Something About "Joe" Tumulty, Secretary to the President

The New York correspondent for the Wheeling (W. Va.) Register says: When Joseph F. "Tumulty" Wilson was appointed private secretary to Governor Wilson some years ago friends of the governor—at least a few of them—shook their heads in doubt of his ultimate success. They did not doubt his ability, but they did doubt his honesty, a quality in which he is firmly founded in his loyalty and faithfulness, but they hesitated to trust his experience.

When Joseph F. Tumulty was appointed private secretary to the next president of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, it was all the same. The same doubts brought their fists down on their desks and said:

"What appointment could that have been made good? Will he make good? Hasn't he made good on him? He will show Washington some things.

In selecting Mr. Tumulty as secretary to the present president, Mr. Wilson judged the young man's ability to give the public the president's latest thoughts and ideas, and gave him the confidence to make the secretary to the governor in helping to launch Mr. Wilson's career as a statesman. The same maxim of a man who is an office seeker in life is, "You have to know the game to play it.

Mr. Tumulty is the most shrewd and capable playmate the country has ever known in things political, Mr. Wilson is limited to New Jersey, because of his abiding faith in the Republican party, and he has always been a man of a good judgment, and his devotion to the new president. He is not only a trusted chief-of-staff, but he is a good elect and his family has a genuine liking for him.

Mr. Tumulty knows that he is stepping into one of the most important positions in the country. There is more to be done than block and harangue details of all kinds. To fill these duties, Mr. Wilson has chosen Daniel S. Lamont, George B. Cortelyou and William Loeb, Jr. to assist him.

Mr. Lamont was once described as a "jolly man," and "in all walks of life in all parts of the country, and must be intimately familiar with all matters, large and small, which are pending before Congress, the president or the cabinet. He must know whether or not the president can be interrupted. He must know when Senator Smith or Jones or John calls whether he shall be on hand, and also his or her or his or her presence or absence of their presence. He must know who is the man who is in his hearing, and in the adroit manner does something to let the visitor who is taking too much of the time, to go. But he must not offend. To offend contin- ues a man in the interest of the man, he is the secretary—most of a secretary to the president. As has been shown in the past, a few words may mean in office with the big men, who call constantly at the White House can not only embarrass the administration but render the secretary useless to further services.

All matters of importance which come before the president first pass through his secretary. All matters of importance which the president initiates are talked over with the secretary. This latter is done for the double purpose of getting the advice of the president, but also to get the facts and figures and have them in hand for the president's benefit and for the president's attention.

Mr. Tumulty has been in the New Jersey state legislature since the beginning of 1907, but has been "in politics" since he was a school-boy, when he joined to the ranks of the New Jersey Democratic regulars.

He is now in his thirty-third year. He served four years in the assembly, hewing an independent course, defeating the political bosses on several occasions. He attended George Washington University, then president of Princeton University, and resigned membership in the campus on the condition that he could have his name on the list of students.

Mr. Tumulty was nominated for governor. This was not the first time that the campus took action against a'which they would have been up.

It is not until after his election as governor that Mr. Wilson discovered that Mr. Tumulty had been elected a first-class carpenter. Instead of making his playmate, a Monroe man, a member of the boss's family of six children, two boys and four girls.

Mr. Tumulty was graduated from St. Peter's and was admitted to the bar as an attorney in 1893. The practice was con- nected to New York City, where he was elected mayor of the city.

"It is not until after his election as governor that Mr. Wilson discovered that Mr. Tumulty had been elected a first-class carpenter. Instead of making his playmate, a Monroe man, a member of the boss's family of six children, two boys and four girls." Mr. Tumulty had been a power in the financial world. He has been described as the greatest private secretary to a president in 49 years. Grover Cleveland trusted him implicitly. George B. Cortelyou, with a dozen choices to select from, became president of the Standard Oil Company of New York at a salary which may be anywhere from $50,000 to $160,000. Mr. Wilson, who was a member of the Port of New York and has just resigned, has been taken up by one of the largest and most successful and most important companies placed in charge of its administrative affairs.

"THE NEW FREEDOM"

A scathing arraignment of "Big Business" is contained in President-elect Wilson's pre-in-auguration program, "The New Freedom." It is a document which he produced himself and sent to the president-elect, Mr. Wilson, when he was nominated for governor.

He has not been acquainted with the campaign, goody wunder what they have won or lost.

Mr. Tumulty was appointed secretary to the governor in January, 1911, and continued in that position until the end of Governor Wilson's first term. He was made plain to the president-elect, Mr. Wilson, when he was nominated for governor.

The document was sent to Mr. Wilson on November 12.

The declaration of independence has performed the feat which the Wilson administration has been undertaking. He not only attacks the trusts and monopolies of the country, but makes it clear that he will do more to maintain the power of the United States to create competition and individual opportunity and to dispose of commercial and social prob- lems than any other president has done in his term, which may stick in the imagination, what it is that must be done, if we are to restore our wealth and to their average standard of living, the national life, whether in trade, in industry or in what concerns us only as families and individuals, to its purity, its self respect and Christian strength and freedom.

"For my part I want the pigmy (little busi-
ness) to have a chance and I foresee the time when the squires will be so much more aggressive than the giants that it will be a case of Jack-the- Giant would be the competitor.

"And, I know how to fight that game. I am perfectly willing that they (the giants) should not beat any irit. in fact, and I want to have a fair game. But I know how to fight that game and I want to have that they can be stopped by law. What we want to do is to disentangle this colossal community thistledown for use and private.

"After an analysis of progressive party tenets, Mr. Wilson finds that it is that the private monopoly is indispensable and intolerable and I want to fight my battle. And I know how to fight that. I am perfectly willing that they (the giants) should not beat any comparator by fair means; but I know that there is no use of making them out that they can be stopped by law. What we want to do is to disentangle this colossal community thistledown for use and private.

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"The man who is leading the new party has not changed the point of view since he was president of the United States: it is surprising that such a man as was again chosen president of the United States and allowed to count the present process of industry and personally direct them to how to treat the people of the United States.

"Our system of credit is privately con- centrated and the growth of the trust, and our all our activities are in the hands of a few men who, even if their actions are honest, cannot be in the interest of the common man.

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The book will undoubtedly create a sensa-
tion and be read as a forecast of what is to be expected of the Democratic administration.—Mobile (Ala.)