

### The True Story Of Woodrow Wilson

By DAVID LAWRENCE

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#### Chapter XIX Wilson and Tumulty

Woodrow Wilson was aided in no small extent in what he accomplished in his first administration by the astuteness of his private secretary, Joseph P. Tumulty, and by the constant counsel of Colonel House and Albert Sidney Burleson, Postmaster General, who had for many years been a member of the House of Representatives.

Naturally the judgments of these advisers became the source of much debate among President Wilson's friends as would be natural in political matters. For every time that one man is selected the friends of the disappointed candidates are loud in their expression of criticism. It has always been the viewpoint of politicians themselves that more enemies than friends are made by appointments to office.

Lack of contact with Washington itself — Mr. Wilson had studied Congress only in a theoretical sense — made the first few years a perilous proposition for President Wilson. He was not a mixer. He was never known to slap any one on the back in jovial fashion. He was so subtle enough upon occasions, good-humored and a fascinating conversationalist, but he did not know how to inspire the practical politicians with that species of support which means working tooth and nail and with unflinching loyalty.

Impressions may differ, jealousies are always present in the immediate circle of a President's daily life, but the success of Woodrow Wilson's first administration may be attributed in no small measure to the warmth, enthusiasm, and political sagacity of his private secretary, Joseph P. Tumulty.

No one in recent years had been the private secretary of the Tumulty type. He was unique. He was neither the Machiavelli that so many of his enemies thought him to be, nor did he exert the influence over Mr. Wilson which so many inaccurate accounts of their friendship would seem to indicate.

President Wilson listened to Tumulty, read his memoranda and took his advice on so many important matters that in the inner circle those who were dismayed by Tumulty's growing influence sought to check it — and eventually did.

Mr. Wilson, as Governor-elect of New Jersey, did not select Tumulty to be his private secretary because of a desire to have at his elbow a man of his own temperament but because he knew he needed some one with the qualities he himself lacked. Tumulty knew New Jersey politics, he was a progressive in the State legislature and a conscientious worker. He was moreover frank. He was one of the few men who could stand before Woodrow Wilson and tell him in plain language wherein he was making a mistake. Most of the other advisers Mr. Wilson had were afraid of him — rather than incur his disfavor they would couch their dissent in euphemistic phrases.

Certain influences were working in 1912 to bring about the selection of some one other than Tumulty to be private secretary to the President. It was not due to any lack of confidence in Tumulty but to a belief that some one who had experience in larger affairs might be more of a help to Mr. Wilson. There was a time when the name of Newton D. Baker was given serious consideration for the post of private secretary. He was at that time mayor of Cleveland and had made a very favorable impression during the 1912 campaign.

Mr. Wilson's mind was made up more or less along this line—he wanted Tumulty to continue but he was ready to be convinced if any one could show him why some other type should be selected.

Curiously enough the opposition to Tumulty was one of the things which crystallized Mr. Wilson's determination to appoint him. Mr. Wilson retained the office of Governor of New Jersey while he was President elect and made his home in Princeton, commuting every morning the twelve miles between his home and his office. The author rode with him many mornings and discussed various questions relating to the news of the day. On one occasion when we had been riding along in silence for several minutes Mr. Wilson suddenly said — "You would be surprised to know the number of letters I have been receiving telling me I must not appoint a Catholic to be my private secretary." His jaw set, his eyes flashed. "I would like to ram that appointment down their throats," he added.

Newspapers began to predict that Tumulty would be selected but Mr. Tumulty himself never had the slightest information to that effect until some two weeks before the inauguration, when Governor Wilson called him into his office one day and offered him the secretaryship.

There was in those days a good deal of skepticism as to how Mr. Wilson would fare with the political strategists in Congress. One day he read an editorial in a New York newspaper expressing the fear that because he had been a school teacher he would not be able to cope with the wise politicians at Washington.

"Of course," said Mr. Wilson, "I

can not answer this and say 'don't worry. I can take care of myself.' Nobody would believe it, for I will have to prove my knowledge of politics and politicians as time passes; but whenever I see anything of this kind in print I can't help but think that, compared with some of the college politicians, the party politicians are amateurs. The party politician plays his hand openly. You always know what he is going to do. He always follows the same rules and is always up to the same purpose. A college politician should not be mentioned in the same breath. He is very shrewd — and you never know what he is going to do. He has the gift of speech and can make black look like white — and I have been dealing with him for the past thirty years.

