

Snapshots at People

Governor John I. Cox of Tennessee and His Night In a Barn—John W. Kern of Indiana.



JOHN I. COX.

JOHN I. COX, governor of Tennessee, who was one of the state executives in attendance at the recent White House conference, was a farm hand in early days, was born near Bristol, Tenn., in 1855, and his father, a Confederate soldier, was killed in the fighting in Virginia.

The young Cox got his first job when he worked for a neighbor at 25 cents a week. Later in his career he carried mail. His pluck won, and he was enabled to enter the bar and rise in the world. After he had been elected governor he was traveling one time in the Cumberland mountains. He applied at a farmhouse about dusk for accommodations. The farmer was desirous of obliging him, but was afraid the quarters he could provide were too small.

Governor Cox, observing a barn near by, walked toward it, remarking as he did so, "I guess you wouldn't object to my spending the night in your barn?"

"Why, governor, I couldn't think of such a thing as that," said the farmer. "That's all right," replied the governor. "I've slept in 'em before when I was younger, and I'm not too old to do it now."

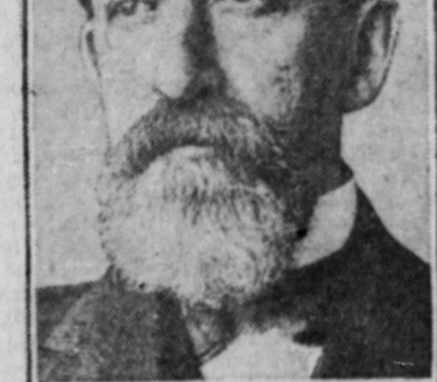
"But, governor," replied the farmer, "I couldn't think of letting you do that while I have a house, no matter if it is small."

"We have several other persons for you to look after, and I want them to be comfortable," answered the governor. "I wouldn't miss sleeping in that barn on that pile of fodder for anything."

"All right," said the farmer; "I hate to see you do it, but if you want to we'll fix you up, and we'll crowd the others in and make them as comfortable as possible."

This settled the matter of accommodations. The governor crawled into the loft, arranged a pile of fodder to make his bed comfortable and had a good night's rest.

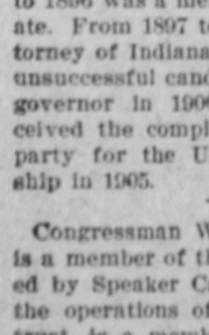
John W. Kern of Indiana, who is talked of as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for vice president was born in the Hoosier State in 1849.



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his father having been a physician who removed to Indiana from Virginia and was one of the pioneers of Howard county. A part of Mr. Kern's childhood was spent in Iowa, where his parents lived for a time, but they returned to Indiana when he was about fifteen, and he attended the state normal school, taught in Howard county and later graduated with high honors from the University of Michigan. He was for four years reporter of the supreme court of Indiana and from 1892 to 1896 was a member of the state senate. From 1897 to 1901 he was city attorney of Indianapolis, and he was the unsuccessful candidate of his party for governor in 1900 and 1904. He received the complimentary vote of his party for the United States senatorship in 1905.

Congressman William H. Ryan, who is a member of the committee appointed by Speaker Cannon to inquire into the operations of the so called paper trust, is a member of a bonding, liability and fire insurance firm in Buffalo and was born in Massachusetts in 1863.



WILLIAM H. RYAN.

His parents removed to Buffalo when he was six years old, and he was educated in the public schools, graduating from high school. He married in 1887 Miss Ellen T. Cosgrove. Mr. Ryan began his political career about fourteen years ago, when he was chosen to represent his ward in the board of supervisors of Erie county. Not long afterward a nomination for congress came his way. He is now serving his fifth term.

Mr. Ryan was once talking about business and professional signs. "Sometimes," said he, "they are exceedingly appropriate, and then again they go

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