

## HELPED TO CREATE NATION

Men of the Pony Express and the Overland Stage Deserve Place on History's Page.

There recently died in Los Angeles, William Gooding, reputed to be the last of the famous pony express riders. The present generation knows little about those pioneer times and the wonderful way news was carried across the continent during the ten years immediately prior to the building of the Union and Southern Pacific lines, which met at Promontory Point, Utah, in 1869. Mail and newspapers took from a month to fifty days to cross the continent prior to the establishment of the pony express, which began its service April 16, 1859, reducing the time to ten days. Relay stations with change of mounts were established at short distances, depending upon the topography of the country, and each rider would ride at top speed from one to the other, change horses in a trice and go on. Human endurance was pressed to the limit.

As an illustration of the speed made, the last message of President Buchanan to congress, in December, 1860, was carried to San Francisco in eight days and two hours. In 1863 the transcontinental telegraph line was completed and all news thereafter went by wire, except such as the papers on the coast clipped from eastern papers which arrived by mail. When the railroads were completed both the pony express and the later overland stage went into the discard, remaining, however, on short tributary routes for a number of years, some for many years. There are many tales told of the daring and nerve of those hardy and courageous drivers of the stages, passing, as they did, fearlessly through hostile Indian country and not infrequently suffering death at the hands of war parties, in spite of the efforts made by the government to give them military protection. These are of the same character of tales which mark the progress of American civilization, from Plymouth Rock to Seal Rocks, in subduing the wilderness and creating a great nation.

## Overheard at the Movies.

His wife had a severe headache, and was sadly in need of quiet, so husband said he would take their small daughter to the movies, and for her to retire early.

It was all one to him, as he had not consulted any program, and he entered the first theater in their pathway, an unfortunate selection, for it was one of the sex-problem plays, the principal characters uncongenial and seemingly with good grounds for divorce because of incompatibility.

The little maiden, after a time, caused a titter of laughter among the audience near her by saying in a shrill little treble: "She doesn't seem to like married life, does she, papa?"

The play proceeded and after an apparently violent outburst of temper on the part of the feminine star, the little girl's voice again rent the air with: "Mamma acts just that way sometimes, doesn't she, papa?"

He did not wait to see or hear more, but hastily left while the lights were subdued, and the next time he will select a comedy.—Indianapolis News.

## Great Waterspout.

Particulars are published in the Meteorological Magazine of a great waterspout that a correspondent observed south of Cape Comorin on a day when the weather was fine and the sea smooth. The waterspout formed between a russet-gray cloud and the sea nearly five miles from the ship. At first the distance between the base of the cloud and the surface of the sea was 4,900 feet, and the width of the column tapered from 500 feet at its juncture with the cloud to 150 feet at the sea. The vortex appeared to be a tube with tapering sides and a central column. The walls seemed to consist of water moving downward and the central column of water ascending. The phenomenon lasted for 13 minutes; then the walls appeared to ascend into the cloud.

## Increasing His Vocabulary

Father recently came into possession of a new automobile and garage talk flew thick and fast between husband and wife with the result that son, called Wesley at the North side school, where he is learning that words are composed of syllables, sometimes became mixed in his school and garage talk.

After showing his mother the knowledge that had been forced on him that day in the way of new words, Wesley came to one with three syllables that was not entirely familiar and called to his mother for help with:

"Mother, how many cylinders in this word?"—Indianapolis News.

## Pessimistic.

A minister on the occasion of a marriage was at a loss in trying to discover the bridegroom among the company of young men present. Fixing on a young man with the biggest flower in his button-hole, he asked him quietly:

"Are you the happy man?"

"That remains to be seen," was the solemn answer.

"But are you the man who is to be married?"

"Oh, aye; but that's another matter."

