

JOHN CORNWELL BACKS DOWN

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FAILS TO REPLY TO AN OPEN LETTER

ANTI-LABOR RECORD OF WILSON PULLED ON HIM

Governor Hatfield Propounds Some "Stunners" to the Democratic Nominee.

LATTER IS SPEECHLESS

Cornwell Finds Himself Unable to Meet Facts and Figures Given by Governor.

(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

CHARLESTON, Oct. 26.—John J. Cornwell backed down last night in his speech here and failed to reply to an open letter addressed to him by Governor H. D. Hatfield...

Governor Hatfield pointed out in his letter that Mr. Cornwell had refused to meet him in joint debate and he took the opportunity to ask him about certain facts bearing on the statements of Cornwell as to his predictions of failure of the Dawson tax system.

Cornwell made no effort to answer the governor's statements in which it was pointed out among other things that if the same system of taxation prevailed now, as during the Democratic regime in the state ending in 1897, the direct levy today would be \$129 cents on each \$100 valuation instead of nine cents.

A large crowd of Republicans was attracted to Cornwell's meeting expecting him to reply to Governor Hatfield's interrogations, but he passed them over without making any effort to reply. The letter of Governor Hatfield to Cornwell, which was published in the local newspapers yesterday, is as follows:

Charleston, W. Va., October 25, 1916.

Mr. John J. Cornwell,

Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Sir: You have recently refused to accept my challenge to meet me in joint debate for a discussion of the issues of the campaign in West Virginia, which you have seen fit to raise. By reason of the fact that you made certain statements regarding the present state administration and you have refused to meet me for a discussion of the statements I desire to submit to you the following questions, and I hope that it will be your pleasure to deal with them in your speech in this city.

Very truly yours, H. D. HATFIELD.

The following are the questions that were submitted to Mr. Cornwell:

"You have in your present contest for governor attempted to sustain your forecast when a candidate for the same office in 1904 of the failure of the Dawson tax system, at which time you opposed tax reform and have declared that the predictions made in your former contest have been realized. If so how do you explain this recorded fact?"

"The average last ten years of Democratic administration in West Virginia for state and state school tax was thirty-five cents, twenty-five cents for state and ten cents for school purposes, making a total of thirty-five cents, while under the last ten years of Republican administration the average direct tax for state and state school purposes was 5.9 on the \$100 sending back three and one-half cents of this 5.9 levy for the support of the free school system, leaving 2.4 for the maintenance of the state government."

"The direct tax collected in 1897, the last year of the Democratic administration, was \$547,000 on a twenty-five cent direct levy on the 100 valuation."

"In 1916 a five and one-half cent levy out of the nine cents was laid for state purposes, which raised \$643,000, only \$96,000 more than was raised by the twenty-five cent levy for the same purpose in 1897, notwithstanding our state institutions have more than trebled in capacity, with nine additional new state institutions together with the creation of the tax commissioners office, board of control, compensation department, public service commission, agricultural department, health department and an increase in our state's population of 600,000."

"How do you account for the fact that only \$96,000 more in direct levy was necessary to take care of all this progress, if the Dawson tax laws have proved to be a failure, as you would have the people believe them to be?"

"Six hundred and fifty thousand dol-

AMERICA EFFICIENT.

There is a way in which we can protect ourselves. We must have an absence of waste and greater efficiency. We must have a more businesslike administration and we must try to conserve and eliminate every extravagant outlay. We must have that kind of administration that will make America efficient, just as efficient as any of these nations now displaying such talent for organization in the midst of the world's contest.—CHARLES E. HUGHES.

lars of license tax was lost to the state yearly beginning with 1914, and over \$300,000 was lost on account of the strike in the Paint and Cabin creek coal fields in 1912, and \$1,280,000 had been expended to relieve the crowded condition of the state institutions since the year 1912; yet with the loss of \$650,000 of license revenue, our direct levy for state purposes is only \$96,000 greater than in 1897, with all of our progress.

"How can you sustain your position that tax reform has proved a failure? The people are interested and wish an answer from you specifically upon these interrogations."

