

well. They could not have served their respective constituencies well without serving all the people of the United States well. A Senator represents one State and a Representative serves one district, but when we come down to it, whether it be in the Senate or in the House, whether a man comes from far-away California, or way down East in Maine, or in New Hampshire, or from the central portion of the country, he votes for legislation that spreads over the whole country, and we are just as much interested from a practical standpoint in every one of the 435 districts, each of which sends a Representative to the House, or to any of the 96 Senators, as we are in those whom we select from our respective States and districts. I believe that through all these years that I have served in the House that on the average in the House and in the Senate the people who were chosen have represented the public sentiment of the respective States and districts first, and second, and on all fours with the public sentiment, have represented the whole people.

And, everything considered, I believe the average representation in both House and Senate measures the average sentiment and intelligence of those who send them here. Sometimes there is complaint that there are too many lawyers in Congress. Well, there are a good many lawyers in Congress, but they are selected not because they are lawyers but because they have to do with voting for legislation. Some people say there are too many business men in Congress; that there are too many farmers, and so on. Now, the whole object of our Government is to enable us to live under laws which under our fixed law, the Constitution, will protect the weak and the strong. God forbid that it should ever be to the contrary. And it never will be to the contrary while our form of government lasts.

There are certain great characters in war and in peace—Presidents, Members of Congress, and the coordinate branch of the Government, the judiciary, that stand out in history and will continue to stand out in history. But, after all, it is the one hundred millions of people, plus now, that select the men who are to legislate and who are to fill the Executive chair and, in the end, under the Constitution hold the judiciary positions. And those places will not be more worthily filled than by the majority sentiment, the common sentiment, of the people who give men their commission. George Washington, the Father of his Country; Alexander Hamilton; Thomas Jefferson; Patrick Henry; the Adamses, all dwell in history, but we would not have gotten far if it had not been for the Continental Army. We would not have had a Constitution if it had not been for the wise men who framed it and the people who ratified it. After all is said and done, men whose names are forgotten, great masses of men, the average population of the country, selected those great characters who performed the function that was cast upon them, and they did it well. I fancy if you would call the roll of the Membership of the House of Representatives you would find that nine-tenths of them, under the hand of necessity early in life, learned to make their way by labor, physical and mental. I know the Illinois delegation pretty well. They are descendants, in the main, of pioneers—a great folk. From one ocean to the other we are still pioneering; we are crossing the continent; we are settling up the area of the United States in order that we can continue to take care of the great increase in population for a thousand years and live, if we are forced to do so, within ourselves. We have not been forced to do so, but we could.

Now, these two men, JOHN STERLING, school teacher, lawyer, and legislator on the one hand, and Senator GALLINGER, having pretty much the same kind of training that STERLING had, were both strong factors. While Senator GALLINGER was not a lawyer, practically he was quite six while other men were half a dozen in framing legislation. They did not lack industry. The two men in many respects were alike. They or any of us, substantially, will not live as Webster will live in history or as Jefferson will live in history, but Webster and Jefferson and all of those people could not have succeeded so well if it had not been for their forbears that stood for them and by them. And so in speaking of the whole people we must consider them as being competent for self-government. There never was a man bright enough and strong enough to develop another's legs by walking for him, and there never will be. A child when he learns to walk can be instructed and aided, but he must do his own walking and his own growing.

JOHN STERLING was my personal and political friend and I was his. I recollect the night before the election in the campaign of two years ago, when I closed it at Bloomington, in his district, at which there was a wonderful demonstration. That was the night before the election. They had been talking that there was a hot contest that promised to defeat Mr. STERLING. But he came out of it with a greatly increased majority not by vir-

tue of what I said but by virtue of his ability, character, and service.

We only know about to-day. What of the future? I believe there is a future. I believe that each man, each human entity, finds its place amongst those like unto it. That is my faith. I am not a believer in people being cast in a fiery furnace that is a thousand times hotter than the one in which Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego were cast and being burned forever and ever. No; no. We all hope, and that is the strong evidence, for life hereafter.

Sometime ago I had the pleasure of dining, on the invitation of Representative PORTER, of Pittsburgh, with a great manufacturer and a great business man. There were present, if I recollect, 18 or 20 guests at his house here in Washington. The guest of honor was Mr. Brashears. That gentleman is the great lens maker of the world. He commenced life as a puddler, but in off hours he turned his attention to the stars. He married, but there were no children. As he studied the stars and began to make lenses his wife was his assistant. He made great progress in his art. He made the great lens for the Lick Observatory, and other great lenses have been made in his laboratory. We made him do most of the talking by asking him questions, first by one and then another.