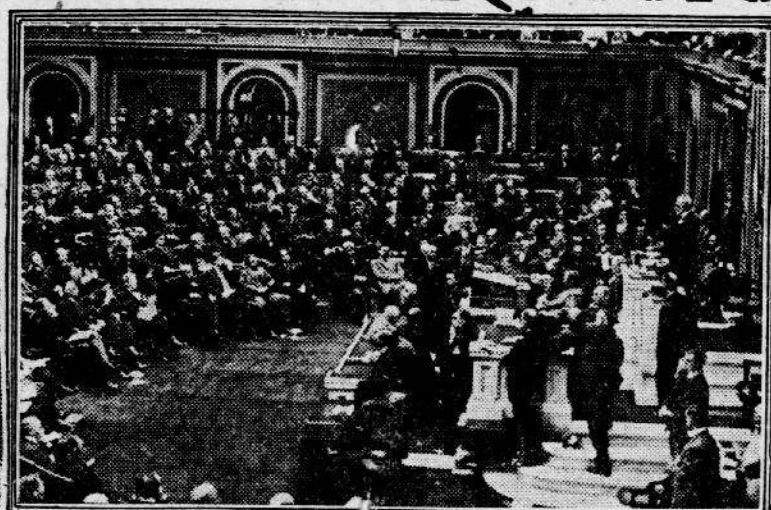
## Improvement in Japan.

First-class narrow roads are replacing the old paths in Japan, says the New York Herald. Automobile roads, electric roads and light railways serve many parts of the country in a surprising manner, while rolling stock and handling methods are being improved.

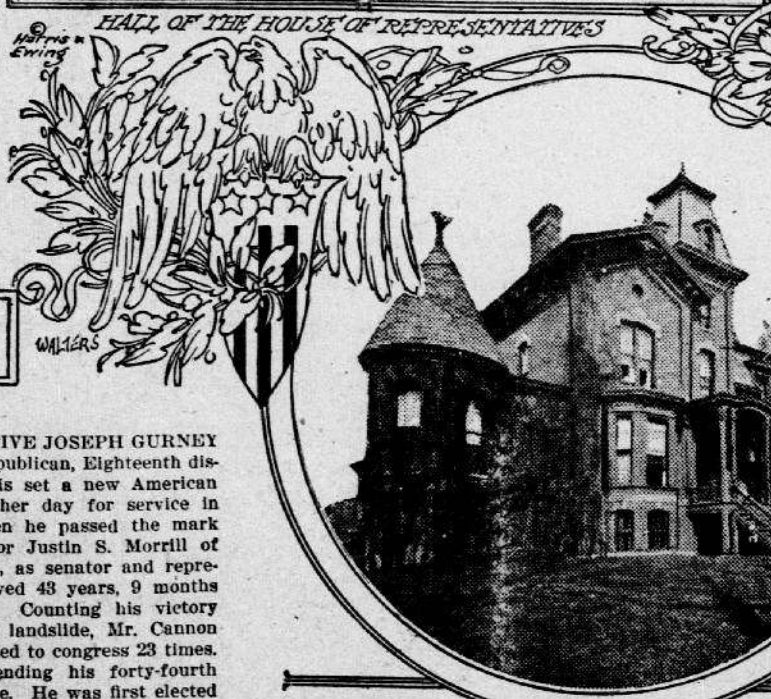
# "Uncle Joe" Cannon Sets Service Record



Photo by Everett



HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



CANNON HOME AT DANVILLE, ILL.

REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH GURNEY CANNON, Republican, Eighteenth district of Illinois set a new American record the other day for service in congress, when he passed the mark set by Senator Justin S. Morrill of Vermont, who, as senator and representative, served 43 years, 9 months and 24 days. Counting his victory in the recent landslide, Mr. Cannon has been elected to congress 23 times. He is now ending his forty-fourth year of service. He was first elected to the Forty-third congress (1873-5) and failed of re-election to the Fifty-third (1893-5) and Sixty-second (1911-13) congresses. He was speaker in the Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth and Sixty-first congresses (1903-1911). His district comprises the counties of Clark, Cumberland, Edgar, Ironquois, Kankakee and Vermilion, with a population of about 250,000. He lives in Danville and is a lawyer and banker. He was born in Guilford, N. C., and will be eighty-five years old May 7, 1921.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon's name is exceedingly familiar to the United States at large; probably few public men are more widely known. So the foregoing facts about him are pretty generally known. While the veteran is interesting as an individual and a legislator he is also interesting as a landmark by which the progress of things may be measured. The jubilation held by the house when "Uncle Joe" set the new service mark was therefore a decidedly interesting affair. Times have changed and we have changed with them since he was elected to congress in 1872 and here are some of the utterances which hint at the changes of nearly half a century.

