

# RED HERRINGS DRAWN ACROSS TRAIL OF VOTERS

Professor of Economy at Yale University Discusses Political Issues—So-Called Issues of Americanism, Preparedness, the Lusitania and Mexico Only to Conceal Grabs.

(By Irving Fisher, Professor of Political Economy, Yale University.)

In politics I am an independent, one of that body of voters, not large at present, but increasing in numbers, I believe, who distrust so-called "party loyalty," that is rubber-stamp voting, and I believe, instead, in voting for one party or another according to one's convictions as to the best interests of the country at the time. It is through the existence of an independent vote that the public opinion can exert its chief influence.

I was present at the three conventions in Chicago and St. Louis, attended some meetings of their platform committees, was present at Mr. Hughes' ceremony of acceptance and have read carefully the important documents and speeches of the campaign. After careful consideration, I have joined the Wilson Independence League. I thoroughly believe that the best interest of the country requires Mr. Wilson's re-election.

### Reasons Are Stated.

I expect independent voters in general to vote for Wilson. I may add (for the superstitious) that all the presidential candidates for whom I have hitherto voted, beginning in 1888, have been elected.

My chief reasons for voting for President Wilson are the following:

1. The so-called issues of "Americanism," preparedness, the Lusitania incident, the Mexican situation, and all others that have grown out of foreign affairs, appear to me to be merely "red herrings across the trail" intended to put the public off the scent. I have little doubt that, by diverting attention from themselves, to these trumped-up issues, the republican "old guard" hope to "put over" on the public another "Payne-Adams" tariff. They expect to work the war and Mexico for all they are worth of both side and guide their own private interests after election. The real joker in the republican platform is a plank which, when the time comes, if it does, will be solemnly cited as a mandate from the people for restoring the good old fashioned high protection.

### Hughes Is Sincere.

The republican candidate is thoroughly orthodox on the subject. I have no doubt of Mr. Hughes' sincerity. For him, personally, I have the highest esteem. But it is often the man who most sincerely believes that the interests of the country coincide with the special interests that pay the campaign expenses, who is, unwittingly, the most willing and the most dangerous tool of these special interests. A man who is sincerely misled himself will succeed in misleading others in cases where a corrupt or subservient tool would fail.

The "old guard" naturally laughed at any suggestion to make protection the paramount issue. They are carefully putting the soft pedal on protection in order to make full use of vague campaign phrases like "Americanism" to capture votes. But when, after the republican party is elected, the time comes for legislation, it will be found, I fear, that protection is the very essence of Americanism, preparedness and patriotism.

### Drifting Backward.

The old guard can well afford to lie low and hide their time. They know that "protection" most easily flourishes after the interruption of commerce by war and that, consequently, in the next few years, there is sure to be a revival of protectionist fallacies and proposals all over the world. That, it seems to me, is all the more reason why we, in America, should see clearly whether we are tending instead of drifting backward, before we realize it. In other words, it behooves us to know in advance what sort of legislation our votes will lead to.

It was the civil war which made protection appear to be "American" and through this perversion of ideas, gradually turned our government over to the domination of private interests. It took us a generation to realize that we were being used as beasts of burden by special interests. It took us a generation to realize that we were being used as beasts of burden by special interests.

### Growth of Protection.

Every informed voter knows that as the infant industries grew they were not left to shift for themselves, as was originally intended. Being big

and powerful, they contributed the big funds to republican campaign expenses and, after election, received renewed, often increased, protection in return. Such purchase of legislation is "within the law," but it has always seemed to me almost as great a scandal as the corresponding, though less legal, purchase of state legislatures by railways or of city governments by public utility corporations. The "education of the public" in favor of protection by which even the laboring man has been made to believe that it is for his good, has been for the most part subsidized. The protected interests have had speeches written for congressmen, have paid the expenses of printing large editions and have distributed them under government frank. That such so-called protection had become a national scandal, a prostitution of public interest to private interests, was in effect recognized by Mr. Taft and other conscientious republicans. But his administration only demonstrated how difficult it is for a party, which draws its financial support from protected interests, to revise the tariff against these interests.