I asked him, "How far can you see into space with the strongest lens that you have produced?" He said the strongest lens ever produced in the world was produced at Pittsburgh in his laboratory. I said, "How far does that lens reach into space?" "Ah," said he, "I am something of a mathematician; we know the velocity of light; that lens can reach so far that if a sun in space were to be extinguished this minute, the light that started from that sun would not reach the earth for fifteen hundred years. Space is but another word for something without boundary."

Then somebody asked him, "When was it that your wife died?" He answered, "Two years ago." Then somebody asked, "Where is she buried?" His answer was, "Beneath the laboratory. And there I shall be buried, and on my wife's memorial"—in substance I give the words: "We have searched the stars together, worked together, made lenses together; we have become familiar with space, so far as human eye by human invention and aid will allow; and that Power which made the universe and placed law upon it will care for us after this life."

So I have faith to believe that that Power will care for Senator GALLINGER, will care for JOHN A. STERLING, will care for the loved ones that have crossed over. I do not know; perhaps I am not orthodox. We can not shape our future lives except as we come under general law, and the great First Cause that called matter into being was not only wise but omnipotent, which means just and merciful. It is a favorite thought with me with respect to my loved ones, when I think about them, who have been crossing over, it seems to me, every few years since I can remember, that I shall meet them there. Such is the universal desire. While the legislative record of our deceased colleague here, Mr. STERLING, and of the honored and able Senator GALLINGER is lodged in the official archives of the House and Senate, while we sympathize with the friends that survive, yet if we are welded by work, by wisdom, by fidelity, crossed on courage, I shall hope and be content if we can reach men in the great eternity like unto Senator GALLINGER and JOHN A. STERLING.

#### Unliquidated Damage Claims, \$4,000,000,000.

#### SPEECH

OF

HON. EDWARD C. LITTLE,

OF KANSAS,

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Wednesday, January 8, 1919.

The House had under consideration the resolution (H. Res. 487) providing for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 13274) to provide relief where formal contracts have not been made in the manner required by law.

Mr. LITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I want the House to understand the amount of the bills for whose payment they are providing in the matter of the claims for damages to people who did obey the law of 1862 as to contracts. In the hearing before the committee the Comptroller of the Treasury said:

This bill will confer on the War Department the settlement of more equitable claims in amount, in my opinion, than Congress has settled since the beginning of the Government.

That is what you are arranging for. Can you not spend a day on that? He says again:

Probably the amount of money in equitable claims which will be covered by this bill is more than has been acted upon by Congress through its Committee on Claims since the beginning of the Government.

And you are taking 80 minutes to discuss it.

How fast are they going to settle it? Mr. Warwick, the Comptroller of the Treasury, says:

I understand the War Department, if this proposed legislation is enacted, could settle with the contractors within 30 days after the law is passed by Congress.

He testified that there are 6,669 of them.

Mr. GORDON. Six thousand.

Mr. LITTLE. Six thousand six hundred and sixty-nine claims already. And the gentleman from Ohio came up here and told us he had investigated them and that they were all right. An old lady came home from the drug store in great haste and she said to Mike, who was smoking by the stove, "They have got a complexion powder down at the drug store that will give me the complexion of a baby." He looked her old mug over kindly and he said, "It will be a dandy if it will do it." [Laughter.] And yet that is what you want to do. You want to authorize the War Department in 30 days to pay out \$4,000,000,000 to 6,669 different claimants, and more to follow. Great God, gentlemen, they will think you are crazy in a hundred years from now when they read this bill.

They tell us that these are contracts. There is not a contract here. The Comptroller of the Treasury has turned down every one of them as illegal.

The chairman of this committee says this bill is to provide for contracts that were not valid contracts. That is what is the matter with these alleged contracts. Mr. Dorr says, in the hearings, "an agreement may not be a contract, and it was not a contract in this case, because the law prescribes that it shall not be a contract until it is signed in a certain way." You are here to protect the public. You are not here to only take care of the contractor. You represent the taxpayers and it is your business to interpret these laws for their benefit.

You come here and tell me that they can not pay a wounded soldier. Has any rule been brought in here to fix a way by which the soldiers can get their money quickly? There are thousands of poor women who are not getting their allotments. Has anybody brought in a rule here to authorize a system to hurry up the payment of these allotments? Yet you come in here with a rule for the benefit of manufacturers, who have millions back of them. Why does not somebody appear here and ask for a rule for the benefit of the wounded soldiers and the widows and orphans? [A voice, "Whoo-ee!"]

