

GOV'T OPERATION OUT OF POLITICS

Party Leaders Convinced by Results of National Canvass of Editors.

VINDICATES FORMER POLL

Overwhelming Veto Like That of Year Before From Both Sides of Political Fence.

Washington.—Inner circles of both political parties here are greatly interested in the results of a national poll on the question of government operation among over 5,000 newspaper editors throughout the country. With 86 per cent of these editors, regardless of political faith, giving it as their impartial opinion that the public is more than ever opposed to the government going into business in competition with its citizens, observers here see little chance that either political party will find it a profitable campaign issue.

In the opinion of party leaders this sort of a canvass among newspaper editors is the best possible index of public opinion. They recall a similar questionnaire sent out a year ago in connection with the proposition that the government take over the railroads permanently. Replies at that time from approximately the same number of editors showed 83 per cent against the principle of government operation. They recall also that within ten days from publication of the result of the former questionnaire the sentiment for return of the railroads to their owners had definitely crystallized.

Comparison of present results in detail with those of a year ago convinces the political student not only that these editors have been accurate in their judgment, but that party considerations played no part in forming it. From Democratic and supposedly radical Texas, for example the present questionnaire brought replies from editors of 244 papers, only three of which are Republican. Yet the percentage against government operation was 92, which is exactly the same as that given by 200 editors from Republican Michigan, among whom were representatives of only three Democratic papers. Other states that pair percentages significantly are Massachusetts and Nevada with 100; Connecticut and South Carolina, with 97; Maine and West Virginia, with 96; Kentucky and New York, with 91; Missouri and Pennsylvania, with 89; Ohio and Oklahoma with 87.

The result of the present poll as to government operation in each state are graphically shown by the following chart:

STATE	% OPPOSED TO GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP	% IN FAVOR OF GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP	% DOUBTFUL OR FAILED TO REPLY
DEL.	100		
MASS.	100		
NEVADA	100		
N. HAMR.	100		
VERMONT	100		
CONN.	97	3	
S. CAR.	97	3	
UTAH	97	3	
MAINE	96	4	
W. VA.	96	4	
MD.	94	6	
N. CAR.	93	7	
TENN.	93	7	
MICH.	92	6	2
N. JER.	92	7	1
TEXAS	92	6	2
IOWA	91	6	3
KY.	91	7	2
N. Y.	91	6	3
R. I.	91	9	
FLORIDA	90	5	5
L.A.	90	10	
MO.	89	7	4
PENN.	89	7	4
ARK.	88	12	
KAN.	88	9	3
MISS.	88	5	7
OHIO	87	10	3
OKA.	87	10	3
OREGON	87	9	4
VA.	87	11	2
WASH.	87	10	3
ILL.	86	9	5
IND.	84	12	4
MONT.	84	15	1
WIS.	84	14	2
WYO.	84	10	6
ARI.	83	17	
CAL.	83	15	2
MINN.	83	14	3
IDAHO	82	10	8
N. MEX.	82	11	7
NEB.	80	13	7
COLO.	77	16	7
ALA.	76	16	8
GA.	76	15	9
S. DAK.	74	10	16
N. DAK.	67	28	5
TOTAL	86	10	4

"FIRST PAPER" SLACKERS.

The American Legion Weekly is determined to rid the country of aliens of neutral and allied countries who surrendered their "first papers" rather than fight for the United States. They had previously declared their intention to forswear allegiance to the land of their birth and to become full-fledged citizens of the United States, says St. Louis Times. It is assumed, in light of their future conduct, that their only interest in the United States was economic. Some evidently foresaw the opportunities to earn larger war wages, ranging as high as \$14 a day, while American citizens of equal health, general conditions and surroundings went forth to bare their bosoms to death. The number is small, but the principle must be vindicated. The records cover 1,740 cases, coming from various countries, as follows: Sweden, 736; Norway, 444; Holland, 117; Switzerland, 153; Denmark, 53; Spain, 93; Colombia, 2; Mexico, 20; Persia, 6; Roumania, 10; Haiti, 1; Afghanistan, 1; Luxemburg, 2; Chile, 1; Albania, 3; Russia, 78; Bulgaria, 51; Turkey, 10; England, 5; Austria, 5; Italy, 1; Greece, 1; Belgium, 1; Philippine Islands, 1. The Austrians returned their papers before we entered the war. We were never at war with Turkey and Bulgaria. Enemy aliens, of course, were not acceptable as soldiers. One Swiss and one Bulgar were Missouri's contribution to the odious list.

