



The “people” were at the bottom of the pile when it came to electing U.S. senators, when Joseph Keppler, Jr.’s cartoon, “The Making of a Senator,” appeared in *Puck* on November 15, 1905. Voters elected the state legislatures, which in turn elected senators.

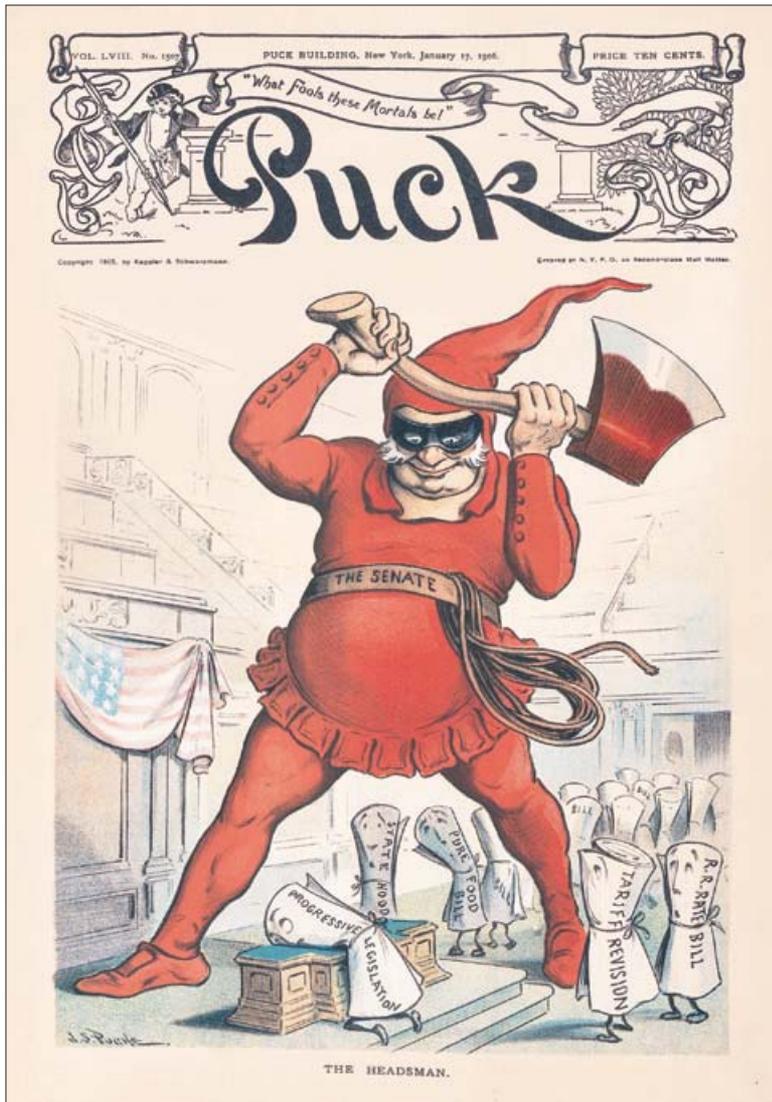
Keppler depicted two more tiers between state legislatures and senators: political bosses and corporate interests. Most notably, he drew John D. Rockefeller, Sr., head of the Standard Oil Corporation, perched on moneybags, on the left side of the “big interests.”

This cartoon appeared while muckraking magazine writers such as Ida Tarbell and David Graham Phillips were accusing business of having corrupted American politics. The muckrakers charged senators with being financially beholden to the special interests. Reformers wanted the people to throw off the tiers between them and directly elect their senators—which was finally achieved with ratification of the 17th Amendment in 1913. 🌀



The Making of a Senator.

J. Ottmann Lith. Co. after Joseph Keppler, Jr.
Puck, 11/15/1905
 Lithograph, colored
 18 ½ x 11 ½ inches (47.0 x 29.2 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00624.001



