

of Uncle Joe himself. He is a perfect mine of information, but eloquence is not in him. His presence is not impressive, for his stature is brief, he carries his head on one side, he's a trifle deaf, and his voice is as resonant and as musical as a file's.

Of the triumvirate of barnacles which in the last analysis rule the house of representatives, Uncle Joe is the only one who has anything like a claim to popularity, and they like him for his picturesqueness quite as much as for any other quality. But the rule of the three is a rule of fear, not a reign of love. They hold the bridge by virtue of the keenness of their blades and the weight of their trusty bludgeons. When General Grosvenor was in congress the rulers of the house were four. But the man whom Congressman Vandiver, of Missouri, once described as "the gentleman from Ohio who looks like Santa Claus and talks like Satan" was retired to private life and his place as one of the big bosses has never really been filled.

News of the Week

Lieutenant Semmes Reed, naval aide to President Taft, was seriously injured by being crushed under his horse. His physicians say he has a chance of living, but that he will be paralyzed for life.

William Whitla, a small boy, was kidnapped at Sharon, Pa. His uncle, Frank H. Buhl, a wealthy iron and steel man, has offered to pay \$10,000 for the boy's return.

Three persons were killed and a large number were seriously injured by a flood that resulted from the dynamiting of the city water tanks at Parkersburg, W. Va.

Democrats of the house will issue an address to the American people telling about the fight on the rules.

The jury in the Cooper and Sharp murder trial at Nashville, Tenn., reported a verdict of acquittal for Sharp, but said they could not agree as to the Coopers. The judge sent them to their room for further consideration.

District Attorney Jerome asked the dismissal in New York courts of the indictments against George W. Perkins, Charles S. Fairchild and other insurance magnates.

The telegraph operators and postmen of France are on a strike and three hundred thousand telegrams and a large number of letters and other mail remains undelivered. On March 18 five thousand mechanics employed by the government joined the strike.

The Union depot at Louisville, Ky., was destroyed by fire. Loss \$400,000.

Referring to Missouri and the two-cent rate law, Governor Hadley says: "If the special dispensation is granted Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and other neighboring states in the matter of 2-cent fares, the state of Missouri will strike back at the railroads through various methods of litigation and legislation."

The first bill passed by the house of representatives at the special session was a bill providing for the thirteenth census. This bill was vetoed by President Roosevelt. In its present form the measure gives to the civil service commission jurisdiction over appointments and provides for the printing of the reports by the government printing office. As adopted at the last session the

bill stripped the civil service commission of such authority, and there was a provision allowing some of the printing to be done by private firms, because of which President Roosevelt vetoed it. A further amendment was made whereby appointments are to be apportioned pro rata among the states.

The Chicago Daily News prints this special from Vienna: "The new American ambassador to Austria will be Richard C. Kerens of St. Louis. The state department at Washington has cabled to the Austrian government asking if he is a persona grata. A reply in the affirmative has been sent."

Rear Admiral Edward Trask Strong, United States navy, retired, died suddenly at his home in Andover, Mass.

George T. Angell, known as "the friend of dumb animals," and editor of the publication called "Our Dumb Animals," died at his home in Boston, age 86 years.

Edward W. Durant was appointed to succeed Dr. Crum, the negro, as collector of customs at Charleston, South Carolina.

PASSING THROUGH A WILD ORGY

Representative McCall, republican, to Harvard students:

"We have been passing through a wild orgy of extravagance, in which very much has been consumed in fireworks and fustian, and great burdens of expense have been unnecessarily fastened upon the country. Now, as a result of it all, we are to have taxation of a sort such as the country has usually known only as a result of war, and the people will have an opportunity of paying the bills."

"Our national expenditure has doubled in a decade, and the expense of government during that period has increased more than four times as fast as the population. We have been accustomed to point to the Wilson tariff act as standing for a great deficit in national finance, and yet the aggregate of deficits during the whole thirty-five months of the life of that act was \$105,000,000, as compared with more than \$140,000,000 of deficiency during the last sixteen months of the administration which has just ended."

SEE THE OTHER FELLOW

Patrick arrived home much the worse for wear. One eye was closed his nose was broken and his face looked as though it had been stung by bees.

"Glory be!" exclaimed his wife. "That Dutchman Schwartzheimer—'twas him," explained Pat.

"Shame on ye!" exploded his wife, without sympathy. "A big spalpeen the loikes of you to get bate up by a little omadhoun of a Dootchman the size of him! Why—"

"Whist, Nora," said Patrick "don't spake disrespectful of the dead!"—Everybody's Magazine.

EDUCATIONAL CLUBS

A democratic educational club is being talked of here, along lines suggested by W. J. Bryan in The Commoner. A wise plan, and if persisted in will accomplish much good ere the next presidential election. In fact, its effect could be made potent in the congressional elections. Organize, educate, stay organized, then post-graduate in the cause.—Calhoun (Mo.) Clarion.



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