

SENATOR HARDING WILL CARRY OHIO, SAYS LAWRENCE

By David Lawrence
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Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 27.—Senator Harding will carry Ohio by a decisive majority, but it looks as if the state will elect a Democratic governor.

If James M. Cox were running for governor again, he probably would carry Ohio.

As a presidential candidate, Cox still has a host of friends, but the Democratic party on national affairs is unpopular.

The vote is not so much for Harding, but against the Wilson administration. It is not against Wilson the man, but the Wilson cabinet and acts of the Wilson administration.

SWINGS TOWARD COX

No other conclusion seems possible after a careful survey of this state. Indeed, there's a swing on toward Cox at the present moment. Senator Harding has been steadily losing ground since his Des Moines speech and his unfortunate encounter with President Wilson on the difference between a "representative" of France and a "pokesman." But the drift toward Cox, while noticeable, has not approached the sweeping proportions of a tide or even a wave. It's a surface drift.

Northern Ohio is for Harding. This city, which is normally Democratic and which helped Wilson materially when he carried Ohio, is doubtful. The coun-

ty is also doubtful. The word "doubtful" in these instances is the difference between a narrow majority for Cox or Harding and an overwhelming majority for Harding. Most people expect the latter.

SEES HARDING ADVANTAGE

The reader who is not familiar with Ohio politics can judge for himself what the situation is when he discovers that in Democratic centers like Toledo and Cleveland, the two principal northern Ohio cities, the advantage lies with Harding. Moreover, Cox cannot expect anything in Hamilton county, which includes Cincinnati, a district which helped him win the governorship in 1918. It seems to be a case of anti-Wilson and not anti-Cox so far as this section of Ohio is concerned. The expectation of a change is scarcely less strong than the desire for a change in government personnel at Washington.

CALLS IT WAR REACTION

Some of my Democratic friends here, whose judgment in the past has been accurate, whose viewpoint is dispassionate and whose acquaintance is large, insist that the whole thing is a reaction from the war.

"I am more perturbed than I have ever been," said one prominent Democrat. "I am more anxious for Cox to win than I was for Wilson to win in 1916—

There is a peculiar confidence that the

and you know how hard I worked for that—but I can see no chance for the Democratic national ticket in Ohio this year. I am afraid the majority will not be less than 100,000 for Harding."

From every source, Republican and Democratic, the writer obtains information that Vice Donahy, the Democratic candidate for governor, is much stronger than former Mayor Davis of Cleveland, the Republican nominee.

NOT AGAINST COX

This merely proves the point that it isn't a vote this time against Cox so much as against his party in Washington. One can hardly say that Senator Harding is any more popular in Ohio than he was when he was nominated. He has never held an executive position in the state and the folks know very little about his ability to manage 10 strong men if he selects them for his cabinet. He has a reputation for rugged honesty and simplicity. He may not be intimately known even in his own state, but he is by no means unpopular in any section. Perhaps labor is the only group that considers Harding hostile. The farmers think well of him. The city people think more of the personnel in the Republican party as a whole than the one individual who has been selected by the party.

There is a peculiar confidence that the

Republican party will run the government and do a better job than its predecessor. Almost nothing has been said by the Democrats about the Republican party's failure to produce leaders or remedial legislation in the last two years in congress. They have permitted thought to be concentrated entirely on the executive side of the government. Congress is expected to develop leaders and tackle troublesome legislation such as the excess profits tax under the Harding leadership. The Democrats on their part have not been able to convince the voters hereabouts that they have any better leaders. The whole burden is being placed on the next executive and his cabinet. Ohio is voting for a new party and a new cabinet in Washington.

Held for Threat

Judge Rossmann ordered Harry Deach held for the grand jury Monday on a charge of threatening to kill Deach, who is a grocer in the Mount Scott district, waived examination in the municipal court. He is alleged to have assaulted his partner in the grocery business.

