

# SENATORS WON'T OPPOSE HUGHES

## Cloakroom Gossip Against Ex-Justice Not Taken Seriously by Harding

### NO ALTERNATE CANDIDATE

By CLINTON W. GILBERT  
Washington, Jan. 25.—So far as the Senate is concerned, there is going to be no opposition to ex-Justice Charles E. Hughes for secretary of state and no formal opposition to Charles G. Dawes, of Illinois, for secretary of the treasury.

Stories recently appearing in the press that there is a "drift" for Elihu Root for secretary of state, which is likely to make President-elect Harding recast his cabinet, making Mr. Root the premier and Mr. Hughes attorney general, may be denied.

They are mere exaggerations of Senate cloakroom gossip. Since it became known that Mr. Harding had Mr. Hughes in mind for secretary of state and Mr. Dawes for secretary of the treasury, there has been much discussion of these two names in the Senate cloakroom.

Mr. Hughes has never been a popular man among the Republican politicians. As governor of New York he was at odds with the Republican organization of the state. And party men always remember failures of officials to get on with the organization. Again as candidate for President in 1916, Mr. Hughes was not liked by many of the leaders of his party throughout the country. They were not greatly in his confidence and he did not take their advice. They found him "cold and impractical." When his name was discussed at Chicago as a possible nominee last June, the New York delegates put a stop to all talk of making again a candidate, by saying that they preferred any one to Hughes.

Diakke His Independence  
This feeling about Hughes is naturally reflected in the conversation over cigars among the senators. Many senators would prefer some one else than Hughes as secretary of state. And there is another reason for this preference. A good many senators, especially members of the foreign relations committee, would like to have a different sort of secretary of state from the kind Mr. Hughes will make. They would prefer a man less independent than he is, with less positive convictions than he has, one who will be more easily influenced by the ideas of the foreign relations committee in regard to international affairs.

But the opposition to Mr. Hughes stops there. It does not expect to prevent Mr. Hughes' nomination. And it is not likely to do so. It has no candidate against Mr. Hughes, practically every Republican member of the Senate expects to see the ex-justice as chief of Mr. Harding's cabinet. All the Republican senators who have been recently to Marion have brought back word that Mr. Harding has made up his mind to appoint Mr. Hughes and they have told their colleagues that any more to oppose Mr. Hughes would be foolish and futile.

The result is that no one has gone to Mr. Harding to tell him that he ought to appoint some other chief of his cabinet than the ex-justice and no one, at least from the Senate, will go on such a errand. And the name of no one has been sent to the President-elect and none is likely to be. Mr. Harding is going to be President in a few weeks and to any one who goes to him with the suggestion of telling him that

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he is making a mistake about his most important appointment.

**Stand of New York Senators**  
The New York senators would be chiefly interested in any objection that might be raised to Mr. Hughes, who is less popular with the organization in his own state. Senator Wadsworth and Mr. Hughes did not get on together when Mr. Hughes was governor of New York, but Mr. Wadsworth is under certain obligations to Mr. Hughes in the recent Senate campaign in New York which resulted in Mr. Wadsworth's reelection. He is not opposing Mr. Hughes as secretary of state, Senator Calver is favorable to Mr. Hughes' appointment.

**Don't Want to Fight Dawes**  
The situation with regard to Dawes is similar. A lot of unfavorable comment on Dawes' alleged friendliness to John Skilton Williams has been whizzed in the Senate who the fact which resulted in Mr. Wadsworth's reelection during the fight over the treaty do not want Root as secretary of state. Root knows too much about foreign affairs and has too positive convictions.

