

If the republican party has lost so much in two years, as last night's figures show, it will in four years easily wipe out all claim to leadership. The defeat of leaders like Babcock, Lacey and Wadsworth, and the great reduction of majorities for such others as Hepburn, Sherman and Payne, is of utmost significance, and no leader realizes this more clearly than the president."

FRANK P. SARGENT, commissioner of immigration, in a newspaper interview declares: "The election result was rather an indorsement of the president than the party. Labor knew the president was all right, and that not to hold up his hands by giving him a house of representatives of his party would be to desert a friend. This thought saved many congressmen, whose records did not commend them to labor. Taken by themselves they would have been defeated; backed by the president, labor accented them. It is a lesson and labor will receive the benefits, for it has shown what may happen at the next election, if these men do not give consideration to measures asked for by labor. Hughes won because he got part of the labor vote. If Hearst had got all of it, he would have been elected. I believe Hughes had almost the entire vote of the members of the brotherhoods of firemen, trainmen and engineers. It has been shown that congress can not ignore labor demands simply because the president's popularity has saved some congressmen. Organized labor can not be overlooked by each party. The knowledge that the president was with us nullified in large measure the appeal of the labor leaders against particular congressmen."

THE OPINION SEEMS to be growing in Washington, according to the World Herald's correspondent, that Mr. Roosevelt "has been forced upon his party for another nomination." This correspondent adds: "Taft, Shaw, Fairbanks, Cannon and all the other booms are defeated today, and the president is at the front as the almost certain candidate of his party. The politicians have hoped to be spared this, but are yielding to it. The new congress will be the president's own, politicians say, and he will be able to get what he demands. If he fails to press progressive legislation he will injure his chances; hence the great interest in gossip about what he is supposed to plan putting into his forthcoming message. Tariff revisionists are disgusted that the administration should have had time to send Taft to Idaho, but could not spare any effort for the help of Cummins in so loyal a Roosevelt state as Iowa. They construe it to mean that the tariff is going to get no attention at the hands of the administration while Roosevelt is president. Cummins' election is taken to mean that if the tariff becomes a great issue in the next few years the Iowan will loom large in the presidential class. That the president is now in sight of a senatorial seat from New York, in case he wishes it, is another element in all calculations. There are some republicans who believe the president would be willing to retire in 1908 as president if certain of a long senatorial career. But their number is small. The general belief is that the president will be the 1908 candidate for president. Pennsylvania's return to the fold of the Penrose machine grieves many friends of the president, who are unable to understand how he could have been for reform in Pennsylvania and Ohio last year and against it this year. They point out that in both states there was no change of issues, but the president changed and the states went republican this year, reinstating the old games. This is one of the evidences to which politicians point in support of their theory that the president wants another term."

THE ELECTION RETURNS from the new state of Oklahoma, made up of the territories of Oklahoma and Indian Territory, are full of interest. The constitutional convention will be overwhelmingly democratic in its make-up, and the new officials will be democratic. The press dispatches declare that the Indians generally voted the democratic ticket. The extent of the victory was a surprise even to the most optimistic of the democratic leaders. Interest in the Arizona and New Mexico returns centered in the vote on joint statehood. The vote in both territories was very light. As was expected, New Mexico voted for joint statehood, but Arizona voted against it by heavy odds. Arizona offers the objection that New Mexico is peopled very largely by Mexicans who have no sympathy with American ideas. More than this, Arizona insists that the new state would be too large in area, and that a

vast portion of it, mostly in Arizona, would be practically shut off by reason of geological and geographical peculiarities. Arizona's vote is an indication that the people of that territory prefer indefinite postponement of statehood to joint statehood with New Mexico.

IN PENNSYLVANIA the republicans won by about 75,000 plurality. One feature of the Pennsylvania result is that reformers are making bitter attacks upon Mayor Weaver of Philadelphia, denouncing him as a traitor to their cause. Referring to Weaver the Philadelphia correspondent for the Chicago Tribune says: "There is one remarkable phase of the situation. On election night Mayor Weaver became absolutely a man without a party. Hated by the city party, the reform organization which he believed to have betrayed him by turning down his candidate for district attorney, Frederick J. Shoyer, and which in consequence he denounced, he is held responsible for their defeat and the break is unbridgeable. The republican organization, on the other hand, would no more embrace him than it would dynamite. They consider him too impetuous and too strongly loaded. Their principle in the last fight was to stand at a discreet distance and watch him explode under the other party. It is admitted even by the mayor that he and politics are to be strangers henceforth."

CONCERNING THE Pennsylvania result the Washington correspondent for the Chicago Tribune says: "Pennsylvania went for the regular republican ticket by a plurality of fully 75,000 votes. This is a great personal triumph for Senator Penrose. It puts him as firmly in the saddle in Pennsylvania as ever Quay was, and at the same time it ends for the time being all hope of the success of a reform movement in that state. John Weaver, the sensational mayor of Philadelphia, went back to the Penrose crowd before the election and turned over to them the control of the police and the city government."

