried out in the effort to wrest control of the house from the speaker is to appeal from his decision. This was done with respect to the oil schedule in the tariff fight, and, although Cannon took the floor himself and pleaded and threatened in behalf of special privileges to the oil trust, he was out-voted. So it is intended by the progressives to wait patiently until some

measure of legislation directly affecting the public interest is before the house, when, if the speaker rules, as he unquestionably will rule, that their amendments are out of order, they will appeal from his ruling and make the issue one of the public interest against a house organization which is striving to undermine and sacrifice that interest. It may not be until the proposed interstate commerce legislation is before the house that this contest can be made. But it will come sooner or later, and the prediction is made that Cannon is doomed to certain defeat, unless he averts it by surrender. There is no secret about these plans of the progressive leaders. Cannon knows what they are, as well as the progressives themselves. He is also on the alert to defeat them by the exercise of his great power under the rules, and his method of forcing men to do his bidding, either by threats or cajolery. But there is growing doubt whether these methods will be as effective as formerly, for the very reason that the purposes they are to serve are so apparent. Besides, there is constantly increasing belief that the continuance of the Cannon rule will bring disaster to the republican party, and men who would otherwise serve him gladly realize that their own political salvation may depend upon their making some show of independence and at least a pretense of public-spirited motives between now and the elections of next year."

JAMES J. HILL, the railroad magnate, addressed a large gathering in Omaha. Among other things Mr. Hill said: "The whole subject of our food supply and its relation to population, industry, growth, institutions and everything that concerns our future is appropriate for this occasion. The true statement of the broad general fact which it is most desirable that every one should understand is this: that this country can not feed the population which it must necessarily have within comparatively few years if it does not change its agricultural methods. The emphasis is all on that conditional clause. We can not support our coming population upon the crop yield per acre that now satisfies us. We shall have to transform a growing decline in value and productivity of our soil under continued cultivation into a rapid increase in both. If the crisis can be seen moving upon us now, and if it took Great Britain over half a century to raise her wheat yield from about 15 bushels to 32 bushels per acre, we have no time to lose. What has to be considered, the keynote of all present discussion is not the difficulty, but the urgency of the task. The whole argument is one not of despair, but of reassurance, provided only that we do the obvious, indispensable and feasible thing, and do it now. The country, unless, there shall be a change, is approaching a time when it must import wheat to meet home needs. Other food products also lag behind the constant new demand. Since that demand can not be escaped, and since not to meet it means want or a lowering of the standard of life and comfort in this country, which no American would wish to see, there is but one course before the nation. That is to increase the productiveness of the farm so that earth's gifts may year by year equal or exceed the people's requirements. All that is needed to turn an impending national deficit into a surplus, to support in plenty 150 or more persons to the square mile in the United States, is the use instead of the abuse of the soil; the practice of that knowledge which agricultural schools and experiment stations have already formulated and are daily putting before the people. The future of this nation, political and moral as well as financial, is bound up with the future of the farm. By that will our character and our institutions be tried. By it, in the long run, all wealth is measured, conditioned and supported. The work of education has been begun, but it must be enlarged, supplemented and advocated all the time. The institutions that are doing most for the country today are the agricultural colleges. They should grow in number, in attendance, and, above all, in the expert knowledge and freedom from all political or other influence of their chiefs and instructors. You can help see to that."

PREMIER ASQUITH addressed a monster meeting at London describing the policy on which the liberal government is appealing to the country. The following is from the Associated Press report of Asquith's speech: "He repeated what had been said by other ministers, that if it were returned to power the government would demand the limitation of the power of the house of lords, and then went a step

farther and pledged that the liberal party would grant self government to Ireland. The meeting was marked by great enthusiasm of an audience which filled the vast hall, and which was composed entirely of men, women having been denied admission in the fear that there might be a counter demonstration by suffragettes. Every corner of the hall had been searched during the day for women, and a small band of them was routed out, but they managed to get two male supporters into the meeting, who interrupted Mr. Asquith momentarily with cries of 'Votes for women!' Then they were promptly ejected. Mr. Asquith pointed out that just four years ago Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, then prime minister, had outlined in Albert hall the policy of a new liberal government, which included many reforms. The representatives of the people in the house of commons had labored faithfully to carry into law the measures promised, but their will had been nullified, and as a fitting climax the supplies which the house of commons had voted had been stepped upon by the house of lords. Therefore the house of commons was now on the eve of another dissolution, and it had fallen to his lot to take up the burden. The last time, he said, the government had reckoned without their host, but it was not going to make that mistake again. 'I tell you in the name of and in behalf of the liberal party,' Mr. Asquith proceeded, 'we have at this moment laid upon us a single task, a task which dominates and transcends because it embraces and involves every great and beneficent social and political change upon which our hearts are set. That task is to vindicate and establish upon an unshakable foundation the principle of representative government.' Referring to the education and licensing bills, the premier said that the government stood, in the main, upon the principles of the bills which the house of lords rejected. The franchise law, he added, was still encumbered with artificial distinction and impediment for which this was no justification. Upon the topic of woman suffrage, Mr. Asquith said his views were well known. He had no reason to alter them despite the suicidal excesses of a smaller section of the advocates for such a change."

AFTER REFERRING to the action of the house of lords on the matter of Welsh religious equality and the fate of certain Scottish land bills, Mr. Asquith turned his attention to Ireland, which, he said, had been fortunate for once, because the measures sent up in her behalf did not come violently athwart the prejudices of the house of lords. "Speaking last year before my accession to the premiership," Mr. Asquith continued, "I described the Irish policy as the one undeniable failure of British statesmanship. I repeat tonight what I said then, and on behalf of my colleagues, and I believe on behalf of my party, I reiterate that this is a problem to be solved only in one way—by a policy which, while explicitly safeguarding the supreme, invisible authority of the imperial parliament, must set up in Ireland a system of full self-government as regards purely Irish affairs. There is not and can not be any question of separation. There is not and can not be any question of rivalry of competing for supremacy subject to these conditions. That is the liberal policy." Mr. Asquith defended the budget as necessary to social reform, and in this respect old age pensions were the first step. The budget, he continued, had been thrown out by the house of lords after weeks of debate, and the government, as a result, was confronted with three constitutional innovations—first, the claim of the house of lords to control in levying taxation; second, the claim of the same house to the right to compel dissolution of the popular chamber, and, third, the assertion of the house of lords of their power to make and unmake the executive government of the crown. The meeting carried a resolution declaring unabated confidence in Mr. Asquith's leadership. David Lloyd-George, the chancellor of the exchequer and who framed the budget rejected by the house of lords moved a vote of thanks to the chairman of the meeting. He received an ovation. A small band of daring suffragettes was dislodged from Albert hall, where the women secreted themselves preparatory to an onslaught upon Premier Asquith. The women were hidden away in all quarters of the vast building, some in packing cases and others on the roof. One was found curled up inside the huge organ, having squeezed herself in between two rows of pipes. Another step forward would have plunged her into the well, which is forty feet deep. The government officials had scented