### Bad National Policy.

2. Moreover, quite irrespective of the moral issue in "protection," it seems to me had national policy to keep the tariff longer in politics. The election of Mr. Hughes would surely do this. That of Mr. Wilson would at least go far toward dropping the tariff out of politics and toward taking politics out of the tariff. It is worth noting that if such a result can be accomplished through a tariff commission it will certainly not be through a tariff commission appointed by protectionists.

Mr. Hughes is talking of efficiency and consistency. Our government and our nation cannot become efficient nor enjoy a consistent continuous national policy by seesaw legislation on the tariff. Our people, including most republicans, have recently decided on revising the tariff downward. We shall merely make a mess of it if we do not adhere to this new policy.

### Mexican Policy.

3. I have not agreed with all parts of Mr. Wilson's Mexican policy, but I believe that at heart it is sounder than that which Mr. Hughes seems to endorse. Few of the American people realize, as Mr. Wilson realizes, that here, too, is a case (and a far worse one than American protection) of special interests capturing a government in their own behalf. The people of Mexico have, I believe, been exploited by a handful of unscrupulous foreign capitalists including some Americans who, through Diaz, virtually robbed Mexico. Diaz virtually took the lands and liberties of the Mexican people and sold them to foreign concessionaires. These exploiters, or their agents, sought to continue the system through the assassination of Madero and the elevation of Huerta.

We must have order in Mexico, and we owe it to our citizens to protect their legitimate investments in Mexico, but we also owe it to Mexico and to our own national ideals not to help to restore that kind of order, or protect that kind of investment, by which Mexicans have been systematically robbed. Moreover, I doubt if real and permanent order in Mexico will be possible, which is based on the unjust methods and ideas of a Diaz.

### Swapping Horses Bad.

4. So far as our relation to European affairs is concerned, I do not think that we shall become more efficient by swapping horses while we are crossing a stream. A change may plunge us into war and it would certainly, in the four months between election and inauguration, paralyze our foreign policy completely. From November to March may be among the most critical months of the war. If Mr. Hughes is elected, neither we nor foreign nations will know during that interim exactly where we stand.

We must remember that the practical question is always as to what is best to do next, not as to whether what has been done was the very best; almost any action may, in the light of subsequent events, be found to be in partial error. It is always easier to find fault than to show what could better have been done. In general, Mr. Wilson has accomplished the objects at which he has aimed and for the chief of these—peace—the country should be profoundly grateful. Moreover, this peace has been a peace with honor. We must not be misled by foreign criticisms or jibes. People in the intense and fanatical excitement of war will always find the neutral exasperating whatever he does. To them he is an "enemy in disguise," a "coward," a "weakling," a "hypocrite."

### For American Rights.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Wilson has stood firmly and, as was proper, without being belittled, for American rights and the maintenance of international law. He almost single-handedly has maintained international law—against other nations, against some of his own party and against a large number of republicans, who, after the Lusitania disaster, showed by their votes on the McLemore resolution that they were willing to surrender our right to travel on foreign vessels.

5. There is another great danger to our national efficiency in voting the republican ticket. If Mr. Hughes is elected, the senate will probably remain democratic. Only a republican landslide can make the senate republican, and of such a landslide there seems no prospect. It seems unlikely that the republicans can retain all sixteen of the republican seats, which will be vacated, and at the same time win half of the eighteen democratic vacancies. Yet a victory as complete as this must be won in order even to obtain a republican majority of one vote.

### Platforms Compared.

6. The democratic platform is more progressive and effective than the republican. Its plank on public health, for instance, is the best which we have yet had in any national platform. This means, I hope, that this great subject, the basis of the statesmanship of Lloyd George and other European leaders, will soon be brought before the American people as never before.

The plank on woman suffrage is also more progressive than the republican. Mr. Wilson is more careful than Mr. Hughes to avoid giving the impression of making promises beyond his party's platform, promises which he cannot give any guarantee of keeping. But he is, I have reason to believe, at heart more of a suffragist than Mr. Hughes. Mr. Hughes seems to accept woman suffrage as a sort of necessary evil; he would marry the suffragette to get rid of her.

