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**EDUCATIONAL SERIES**

(Continued from page 4.)  
When bills are actually under consideration, any member may speak if he can obtain from the floor leader of his party part of the time allotted to that party for discussion. Uncle Joe cares little who speaks or what they say, for in ninety-nine cases in one hundred the fate of the bill has already been determined in that tobacco-scented chamber. Besides, the galleries must be amused in some manner, and talk is inexpensive.

But when it comes to getting bills before the house for discussion, there's a different tale to tell, for the man who rises to offer a bill or to call one up is almost invariably the man you have seen a trifle earlier in the day coming from the Red room with light, elastic step and smiling countenance. And that man whom you saw emerge from that same ked room—leaden-footed, scowling, gloomy,—where is he? Hurling defiance at your Uncle Joseph? Do you hear his voice ring out in clarion tones declaiming: "Mr. Speaker, I rise in my place to protest in the name of my constituents against this infamous outrage—this high-handed defiance of justice—this amazing—" Nothing of the kind. He sits surlily in his seat or (and perhaps this is the wisest possible course) retires to his office to write a constituent as follows: "I am much interested in the measure you urge, and it shall have my hearty support. I hope that in due time the wisdom of the house will enact it into law."

Meantime the show is going on in the house. Those members who have been told they will be recognized get up in droves and shout, "Mr. Speaker!" Uncle Joe scarcely lets his gaze fall upon them. He looks at his little list and then he says, "The gentleman from Massachusetts" or "The gentleman from Missouri," as the case may be, and the measures proposed by the gentlemen from Massachusetts and Missouri are thus allowed to begin the course that ends in new laws.

Now and then—not very often, but now and then—some shouting member whose intentions are not definitely known to the monarch of the house, may catch the speaker's eye. In such a case, the speaker may inquire: "For what purpose does the gentleman rise?" The gentleman says that he rises for such and such a purpose. If the purpose for which the gentleman rises does not appeal to the speaker he will retort simply: "The gentleman will not be recognized for that purpose." And the gentleman is not; no, sir, neither then nor at any time whatever. Does the gentleman offer objection? No, and for the same reason that he offers none when the north wind doth blow and we shall have snow.

It sometimes happens that this habit of looking at his little list and not at all at the various favored gentlemen yammering for recognition gets the speaker into an embarrassing position. For example, the gentleman from Missouri has in the Red room received the august permission to call up a certain (very certain) bills or to offer a certain (very certain) resolution. Uncle Joe takes a squint at his list and through the yammering remarks:

"The gentleman from Missouri!"  
Nobody responds. There are present in the house a number of gentlemen from Missouri but none of them has visited the Red room that morning, so none of them arises. Uncle Joe glares about the house and repeats a trifle peevishly his observation:

"The gentleman from Missouri!" adding his name.

The gentleman from Missouri is at that moment out in the house res-

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