"When I was a candidate for governor of New Jersey, the opposition called me a school master in derision. I told them the definition of the word was a man trained to find out things and tell them to others as effectively as possible. I said that was what I was doing about New Jersey affairs, and that I proposed to continue finding out things and telling people about them as long as I lived."

It was Mr. Wilson's chief weapon — the power of public opinion. No one was more adept in its use, however, than Secretary Tumulty. He was also able to set the stage for an address by the President or for the announcement of some other important action, hinting a few days in advance that a sensation was forthcoming or revealing bit by bit, and with an air of mystery, things which appeared to the eager newspapermen to be great secrets, data which Mr. Tumulty with all the arts known to the practical publicity expert, divulged with an idea to headlines and conspicuous display.

Woodrow Wilson little knew how the artful Tumulty did handle the delicate question of relations with the press, but the effectiveness of the Tumulty policy was as a rule conceded. Time and again Secretary Tumulty revealed the President's views and articulated the administration viewpoint with more skill than the President showed. In his conferences with the newspaper men, nobody in the entire administration kept in as close touch in the eight years with the editorial opinion of the American press as did Secretary Tumulty. He watched the upward and downward curve of administration popularity with all the concentration that a banker studies the rise and fall of the investment markets. Secretary Tumulty possessed an intuition which is invaluable in the realm of politics. And with it he brought to Mr. Wilson a keen judgment of men and political influence. Mr. Wilson never knew of the bits of tactful conversation conducted in his outer offices which sent Senators and Representatives back to the capital in a different frame of mind than they came to the White House. Hostilities were overcome, grievances were smoothed out and contacts strengthened, all because of the liaison maintained by Secretary Tumulty. No politician ever took a step in one direction without antagonizing some one on the opposite side. President Wilson's confidence in Tumulty in the earlier years was unbounded. He gave him a free hand. Secretary Tumulty, on the other hand stimulated by his successes in handling callers generally took the responsibility for many steps which

### CALIFORNIA IS BUSY SHIPPING ASPARAGUS

San Francisco, March 14 (By The Consolidated Press). — Vegetable canneries in California are beginning to get under full headway for handling asparagus and green peas. Shipments of asparagus from San Joaquin and Sacramento Valley points already indicate one of the heaviest crops in recent years. More than a half dozen carloads have been started eastward. Lack of rain has retarded the green pea crop this year but indications are that the drought, although it delayed planting, will not interfere with the size of the crop. Ralph P. Merritt, president and general manager of the Sun Maid Raisin Association, is on his way to the orient seeking 'new markets for California raisins. While he is in Japan he will also arrange for export sales of rice produced by the California Rice Growers Association, of which he is president.

### AUTO MANUFACTURERS SPEEDING UP SCHEDULES

Cleveland, March 14 — Automobile manufacturers here report a speeding up of schedules to take care of spring demands, and access-

possibly the President might have not taken had he been consulted, but just as often was Secretary Tumulty right in these plunges as was his chief wrong.

Time and again Secretary Tumulty intervened and prevented political blunders. And the breaks of the game, so to speak, were with him often so that the President forgave occasional slips and mistakes, being mindful of the larger accomplishments of his private secretary.

Altogether it was a remarkable association — an unusual blend of two types wholly different but working effectively in combination. The break between these two men really relates to the second administration of Mr. Wilson and will be reserved for a future chapter.

(Tomorrow's chapter tells some inside history of the relations with Mexico, Great Britain and Japan during the first Wilson administration.)

PHONE 114

Standard Pharmacy  
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sory plants are running at a high rate to supply automobile parts.

Jordan is producing 50 cars a day and hopes to maintain that average for the next four months. Cleveland also reports a 50 a day production, while Rollin is running 35 cars a day. Chandler shipments in January and February were substantially larger than last year.

Employment held nearly steady in February. Numbers employed in iron, steel and fabricating plants declined from 46,404 to 45,130, but forces were increased in automobile and chemical plants so that the number employed in 100 plants on March 1 was only 112 under February 1 figures.

### RENO MAN CLAIMS PARTIAL DEAFNESS CURED BY RADIO

Reno, Nevada, March 14 — Radio eventually may cure partial deafness, in the belief of Norman Squires, of this city, who cites his own case as an illustration.

Two years ago, Squires says, he was totally deaf in his left ear. Now, after constant treatments by radio, he declares he can hear a whisper across the room.

Radio sound waves, passing along the auditory nerves from the head phones, massage the nerves and stimulate them to the extent that hearing is restored, he contends.

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