

THE GOVERNORSHIP

WALLACE

FOR GOVERNOR



JOHN H. WALLACE, Jr.

THE BRILLIANT, FORCEFUL AND CON-
SERVATIVE YOUNG STATESMAN
AND INSTITUTION BUILDER
of NORTH ALABAMA GEN-
ERALLY DISCUSSED

A MAN OF LARGE LEGISLATIVE
EXPERIENCE

HE MEASURES UP TO THE MOST EXACTING
EXECUTIVE STANDARDS, AND IS
A STUDENT OF AFFAIRS

WE WANT WALLACE HEARD THROUGHOUT
THE STATE—SOME FEATURES OF HIS
PROPOSED PLATFORM—FORMAL
ANNOUNCEMENT WILL
BE MADE LATER

THE GOVERNORSHIP.

THERE is no question of more interest to the people of Alabama than as to who will be called to the high position of chief executive for the next four years in succession to Governor O'Neal. The papers and public gossip have connected many distinguished names with the position. The office of governor is the greatest in the gift of the people of the commonwealth, and it is therefore not to be wondered at that this interest should be shown; neither is it to be wondered at that our best men should aspire to the place, or be thought of in connection with it by their friends.

Certain it is that in the present condition of public affairs, great wisdom should be exercised in the selection. No man should be considered in connection with this position, much less called to fill it, who is not fitted by every token of previous record, public training and high aspirations to deal with the great problems of state. The record demands a multitude of considerations. The man should have had legislative experience, he should have had business experience, and he should be in all respects of trained mind. He should himself have demonstrated large constructive ability and have shown by reason thereof that he could be safely intrusted with the guidance of the ship of state. He should be a man of affairs. He should be a student of men, and should have a keen appreciation of the philosophy of civilization. His ability in dealing with men should be keen, as well as enlarged by experience, that he can judge man, and by dealing with them have the power to shape, more wisely and effectively, executive affairs.

Without invidious comparison with the other distinguished names which have been suggested, there is one man above all others who measures up to the most exacting standards. The details which follow indicate in an unmistakable way that if the people seek one who can wisely guide and lead and shape and build in the broadest and best sense, they could not do better, indeed it would appear their manifest duty to those to call him to the distinguished post of chief executive of Alabama for the next four years. The Honorable John H. Wallace, Jr., at present the commissioner of the Alabama department of game and fish, is the gentleman in question, and presented below are the facts connected with his personal and political history.

ALABAMA'S NATIVE SON.

Mr. Wallace is a son of the soil, native to Alabama, born in the Tennessee Valley, educated in one of her leading state institutions, and his life has been dedicated wholly to her service. He has served her people in a hundred different ways, in public and in private; he understands their genius, and can interpret them as few men can, certainly far better than those whose lives have not been in close and intimate touch with past and present conditions. He is a close student of affairs, as shown by large and well-directed experience; he has the public record of being one of the state's most conspicuous leaders of thought. Certain it is that he has demonstrated ability of the very highest order in the

fields of constructive and executive endeavor, and all because (the emphasis cannot be too strongly placed here), that he was born in the state, was reared among her people and is therefore the representative of their ideals and thought.

WALLACE IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Wallace is one of the best-known of the men prominent in the political life of Alabama. Shortly after he attained his majority he was admitted to the practice of law. He was elected to the house of representatives from Madison county, in 1898, and re-elected in 1900. In each session he held important committee assignments. He was a member of the rules committee (the speaker's cabinet), the judiciary committee of both sessions and was chairman of the appropriation committee, session 1900-'01. He was conspicuous for his activity and conservatism.

He introduced and championed many measures, now laws of Alabama, looking to the advancement and development of the state and its institutions. As chairman of the appropriation committee, he wrote the general appropriation bill, carrying the one of the first substantial increases in the appropriation made by the state for public school purposes. This feature of the bill was only retained after a vigorous fight, lasting for many days, led by Mr. Wallace, in which he was victorious over the powerful leaders and agencies in Alabama at that time, hostile to legislation looking to the expenditure of larger sums for public education. He made an enviable record in other ways as chairman of the appropriation committee for he thwarted the passage of all bills proposing unwise, unwarranted and extravagant expenditures of the people's money. His support was given only to those measures looking to the growth and development of the state institutions, and for the good of the whole people.