IN NEW HAMPSHIRE republicans suffered a loss over the last election of more than 6,500. In Idaho, Gooding was re-elected together with the rest of the republican ticket. The legislature is also republican, thus assuring the defeat of Senator Dubois. In Idaho as in Utah great support was given the republican party by the Mormon church. In Rhode Island, Higgins, democrat, is elected governor by something like 1,000 plurality. The rest of the republican state ticket was elected. The legislature is republican; and the republican congressmen were returned. In Wyoming republicans were successful, electing representatives and all of the republican state ticket. The re-election of Senator Warren is thus assured. In California Gillette, republican, is elected governor and the legislature will be strongly republican. In Nebraska the republicans elected the state ticket, captured the legislature and elected five of the six members of congress.

THE RESULT IN Colorado was a general surprise. There the democrats made an open fight against the allied corporations, that element completely capturing the republican state convention. The Denver News, while admitting that the reform forces of Colorado have suffered defeat, says that the republican state ticket "received a distinct plurality of the honest vote at the last election," and that there is yet hope, because republicans secured only a plurality while a majority vote was cast against control by the corporations. Aside from the republican nominee there were candidates for governor as follows: Adams, democrat; Haywood, socialist; Lindsey, independent. These three divided the anti-corporation vote and thus gave victory to the republicans.

THE NEW YORK PRESS, a republican paper, thus summarizes the reasons for the meagre republican victory in New York: "The sweeping and unnecessary indorsement of the Higgins administration, necessarily including Hendricks and Kilburn, by the republican candidate, Rogers and Carnegie, McCarren and Croker. Speaker Cannon's invasion of the state. The renomination of the beef trust congressman, Wadsworth. Platt and Depew. President Roosevelt's promotion of Cortelyou, the receiver of stolen insurance funds, to administer the finances of the whole nation. President Roosevelt's intervention in the local republican primaries. President Roosevelt's in-

terference in the campaign through the most unpopular member of his cabinet, Secretary Root. We do not believe any political campaign in the future will ever beat the record of this one for Burchards and blunders."

STRANGE TO SAY republicans were greatly surprised when Missouri wheeled into the democratic column. They appear to feel very bad about it, too. The Washington correspondent for the Chicago Tribune says: "So far as national affairs are concerned, the thing in Tuesday's election which probably will excite the greatest interest, aside from the Hearst defeat, will be the backsliding of Missouri. It was only two years ago that the 'Mysterious Stranger' left his unexpected tracks in the waste places between the democratic and the republican columns. He was welcomed as newcomers generally are in politics, and the enthusiastic republicans of Missouri predicted that the state was unalterable in its adhesion to republican policy. They elected a republican to the United States senate and then sat down and gloried in their political greatness. But they will glory no more. The 'Mysterious Stranger' did not come to stay. The 'Stranger' has gone back to his old associates and Missouri has become a democratic state once more by a safe majority, electing a large percentage of democrats to the house of representatives, and probably insuring the electoral vote to the democracy two years from now. Poor Missouri, not a continuous performance, but only a one night stand."

ILLINOIS WENT republican by more than 100,000. Chicago gave the republican state ticket a plurality of more than 50,000. The Associated Press dispatches say: "The republicans lost two congressional districts apparently in Chicago and two more down state, making a gain of four for the democrats, and giving them five instead of one in the Illinois congressional delegation. The successful democrats were James T. McDermott, who beat Charles S. Wharton in the Fourth district; Adolph J. Sabath, who won out against Anthony Michalek in the Fifth; Benjamin F. Caldwell, who beat Zenó J. Rives in the Twenty-first, and Martin D. Foster, who got more ballots than Frank I. Dickson in the Twenty-third. Henry T. Rainey, democrat, was re-elected in the Twentieth district. All the defeated republicans are in the present congress, having been renominated. The legislature is undoubtedly republican by a good majority on joint ballot, the republicans having a majority of the members in both houses. This insures the return to the senate of United States Senator Shelby M. Cullom, who received the majority of the votes at the republican state primaries."

THE NEW YORK WORLD warns the Hughes administration that something must be done for the public interest. The World says: "The people of New York are tired of corporation piracy. They are tired of being robbed by the public service corporations that are the creatures of the state, and of seeing this robbery connived at by men who are supposed to be the servants of the public. They are tired of being robbed by milk trusts and ice trusts and coal trusts and gas trusts and traction trusts. They are tired of the partnership between corporations and political organizations and they have voiced their resentment at the polls."

AFTER REMOVING a battalion of negro troops for offenses committed by some of their number at Brownville, Texas, President Roosevelt called upon Colonel William L. Pilcher to explain his offensive remarks concerning negro troops. A Washington correspondent for the Chicago Tribune says: "There is reason to believe that Booker T. Washington is at the bottom of Colonel Pilcher's troubles, though this can not be established definitely. Still, it is known that at a conference President Roosevelt had with Washington last week the negro educator earnestly besought him not to dismiss the negro companies involved in the Brownville riot. The president refused to listen to his appeal. Washington believed there should be 'equal justice' administered and heartily approved the president's decision to call Colonel Pilcher to account for his purported statement that he never liked negro troops, that the farther away they were the better it pleased him, and that there were enough fine white young men in the country of whom to make soldiers without recruiting among negroes. There are officers of