

to speak.

## MRS. WILL ROGERS VISITS MRS. STROUD OF ROGERS

(Special News Service)

Rogers, Ark., May 4.—Mrs. J. E. Stroud went to Joplin Tuesday afternoon to meet her sister, Mrs. Will Rogers, who is returning from New York city to her home at Beverly Hills, Calif. Mrs. Rogers has been with Will Rogers, the comedian, who started last Saturday for Europe for the Saturday Evening Post, where he expects to gather material for a series of articles for that magazine. His young son, Billie Jr., accompanied him on the trip. Mrs. Stroud and Mrs. Rogers are sisters of Mrs. Bruce Quisenberry of Joplin, formerly a citizen of Rogers.

## CHEROKEE BILL IS PASSED

Measure Establishing Claims Court  
Up to President.

The Cherokee jurisdictional bill, known as the Hastings bill, was passed by the United States senate Monday and is now ready for the president's signature, according to information wired W. H. Clark, secretary of the Cherokee executive committee Monday by F. G. Boudinot, who is representing the Cherokee executive committee at Washington.

Local members of the Cherokee executive committee and others interested waxed jubilant Monday over the victory. The bill provides that Cherokees may enter suits against the government for any claims which they have covering the period from their departure from Georgia for Indian Territory.

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There are only two classes

## Democracy or Dictator—Republic or Revolution—Constitution or Chaos

The American people can have either a Democracy in a Republic under the Constitution or a dictator leading to revolution and ending in chaos—Which?

SPEECH

OF

HON. ELMER THOMAS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 19, 1926

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Chairman, the time at my disposal will be used in an effort to call the attention of the House, and I hope the country, to happenings, teachings, and tendencies which, in my humble judgment, neither bode well for the best interests of the people nor for the safety of the Republic.

What I shall say, the observations I shall make, the conclusions I shall reach, and the remedy I shall propose will be wholly nonpartisan, and I hope you will believe me when I say that in accepting this opportunity I have been moved by a deep sense of official duty and wholly by patriotic impulses.

There come times in the lives of nations, as in individuals, when it appears wise to pause a moment, to review the trails already traveled, to take stock of the present and to make plans and estimates for the future, and I here make bold to assert that the time has now arrived for us to stop, to examine the chart, and to seriously consider the alleged symptoms of the alleged decay and alleged decline of the American Republic.

Criticisms of the practices of to-day, of the policies of Government, and of the tendencies of the times are nation-wide and are heard upon every hand.

Before I proceed further permit me to say that I am proud to reflect that I am a humble Member of the Congress of the United States, the law-making branch of the richest, the strongest, and the most influential Nation of this or any other time, and, Mr. Chairman, I am not yet ready to admit that the genius, the valor, and the patriotism of the fathers who created this Nation and the brains, the brawn, and the ability which have builded it will ever permit the old ship of state to drift upon the rocks.

To-day I have unshaken confidence in the ability of the people to govern themselves; I have unbounded confidence in the wisdom set forth in the provisions of the Constitution; and I have unlimited confidence in the ultimate government which the people will develop under such Constitution here in the United States of America. Yet I am perplexed, I am shocked, and I am stunned when I am forced to take notice of some of the teachings, some of the admissions, and some of the tendencies I hear and see upon every hand. That to which I have just referred is contained in the current literature of to-day as