He vigorously advocated a constitutional convention for the purpose of disfranchising the negroes, and after the constitution was adopted by the convention, which he voted and labored to have called, he stumped the state for its ratification. In 1898 he presented a state-wide bill contemplating the protection of the wild life of Alabama.

WALLACE AS A STATE OFFICIAL.

Mr. Wallace continued his struggle for the preservation and protection of the birds, game and fish of Alabama until 1907 when a bill, which he wrote, was passed by the legislature, creating the Alabama department of game and fish. He was immediately unanimously elected by the legislature state game and fish commissioner, and he assumed the duties of his office without one dollar having been appropriated by the legislature for the purpose of maintaining his department. He advanced the money to pay the expenses of the department, and drew no salary for nearly a year after he went into office. Mr. Wallace was elected in 1908 and again in 1912 by the people by overwhelming majorities.

After defraying all the expenses of the department of game and fish, and splendidly protecting the fauna of the state, there remains in the state

treasury the handsome sum of nearly forty thousand dollars, placed there by Wallace's law, which is a clear profit to the state. This money is being used by the state to defray in part its current expenses.

Since the enactment of the Alabama game law, twelve states have adopted conservation statutes, patterned after the Alabama plan. In recognition of his ability, Mr. Wallace has been invited and has addressed a number of legislatures of the southern states on conservation, also congressional committees and conservation associations in Washington and New York. The business success he has made of his department is one of the conspicuous official achievements in Alabama.

WALLACE PROMPTLY PUBLISHES REPORT OF EXAMINERS ON HIS DEPARTMENT.

Each year the department of game and fish is regularly examined by one of the state examiners of public accounts. Immediately after the report is filed with the governor, Mr. Wallace proceeds to have it published. No state funds pass through his department, directly, yet his system of keeping his expense account is regarded as a model. The last report made by Captain Frank V. Evans, state examiner of public accounts, December 19, 1912, is as follows: "The splendid management of this department is well defined in the results shown, a large source of revenue to the state, real protection and increase of game in Alabama. Commissioner Wallace shows perfect vouchers and his system of accounting is correct. He handles no money directly, and receives no warrants on the treasury without the approval of the governor."

WALLACE AS A DEMOCRAT.

John H. Wallace, Jr., has voted and worked for the success of the democratic party since the age of twenty-one years; he has taken part in every campaign, beginning in 1896, and has perhaps addressed more audiences and more people in behalf of the democracy than any other man of his years in the state. He has been an inflexible democrat, always loyal to party principles and true to party policies.

WALLACE'S PROSPECTIVE CANDIDACY FOR GOVERNOR.

It has been known for some time that a large number of Alabamians in all walks of life have persistently urged Mr. Wallace to run for governor. He has declared that he will make no definite announcement in this regard until the proper time arrives. So insistent are the demands that he make the race for governor, that Mr. Wallace has made public a platform of the principles that would control him in the event he became a candidate and was elected chief executive; this platform embraces the live and vital issues now of paramount importance in the state. Believing that the people of Alabama are sorely tired of the agitation that has recently been rampant in the state, Mr. Wallace proposes an era of harmony, of united action for the upbuilding of the state and development of its resources.

WALLACE'S PLATFORM.

"In the language of the immortal George S. Houston, when he was elected governor after the terrible, turbulent ordeal of reconstruction, I say, 'The State needs rest.' The people of Alabama require concord, harmony and tranquility as opposed to the recent agitation, turmoil and internecine strife. We need more unity of action for the up-building of the state and the development of its resources; more prosperity and better business conditions.

EDUCATION OF THE WHITE CHILDREN.

