

## **Woodrow Wilson** **(December 31, 1910)**

The Democratic governor-elect of New Jersey, the ex-president of Princeton College, Woodrow Wilson, is being groomed by the big interests of the East for the presidential nomination in the next campaign. Woodrow was a particularly intimate friend of the late Grover Cleveland.<sup>1</sup> They entertained substantially the same principles and had the same views of what constitutes democracy. If Woodrow is ever elected president and there is a great labor strike he will make the same use of the federal troops to crush it as did his friend Cleveland.

Mr. Wilson is out in an interview declaring defiance to the Democratic machine of his state and declaring that he will not be controlled by it. This sounds superfine to the people and will add greatly to his popularity and political prospects. But why, pray why, Mr. Wilson, did you wait until after the election before shaking your fist at the machine instead of doing so after your nomination? You can safely thump the machine now. It will help you doubtless and will not in the least hurt the machine. You may find it to your advantage to publicly repudiate the machine (after you have been elected by it), but you are quite evidently no novice when it comes to making personal use of its methods.

Unsigned article published in *Appeal to Reason*, whole no. 787 (Dec. 31, 1910), p. 4, an issue edited by Debs. Attributed to Debs by style.

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<sup>1</sup> Debs's political nemesis, Grover Cleveland, died of cancer on June 24, 1908.