**Andrew Mellon, of Pittsburgh, who is regarded as an alternative to Dawes, has his friends in the Senate, and so has John E. Weeks, of Massachusetts, who might be a possibility for secretary of the treasury if Mr. Harding changed his mind about Dawes. And this combination is keeping up the John Skilton Williams' goods. But for one in the Senate feels intensely about the Dawes situation.**

**Mr. Harding has lost himself in fact about the Senate cloakroom gossip as he does about everything else. He has sent his sons here to Washington repeatedly. And he has had at Marion one or two intimate friends among the senators who would tell him and did tell him exactly what the senators were saying over their cigars.**

**But Mr. Harding has been a senator himself and he knows exactly what importance to attach to cloakroom talk. Besides, he has been told not to take it seriously.**

**Baptists Hear Dr. Stewart**  
Sessions of the Baptist New World Movement Conference are in progress at the Toga Baptist Church, Broad and Toga streets. The conference here is one of a series of thirty-five to be held in different states under the auspices of the general board of promotion of the Northern Baptist Convention. Dr. H. S. Stewart spoke on "The Function of the Board of Promotion" at this morning's meeting.

# COUNTER-CHARGES IN TEXTILE STRIKE

## Weavers Say Wage Cut Not Justified and Arbitration Would Settle It

### "NONSENSE," SAY MILL MEN

Wilton and Brussels carpet weavers on strike in the various mills in Philadelphia engaged in this trade declare that their controversy with the manufacturers easily could be settled by arbitration.

The executive board of the weavers made this statement today: "The Wilton and Brussels weavers have refused to accept a 25 per cent reduction in wages and a change in the present system of crediting because we know there is no justifiable reason for it."

"We realize that any differences may be adjusted by arbitration, and this question can be quickly settled by this method if the manufacturers are willing to sit around the table and play the game as fairly as they would have the public believe they play it."

"When we point out that the prices of raw materials entering into the manufacture of carpets and rugs have fallen 50 per cent and more in price and the finished product has only been reduced 22 1/2 per cent, it is plainly evident that the goods being sold today give the manufacturers a greater profit than six months ago."

"When we asked how much of the proposed reduction in wages they were going to give the public in the shape of further reductions in the price of carpets and rugs we were told, 'That is none of your business.'"

**Weavers Have Lost Much Time**  
"Many of the weavers have had no work for ten, twelve and fourteen weeks, all have lost five or six weeks in the last three months, and when we ask if the acceptance of a reduction will assure us of a more steady employment the manufacturers reply that they will guarantee nothing and the amount of the reductions they may make in the prices of their goods or the price they pay for the raw material is none of our business."

"The present system of crediting (they who act as helpers, another cause of dispute) was instituted on account of the deplorable conditions of the past

brought about by the boys employed in the trade, and when the change was made to this system now in operation the manufacturers themselves congratulated us, some of them saying it is the best that has ever been done in the carpet trade."

"The change asked for by the carpet manufacturers is nothing else than an attempt to increase the number of looms in our trade. It would be unfair to the learners and to ourselves to change the system and have three or four men for each loom."

"At present we have one spare hand or apprentice for every six weavers, and at this ratio we are making more than 100 weavers every year, which is a larger number than needed to supply the vacancies occurring in the business, and the only reason for the suggested change is the desire of the manufacturers to create a further surplus of weavers."

"A statement in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER of January 17 crediting Mr. Magee, of the Harwick & Magee Co., as saying that the weavers at that plant have averaged \$60 per week for the last year and a half and that some men have averaged \$80 for the last eight months, can best be answered in Mr. Magee's own words. 'We do not intend to pay any attention to any such nonsense as that.'"

"The manufacturers argue that the cost of living has come down 20 to 25 per cent, but that also is nonsense, as the reduction in the cost of living up to the present time is hardly noticeable. We claim that in view of the above-stated facts relating to the price of raw materials and the price of carpets being sold, to again quote the manufacturers, is 'None of their business.'"

"The only plant engaged in the manufacture of Wilton and Brussels carpets is one of the largest plants in the country, and this plant has not offered any reduction in wages to its employees. The explanation of this may be found in the fact that the firm in question is not a member of the Wilton and Brussels Manufacturers' Association."

Henry J. Magee, who is secretary of the Association of Wilton and Brussels Manufacturers of America and a member of the firm of Harwick & Magee, of this city, said today that none of the Wilton and Brussels mills were operating.