"I believe that every white child in Alabama should be educated. If the child is poverty-ridden, it should be maintained by the state while attending school. The perpetuation of American institutions depends upon the education of the white children of the south.

LOCAL OPTION.

"I favor local option. Unless the people of any community favor prohibition, the liquor laws will be nullified by the grand juries and abrogated by the petit juries, and therefore become a farce.

REGULATOR OF RAILROADS.

"I advocate the proper regulation of the railroads as well as all other public utilities, within constitutional limitations. Railroads should be required to furnish better coaches and equipment for passengers, cleaner and more comfortable depots and more convenient schedules. More railroads should be constructed in the state in order to develop its vast resources.

RETRENCHMENT AND LOWER TAXES.

"As a state official I know that the running expenses of the state government can be greatly reduced. There should be equalization in matters of taxation.

FINANCIAL RATING FOR FARMERS.

"A law should be enacted providing that those citizens who reside in the country, who engage in the business of agriculture, should be accorded the same financial rating as those engaging in business enterprises in the towns and cities, the present system upon which credit is based is one of unjust discrimination against the farmers of Alabama. It must and shall be corrected. No man should be made to pay more than his just proportion of the state's burden; taxes should be greatly reduced.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONS.

"My father was a Confederate soldier. I have always advocated as liberal appropriation for pensions for his needy comrades-in-arms as the state

could stand. The state board of pension examiners should be given plenary power to purge the Confederate pension roll of all not justly entitled to pensions and to restore thereto those who should draw pensions.

OPPOSES THE CREATION OF NEW OFFICES.

"I am opposed to the creation of new offices unless the office brings in revenue or contemplates some great public good.

ALL OFFICIALS SHOULD BE BONDED.

"All state and county officials should be placed under good and sufficient bonds, in order that the interests of the state may be safeguarded at every point. All state officials, handling public money, should be required to settle with the state auditor at the close of each day's business; this would minimize the possibility of the misuse of the people's money.

EFFICIENCY OF SERVICE.

"I believe in efficiency of service. All officials should be required to attend diligently to business. I am hostile to mere stipend drawers.

TAKE THE LITTLE CHILDREN OUT OF THE COTTON MILLS.

"I believe that the little children, more especially the girls, should be taken out of the cotton mills.

STRIKE VENGEANCE FROM THE CRIMINAL LAW.

"Vengeance should be stricken from the criminal law, and the sentence of the criminal made one of correction and not of revenge.

SUPPRESSION OF INCENDIARISM.

"Stringent laws should be enacted and enforced looking to the prevention of fire-waste, resulting from incendiarism. Property would not only be better protected but the insurance rate in the state would thus be greatly reduced, resulting in the saving of millions to the people each year on fire insurance policies.

STATE CONTROL OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANIES.

"The power plants should be regulated and controlled by the state, and toll should be charged on the power, or other form of electricity sold. Water-power does not belong to individuals but to the race; it should not be permitted to become property but should merely be leased. The national government has no power to exercise dominion or control over the water-power of any navigable stream, ex-

cept in so far as it relates to navigability; it is therefore the state's duty to regulate all such concerns. By taking the matter promptly in hand, the time will come when the toll on water-power plants, dispensing electricity, will pay the running expenses of the state.

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

"A public utilities and conservation commission should be established in order that appropriate supervision may be had over all public utilities and natural rights of the state, belonging to the people in their sovereign capacity. In carrying out this program, no new office should be created; the powers of the railroad commission should be merely enlarged.

A GREAT CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION.

"A great centennial exposition should be held in 1919, befitting the growth and aspiration of a great and prosperous state. The inter-oceanic canal will then be open, the eyes of the world will be upon Alabama, and such an exposition will afford splendid and matchless opportunity for the presentation of the history and memorials of one hundred years of noble and patriotic annals, for the display of unrivaled resources of field, forest and mines, and for the exhibition of the achievements of our people in agriculture, manufacturing and the arts. Hundreds of thousands would be induced to make their homes in Alabama, and assist our people in developing our state into the richest, most prosperous and happiest in the nation."

