PRESIDENT WILSON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(Continued from page 1)

for governmental construction of Alaskan railroads was made; and

the bill for exempting American ships from Panama Canal tolls,

which would have strained several treaties, was repealed. Later, the

Administration had to face the question of the Danish West Indian

area to further protect the Canal, and strengthened agricultural develop-

ment by providing capital at fair rates under the Farm Loan Act.

One of the most popular bills which the Democratic Congress passed

was the Child Labor Law.

All the real difficulties, however, lay in the foreign relation ques-

tion. When President Wilson did not, on several occasions, break

with Germany, when he refused to recognize Huerta, and helped out

him because the partial control of Mexico had been obtained

with the view of personal gain; and when he recognized Carranza and

handled the recent border situation as he believed best—there was no lack

of shotsters to condemn. But the fact remains, even if these same

shootters have offered theoretical remedies, that Mr. Wilson's system

was sound. However much political adventurers claim less of Ameri-

can prestige, it is certain that Germany has shatlered her favorite

amusement, and that the turbulent element in Mexico no longer for-

ges in the United States. Preparedness has sprung up, along with a

national prosperity of which less than one per cent. is due to the

manufacture of military supplies and accessories.

The labor situation, unfortunately, could not be managed in such

diplomatic fashion. When the great railroad strike was pending, the

eight hour bill was obviously rushed through by compulsion. A

rational observer, however, cannot but believe that the law was made

in order that the question might properly be fought out before a court

while the nation would suffer no crippling blow from the force-loving

brotherhoods.

President Wilson's first term is now closing. Whether the coun-

try will see fit to give him a second depends on the people's degree

of satisfaction with his performance of tasks, which everyone knows

were herculean; and their willingness to risk a chance in a well-bal-

anced, unified administration which, backed by four years' experience,

has international relations and internal affairs well in hand.

POLITICAL CAREER OF CHARLES EVANS HUGHES

(Continued from page 1)

the operations of the Consolidated Gas Company. In a few months,

says an interviewer, "New York was treated to such an entertainment

as it had never known." Thanks to Mr. Hughes' fame as an inves-

tigator, he sprang at once into prominence as a political possibility.

Pressure of duty forbade his accepting the nomination for Mayor,

but a year later he was able to run for the governorship of the state

on the Republican nomination. It is common knowledge that the

Convention did not make its choice willingly; but, as Hughes alone

could defeat Hearst, it submitted to having its days of bossism ended,

and so they were. With Mr. Hughes' entry into office, the politi-

cians made their exit; and thenceforth he recognized no unofficial

authority other than his own views of right and wrong. He stood

firm for the principles of conscience, and, curiously enough, recommended

during his term of office nearly all of the admittedly beneficial meas-

ures which the Democratic administration has passed in the last four

years, notably the protection of child labor.

It is quite natural that a large number of Mr. Hughes' claims for

election to the Presidency should be based on the errors and errors

of the Democratic term: and there are plenty of items for his

contention. He sees plainly the vagueness of the revised anti-trust

regulations; he calls attention to the fact that the Revenue Act is not

yet in actual operation, but that it was the Vessel Act of the

Republicans which averted panic in 1914; and he is a strong advocate

of the protection of American industries until they are strongly

established.

His chief desire, however, is that any action undertaken be han-

dled fairly and efficiently. He does not recognize the right of the

United States to interfere in the affairs of its small neighbors any

more than in great countries,—to eject a Huerta any more than to

attempt to dethrone a Hapsburg,—nor does he believe in disguising his

action as reparation of an insult to the flag.

Judging from his record as governor, it is doubtless whether Mr.

Hughes would have peremptorily forced his favor-appropriations as

the one for twenty million dollar nitrate plant "somewhere in the

South." Nor would he have been coerced into signing the eight hour

bill, with even one pen, to say nothing of four; for Mr. Hughes'

has an American's abhorrence of compulsion. With regard to

Euros's affairs, it is difficult to say authoritatively exactly what

he would have done; but it is not difficult to conceive that the situa-

tion would have been handled fully as discreetly as it was. We do

know that the Department of State would have been efficiently or-

ganized from the first, instead of becoming a bureau for the repay-

ment of petty debts—an easy mark for the sarcasm of cartoonists and

paragrapheers.

By far the most telling recommendation, however, is that Mr.

Hughes would gather around him in office the most prominent of

American statesmen,—a group of men which seems to be perceptibly

superior to any that the opposing party has to offer; and foreign poli-

tickeers would be quick to realize, from contact and from past ex-

perience, that there was in control a master mind, working with an

administration which was not to be trifled with.

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