Who says that? Some contractor? Some speculator? Some profiteer? Is there anyone here who would vote to pay the unliquidated damage claims of millionaire manufacturers and then jeer when some one speaks for the soldiers' wives who do not receive their allotments, for the orphan, the widow, and the unpaid wounded soldier? They tell us he who argues for the millionaire is a conservative statesman and then turn around and declare the man a demagogue who says that the soldier who fights for his country should receive as much financial consideration as the contractor who profits from it. They lie.

Mr. CALDWELL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LITTLE. I have not time. The gentleman from New York is the one who said to the department satraps in the hearings, "You think you are God's anointed and want to do it in your own way." He was right. What is the matter, where is the Senegambian in the woodpile? In 1862 they made a law that every man down there who made a contract should make an affidavit that he was not interested in it. That is the mystery and that is the trouble. You talk about a contract. There is no affidavit in one of these pretended contracts in which the man says that he was not concerned in it. Some fellow with a major's epaulets on his shoulders probably made these agreements, or most of them, and then ran off and made no affidavit, because he was afraid that he would get into the penitentiary.

Yet he wants us to authorize him to settle up and pay the entire claims because he knows all about them. He certainly does. He knew too much to swear to them. I would not vote to pay anyone until the affidavits required by the law of 1862 are made. A commission of these nonaffidavit workers would be a farce. We put the "conscientious objectors" to military service in jail. We ought to put these "conscientious objectors" to making affidavits demanded by law in jail with them. The latter class is much more dangerous to the Nation. Yet they can get big business and little business and the press with them, while the first has only the War Department. A commission sufficiently large should be appointed with authority to take

evidence and make a thorough examination. It should report to the Congress of the United States, which appropriates the money to pay these damage-suit claims.

Some of these contracts are probably just. I will vote for a commission to investigate them and report here, and will vote to pay them as fast as they are proven honest, but I will not vote to spend a nickel on one until the fellow with spurs on his heels will make an affidavit that he was not interested in it and then comply with the law of 1862, passed in the country's greatest emergency. [Applause.]

## EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

### HON. OTIS WINGO,

OF ARKANSAS,

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Monday, March 3, 1919.

Mr. WINGO. Mr. Speaker, under the leave granted to me to extend my remarks in the RECORD I include a song of Uncle Sam, by G. M. Comstock, Uniontown, Ark., as follows:

A SON OF UNCLE SAM.

(By G. M. Comstock, Uniontown, Ark.)

Somewhere in France in a war-torn place,

Out there in no-man's land,

Two burly soldiers met face to face—

One bade the other stand.

"Well, who's the one," spoke up the Hun,

"To halt me where I am?"

In tones of pride the other cried,

"I'm a son of Uncle Sam."

"And why, I pray, did you cross the sea

To come to a foreign shore;

And why depart from a land that's free

To hear the cannons roar?

The Kaiser bold, so I've been told,

Compares you to a lamb,

And said, 'They're right, but will not fight,

Those sons of Uncle Sam.'

'Twas then the boy in the khaki suit,

With pride and a curt grimace,

Said, "Come with me, for I'll not dispute

With Bill or you or your sin-blacked race.

So face about and do not shout,

Just close up like a clam;

You're going back to my old shack

With a son of Uncle Sam.

There are two million of us in France,

With eyes by grief made dim,

Who watch and wait for the glorious chance

To storm your great Berlin.

We long to see the world made free,

Without a doubt or sham;

This war be closed and you exposed

By the sons of Uncle Sam."

## SPEECH

OF

### HON. EDWARD C. LITTLE

OF KANSAS,

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Thursday, January 9, 1919.

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the U. had under consideration the bill (H. H. 13274) to provide relief w formal contracts have not been made in the manner required by law.

Mr. LITTLE. Mr. Chairman, in the first place I want to attention to the exact facts in this case. The gentleman a Do you want to cheat any honest man out of his money? do not, and I do not want any grafter to "get his." Som these claims are honest and some are not. I do not want friends of the grafters to get behind the friends of the ho men and get anything that is not coming to them. I wa say this in behalf of the honest men and the honest cla Every lawyer here, if he will be frank with himself, will cede to himself, if he will not in public, that this law is ably unconstitutional, because it places judicial power in hands of the Executive, and if an injunction is applied f injunction will be granted. I am not sure that we are doi honest man any favor by putting him in this position.

Now, I want to call attention to the elementary facts. law provides, in Revised Statutes, section 3744, enacted in for this very purpose, that every contract shall be in w