

# P. W. GLIDEWELL REPLIES TO EX-JUDGE MANNING

## Mr. Glidewell Reiterates His Original Statement About Kitchin's Backdown—Anti-Trust Law Which Kitchin Endorsed is a Toothless, Spineless Fraud.

To the Editor:—Judge Manning's fight was particularly warm among the delegates from my district (the Fifth Congressional District). I knew at that convention that Governor Kitchin had been appealed to for the vote of Person County in favor of that committee, and I know that the solid vote of Person County was cast for a gentleman who was a member of the House of 1907, and who was in accord with men like Mr. R. A. Doughton, and was not in accord on many questions with the large majority of that House. I had heard Governor Kitchin in his campaign commend Mr. Justice in a most emphatic way, for his courage, ability and patriotism, and I had heard him endorse his entire course, and yet at the convention in Charlotte, Governor Kitchin's brother, Hon. Claude Kitchin, authorized a gentleman who is usually classed as "conservative" to state to the delegates of the Fifth District that Speaker Justice was "too radical" to go on the Committee on Resolutions, and I know that the result as to who should go on the Committee on Resolutions as a member from the Fifth District was determined by the vote of Person County. I was a delegate at that convention and have personal knowledge as to these matters. I also know that delegates from the Fifth District were generally in accord with Mr. Justice's political record, and that some of these were influenced to vote as they did out of deference to what they supposed were the wishes of Governor Kitchin. They supposed, in the absence of time for consideration and thought, that it would be helpful to Governor Kitchin to allow his friends to organize the committee.

The Governor in one of his recent published letters has referred to the fact that his brother, Paul Kitchin, reported the Texas anti-trust bill to the House in 1909, as some evidence of his position with regard to that bill. It is fair to assume by his inaction at Charlotte, or by his action through his managers, that he was not in favor of a progressive anti-trust platform at that convention.

In 1908 the platform declaration against trusts was in the first instance due to four members of the Committee on Resolutions. Among these were Mr. W. C. Hammer, of Asheboro, and Mr. J. W. Pless, of Marion, and they know the details of the fight for an effective declaration against trusts, and they know that they received no aid or word of encouragement from Governor Kitchin, or from any one who was authorized to speak for him or professed to speak for him.

The first time the Governor failed to cry aloud against trusts and to condemn those he said were friendly to them was when the delegates who were to write the platform assembled at Charlotte in 1908. He was nominated in that convention after a prolonged and close contest, in which Judge Manning, who led the fight against effective anti-trust legislation in 1907, was candidate Kitchin's manager, and from that time up to the present there has been a marked difference in the attitude of Governor Kitchin on the trust question: When he was a candidate for the nomination he did not hesitate to indulge in personalities. He denounced Mr. Craig's position on the trust question and said, in substance, that the trusts were for Mr. Craig and against him because they hoped that if Mr. Craig was elected Governor he would pursue a do-nothing policy, and they knew if Kitchin were Governor he would favor putting "human beings" responsible for the trust be-

hind the bars. When he became Governor he sent no message to the Legislature upon the trust question until the fight became so aggressive as to attract State-wide notice, and until farmers from my county went to Raleigh and urged the Governor to stand up for them against the trusts, and then his belated message, which was sent on February 10, 1909, a month after the Legislature met, made no specific recommendations, and was construed by those opposing effective anti-trust legislation as being favorable to their contentions. Besides, the Governor talked much about the lack of power of the States to control or destroy the trusts, and argued in private conversations, as well as in public, that it was a matter that the National Government must deal with. According to Judge Manning, when his substitute was shown to him the Governor did not commit himself with regard to it. In view of all these things it is not strange that the friends of the trusts in the Legislature of 1909 thought that the Governor was not a "dangerous man" to trusts.

No doubt Senator Manning and Senator Travis, who were opposed to the Texas anti-trust act, felt that the influence of the Governor and his administration would not be against them or against the bill that they preferred, to-wit: the Manning or Blow-Bassett Substitute. They could foresee that if the Governor opposed them at all it would be such a mild form of opposition that it would not count for anything against them.

It has developed that the Governor has gone all over the State defending the action of Senators Manning, Blow, Bassett and Travis, and he has appointed Senators Manning and Travis to the most important positions that he has been called upon to fill since he has been Governor.

Judge Manning takes issue with me about the Governor saying that he approved the Manning Substitute, and yet admits that the Governor in his conversation with him did not disapprove of it. He was silent with regard to it. Manning in his letter says that the Governor expressed, in a private conversation with him and Representative Koonce, a preference for the Texas bill. Why was this preference expressed in a private conversation instead of in a vigorous message to the Legislature?

The Governor complains that he did not have the veto power, but he did have a constitutional right to make specific recommendations in the Legislature of 1909, and if he favored the Texas anti-trust bill why didn't he exercise his constitutional right to say so? The truth about this

whole matter that the Governor did approve of the Manning Substitute, and how he can deny this in the light of his campaign in 1910 is difficult for the disinterested person to see. The Blow-Bassett substitute, which (Continued on Page 4.)

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