

GOV. WILSON AS FOE OF BOSSISM

Utterly Routed Smith In Fight Over U. S. Senatorship.

SMASHED ONE MAN POWER.

New Jersey Executive's Determination Yielded Victory and Was Conspicuous Evidence of His Purpose to Show No Quarter When His Conviction of Right Met Opposition.

Hon. Woodrow Wilson, governor of New Jersey, has come very sharply into the political limelight in the last few months by reason of his fearless and effective advocacy of the rights of the people to govern themselves without interference from the great corporations and vested interests. Governor Wilson is a native of Virginia, having been born at Staunton Dec. 28, 1856. He is the son of a Presbyterian minister of Scotch Irish descent. As a boy he lived in the south and at the age of nineteen entered Princeton university, from which he was graduated in 1879. He took a course in law at the University of Virginia and was admitted to the bar. He practiced law in Atlanta for two



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GOVERNOR WOODROW WILSON OF NEW JERSEY.

years and then took a postgraduate course in political economy, history and jurisprudence at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. His writings on political subjects while at Johns Hopkins attracted much attention, and he was offered the professorial chair at Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, the famous college for women, where he remained for three years. From Bryn Mawr he went to Wesleyan university, at Middletown, Conn., as professor of history and political economy, and in 1890 he joined the faculty of Princeton university as professor of political economy and jurisprudence. The title of this chair was later changed to professor of jurisprudence and politics. In 1902 Professor Wilson was chosen president of Princeton university and occupied that position for eight years. His incumbency of the office was a continual fight against special privileges and an effort to make the university more democratic than it had been in the past. In 1910 President Wilson was nominated as the candidate of the Democrats of New Jersey for governor and was elected by a plurality of nearly 50,000 after a speaking campaign that was remarkable in rousing the people of the state from one end to the other and swinging to his support thousands of Republicans who were dissatisfied with the present conduct and management of the Republican party.

Governor Wilson has more than fulfilled his pledges. He promised the people of New Jersey that he would be their representative at the state capitol and would guard the interests of the whole people to the best of his ability. Among the specific promises which he made were that he would do all in his power to secure the enactment of the public utilities bill for the control of railroads and other public service corporations; a revised primary law that would give the people absolute control of the nominations for all officers, including delegates to presidential conventions, and take the selection of candidates out of the hands of the bosses; a corrupt practices law that would make bribery and the use of money of corporations in elections difficult, if not impossible; a law providing for the commission government of cities by the votes of the citizens and including the features of the initiative and referendum and the recall; an employers' liability law which would protect the interests of the workers automatically without making it necessary for them to go to court to obtain their rights in case of injury while at work and several reform laws of great local importance in his own state.

Although the legislature of New Jersey was Democratic on joint ballot, the senate was Republican, and at first it seemed to every one that Governor Wilson had undertaken a hopeless task of endeavoring to force these reforms through an unwilling legislature. People declared that he would find practical politics something entirely different from the academic theories which were supposed to be his political stock in trade, but they reckoned without their man. They did not

realize that all of Governor Wilson's life had been a training for active participation in politics and that his studies and research into political history and political methods had given him a wider knowledge of the power of the people under aggressive leadership than any of the bosses of either party possessed. His whole political theory is based upon the right of the people to rule and their power to rule when their efforts are properly concerted, and he demonstrated that his theory was correct when one after another his proposed reforms were forced through the legislature by the power of public opinion.

Even before Governor Wilson took his seat in the executive chamber he had won a victory over the bosses in his own party, which had inspired the people with renewed confidence and terrorized the professional politicians who were inclined to oppose his reforms. The election of a United States senator from New Jersey was the first important work for the new legislature to undertake. James Smith, Jr., long known as the big boss of the Democratic party in the state, had decided that he wanted this particular plum for himself, and he announced himself as a candidate, but at the primaries held early in 1910 James A.

Martine, a clean and popular citizen, had been a candidate for the senatorial nomination and had received the indorsement of the people at the polls. Smith's name had not been presented at the primaries. This did not make any difference to Smith, who thought that his power as boss was sufficient to override the will of the people. Governor-Elect Wilson declared that Smith should not be senator, that he had no claim upon the office and that Martine had the strongest claim of all, that of popular indorsement. The fight between the old boss and the new leader was short, sharp and decisive. Backed by public opinion, the new governor won, and Martine was elected senator on the first ballot.