Magnitude of Port Bill Misunderstood; Critic Bares Faults

A Portland lawyer and business man, Robert C. Wright, who has been canvassing the views of many people on the Swan Island or port consolidation bill, finds that the true character of the measure is little understood. In a statement today he said:

1. The bonds may be sold for not exceeding 6 per cent interest, but the commission has unlimited power to sell at any figure below par, which would result in greater interest and taxes. Those supporting the bill are spending much money to advertise, but did not insert any affirmative argument in the voters' pamphlet, which is so far not explained. Many say that diligent inquiry fails to give them a convincing understanding of the whole bill. Argument that objections ought to have been made months ago is unsatisfactory and evasive.

The orderly way is to amend the constitution first, to allow formation of the port as a municipal corporation, wherein the voters may settle their own affairs and cut loose from the state. After that, submit a clearly drawn bill indicating what is to be spent, what for and who shall spend it. Throw all the cards on the table, make the game fair and it will win every time.

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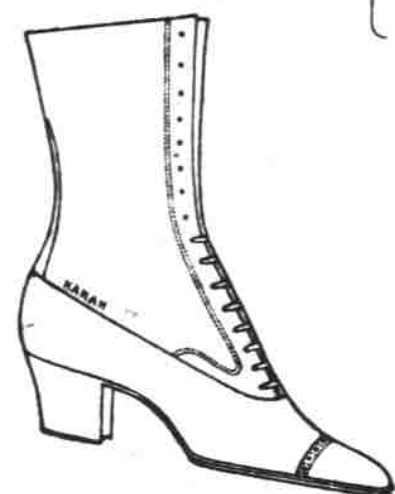
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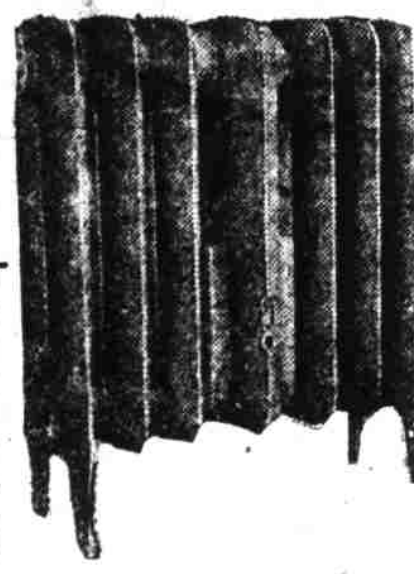


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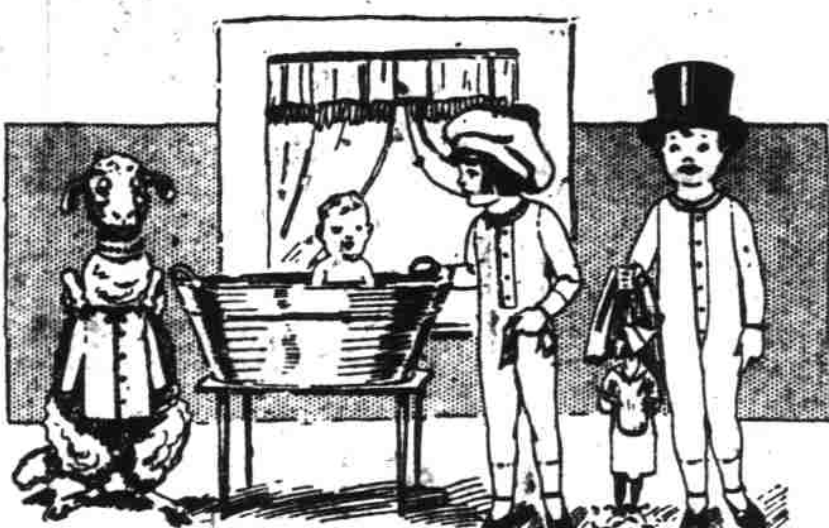
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