THE EDUCATION OF THE WHITE CHILDREN.

Mr. Wallace believes that every white child in the state should be given an opportunity of going to school, free of cost, and if the child cannot embrace this opportunity on account of poverty, it should be maintained by the state while attending school. On the occasion of an entertainment recently given in Montgomery to the northern millionaire trustees of Booker Washington's negro school, in a public speech, Mr. Wallace said:

"To my mind, gentlemen, the most imperative requirement that springs from the exigencies of the times is the education of the mountain children of this country. Take a map and study it, and you will find that in the south alone predominates a majority of pure blooded Americans. Here resides a citizenship that is free of mixed blood, imbued only by patriotic ideals and animated by the same noble inspirations as in the days of yore when the American patriots responded to the call to arms and won for us the heritage of our independence.

A GRIM STRUGGLE.

"Come with me to the mountains and the hills of north Alabama, where I live, and I will take you up on the mountain-sides and show you there exist-

ing in abject poverty, living in one scantily furnished room, a man and his wife, and in many instances eight or ten of their children. Those people have a grim struggle for the bare necessities of life; they enjoy none of its comforts and life's luxuries are to them a thing undreamed. Those mountain children cannot go to school, because they have to work the little crop growing on the rocky hillside farm to help support the family; they are only partially clothed and poorly fed, yet in their bosoms burn brightly and eternally the fires of American patriotism.

THE COTTON MILL CHILDREN.

"The ranks of these little mountain children are being drawn on to recruit the forces of the cotton mill employees of this country. Within the suffocating confines of these mills, their little bodies, their brain, their brawn, are being ground down by the capital that relentlessly filches its fortune from the blood, the sinew, the spirit and sometimes the very life of the nation's neglected American children!

"I would save them from their living-death within the nerve-racking clash and din of their cotton mill prisons. It is an outrage that rapacious money-kings, many of them aliens of Alabama, be permitted to pile up their millions upon the blighted lives and wrecked possibilities of our pure-blooded American children, who are but slaves to their voracious task-masters; this baneful practice must and shall be stopped!

THE SOLID SOUTH.

"Gentlemen, in the south is the reserve force, existing in superb solidarity, of the patriotism of the nation. This magnificent homogeneity is responsible for the most refreshing fact that a southern-born man has just been chosen president of the United States. He goes into the office untrammelled, no man dares attempt to dominate him; he is in every regard a typical southern product. The nation is looking to the south to solve all vexed governmental problems. Here exists the typical American spirit, impelled by the south's sacred history and traditions, and here it will continue to flower until:—

"Time shall fold his weary wings,
And lay his tired pinions down."

The strong and courageous appeal of Mr. Wallace in behalf of the children of the mountains has been endorsed by many of the big newspapers of the country and by thousands of private citizens. The Richmond (Va.) Journal says:

"One of the strongest appeals we have ever seen for the conservation of child life in the south was that made by John H. Wallace, Jr., game commissioner of the state of Alabama, before the Business Men's club of the city of Montgomery a few days ago.

"Mr. Wallace makes a claim similar to the one, time and again stated by The Evening Journal, that the purest strain of pioneer Americans in the entire country inhabit the mountain districts of the

south. They are indigenous to the entire Appalachian range and, whether in Virginia or North Carolina or Alabama, inherit characteristics that, under cultivation, develop great strength of character.

"Mr. Wallace has gained a nationwide reputation through the Alabama game law, of which he is author, and which is declared to be the best game law in the world. So much by way of introduction; but Mr. Wallace is as deeply in earnest over the subject of the saving of this pure breed of American citizenship as the greater importance of the subject demands over game protection."

Mrs. Martha S. Gielow, founder of the Southern Industrial Educational Association of Washington, writes:

"I cannot tell you how glad I am to know that there is a man in Alabama to speak so grandly and to feel so understandingly the cause of our neglected Saxons of the mountains and rural districts."

