

Political Earthquake

The expected has happened. Wilsonism and the English-made league of nations are buried under an avalanche of adverse votes. Not a northern or a western state has voted for the virtual nullification of the American Declaration of Independence. Even the solidarity of the southern states has been broken by Tennessee voting to save America from the insidious danger which lurked in the proposed international arrangement for substituting for national sovereignty a species of super-government which, in certain eventualities, would be vested with power to order the United States to place its resources—military, naval and financial—at the disposition of foreign governments to wage wars in which American interests would not be at stake—a power the constitution of the United States in express terms, confers upon the American congress.

An invitation to commit national suicide would be a fitting description of the issue the Wilsonized Democratic party placed before the American people. The man responsible for issuing this invitation affronted the intelligence and the patriotism of his countrymen by labelling it "a solemn referendum."

The chief fugleman for the conspiracy to make the Republic stand sponsor for the perpetuation of the British Empire received his answer on the second day of November, even he, panoplied as he is with supreme egotism, cannot mistake the meaning of that answer. The country, heeding the warning of George Washington, has refused in the most emphatic manner to join in a partnership with England and her European allies to help safeguard their territorial loot.

A political tidal wave, unprecedented in the history of the United States, has swept the land. A great host of voters who never before cast their ballots for a Republican presidential candidate deserted en masse the Democratic ranks to show their disapproval of the substitution of Wilsonism for Jeffersonian principles. Democratic strongholds which formerly were impregnable were carried one after another by Senator Harding. Majorities Republican leaders never even dreamed of were rolled up in states like Ohio, Indiana and New York. The empire state gave a ma-

majority of over one million to President-elect Harding. New York City gave him some three hundred thousand majority; Boston City, ordinarily a Democratic stronghold, gave him a majority of thirty-two thousand. The anti-league candidates for both Houses of Congress were equally successful at the polls. The result is that the United States Senate and the national house of representatives are overwhelmingly Republican.

The verdict of the electorate is most emphatic. The part voters of Irish blood took in shaping that verdict is unmistakable. Years ago The Irish World, in advocating the exercise of political independence by Irish-Americans, made the assertion that the Democratic party without their aid could not carry a single state north of the Mason and Dixon Line. The result of the voting on Tuesday of last week confirms this statement. This assertion is corroborated partially by our pro-British contemporary, the New York Times. In its leading editorial, the day after the political earthquake it said: "But new, strange and enormous reinforcements came to them (Republicans) without virtue or effort on their part and these account for the staggering overplus of the Harding figure. Let us see whence came these enormous reinforcements to the Republican party. We quote once more from our British contemporary: "The proof of it is seen in the figures of the Republican vote and of the Republican majorities in such Democratic strongholds as New York City and Boston. The Irish vote and the German vote * * * went solidly over to the Republican candidate. And this happened all over the country."

The value of the New York Times' testimony lies in its asserting a fact acknowledged by the whole country. An army of Democrats of Irish blood who hitherto had marched to the polls under the Democratic banner went over to the Republican camp as a protest against the Wilson proposal to make the United States a species of an annex of Europe dominated by England. The men and women of our race who with their ballots helped defeat that proposed treason to the Republic are deserving of all honor. They not only did their part saving their country from a very grave peril but they inaugurated an era of political independence for Irish-Americans which holds out the promise of vastly increasing our influence in the administration of the affairs of the nation.

No longer will the Irish-American vote be accounted the assured asset of one political party. No longer will either of the two great political parties be tempted to ignore the wishes of those casting it. In a word, this year's Presidential election has witnessed the initiation of the development of one of those potentialities long dormant, which will enable us to combat successfully England's intrigues in this country.—The Irish World.

SOME PROMISES

Frequently during the sessions of the unhappy San Francisco Democratic national convention the Crooked Business controllers of the convention would put up some speaker to make a promise as to what the big states under the thumbs of Murphy, Nugent, Brennan and Taggart would do for the Democratic nominee, if only the convention would make the right kind of a platform and nominate the right sort of a candidate.

