

DEMOCRATS HOPE TO CARRY INDIANA

Other Midwest States North of Ohio River for Harding.

UNION LABOR OUT FOR COX

Mark Sullivan Reviews at Some Length Situation in Hoosier State as He Views It.

(Continued From First Page.)
lost some popularity in Indiana by what many consider to be just as virtuous a thing as the Cummins-Bach bill. Indiana, under a republican governor, Goodrich, revised the whole system of taxation in the state. A stranger passing through hardly has time to pass judgment on the merits of the new tax system, but Governor Goodrich is an able, hard-working business man, and it is probable that the change in the taxation system was meritorious.

Nevertheless taxation is a field in which the most meritorious things are frequently the least popular. The fact is that there is widespread resentment against the republicans. I heard of one great business concern in Indiana whose basis of taxation was raised from \$1,500,000 to \$17,000,000. Naturally this concern and the community in which it exists feel the change.

State Ticket Declared Weak.
Further yet, the republican state ticket here is very weak. One of the republican candidates for an important state office is more or less openly charged with some extremely undesirable conduct in a former official career.

Finally, the republican senatorial candidate in Indiana, Watson, who is seeking reelection, is pretty generally recognized as a weak brother. Many substantial persons, including some republican leaders, say that Watson is not of senatorial caliber. He ought never to have been sent to the senate, and that it is an injustice to Watson as well as to the state to put a man in the senate whose personality and natural abilities are not up to the office. If this were a normal year without a presidential contest there isn't a doubt in the world that Watson would be badly beaten.

Taggart Stronger Than of Old.
His opponent is the old time democratic leader, Thomas Taggart. Taggart, by comparison with his opponent as well as by the passage of the years, seems to have measurably elevated himself in the opinion of the Indiana people. He still has a considerable way to go, but he is thought of very differently from what was the case ten years ago. Many people in Indianapolis who were rigidly opposed to him years ago are now disposed to give him some support or at least to default in supporting Watson.

The sum of all this is that the republicans will carry Indiana, if they carry it at all, by only a slender margin and by means of assets which they must recognize as neither very dependable nor very durable.

Republican Assets Three.
The three assets that may carry the republicans through are: First, dislike of Wilson and of democratic administration; second, a large German vote, which years ago was solidly democratic but now is equally solidly republican; and third, the considerable negro vote in the state.

Indianapolis is probably the largest negro city of the north, and they are all republicans. Considerably more than half the white citizens of Indiana will vote the democratic ticket. The state of things in Indiana is pictured in the words of a strong republican, who said: "We are going to elect Harding in order to get rid of Wilson and we are even going to elect Watson, because we want to run no risks of a democratic senate. But on the day after election you watch us

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BOURBONS GAIN MARYLAND

Race Question in Border States to Prove Democratic Aid.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.

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BALTIMORE, Md., Oct. 25.—(Special.)—Today within a week of the eve of the election there can be no doubt that there is a measurable trend away from the strength that the republicans have had. This trend, to whatever degree it exists in other sections, is due, insofar as it is connected with any one issue, to the increased prominence of the league of nations and the appeal which that issue unquestionably makes to considerable elements of the community.

But here in the border states this trend is also and more markedly due to the race issue. The zeal of local republicans in organization and stimulating the registration of negro women has reacted. When the registration which is recorded separately for sexes and color in Baltimore showed a heavy intention to vote on the part of negro women who will vote the republican ticket, democrats were stimulated to an amount of organization and work which is in contrast to the apathy that the democrats suffered from during the early part of the campaign.

Democratic Registrations Falls Off.

Four years ago the registration figures of Baltimore showed a democratic majority of about 50,000.

Actually the democratic majority in the Baltimore registration is only about 16,000.

Maryland has one of those senatorial elections in which the republicans are trying to capture a seat from the democrats. The sitting democratic member, John B. Walter Smith, is very

popular. Formerly he would be hard to defeat, but the republican senatorial candidate, O. L. Eller, has maneuvered himself into a position where he has the advantage of the wet vote.

The wet vote in Maryland is good for 20,000 votes and it was the 20,000 votes which at the election four years ago gave the republicans their present senator from Maryland, France.

Woman Vote Big Factor.