A business man of Birmingham writes:

"I have been in every county in Alabama, part of Florida, part of Mississippi, part of Tennessee, and part of Kentucky, and I wish to state that the conditions are just like you stated in your speech. As I traveled through the mountains of these different states, and see the uncared-for children and the uneducated children, and partly clothed children, my heart would pain me when I would see them. It was a pitiful sight to me, and I have wished a thousand times that I was able to do just what you advocate. I think a fund should be raised for the purpose of educating them and to take care of them. And if there is a fund raised I will give \$500 to start it, and I will give ten per cent. of my earnings every year as long as I live. I found tears trickling down my cheek, and my heart beating rapidly for those poor little ones. It was one of the most beautiful deliveries that I ever read, and I hope that the southern people will find some more men in the south like John H. Wallace, Jr., and let them speak out like you did—the truth."

A METHODIST, A MASON AND A SON OF A CONFEDERATE VETERAN.

Mr. Wallace is a member of the Methodist church, a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, an Odd Fellow and a Junior Order United American Mechanic. For a number of years he has been commander of the fourth brigade, Alabama division, United Sons of Confederate Veterans, and has made numerous fraternal and confederate addresses.

OYSTERS AND FORESTS.

Mr. Wallace is the author of the original plan for protecting the oysters and forests of Alabama. The model forestry law, written by him, failed of passage in the house, after it had passed the senate, by only a few votes, because of the fact that the bill carried a provision requiring railroads to keep their rights-of-way clear of grass and other inflammable material which readily ignites from the sparks from the locomotives. Some of the railroads made a fight on the bill and succeeded in killing it.

It is a well-known fact that over sixty per cent. of the forest fires originate from sparks and coals from locomotives. Mr. Wallace will continue to champion the passage of a real forestry law until that great resource of timber in Alabama is made practically safe from the ravages of fire, its greatest destroyer.

PLACE ALL OFFICIALS UNDER BOND AND REQUIRE PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Mr. Wallace believes that all state and county officials should be placed under good and sufficient bonds; that state officials, handling public money should be required to settle with the state auditor at the close of each day's business. Prompt remittances would minimize the possibility of the misappropriation of public funds.

THE REGULATION OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANIES.

Mr. Wallace believes that all power plants should be regulated and controlled by the state, and toll charged on the power or other form of electricity sold. He holds that no private individual or corporation has the right to monopolize water-power; that it belongs to the people in their sovereign capacity, just the same as does sunshine and air. He contends that in the future, perhaps within fifty years, when practically all the coal and most of the forests have been consumed, the people will be driven to the necessity of depending upon electricity to furnish them with heat and light; that food will be cooked by heat generated by electricity and dwelling houses heated by such means. In his opinion it is therefore the duty of the state to assume control promptly of all water-power and lease it instead of permitting it to become property; this can be done without affecting the rights of riparian owners. Mr. Wallace insists that the time will come when the toll derived from hydro-electric companies will pay the running expenses of the state. He favors the creation of a public utilities and conservation commission to conserve all of the natural rights of the people as they consist in water-power, forests, mines, water-ways and all other natural resources.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EXPOSITION.

In recognition of his great work for conservation, Mr. Wallace has been made a member of the National Advisory Board of the National Conservation Exposition that will be held at Knoxville, Tennessee, September-October, 1913. He will represent the resources of game and fish. He is also the chairman of the Alabama Advisory Board to the National Advisory Board of this exposition.

PROTECTION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS.

After zealously laboring for years, Mr. Wallace and his confreres have secured the passage of a bill through congress, affording ample protection for migratory water-fowl and birds.

Mr. Wallace has recently been appointed a member of the Advisory Board on Migratory birds by the secretary of the United States department of agriculture. His selection was a compliment to the state and to the south.

Since birds are unable to tell whether they are in Alabama, Tennessee or Florida, Mr. Wallace believes that national uniformity in game laws was imperative in order to protect the feathered migrants that do valiant work for the farmers all during the year. Since this has been done, he now advocates the creation of a commission by congress, to be vested with plenary power to negotiate treaties with all of the nations of the western hemisphere, from the ice-fields of the Arctic to Patagonia, in the line of flight of migratory water-fowl and birds. When this scheme is consummated, all that human agency can devise will have been done for the conservation of nomadic birds in the New World.

