

TRACK OF REPUBLICAN SPLIT EXAGGERATED

Even Democrats Pledge Their Support to New President.

TROUBLEMAKERS IN BAD

Harding Prepared to Give Anybody All of Fight He Wants if No Other Method Works.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.

(Copyright, 1920, by New York Evening Post, Inc. Published by Arrangement.) WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—(Special.)—It is commonly said that Senator Harding, when he returns from Panama to America, will be a man who has been through two weeks from today, will return to the meane of a divided party. It is said that the split is already developing among the Republican senators, and in the party as a whole.

Much more is made of this than the facts warrant. Fighting is more dramatic and interesting than harmony, and the hint of a fight gets into the head-lines with a more obvious and vastly more important condition of harmony gets no attention.

Old Situation Changed. It is true that the split and a fight are inherent in the situation, though not exactly in the form in which it is most frequently discussed. People commonly speak of it as a division along the old lines of progressive versus reactionary.

But the fact is that so far as the materials for a new situation, they do not line up that way. It is not a re-arranging of forces along the lines of the old progressive and reactionary fight.

It is conceivable that that may come later. The split is a new situation that are plainly ahead of us are of the kind that give rise to radical movements. But that particular rift is not yet in the open.

Senator Harding's friends say that his talents as a harmonizer will prevent it; they say that his friends, however correct the common assumption may be that Mr. Harding in the past has always stood with the conservatives, his conception of his responsibilities will lead him to be sufficiently sympathetic to progressives to prevent a row.

There is some reason to justify this hope on the part of those who hold it. For example, the newspapers recently have given wide circulation and much emphasis to the rumor that the republican administration is going either to lead, or at least give sympathetic support to, a fight against labor on the issue of the open shop.

There is nothing in this. Labor May Lose Position. Economic conditions in the near future may make it difficult for labor to maintain its present strength in the matter of collective bargaining.

Positions early won by labor during five years when the demand for labor exceeded the supply, are not so easy to hold during a period of reversed conditions, when the demand for labor is going to be less than the supply. Whether the unions can hold the position in which they are now entrenched remains to be seen.

That, however, is a purely economic issue. So far as it is to be affected by politics, the main fact is that Senator Harding has again and again expressed himself as sympathetic to collective bargaining, and has expressed even more extreme theories in the field of what is called the rights of labor. The further plain fact is that the republican platform this year contained the following plank:

portant of the conditions that Senator Harding will find in this country when he makes a survey of things for himself. That condition is the wish for harmony, the dislike for contentions. Whenever so large a group of people, and so large a number of differing factions, unite, as they did unite in the election of Harding, it is a sign of a general unanimity of purpose and of mood. It means a most unusual amount of agreement upon the part of the public as to what it wants. The public mood which expressed itself in this way is going to be easily irritated by any leaders who try to capitalize contentions.

This disposition toward harmony characterizes not only the republicans, but the democrats as well. Nothing is more apparent in Washington than the disposition of the democrats to aid in what is to be done rather than to fall in with the notion of obstructing merely because obstruction is the traditional function of the opposition party.

The two foremost democratic leaders—Governor Cox and Mr. McAdoo—have both given public expression of the wish to facilitate the new president's work, and have publicly rebuked those minor democratic leaders who seem disposed to adopt the traditional policy of obstruction. The democrats in the senate and the house are decidedly with these two national leaders in this disposition to help rather than to obstruct.

Senator Also is Firm. The net of all this is that with the strength of the franchise given him by so large a vote, coupled with the disposition of democrats to help him, Senator Harding is in an enormously strong position. The public notion of Senator Harding's personality is that his policy and his temperament are for harmony. This is true enough. But it is also true that due to circumstances too minute to go into here, the public has not been given the full picture of the possibilities of extreme firmness that are also in Mr. Harding's personality.

The very fact that a temperament is disposed toward harmony makes it equally disposed to be intolerant of persons who foment lack of harmony. If there are any senators or leaders who want a fight just for the sake of a fight, they will probably be able to get it. That the majority behind Senator Harding, coupled with the wish of the democrats to help him, gives him an extremely strong position, is the most apparent element in the situation.

WESTON CASE NEARS END

JURY SOON TO DECIDE FATE OF ALLEGED MURDERER.

Attorneys for State and Defense at Bend Fling Charges and Challenges. BEND, Or., Nov. 20.—(Special.)—With the Weston murder case nearly ready for the jury, attorneys' arguments were given in circuit court here tonight in the final endeavor to decide the fate of the man who is charged with the murder of Robert Krug, aged hermit rancher of Sisters, on March 24, 1918.

H. H. Dearmond opened the argument for the state, reviewing the chain of circumstantial evidence on which the state relies in its effort to convict Weston of second-degree murder. Hamilton charged the defense with tampering with the official record of the coroner's inquest after Krug's murder, and pointed to the fact that a majority of the witnesses for the defense are relatives.

Alton H. Joy of Portland charged that many of the minor witnesses for the state are relatives of the chief witness, John Wilson, and emphasized the possibility of accidental death. He declared that the two chief witnesses for the state, Wilson and George Stillwell, are either plain liars, or, if Krug was murdered, are accessories after the fact.

BOX FACTORY PROPOSED

Prineville Interests Considering Erection of Modern Plant.

