

TIDE TURNING TO WILSON IN MANY STATES

Sober Sense of the Voters Finds That President's Candidacy Squares With Most Vital Elements.

GREAT BATTLEGROUND IN THE MIDDLE WEST

Results in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin Will Have Vital Bearing.

Washington, Oct. 21.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL)—The Ohio valley and states further west have become the great battleground of the campaign.

This is not due to any masterful strategy on the part of the managers of the Wilson campaign. It is due more than anything else to the sober sense of the voters in asking each other the question "What have we to gain and what might we lose, by the election of Hughes?"

This question has many forms, but it is essentially the same question, and the outstanding answers are these:

The country cannot gain prosperity through Hughes. It already has that. It cannot gain progressive administration, for this is being given in most convincing way.

If only lose peace, which many believe is directly threatened by recent utterances of Hughes, who has seemingly caught some of the war fire from Roosevelt.

Unquestionably the country wants prosperity, it wants peace. Because it has all of these, and may lose any one or all three of Hughes' election, the hard headed man of the west is not responding to the Hughes propaganda as the Republican managers thought he would.

Into the Doubtful Column.

So it comes to pass that many states which were counted for Hughes mathematics would be accounted for Wilson today. They belong there as evidenced by careful polls made by political committees of both parties, by newspaper estimates of men who are intimate with local conditions, and by admissions here and there of features that are disquieting local leaders, which bear labels such as these:

"Wilson is much stronger than his party in this section." "The women seem to favor the president because they like his peace policies." "Many progressives who are wavering are coming out for Wilson." "The Roosevelt speeches are causing fear that Hughes will lead the country into war," and other like expressions.

This is the sort of news that comes from Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, and on out to Idaho and Oregon. Practically every one of these states in the great corn and wheat belt on the Pacific coast was regarded soon after convention time as a sure thing for Hughes. It is not so today.

The only states now generally conceded as sure for Hughes in the west, and in justice it should be said that even these are sometimes disputed, are Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota, Wyoming, Utah and California. In some of the other states the Hughes campaign is regarded as leading, but not by any such margin as to justify placing it as sure for Hughes.

Close Fight in Ohio.

Ohio is having the closest kind of a fight. This is a great industrial state and the workers are leaning strongly toward Wilson. Much is heard in approval of the administration keeping the country out of war, and that the republican, is believed likely to win for senator, but the electoral vote is in doubt.

No one needs to be told that Indiana is doubtful, with a large number of prospects are thought better than they were, for some reason not quite explained, but the result defies foretelling.

Illinois was frankly neglected by Hughes' managers until a few weeks ago, on the theory that it did not need looking after. That attitude has changed, and the state is classified as doubtful. Women will vote for president this year in that state, but not for governor. Straws here and there tell of a strong trend of the women's vote to the president. Farmers like the legislative record, and labor will roll up a big vote for the president.

Wisconsin is a mixed problem, with La Follette has not mentioned the name of Hughes in his campaigning, and is generally believed that he will win, and many believe that Wilson will on the same day carry off the electoral vote. La Follette has not mentioned the name of Hughes in his campaigning, and is generally believed that he will win, and many believe that Wilson will on the same day carry off the electoral vote.

In Michigan and Minnesota. Michigan and Minnesota were among the states carried by Roosevelt four years ago. Large numbers of voters are much in the habit of going Republican in presidential years. It is thought the probabilities are on that side now, and it is believed in other words, there is so much evidence of Wilson strength among the workers in the factories, the woods and the mines, and among the population on the farms, that there is no certainty about them.

The same comment applies to the farming state of North Dakota, where the farmers are doing an unusual crop.

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