
**Diary Entry Regarding the Possible
Pardon of Eugene V. Debs and Other
Political Prisoners by Woodrow Wilson
[August 10, 1920]**

by Josephus Daniels

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1920 Tuesday 10 August.

Cabinet....

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Shall Debs and others who have served 15 months sentence be pardoned? [Attorney General Mitchell] Palmer, [Secretary of the Interior John Barton] Payne, and I advocated it and [Secretary of War Newton] Baker also. [Postmaster General Albert] Burleson opposed and [Secretary of State Bainbridge] Colby doubted. In New Jersey, said the President, the Governor is a member of the Board of Pardons. He cannot pardon by himself, but his vote is necessary to secure pardon. He said that with finality and that ended hope for Debs and the others.

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Edited by Tim Davenport

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