### Kept the Faith.

7. I think the democrats have kept faith with the people and deserve reelection on their record. Taken as a whole, the Wilson administration has been more constructive than any previous administration for a generation. The federal reserve act, the Underwood act, the child labor act and a half dozen others of importance are a monument, and an imposing one, to Mr. Wilson's efficiency in proposing, preparing and pushing legislation through congress. It is also an earnest of what we may further expect of him in carrying out his party pledges if re-elected.

8. I also think that Mr. Wilson has withstood, with remarkable firmness, the tremendous pressure of office-seekers and maintained as well as any previous president, especially at a change of administration, the principles of civil service reform. The attempt to prove the contrary has failed.

### Carping Criticism.

9. Like many other voters, I am repelled, rather than attracted, by a campaign of carping criticism in which the speeches of the republican candidate consist chiefly of fault-finding, even where faults are not to be found, ignoring virtues, even where they are obvious, and proposing nothing definite of his own. Riddle is a cheap political device which ill befits Mr. Hughes.

No human administration was ever faultless, and I, for one, respect Mr.

Wilson for his frankness in publicly correcting himself when convinced of error. It is the fool who never changes his mind and the knave who never admits it. I find myself losing respect for certain politicians who claim infallibility, whether the reason be pride, cowardice or political prudence, and yet make their own mistakes every day.

### Mistakes a Warning.

10. Finally, whatever mistakes have been committed constitute a safeguard against further mistakes. All experience consists of trial and error. In other words, four years' experience constitute in itself a reason for re-election. I am a strong believer in re-electing to a second term any president who has in the least merited re-election. Eight years' continuous office-holding affords considerably more of that efficiency in administration of which Mr.

Hughes speaks, than "turning the rascals out" every four years. And few administrators learn more or faster from their experience than President Wilson.

J. Kester of Grants Pass spent Sunday in Medford.

# SEWING WEEK

## This Economical Event Embraces All Manner of Yard Goods and Sewing Needs

### Designed to be of Particular Help to the Home Dressmaker

Could an event be more timely than this one—coming as it does at the beginning of the fall season, when practically every woman is planning garments for herself or to make purchases of sewing needs of various kinds?

Whatever the home dressmaker needs to begin her fall sewing can be supplied safely and satisfactorily during Sewing Week—and at savings in costs she will need pay later. Every item is of the same standard of quality characteristic of all this store's stocks.

### The Newest and Most Fashionable of the FALL DRESS GOODS

Economically Priced for Sewing Week

We are going to make it to the advantage of every home dressmaker to buy dress materials at once. Such savings as these cannot be expected after this week.

**36-inch All-Wool Serge, 75c a Yard**

This value emphasizes the savings possible in this event better than anything we can say. We need not tell you this quality serve has seldom before been offered at the very beginning of the fall season at anywhere near so low a price. Colors are black, navy and the other favored shades for fall.

**40-inch Wool Poplin \$1.25**

Pick up any fashion magazine and you'll find that most of the suits are made of wool poplin or serge; so imagine buying an all-wool poplin, full yard wide, choice of the new colors, and goods freshly out of their wrappings, at so low a cost.

**Silk-and-Wool Poplin, \$1.35 a Yard**

This is 42 inches wide, very soft superior quality, colorings are very rich.

**New Wool Plaids, 75c to \$1.75 a Yard**

All widths and in quite a number of effective designs in subdued color effects.

**Regimental Stripes**

This is the material that is to be used so extensively for making skirts this season. Regimental stripes will be as popular for fall as sport stripes were this past summer. This is of a very satisfying quality.

**Fall Fashions Demand Petticoats of Taffeta Silk**

Since soft-finished fabrics are being used for the new suits and dresses, fashion demands taffeta silk for petticoats; and the reason is very simple. If you were to wear a petticoat made of soft silk and have your outer garments of these clinging fabrics as well not only would you lose the correct fashion outline, but your garment would not feel as comfortable as it would with a taffeta silk petticoat, which helps keep the garment away from the figure. We publish this bit of fashion news so that you may be governed in the purchase of your Fall silk petticoat.