I heard so many of those promises, so oft repeated at San Francisco, that sometimes I half way believed them myself. But now I am looking over the election returns, and comparing them with the promises made at San Francisco. I distinctly recall

one splendid orator for the cause of Crooked Business. He took many oratorical flights, but on one occasion he flew higher than any one had dared to fly before, and when he came down to earth again he had made the promise that if the convention would come out squarely in an endorsement of the Wilson administration—well, in that event, New York would give a half million majority for the Democratic nominee. Speaking for Tom Taggart's Indiana machine, an eloquent Indianan promised that if the convention would nominate Cox on a Wilson platform—why, if the convention would do that, only that, Indiana would give the Democratic ticket such a majority that the state would send a solid Democratic delegation to congress. Promises very like these were made by the gangsters from Ohio, and a federal salary-drawer from Missouri promised that if the convention would repudiate Jim Reed his state would give a hundred thousand Democratic majority. If I were a Wilson Democrat it would make me sick to compare the election returns with the promises made by the Wilson leaders at San Francisco. That half million Democratic majority promised in New York was turned into a million majority against the Democrats. Ohio went almost a million for Harding, and Indiana, the home of Tom Taggart, the boss gambler of the Democratic machine, didn't elect one single Democratic member of congress.

Some day there will be another Democratic national convention. Four years will flit by in a hurry. It will profit all free Democrats to paste the promises made at San Francisco in parallel columns with the election returns from those states which the agents of Crooked Business were supposed to control.

However, the next Democratic national convention will be controlled by the free Democrats of the south and the west. In that convention the voice of a New York, New Jersey or Indiana Democrat will be about as loud as the voice of canary bird in a convention of turkey gobblers.—Edgar Howard, in Columbus Telegram.

BRYAN

There was one man in the United States who had the vision to scent the overwhelming disaster for the Democratic candidate for president and the party and that man was Bryan. The news had no sooner been flashed over the country of the Republican landslide than Bryan issued a statement in which he scored Wilson for his dictatorial methods—for trying to make the party subservient to his personal leadership, and that his course along with his rejection of the peace treaty with reservations as favored by Senator Harding and thirty-five other senators was what invited and made inevitable the disaster that came to Cox and the party. The staggering defeat for the Democratic party makes it plain that of all Democrats in the country, Bryan could look far enough ahead to see it coming and it also, to a striking degree, brings to the forefront the fact that Mr. Bryan was the big wise man at the San Francisco convention whose advice and leadership should not have been turned down. * * *

Wilson, a physical wreck, if he lives until the fourth of next March, will retire from the presidency under conditions that in many respects may be characterized as pathetic, but at the same time there will be the public consciousness that by his usurpation of executive power he occasioned the most humiliating political disaster in the history of the nation.

Out of it all Mr. Bryan looms on the political horizon a greater leader and a greater Democrat than ever.—Hastings, Neb., Democrat.

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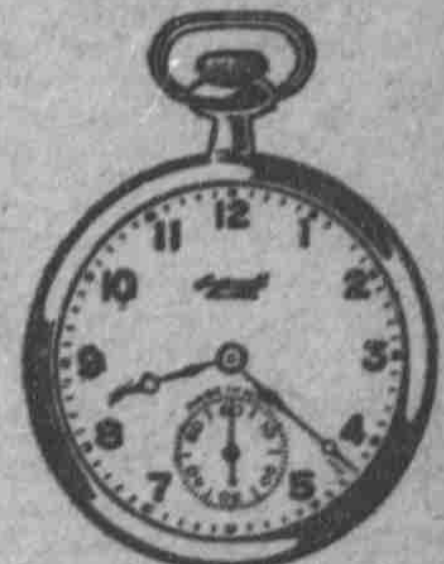
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