Mr. Magee characterized the general statistics relating to wages paid textile workers and the earnings of these workers during the war period, given out several days ago by the textile council, as "ridiculous."

"I understand that I am in a position to speak only for the Wilton manufacturers," said Mr. Magee. "The figures in regard to wages which I am able to give out concern only the weavers. Our contention is with them solely. In the Wilton trade weavers all over the United States in the first eight months of 1920 averaged \$60 a week. Some crackerjack weavers here made as much as \$80 a week."

"The Textile Council's statement in regard to large profits made by the

mills during the war period is ridiculous on the face of it. What is the source of the council's information? How did they arrive at those figures? Certainly it was not by examining the books of the 625 textile mills they say are operated in Philadelphia."

**Profits Went to Government**  
"Furthermore, the council seems to have overlooked the fact that the more money the manufacturers made the greater the amounts they turned over to the government. These sums have been enormous. The workers do not take that into consideration. There is no reason why the manufacturers should make any answer to the gratuitous assertions of the Textile Council that enormous profits have been made."

"A comparison of the cost of living as it gradually increased from 1913 to 1920, with the increased wages paid in the textile trades during the same period, will show that the weavers in the Wilton trade, about which I am best qualified to speak, were able to force the manufacturers to pay an excess in wages of about 35 per cent over the increased cost of living. Every one knows that the Wilton weavers made a nice living before the war."

"This being the case, why should the manufacturers be forced to continue to pay them this excess now that the artificial condition has passed which made it possible for the weavers to demand a rate that was unreasonably high? If they are getting 35 per cent too much why should they object to a reduction of 25 per cent?"

"The fact of the matter is that the Wilton weavers have an extremely strong union and have had things their own way during the war. Now they are trying to force us to comply with their wishes. The war is over now and we don't intend to stand for it."

### RICH HAUL FOR THIEVES

**Wallingford Home of Family Now Abroad Looted of Liquor**  
Thieves who forced an entrance to the home of J. Watts Mercer, a Delaware county attorney, at Wallingford, obtained twenty cases of whisky, gin and vermouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Mercer have been touring Europe since last July. The robbery was discovered by Edgar Rich, Negro caretaker, today. He noticed a side window had been left open.

### REV. I. N. W. IRVINE DIES

**Former Episcopal Rector Later Joined Greek Church**

The Rev. Dr. Ingram N. W. Irvine, around whom centered an inquiry which resulted in his being ousted from the rectorship of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, in Huntingdon, Pa., from the ministry of the Protestant in 1905, died Sunday in Brooklyn.

He was seventy-one years old, and was born in Ireland, the son of Sir Nathaniel Irvine. He came to this country when a youth, was graduated from the General Theological Seminary and was ordained a deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Brooklyn.

Later he was made a priest by Bishop Littlejohn, and he built churches at Brookhaven and St. James, L. I. For a time he was dean of the Cathedral at Quincy, Ill., and afterward went to Huntingdon, Pa., as rector of St. John's Church.

Late in 1904 an altercation with Bishop Talbot developed, and the following year Dr. Irvine was ousted from the rectorship and deposed from the ministry.

In 1907 Dr. Irvine was ordained in the Eastern Holy Orthodox Greek Catholic Church. His death was the result of heart trouble. He lived at 677 Sterling place, Brooklyn.

### Ambassador's Daughter to Wed

**Madrid, Jan. 25.—(By A. P.)—Elizabeth Willard, daughter of Joseph Willard, United States ambassador to Spain, is betrothed to Mervyn Herbert, secretary of the British embassy in this city, La Epoca announces.**

Workers from the northern parts of the city and from the suburbs along the Old York road were, in many cases, more than an hour late in reaching places of employment in the central parts of the city today.

Trolley cars were blocked on North Fifteenth street, owing to a frozen air-brake system on one car. The blockade extended from the North Philadelphia station to Erie avenue, on Fifteenth street, and eastwardly on Erie avenue to Old York road, and was the worst tie-up on that line in many months.

**Frozen Airbrake Ties Up Trolleys**  
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