"If the old method of taxation were still in effect which you advocated in 1904, do you not know that to take care of our state's progress on the \$2.75 per capita cost, which is the amount being expended for the maintenance of our state and which represents an amount lower than state with even less population than ours, the direct state levy this year would have to be \$1.29 on the 100 valuation instead of five and one-half cents?"

"As is the case under tax reform, how do you explain this if your assertions are true as to the failure of the Dawson tax laws which you have circulated throughout the state quoting from a speech of yours delivered recently in Wheeling, pointing to your predictions when a candidate in 1904."

"Practically all of the \$1,280,000 expended during my administration was appropriated by a legislature in 1913, for permanent improvements at state institutions, the completion of the Senate of that body being fifteen Republicans and fifteen Democrats with a Democrat presiding. This amount was appropriated by the legislature for the purpose of relieving the crowded condition of our state institutions."

"Do you condemn these expenditures? Do you condemn the fifteen Democrats who voted for these appropriations and made possible these expenditures? What part of them would you have cut out?"

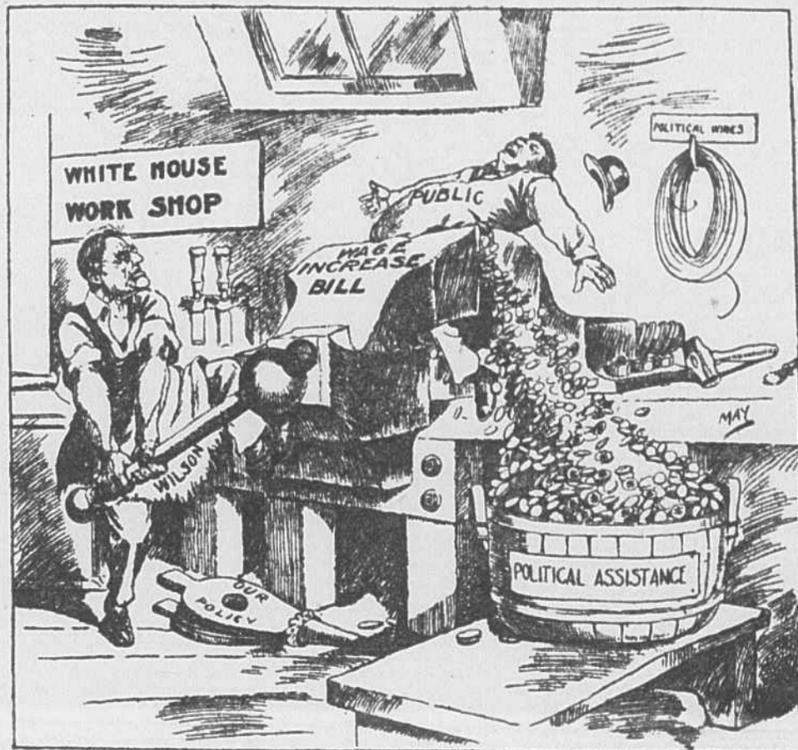
"You have criticized my administration for being extravagant and for the creation of new offices. The public service commission was created, the compensation department was created and the health department was created during the legislative sessions of 1913 and 1915. Which one of these departments would you abolish if you were governor of West Virginia?"

"I take this method of addressing you because you refused to meet me in joint debate to discuss these issues so that the people might be properly informed."

"You hold up the Dawson tax laws as being a failure. I have submitted facts taken from the tax commissioner's records, which are indisputable and which prove conclusively that after this year, if the present revenue laws are left upon the statute books with the exception of the direct levy to enlarge our state institutions or to repair them, no direct levy will be necessary for state purposes."

"If the Dawson tax laws have proved a failure, as you would have the people believe they have, how do you explain that the state of West Virginia is now practically being run upon indirect methods of revenue instead of direct methods of revenue, as was the case from 1897 to 1904 which represents the period that your party uses in preparing all data in presenting records with which you attempt to prove your conclusions?"

"In conclusion, Mr. Cornwell, if you do not believe in indirect methods of taxation, what kind of taxation do you favor? The people are anxious to know."



"SQUEEZING THE PUBLIC FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FAVORED FEW."