The present democratic senator, John Walter Smith, voted for the prohibition amendment. This ought to insure the "dry" vote, but a large part of the "dry" vote here as elsewhere consists of women and it happens that Senator Smith, while he voted for the prohibition amendment, did not vote for the woman suffrage amendment.

There can be no doubt whatever that the democrats are gaining steadily in Maryland and with a week yet to go they should be able to make a showing far better than would have been predicted three weeks ago. Since Cox's speech here in Baltimore and also since Harding's Des Moines speech the league of nations has come to the front as an issue and has to a considerable degree supplanted the "wet" versus "dry" issue.

At the present time there is no room to doubt that Cox will get a normal democratic vote. On the senatorship, the democratic candidate, John Walker Smith, is sure to run even better than Cox. That this judgment is correct is proved by the fact that the friends of the republican senatorial candidate, O. E. Weller, are plainly worried.

In the other border states West Virginia, from being regarded as reasonably certain republican three weeks ago, is now conceded by the republican leaders to be doubtful. Also in Kentucky, for the same reason given as to Maryland, the trend has been favorable to democrats lately so far as the presidency is concerned. But Kentucky has also a senatorial race and it is the first state in which the

republican candidate for senator, whose name is Richard Ernst, is expected to run stronger than Harding.

The sitting democratic senator from Kentucky, Beckman, voted for the prohibition amendment. That alienates the question of the "wet" vote and Kentucky, like Maryland, is one of the states in which the wet vote is a principal factor.

Leg Broken in Auto Smash.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Oct. 25.—(Special.)—J. C. Slusser of Tenino suffered a broken leg and other injuries late Sunday afternoon, when

his automobile was hit by a Great Northern passenger train, southbound, at Bucoda. His son, who was in the car with him, received minor bruises. The car was demolished.

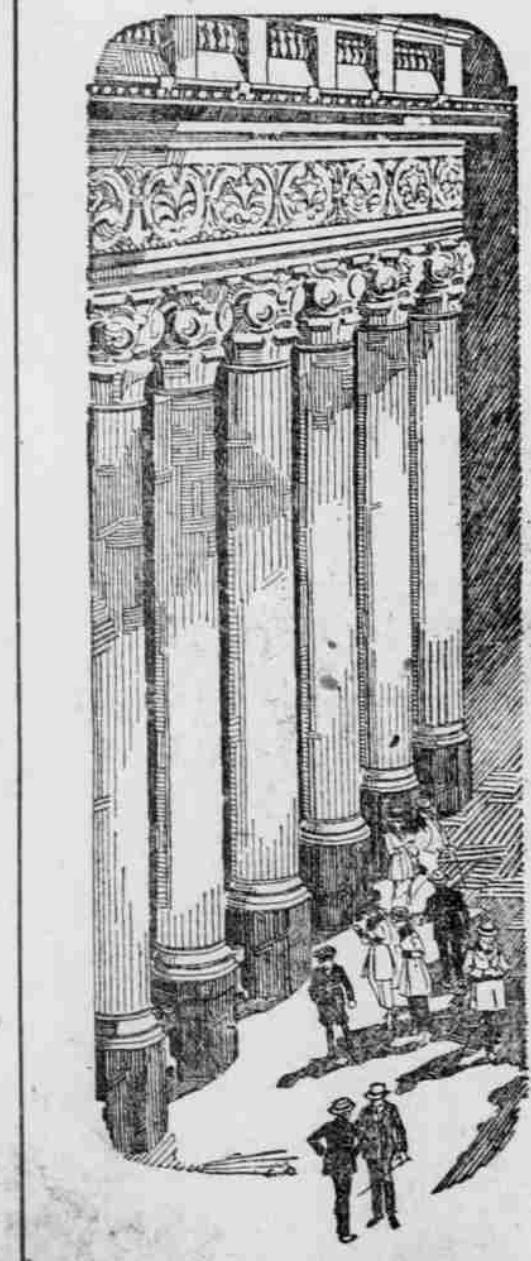
Slusser and the boy were placed on the train that hit them and brought to Centralia, where they were removed to a local hospital.

Salary Increase Proposed.

RIVER, Or., Oct. 25.—(Special.)—The only local initiative measure to appear on the ballot at the approaching general election, proposes an amendment to the county

salary law that will permit of an increase in the salary of the county treasurer from \$500 to \$800 per year.

The petition, calling for the measure was generally signed, and it is believed that the salary increase will be voted by a heavy majority.



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