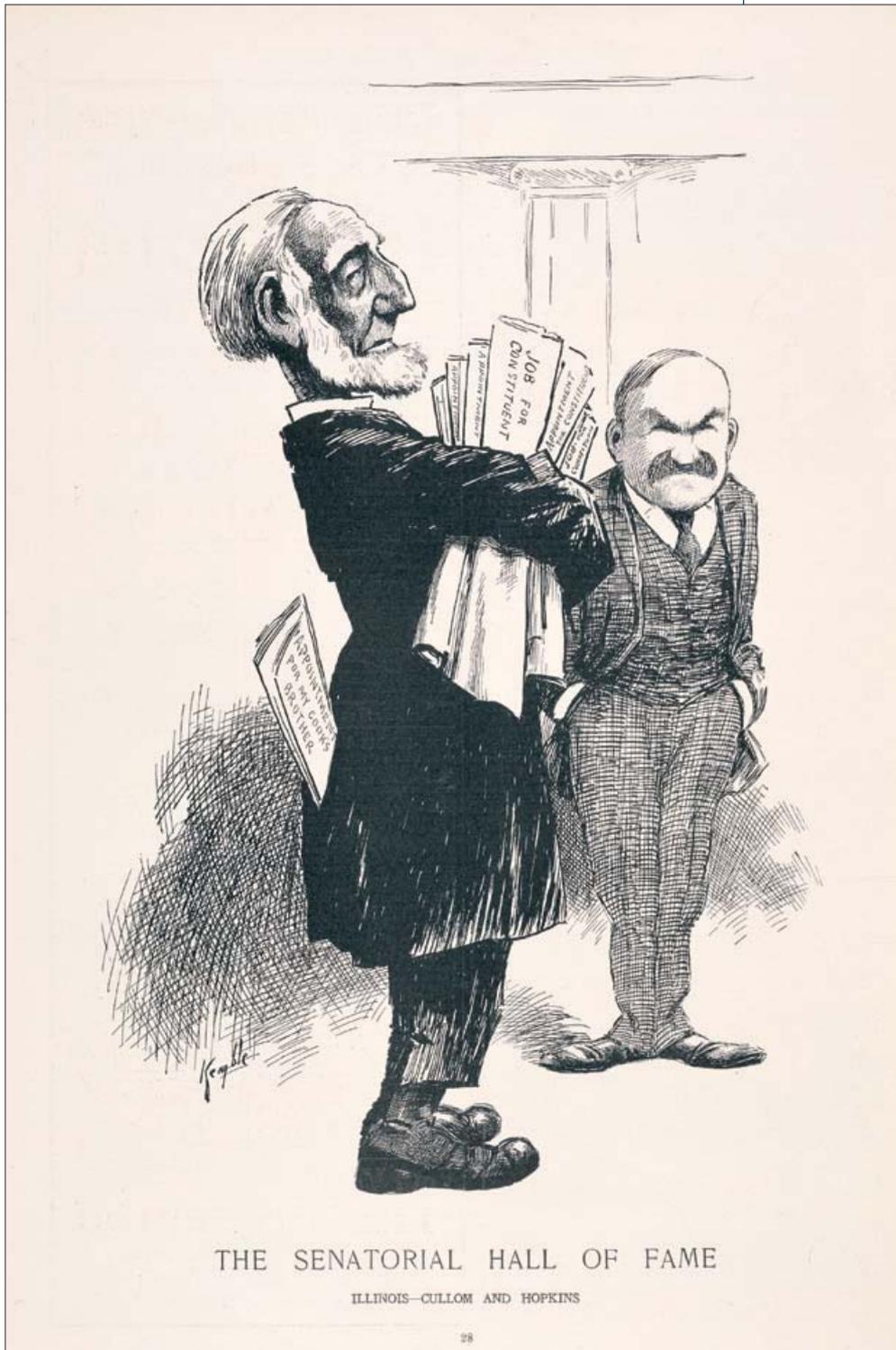
The Headsman.

Unidentified after John S. Pughe
Puck, 01/17/1906
Lithograph, colored
9 ¼ x 8 inches (24.8 x 20.3 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00600.001



The Ugly Duckling.

Unidentified after Joseph Keppler, Jr.
Puck, 02/21/1906
Lithograph, colored
10 ½ x 8 ¼ inches (25.7 x 21.0 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00592.001



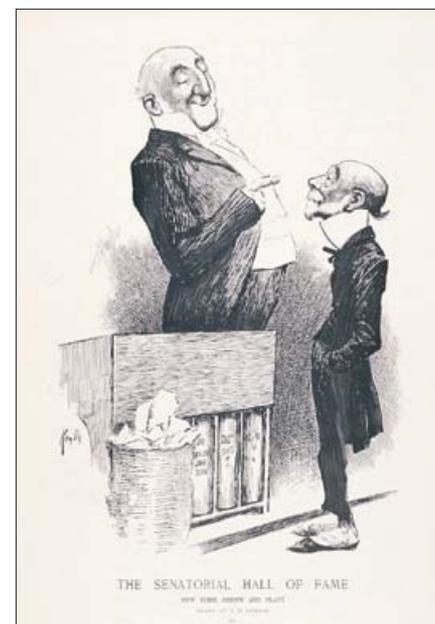
The Senatorial Hall of Fame / Illinois—Cullom and Hopkins

Unidentified after Edward W. Kemble
Harper's Weekly, 04/17/1908
Lithograph, black and white
14 3/8 x 8 1/4 inches (36.5 x 21.0 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00172.001



The Senatorial Hall of Fame / Pennsylvania—Knox and Penrose

Unidentified after Edward W. Kemble
Harper's Weekly, 01/09/1909
Lithograph, black and white
14 x 8 1/4 inches (35.6 x 21.0 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00158.001



The Senatorial Hall of Fame / New York—Depew and Platt

Unidentified after Edward W. Kemble
Harper's Weekly, 01/30/1909
Lithograph, black and white
14 x 8 1/2 inches (35.6 x 21.6 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00174.001