Cartoon by TOM MAY

FRENCH TROOPS ARE ABOUT TO CAPTURE THE VAUX FORT

As They Are Following Up as Fast as They Can Advantages Gained in Sweep.

GERMANS REACT SLOWLY

Reports of French Casualties at Hand Show Them to Be Very Light.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

PARIS, Oct. 26.—The French troops at Verdun are following up as fast as they can the advantage gained by their sudden forward sweep on Tuesday and according to the latest information have closed in to within less than 500 yards of Vaux fort. Announcement of the capture is momentarily expected here, thus completely restoring the French line held on February 25.

The German forces at Verdun are reacting so slowly and with such apparent lack of strength that the opinion of French military men they no longer possess a general reserve but are obliged to withdraw men from one section of the front to reinforce another section in case of need.

Reports of the casualties, which are now in hand, show the French losses were very light indeed, considerably less than the number of prisoners taken and a large proportion of them was of cases in which the men were slightly wounded.

Considerable material was captured. The Germans had massed guns of calibers in the Ravine of Death, all of which fell into the hands of the French.

The three lieutenant generals, who under the command of General Mangin led the attacking divisions, were all lieutenant colonels at the outbreak of the war and had been singled out by General Joffre for promotion on account of their technical ability, energy and initiative.

TEUTONIC PRESSURE REPORTED WEAKENED

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

PETROGRAD, Oct. 26.—The pressure of Field Marshal von Mackensen's army in Dobruja against the Russian and Roumanian forces has weakened somewhat, the war office announced today.

On the Transylvanian front, the statement says, Roumanian troops arrested the progress of superior Austro-German forces.

Russian troops in the woded Carpathians are successfully withstanding Teutonic assaults, the war office also announced. It reports the repulse of an attack on the heights northwest of Capul mountain in that region.

Capture by the Russians of the town of Bijar in Persia northwest of Hanadan was also announced today.

C. A. House, of Wheeling, was a business visitor in the city Thursday.

Luther A. Righter, of McAlpin, visited the city Thursday.

Important Meeting of Hughes Club Tonight

Extensive preparations for winding up the Republican campaign with one of the biggest political rallies in the history of the county will be made at a meeting of the Harrison county Hughes club to be held at 8 o'clock this evening in the organization's headquarters in the Gore building on Second street.

Other important matters pertaining to the conduct of the campaign will also be discussed at this meeting, and every member is urged to be in attendance.

DISGUSTING WEAKNESS OF PRESIDENT WILSON

Along with His Shown Selfishness Too Much for Patriotic Democrats.

PARYLYSIS

Causes Death of Miss Carrie E. Watkins Following a Long Illness.

(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—William B. Anderson, one of the most prominent members of the New York bar, and lifelong Democrat, has enrolled in the national Hughes alliance. In his letter joining the alliance, Mr. Anderson wrote that he had always voted the Democratic national ticket, except when Bryan ran against McKinley. He voted for Wilson in 1912. "The conviction has been growing in me very strongly during the last year," he said, "that we can no longer look for disinterested motives in Mr. Wilson's official acts. His vacillating, uncertain, weak Mexican policy, his attitude first against and then for, then again against honest preparedness is not indicative of a man of principle acting with a mind single for his country's good, but rather of a man seeking the easiest way out of difficulties, afraid to decide lest he might offend one body of citizens or another, a man unable to make strong friends and yet seemingly fearful of making enemies, always self-conscious and viewing all public questions chiefly from the standpoint of their relation to himself. And then at the last comes the crowning positive proof of his weakness and self-interest, his 'settlement' (God save the mark) of his own property under a bare threat is bad enough but one who turns over some millions of dollars belonging to other people under like circumstances is not the type that I have learned to admire nor do I believe that any honest man even among those who benefited by his act will respect him for it. His attempt to disguise the real nature of his act by juggling with the words 'eight hour day' is wholly unworthy of his intellectual ability."

Surviving relatives of the deceased women are Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Watkins, her parents, Lyda Watkins, Archie Watkins, Herbert Watkins, and William Watkins, brothers; Mrs. William Randolph, Mrs. John Stuart, and Miss Edith Watkins, sisters.