ACTIVITIES IN GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE.

When the governor's conference was organized, Mr. Wallace raised the question of keeping the state capitol clean, improving the environment of the capitol building and the service therein; he was therefore appointed chairman of the committee on comfort, sanitation and service of the governor's conference of state officials. As chairman of this committee, he submitted an elaborate report which was adopted, recommending changes in the service within the building, which has resulted in making the state capitol thoroughly clean. A United States mail-carrier is now delivering mail at the capitol, a drive-way has been constructed around the north wing, a private branch telephone exchange, with forty phones, affording excellent inter-departmental communication as well as with all parts of the state, has been installed in the state capitol at a cost of only \$25 more a year than was formerly paid for half the number. Other needed changes have been inaugurated without additional cost to the state. Mr. Wallace is also a member of the rules committee and chairman of the program committee of the governor's conference of state officials.

WE WANT WALLACE.

From all sections of the state comes up the call, "We want Wallace for governor." It is believed that the state requires the services of a man who can look into the future with a large degree of accuracy; one who has never had any connection with liquor interests, nor has ever represented a railroad corporation. A citizen of patriotism, of courage, with the ability to conceive the right and the fearlessness to do it. The opinion in which Mr. Wallace is held by those who know him, is well expressed in the language of an Alabamian of state-wide prominence, as follows:

"Mr. Wallace, the state of Alabama and the nation need more men of your type. I have followed you through your fight for the establishment of the department over which you so creditably preside; you not only crystalized the sentiment of the peo-

ple of Alabama in favor of laws being enacted protecting the wild life of the state, but you have caused to be enacted into laws, in other states, these ideas for bird and game protection. In my opinion you have completed your work in this particular. 'Well done thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things.' Your work has not been in vain. The people of this great state have not been slow in recognizing your ability, your wisdom to see—your courage to act—your willingness to execute has convinced them that you can be entrusted with greater responsibilities.

"In saying this I am only voicing the sentiment of hundreds I have heard express themselves, that Alabama would make no mistake in calling you, one of her distinguished sons, to preside over her destinies as the chief executive. I have not the slightest idea that this suggestion will appeal to you, nor am I advised whether or not you are in a position to make the financial sacrifice and the loss of time it would entail, but I believe you to be a man who would allow no obstacle to stand in the way in following the path of duty, as you see it.

"The call for a man that measures up to the high standard of statesmanship is loud and clarion throughout the length and breadth of Alabama, questions of paramount importance await settlement, affecting the welfare of the people of the entire state, which require a man of tried ability, of tested courage. Mr. Wallace, I, with many others, believe you to be the man. I believe you to measure up to all these standards and if you consent to make the race, I pledge to you my most active support."

VIEWS OF A CONFEDERATE VETERAN.

A Confederate veteran at the Soldiers' Home, Mountain Creek, writes to Mr. Wallace: "It is a pleasure to see young men, like you, ascending. The time has come for the young men of Alabama to guide the old commonwealth through the turbulent future, and no one knows better than John H. Wallace, Jr., the needs of the day. I am pleased to see that you entertain the thought of making the race for governor."

WALLACE WILL WIN—WIN WITH WALLACE.

Being a seasoned campaigner and having been twice overwhelmingly elected by the people, in the event Mr. Wallace enters the race for governor he would naturally be expected to make a vigorous canvass for the office. He enjoys the reputation of being an intrepid orator and a fearless debator. Special interests are always represented at the state house when the legislature meets, and should Mr. Wallace be elected governor the people will have in him a friend who will sacredly guard their welfare and sovereign rights. It would mean the dawn of a roseate era, full of promise, happiness and prosperity, free from discord, strife and agitation, should the people conclude to call Mr. Wallace to the governor's chair.

—Montgomery Times, April 15, 1913.