One of the curious things about American life is the universal fear of the word conservative. Nobody seems to be willing to call himself a conservative, to defend conservatism, to think out conservative doctrines. Yet conservatism is an honorable attitude, and when coupled with intelligence and clarity of mind it is a permanent factor in any society. In every age there are needed men who understand so well how its institutions work that they can force the innovator to the severest test. Without able conservatives, the progressive spirit becomes flabby and wayward, and few issues are settled on their merits. Weak or furtive conservatives cannot put progressives through a searching test; they merely loit about, confusing the issue, obstructing blindly, says New Republic. They make the intellectual victory too easy and practical achievement too hard. For they do not fight where the issue is really joined, on the level where ideas are tested by reason and by comparison with the facts, but on the lower level of obfuscating ideas, dragging red herrings across the scent, and trusting to apathy and habit to restrain their opponents.

The funeral pyre was revived lately in India at the burial of a prominent nationalist leader. That part of the ceremony, however, which formerly included the burning alive on the pyre of the dead man's widow was omitted, that reform, at least, being to the credit of the British rule over India.

In the numerous wants of the day, the babies, especially the sick ones, should be remembered. No call of charity should be suffered to put the claims of the helpless little ones in the background, but the fresh air charities should be the first ones to be supported in the heated term.

It is odd but significant that in the few cases of sentences to the whipping post for wife beating there is always more sympathy for the brutal husband than for the beaten wife. Yet a few judicious applications of the lash would go far toward curing the evil.

In the days to come, when fire prevention is more of an exact science than an experiment, all inflammable stores will be kept stored in such a way that fire in that location will not wipe out homes and threaten lives by the wholesale.

Denmark has shipped 4,400,000 pounds of butter to the United States. Nobody has ever determined exactly what is was that was rotten in Denmark, but let us hope it was not her butter.

A French professor champions the idea of importing American husbands for the excess feminine population of France. The whole European principle now is when anything is wanted to let Uncle Sam do it.

Stranger than the fact that a restaurant proprietor found \$1,535 in an abandoned and unclaimed overcoat in his place is the fact that anybody in this kind of weather should abandon his overcoat.

The news columns report the death of a man while talking over the long distance telephone, and the man at the next desk suggests that perhaps the shock of getting a correct connection was too much for him.

General Chin is the new premier of China. His policy, naturally, will be to do nothing without talking it over.

One editor takes us all to task pretty severely because of our inability as a people, to provide for our most primitive wants when our resources are, in fact, easily got at and inexhaustible. Our editor observes, somewhat scornfully, we fear: "Any community of men and women which cannot secure enough to eat in the midst of plenty is organized faultily. Stray curs and sparrows do not suffer under this reproach." He points out that at farm and orchard there has been a glut of all forms of fruit, says St. Louis Globe-Democrat. "Yet, in the cities, within a few miles of the localities where the surplus is rotting on the bush (or on the ground), anxious householders are denied a pitifully small supply. Prices are prohibitive. Our means of transportation have miraculously developed over the devices of our forefathers, yet we suffer for food while food decays." Our civilization seems to be indicted in this feature at least.

At any rate some uplifters can point with pride to the prices that have been uplifted.

The trouble with D'Annunzio's activities is that they may be taken as a precedent by other poets.

Ready-to-wear clothing abounds, but ready-to-pay money is still a little coy about appearing in public.

THERE'S A DROP IN TIRES AND TUBES

Don't be bothered with the old ones that should have been junked several months ago. It's time to be looking after the leaky top, a little of our Whizz Repair will fix it.

Windshield Cleaners and Mud Chains are in order. Don't get caught without them

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You can find out now. Come and take the Personal Favorites Realism Test! The New Edison will answer that question in a way that will prove its supreme power to bring musical happiness to you and yours.

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The Test

will determine for you whether

the New Edison causes you the same emotions as the living artist. We are confident the experiment will make you see that your Christmas phonograph *must* be the New Edison, the phonograph of Supreme Realism.

Our Budget Plan

takes care of the financial end, and it gets your New Edison home in time for Christmas. It is the best Christmas plan for getting your New Edison. It leaves your pocket-book hale and hearty. Ask about it.

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