PRINEVILLE, Or., Nov. 20.—(Special.)—G. M. Cornett contemplates erecting a box factory at this point in the near future. The plans provide for the erection of a plant of sufficient capacity to care for the output of the local mills.

SOLID SOUTH SOON MAY BE MEMORY

Sullivan Says Future Depends on Republicans.

WELLS SUPPORT HARDING

Welcome to President-elect at New Orleans Taken to Indicate New Era at Hand.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.

(Copyright by the New York Evening Post, Inc. Published by Arrangement.) NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 20.—(Special.)—When Senator Harding was addressing the open-air crowd in New Orleans on Tuesday, just before sailing for Panama, I stood on the city hall steps behind him with the owner and editor of one of New Orleans' newspapers, a man who is not only a democrat by conviction, but is so tied to that party by tradition and official association, that it is possible to speak of him as a Brabbin among democrats.

The remark which occurred to this man as we watched the captured faces was this: "The significant thing about that crowd is that there is hardly a negro in it. On former occasions, when republican presidents visited New Orleans, the occasion was remembered by the negroes as their particular day, and more than half in the crowd were negroes."

Crowd is Representative. "The crowd that has come to hear Harding," he continued, "is representative of the people who voted for him. They are as good as any people in our city. In some respects they are the best people in our city."

"The people who voted for Harding include most of our banking people, most of our mercantile people and most of the people connected with our leading industries. Actually two fifths of the people of this state voted for Harding, and most of them were people of this class.

The negro element in the vote that Harding got was a negligible fraction, not more than three or four thousand at the outside. With the votes of the people of the best class, Harding carried several districts of this city and came close to carrying the city as a whole.

Satisfaction in General. "If the republicans had been well organized and had made a real fight, if the democrats had not been stimulated by the fact that a proposal for a new constitution was voted on the same day, Harding might well have carried Louisiana as well."

All these things and others to the same effect, the democratic editor said, and he said them not with bitterness or regret, but with satisfaction, and this satisfaction with the prospect that the south may soon cease to be a solid unit politically and may become a normal section like every other part of the country, doubtful as between the parties and with both parties contending for it in each election. The satisfaction over this prospect is general with the class of democrats of whom this speaker is typical.

Party Monopoly Considered Bad. In some parts of the south this satisfaction is true, on the ground that it is more wholesome for a community to have two parties contending for its votes than for one party to have a monopoly of it. They cite the educational value of political campaigns, political delegates and political pamphleting.

In Louisiana the satisfaction over the republican victory is not entirely altruistic. Louisiana is less a cotton state than the other southern states. Louisiana is a sugar state, a rice state and a lumber state and all three of these industries need, or think they need, protection.

One Assumption Important. When Senator Harding crossed the state from west to east on his way from Texas to New Orleans he passed through no community that is not a sugar or a rice community. All this satisfaction with republican victory on the part of those southerners who enter in that satisfaction include one important assumption. It includes the assumption that the republican party if and when it becomes equal in power to the democrats in the south, will take the same attitude that the democrats take toward the negro voters. It goes on the assumption that wherever the negro population is half or close to half of the whole, that element shall not be solicited to vote and become a balance of power between two white factions.

Republicans Win Confidence. If the south thought the republicans would be likely to do in the future what they have in the past—to stimulate the negro to vote so as to give that many pawns to unscrupulous politicians, to bribe the negro and buy and sell his votes in the coming elections if the south thought the republicans were going to continue the same practices, it is certain that they would have no better prospects here in the future than in the past.

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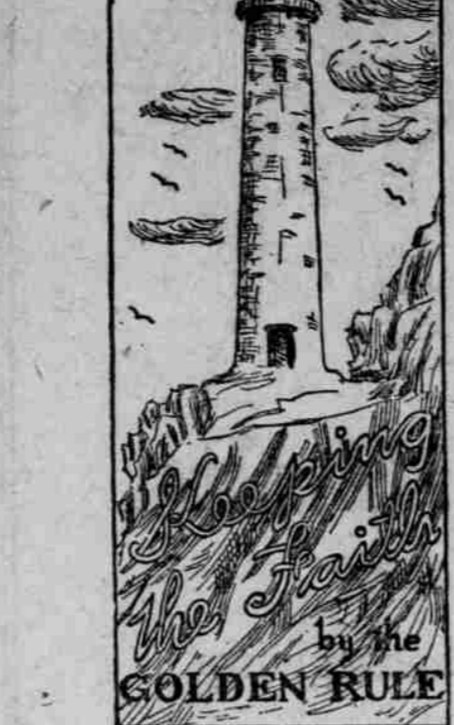
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366 WASHINGTON AT WEST PARK R. M. Gray

Grays Harbor Lightship Sought. ABERDEEN, Wash., Nov. 20.—(Special.)—The aid of Representative Johnson and United States Senator Jones will be sought in an effort to get a lightship for Grays Harbor, it was stated at the conclusion of the meeting of the executive committee of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce yesterday. Members of the chamber say that marine men declare the present Grays Harbor lighthouse antiquated, the buoyage inadequate, and that a new lightship is further needed because of the low shore line. The project was first taken up with congressional delegates last March, but no action was secured.

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DIVINE HEALING TESTIMONY THE CHURCH AT PORTLAND, John G. Luke, Overseer. Notifies the public that Miss Edith Marble, whose affidavit appears below, will give public testimony at the afternoon service at 3 P. M., and at the evening service at 8 P. M., Sunday.