Former Speaker Champ Clark of Missouri—When Joseph G. Cannon was born on the battlefield of Guilford Court House, a victory for Lord Cornwallis, the fruits of which were repealed by General Greene, we did not have any railroads, any telegraphs, any telephones, any sewing machines, any repeating rifles, and a thousand and one things that we consider necessary to our modern civilization. When we celebrated "Uncle Joe's" eightieth birthday I laid down the conditions on which a man could serve as long as he had. In the first place, the politics of his district must remain the same. In the second place, he must be a man of force and ability. In the third place, he must remain as faithful as the North Star. I said that "Uncle Joe" filled those conditions. I think yet that he does.

William A. Rodenberg of Illinois—Joseph G. Cannon was first elected in 1872 as a representative in the Forty-third congress from the fourteenth district of Illinois, and he became a member of this body on March 4, 1873, the same day on which Ulysses S. Grant was inaugurated for the second time as President of the United States.

How far we have traveled since that day may be understood when we recall that at the time of Mr. Cannon's first election the population of the United States was estimated at 40,506,000 as against 100,000,000 today; there were 37 states then as against 48 today; the public wealth, which was estimated at something over \$30,000,000,000 in 1872, is placed at more than \$300,000,000,000 now; the bank deposits, which then amounted to \$1,250,000,000 have grown to \$32,700,000,000, and our railroad service has expanded from 66,000 miles of track in operation to more than 268,000 miles. That, in brief, summarizes the vast strides that we have made in material progress since he has been a member of this house.

Some idea of how the post office department has expanded can also be had when we remember that in 1873 the receipts aggregated \$23,000,000 and the disbursements \$29,000,000, while last year the receipts were \$437,000,000 and the disbursements \$454,000,000.

But it will not be because of his services upon the committee on post offices and post roads, valuable as they were, that his fame will rest. After serving for six years upon that committee he was assigned by Samuel J. Randall, a Democratic speaker, to the committee on appropriations in the Forty-sixth congress, and it is because of his identity with the workings of that important committee down to the time of his elevation to the speakership that his fame will remain assured throughout the ages. It can be truthfully said that no man has proved a stronger bulwark of protection to the federal treasury at all times and under all circumstances.

Irrespective of the temporary interruptions in his long and distinguished career, the event we

commemorate today securely establishes Joseph G. Cannon in the place of "Father of all the American Congresses." When he took his seat at the beginning of the Forty-third congress, the great empire of the West was still the frontier of our civilization. That vast and powerful section, now so potent in the councils of the nation, was then without votes, excepting a narrow fringe of population on the shores of the Pacific ocean. The sovereign states of Arizona, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Washington and Wyoming were without votes and were represented here by delegates.

What a wonderful galaxy of brilliant men were here when he came to congress! James G. Blaine, the "Plumed Knight" of American statesmen, was speaker of the house. James A. Garfield was a member of the Ohio delegation and was giving evidences of those talents of leadership which subsequently called him to the presidency. Julius C. Burrows, of Michigan; James B. Beck, of Kentucky; William P. Frye and Eugene Hale, of Maine; Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut; George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts; Roger Q. Mills, of Texas; and Stephen B. Elkins, of the territory of New Mexico, were elected members of the same house and were subsequently called to the other end of the capitol. But there were, in that same congress, men who rounded out their congressional careers in this body and whose names are equally familiar to the American people.

Among them might be mentioned Benjamin F. Butler of Massachusetts; Richard P. Bland, of Missouri; "Sunset" Cox, of New York; William S. Holman, of Indiana; John A. Kasson, of Iowa; William R. Morrison, of Illinois; Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania; Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia.

At the other end of the capitol might be mentioned Senators Allison, of Iowa; Bayard, of Delaware; Cameron, of Pennsylvania; Carpenter, of Wisconsin; Chandler, of Michigan; Roscoe Conkling, of New York; Henry G. Davis, of West Virginia; Edmunds, of Vermont; Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey; Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine; John J. Ingalls, of Kansas; John A. Logan, of Illinois; Justin S. Morrill, of Vermont; Oliver P. Morton, of Indiana; Carl Schurz, of Missouri; John Sherman and Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio; William Windom, of Minnesota.

Of the 371 senators, representatives and delegates who were recorded in that notable gathering, all but two have passed from the stage of public life, but a merciful Providence has left us Speaker Cannon and General Sherwood in order that we might know that in those days there were giants upon the earth.