Miss Carrie E. Watkins, aged 36 years, died at 4 o'clock Thursday morning at her home at Staley Heights following an illness of paralysis. The funeral arrangements have not been completed yet but the Rev. W. I. Canter, pastor of Methodist Episcopal church South, will have charge of the services and the burial will be in the Odd Fellows cemetery.

HOUSE HAULED AWAY.

WHEELING, Oct. 26.—John Lukens, a miner of Warwood, two miles from here, placed three cans of powder alongside a coal stove in his home at night and then went out to supper. Sometime later the powder becoming overheated, exploded with terrific force, blowing out the kitchen and setting fire to the other portion of the house. Flames communicated to two adjoining dwellings, but these were saved by volunteer firemen. The firemen also placed a steel cable about Lukens's home and hauled the burning building into the road to prevent the flames again igniting the nearby buildings. Some of the firemen were slightly burned in fighting the flames.

MINERS HEAR Governor's Scathing Exposure of Cornwell as the Foe of Organized Labor.

(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

THAYER, Oct. 26.—Governor Hatfield and John B. Morrison, assistant attorney general, invaded Fayette county and spoke here last night to the largest audience that ever assembled in this mining town to hear a political address. Judge Morrison dealt with national issues in his address and showed the fallacy of the appeal being made by the Wilson administration.

For the support labor, he declared that the imperative need of the nation was to buckle on the armor of protection for the invasion that is inevitable for the United States at the close of the European war. Governor Hatfield was given an enthusiastic ovation by the miners and he bitterly assailed John J. Cornwell as opposed to union labor. He gave many citations of Cornwell's record in the state senate and as a newspaper publisher to show his antagonism to organized labor. The governor dwelt upon the accomplishments of the administration, particularly in regard to the enactment of the workmen's compensation law and declared that the compensation act alone was sufficient to entitle the Republican administration to a vote of confidence. William Warner, leading coal operator of this place, presided at the meeting and introduced Governor Hatfield as "the best friend the laboring man in West Virginia ever had."

HUGHES Leaves City of New York on the Last Trip of His Presidential Campaign.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—Charles E. Hughes left here today for the last trip of his presidential campaign. His program called for three speeches today at Hartford, Providence and Boston, where there will be an evening meeting.

Mr. Hughes will not return to New York City until November 3. His itinerary calls for four days in New York state, exclusive of Sunday, one in Ohio and two in Indiana.

COLORADO Woman Will Speak on Equal Suffrage and Socialism at Court House.

Mary L. Geffs, a noted platform orator of Colorado, has been engaged by the Socialist party to deliver a public address Sunday afternoon in the court house here. Equal suffrage and advanced Socialistic political claims will be fully discussed and explained by this speaker.

The meeting will begin at 2:30 o'clock. It will be free and a cordial invitation is extended to the general public.

MISS TAMPA NIXON KILLED INSTANTLY

When Struck by Fast Passenger Train near the Railroad Station at Bristol.

Miss Tampa Nixon, aged 33 years, of Bristol, was killed instantly at 6:35 o'clock Wednesday evening when she stepped in front of No. 55, fast Baltimore and Ohio passenger train, at the west-end crossing at Bristol. Miss Nixon was knocked seventy-five feet by the train. Her head was crushed and both arms were broken.

Miss Nixon and Miss Lucy Nixon, an adopted child, who made her home with the Nixon family, had been shopping in Salem and had made the trip from Salem to Bristol in a taxi. The taxi pulled up alongside the railroad track at the west end of the railroad station and Miss Lucy Nixon stepped out of the car and crossed the tracks. Miss Tampa, who stopped to pay the taxi driver started to cross the track

and was in the center of it, when she heard the train. She became excited and before she made any move to get off the track, the train struck her.

Persons standing on the station platform at the time the accident occurred said Miss Nixon could not hear the approaching train from the noise made by the engine of the taxi, and seeing that her adopted sister had reached the other side in safety, she stated across the track. If she had not stopped, in all probability she would have had reached the other side in safety.

The body was taken to her home and prepared for burial. The funeral arrangements will not be announced until relatives living out of the state are heard from. Surviving relatives of the deceased woman are Mrs. J. T. Nixon, her mother; Mrs. Lucy McElvly, of this city; another sister who lives in Virginia, and Charles Nixon, of Huntington, a brother.