**Silk petticoats here are priced at \$2.75 to \$8.75.**

**THESE MIDDIES AT \$1.50 SOLVE THE SCHOOL DRESS PROBLEM FOR GIRLS**

Mothers are usually at sea as to just what kind of school clothes to purchase for her daughter in her teens. The problem is solved very easily this season because these middies are in very attractive styles—made of superior quality galatea, twills and other serviceable fabrics. Many of them are dressy enough for street wear. Effectively trimmed with contrasting colors.

Sewing Week Provides You with the Opportunity of Buying

### NEW FALL SILKS

At Prices Which Mean Sure Savings

Plan your new fall waist or dress now. Choose from complete stocks and effect savings such as these prices indicate.

**\$1.50 Black Taffeta \$1.25**

Not necessary to go into detail regarding the value of this black taffeta at 99c a yard. All that is necessary is for you to visit the store and examine the silk.

**35-inch Satin, \$1.50**

Satin is to be one of the most popular silks for fall wearing. This is Belding's soft quality that drapes easily and effectively. The price provides you with a remarkably good value.

**Plaid and Striped Silks**

Unusually rich effects have been provided by satin striped plaids and invisible plaids as well as stripes on a soft superior quality taffeta. Silks of this quality are being used in the highest priced dresses and waists. Requires little or no trimming.

**Black Silks for Mourning**

Many important economies to interest the woman who of necessity is concerned in black fabrics.

**42-in. All Silk Black Crepe de Chine, \$1.75**

Double width, all silk. Black crepe de chine is especially desirable because of its soft draping qualities, which help relieve the deep solid black of dress or waist.

Other black silks in various grades, including black taffeta and poplin.

### Chat With Women About the Choosing of a Corset

The most important advice we could give you is to select your corset with care. Select one that fits you—the model that you ought to have for your particular figure. Too many women make the mistake of buying a corset of a certain style, whether or no that particular style is adapted to their needs.

The corset designer of today aims for two distinct things in molding corset shapes. One is to secure for the wearer the correct fashion outline and the other to see that the wearer obtains the greatest amount of comfort without in any way sacrificing the fashion lines.

Our corsetiers study each particular kind of corset so that they can advise you at once upon the type of corset best fitted for your requirements. You will find it a great advantage in making selection to allow us to help you choose the model that will help mold the lines of the figure so that the harmony of outline is obtained without in any way sacrificing comfort which every woman should demand. There is no extra cost attached to this service we ask to render to you. And remember, our corset prices begin as low as \$1 and range to \$12.50.

**Store Editorial**

It should not be—and isn't—necessary that we mention we have but one price, but it will not hurt anything or anybody if we let the statement occupy our editorial space in this announcement.

There are still a few stores which think it the better business policy to mark and sell their wares at any price they can get; but customers are learning—and very fast—that they never know when they get the best price when they buy at a store that has more than one price.

When you buy at this store you can feel fully satisfied you bought at the lowest price anyone can buy.

Sewing Week provides savings in Gingham, School Day Cloth and Percales

For wash dresses for school girls as well as for serviceable house dresses and aprons. Colors are absolutely fast.

**NEW FALL PATTERNS IN PERCALES, 12c A YARD**

These are full 36 inches wide; very closely woven, and above all else, fast colors. Smooth finish, particularly adapted for making children's school dresses, boys' blouses, women's house dresses and coverall aprons. This special value is offered during sewing week only.

Great quantities of other wash fabrics are involved in this event and marked at costs that make purchasing now the part of wisdom and economy.

Ladies Home Journal Patterns

# THE MAY CO.

Pictorial Review Patterns

**Protect Yourself!**  
Get the Round Package Used for 1/2 Century.  
Ask For and GET  
**HORLICK'S**  
THE ORIGINAL  
**MALTED MILK**  
Made from clean, rich milk with the extract of select malted grain, malted in our own Malt Houses under sanitary conditions.  
Infants and children thrive on it. Agrees with the weakest stomach of the invalid or the aged. Needs no cooking nor addition of milk.  
Nourishes and sustains more than tea, coffee, etc. Should be kept at home or when traveling. A nutritious food-drink may be prepared in a moment.  
A glassful hot before retiring induces refreshing sleep. Also in lunch tablet form for business men.  
Substitutes Cost YOU Same Price!  
**Take a Package Home**