It has been given to no other man in all our history to be so intimately connected with so many historic characters.

Mr. Cannon has served under 10 speakers of this house, in the following order: James G. Blaine, Michael C. Kerr, Samuel J. Randall, J. Warren Kiefer, John G. Carlisle, Thomas B. Reed, Charles L. Crisp, David B. Henderson, Champ Clark and Frederick H. Gillett, while he himself occupied that exalted position for a period of eight years. He has also served under 10 presidents, as follows: Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson, and in a few weeks Harding will be added to the list.

The Forty-third congress, in which Mr. Cannon began his service, will be memorable because of the passage of the act providing for the resumption of specie payments following the Civil war. The civil rights bill, the amnesty bill and much similar legislation of a reconstructive nature, made necessary by that unhappy event, need not be referred to. The great granger movement finally resulted, in 1887, in the enactment of the interstate commerce law.

The numerous legislative battles growing out of

the treatment of silver and the maintenance of the country's monetary standard, not to mention such side issues as the greenback craze—contests that were only settled by the titanic struggle of 1896—were all fought out here during the term of his active service.

He was an active participant in the long-extended efforts out of which was finally evolved the present civil service. He has participated in the enactment of all of the great tariff measures; in the legislation that has been passed for the protection and elevation of labor, including the Chinese exclusion law; in the so-called Sherman anti-trust law for curbing corporate greed and monopoly; in the law that built the Panama canal, linking the oceans, and realizing the dream of centuries; in the legislation that was made necessary by two great wars, in the first of which we brought the blessings of liberty to the struggling patriots of Cuba, acquired Porto Rico and the Philippines, and by the second brought to an end the greatest conflict that the world has ever known.

Since he has been here he has seen four of the eighteen amendments to the Constitution adopted as part of the organic law. He has seen the expanding business of the nation fall for the creation of three new executive departments—Agriculture, Commerce and Labor—and innumerable subsidiary bureaus. He has seen political parties rise and disappear and the issues which produced them cease to exist. But, above all, he has lived to see the American republic, which he has loved and labored for throughout all these years, and which is in no small part the result of his handiwork, proclaimed as the leading nation in all the world.

Gen. Isaac R. Sherwood of Ohio (born 1835)—It is true that I am the oldest man who ever served in this historic chamber, but I have always been told that there is no virtue in being old. If there were, I would be the most virtuous man here. We are here today with a living knockdown argument of the theory of Doctor Osler (laughter) in Uncle Joe, who has honored this chamber with the longest service of any man who ever served in any parliamentary body in the world. After the 4th of March next I shall bid farewell to congress, and Uncle Joe will then be the oldest member of congress and the oldest member of any parliamentary body in the world, and I wish him a parting "God bless you" with all my heart.

Speaker Frederick H. Gillett of Massachusetts—The activities of the gentleman from Illinois in an official capacity have probably affected directly and indirectly more millions of Americans than those of any individual now dwelling upon the earth. Not only has he surpassed all the statesmen of America in length of service in conspicuous place in which he has been conspicuous, but he has surpassed the service of all save a very few statesmen in history, ancient and modern, and he stands today with a longer record of eminent position than any statesman now living in any nation of the world.

Majority Floor Leader Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming—We have not always agreed with Uncle Joe on either side, but we have all honored him for his virile ability and, more than that, for his stalwart, unwavering courage. Long may he remain here to remind those who come that a man can be courageous, that a man can stand for what he believes is right, even though it may not for the moment be popular.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon—As I look into your faces I am reminded that our honored speaker and his predecessor in that chair were approaching the polls to cast their first votes in 1872. Jim Mann, at the age of sixteen, was no doubt beginning his struggle with rival ambitions to continue a farmer or become a lawyer; today he is an ornament to both professions, a true, scientific farmer and the most industrious and useful lawmaker I have ever known. My friends Rainey and Mondell, at the age of twelve, were beginning to figure life in percentages, while Rodenberg, at the age of seven, was winning his way with "You would scarce expect one of my age," and the ambitions of Claude Kitchin and Nick Longworth, at the age of three, were centered about their first pants. As I look over the house I find more than 100 of my colleagues who had not then been born.