With these triumphs to his credit it is small wonder that the people of the United States are coming to look upon Woodrow Wilson as one of the greatest political leaders who have been developed in recent years. A progressive of the progressives, it does not worry Governor Wilson any to be called a radical. In fact, he calls himself a radical. "I am radical," said Governor Wilson recently, "and the first element of my radicalism is: Let's get at the root of the whole thing and resume popular government. We

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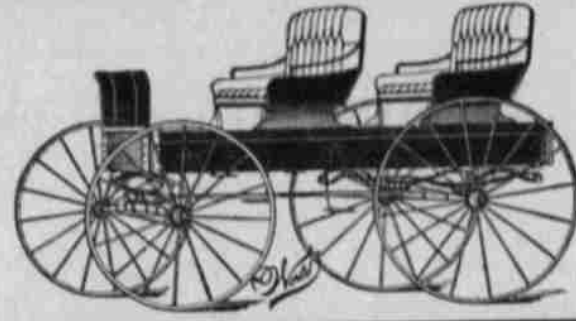
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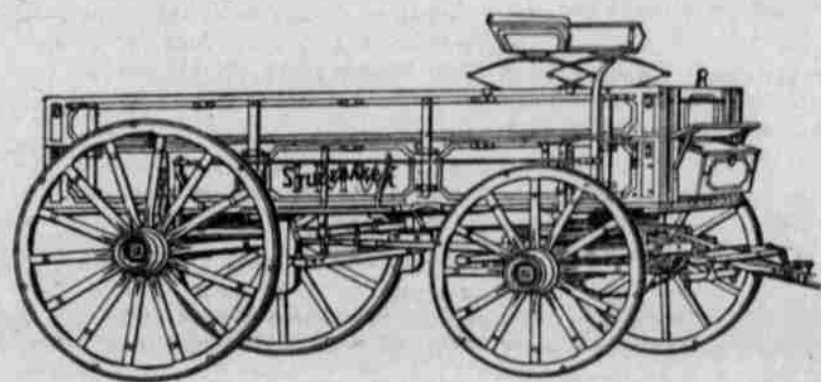
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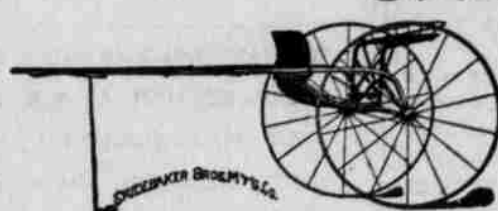
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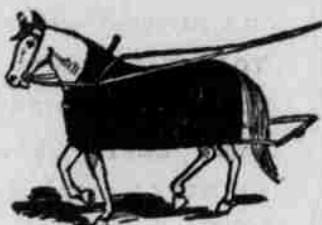
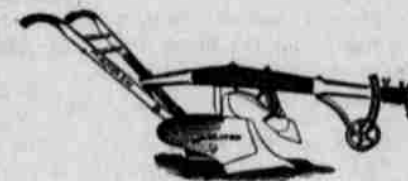
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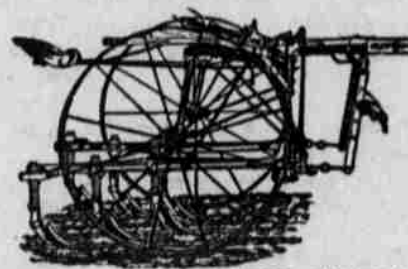
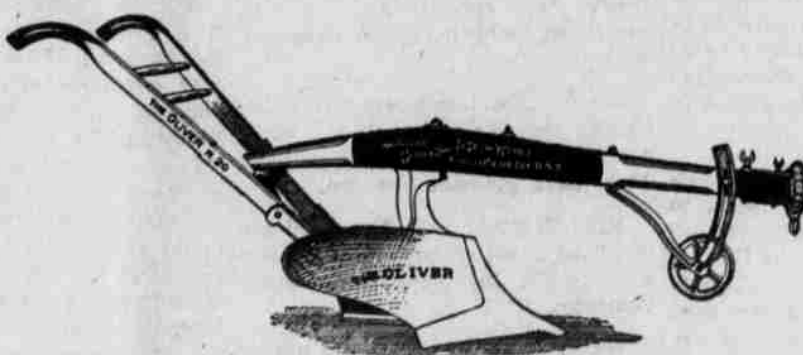
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