

8/10/13

GOVERNOR VISITS DR. W. H. WISHARD

Veteran Physician, Who Has Seen
Every Indiana Executive,
Pleased by Honor.

POLITICS PROVOKES TILT

Ralston Finds Doctor, Though Fel-
low Presbyterian, Is Strong
for G. O. P.

Dr. William H. Wishard, 3946 North Delaware street, who is eleven months older than the state of Indiana, has the distinction of having had an acquaintance with each of the twenty-seven Governors of this state. He met the present Governor one week ago, when Governor Ralston called at his home and spent more than an hour chatting with him.

Governor Ralston was much surprised to learn that there was a man living who had seen all Indiana Governors up to this time, and when he learned of the venerable doctor's desire to meet him he decided to gratify his wish at once. Dr. W. N. Wishard introduced his father to the Governor.

"I am indeed glad to meet you, Governor," said Dr. Wishard. "I guess you complete the list, for I have met all the Governors of Indiana who came before you."

Dr. Wishard, though in his ninety-eighth year, still retains his faculties in a remarkable degree and he entered into a long discussion with the Governor about the early days of Indiana. The Governor was deeply interested in Dr. Wishard's recital of pioneer day happenings and he asked him questions about many things.

POLITICS IS DROPPED.

The conversation developed the fact that the Governor and the venerable doctor are both Presbyterians, but the Governor soon found out that Dr. Wishard doesn't agree with him politically.

"I've heard it said that a high-grade Democratic speech is much like a good Presbyterian sermon," remarked the Governor, drifting from a discussion of religion to politics.

"They are not alike at all," retorted the nonagenarian quicker than it takes to say jack-rabbit.

The Governor saw that he was getting on dangerous ground and with a hearty laugh he dropped the subject of politics.

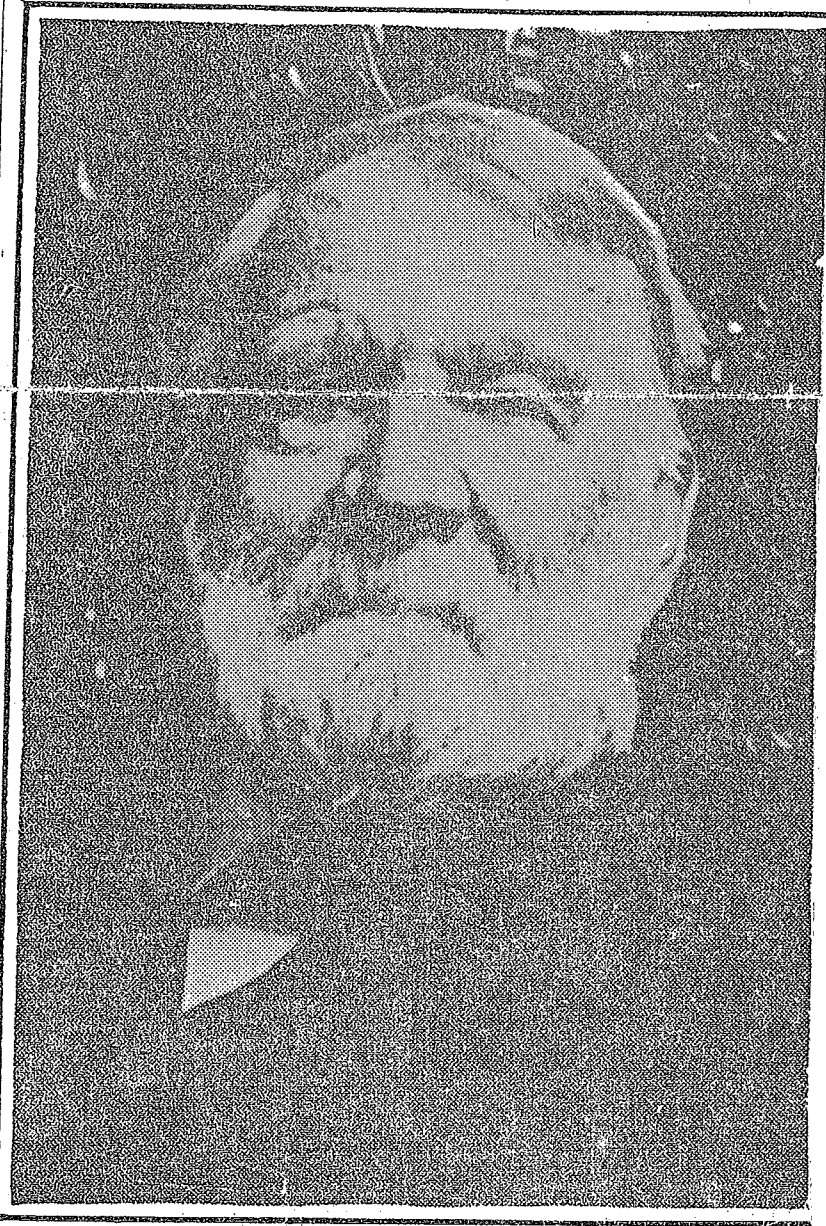
Dr. Wishard always has been a staunch Republican and, while he has not been active in politics for several years, he still stands up for his party on every occasion.

Dr. Wishard did not see the first three or four Governors while they were in office, but he met them in later years. Having lived in or near the state's capital since 1825, the year his parents removed here from Kentucky, it was natural that he came in touch with the various Governors. He held a warm admiration for several of the Governors but he was devoted to none of them as he was to Governor Morton, the "war governor."

JENNINGS VISITED FAMILY.

When Dr. Wishard's father, who was John Wishard, first removed to Indiana, he located about ten miles south of Indianapolis on the Bluff road. The Bluff road was taken by persons riding from Indianapolis to Martinsville, Bloomington and Vincennes, and not infrequently travelers would stop overnight at the Wishard country home.

Honored With Visit by Governor Ralston.



Wishard
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DR. W. H. WISHARD.

It was while riding on horseback to one of these towns that Jonathan Jennings, who, as Indiana's first Governor, had served from 1816 to 1822, was a guest overnight of the Wishard family. Dr. Wishard was then about 10 years old. He recalls that the former Governor was then "on an electioneering tour and that he was a very genial old fellow."

Dr. Wishard's preceptor in medicine was Dr. B. S. Noble, who was a brother of Noah Noble, Governor of Indiana from 1831 to 1837.

It was Dr. Wishard who first suggested to Governor Morton that he arrange for the removal of Indiana soldiers, ill and wounded in army hospitals, to their homes. His suggestion resulted in Governor Morton going to Washington and making a personal appeal to President Lincoln to order the wounded and ill Union soldiers sent home. Though he met with some opposition in his Cabinet, President Lincoln recognized that this was