We have had great development in these years, and I am glad to have been a small part of it and to be able to continue with you in the work we here do for the peace and prosperity of the American people and the world, so far as we can, by example in fraternity and charity. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. (Prolonged applause, all the members rising.)

## PLEA FOR EAGLES

Trapper Denounces the Bounty Placed on Birds.

Incidentally He Criticizes the Present Tendency to Extirpation of Wild Creatures of Our Country.

Next to the American Indian, the most practical naturalist in the world is the modern packer. He lets nothing get away. After the packer we should place the prospector, hunter or trapper who makes his living among wild creatures and is obliged to know their habits. It chances that there is just in hand a rugged and outspoken letter from one of these latter practical naturalists who never took a degree except in the school of out of doors, says a writer in the Saturday Evening Post. He writes from the heart of Alaska, far down the Yukon river, and makes outspoken comment on the present tendency to the extirpation of wild species by means of bounties and the like.

In his blunt speech he says that as for killing eagles at 50 cents a head he is of the belief it would be better to put the bounty on the men who made the law.

This practical naturalist has counted thirty-six dead caribou calves on the early spring bed grounds near his home. "He works where thousands of caribou calves are born each spring, lives among them and watches them. He says there were plenty of eagles about, but that he never saw them eat anything but the calves they found already dead. He says they may kill some weak calves or those about to die, but so far as he has learned in his travels in Alaska and Yukon territory he has never seen any harm the eagle has done, although he has lived in that region for twenty-five years and is familiar with it from the Mackenzie to the Bering sea and from the Arctic ocean to Lynn canal.

"I am not a saloon or roadhouse prospector," he says, "but am in the hills 330 days out of the 365. I am not a naturalist and have not much education, but if I couldn't make better conservation laws than some we have, I—If I wouldn't quit, I would like to have some of our lawmakers out in the hills for a while and show them that since the killing off of the eagles there is nothing left to do the scavenger work. There is just as much sense in killing the scavengers in the cities."

There are getting to be a good many men in this country who are weary of the sweeping and ghastly results of hysteria and who begin to hope for some horse sense, upstairs—a good many who would like to see this country left alone for a while the way Almighty Providence constructed it.

## Mark Twain's Elephant.

Most of us receive white elephants at Christmas, minus trunks and tails, but Mark Twain, the American humorist, actually received an elephant one Yuletide. Just before the festive season a great friend wrote and told him if he was willing to accept an elephant as a token of his regard, it would arrive in due course. Whether Mark looked upon the whole thing as a joke or not one cannot say, but he answered the letter by return mail, thanking his friend for the offer, and agreeing to accept the animal. First, a huge supply of hay was delivered, then an elephant trainer was announced to inspect the "primitives," to see that there was proper accommodation for the beast, and finally, the animal itself appeared upon the scene. It was a very fine specimen, and, to the casual observer, it might have come straight from India. However, on its new master closely inspecting it, he found his Christmas present was most beautifully modeled of cardboard. An amusing practical joke, but somewhat expensive.

## New Airplane.

Builders of the "bat-wing" airplane have designed the new, craft to overcome the resistance of struts, wires and fuselage that in the usual type of machine consumes almost three quarters of the engine power. The new design, says Popular Mechanics Magazine, is a great double cambered airfoil that terminates at right and left in the conventional ailerons and that tapers in the rear to a tail that has the usual elevator and rudder.

The aerofol measures 100 feet from tip to tip and swells in the front to a thickness of seven feet. In that bulge is a cabin 30 feet long, eight feet wide and six feet in height. The new plane is an internally trussed cantilever structure covered with wood veneer so tough that the wing surfaces can be walked upon.

## Faulty Diet.

In an investigation of 227 diets supposed to be typically American, Prof. H. C. Sherman of Columbia university has found that only one was deficient in protein, while 37 were lacking in calcium. If each of the low-energy diets was increased to 3,000 calories, none would lack protein, but seven per cent would still have too little calcium. The needed calcium carbonate or phosphate can best be supplied by foods rich in lime. Of these milk has the advantage of increasing the high-grade proteins and providing the essential fat-soluble vitamins.

## Maud Can't Get One.

Maud (with newspaper)—Here's a woman discovered with two husbands. Tom—That's embarrassing. Maud—Embarrassing? It's extravagant!—Boston Transcript.