Original Letters between Wilson and Edgar Laverty Are Made Public.

WILSON'S ATTITUDE BITTER

Letter in Answer to Laverty's Reveals Wilson More Opposed Than Sermon Shows.

(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—The Republican national committee calls public attention to correspondence between Edgar B. Laverty of this city and Woodrow Wilson immediately after the baccalaureate address of President Wilson before the graduating class of Princeton University in 1909, in which Mr. Wilson said:

"You know what the usual standard of the employe is in our day. It is to give as little as he may for his wages. Labor is standardized by the trades-unions, and this is the standard to which it is made to conform. No one is suffered to do more than the average workman can do; in some trades and handicrafts no one is suffered to do more than the least skillful of his fellows can do within the hours allotted to a day's labor, and no one may work out of hours at all or volunteer anything beyond the minimum."

"I need not point out how economically disastrous such a regulation of wages is. It is an unprofitable to the nation."

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"Labor is standardized by the trade unions and this is the standard to which it is made to conform. No one is suffered to do more than the average workman can do, in some trades and handicrafts no one is suffered to do more than the least skillful of his fellows can do within the hours allotted to a day's labor, and no one may work out of hours at all or volunteer anything beyond the minimum."

"Now, your reported remarks strike me as being so extraordinary—so different from what I, as a member of organized labor, had found to be the facts—that I feel impelled to ask you if the foregoing paragraph is a correct report of what you said."

"If you are correctly quoted, I should like to have you give me your authority for your statement that in labor unions 'no one is suffered to do more than the average workman can do.' Also give the names of a few trades or handicrafts where 'no one is suffered to do more than the least skillful of his fellows can do within the hours allotted to a day's labor, and no one may work out of hours at all or volunteer anything beyond the minimum.'"

"As a matter of course a president of a university of the reputed standing or Princeton would not make statements in his baccalaureate address unless he knows, or at least fully believes that his statements are true. Therefore it ought not to be a difficult matter for you to oblige me with the names of these labor unions whose laws or even policies bring about the results you specify. Awaiting your reply with lively interest, I am,

"Very truly yours, (Signed) EDGAR B. LAVERTY, 'Care Evening Telegram, 'New York City.'"

To the above letter Mr. Wilson replied as follows: "Princeton University, 'Princeton, N. J., June 18, 1909. 'My Dear Sir: 'Your letter of June 16th contains a very proper challenge. I quite agree with you that I ought not to make the statements I did make about the trades unions, unless I were able to cite cases in verification of my statements. (Continued on page 11.)"

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HOW THE DEMOCRATS ARE BRINGING DOWN THE COST OF LIVING.

CHARLESTON, Oct. 26.—Flour has been advanced fifty cents a barrel by local wholesale men this week. Fair grades are retailing at \$11 a barrel, the highest price paid for this commodity in the Kanawha valley since a short time after the Civil war.

CHILDREN RAISE CHARITY MONEY

Thanks is Returned to Those Who Give before Canvassers Arrive.

It is the desire of the Associated Charities to thank those who have not waited to be personally implored by a canvasser, especially the private families and individuals, who have sent in their subscriptions to this most worthy cause. They have shown a most commendable spirit.

If every family in Clarksburg that is able, would, as a family or as individual members of the family, make a donation, however small, to this cause, together with the substantial subscriptions of the business men, these would place the organization on a basis to do a larger work than ever before during the ensuing year.

A most pleasing and encouraging report has just come to headquarters. A certain Sabbath school class of

twelve-year-old boys, after an address last Sunday by the superintendent of the school on the excellent work of this institution, put their heads together, and agreed to raise \$10 to help along the Associated Charities' work. It is this spirit throughout this city, and the officers trust that many boys and girls will use this privilege of helping some other little boys and girls who were not born so unfortunately as themselves.

SPEAKING AT WILSONBURG.

A political meeting to be held this evening in the school house at Wilsonburg will be addressed by a number of the Republican county candidates. Reports to Chairman Roy E. Parrish today were to the effect that a large crowd will attend the rally.