

PROSPERITY OF COUNTRY GIVES WILSON EDGE

Nation as a Whole Experiencing the Greatest Prosperity in History—Industrial Conditions Always Have Marked Effect on Election and Give President Great Advantage.

(BY H. N. RICKEY.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 20. (Special.)—Barring a cataclysm between now and November 7, the presidential election will occur in the midst of the greatest prosperity this country, or any other, has ever experienced.

Industrial conditions have always had a marked effect on national elections, and there is no reason to believe that this election will be an exception.

Whatever other virtues an administration possessed they have not been sufficient to keep it in control of the national government, if it could not "point with pride" to prosperity.

No Empty Dinner Pails. The empty dinner pail of the American workman has been a complete answer to the claims of the party in power for another four years.

It is probable the weakest candidate the republicans could have nominated for president could have elected on the full dinner pail issue, if the country were not prosperous under Wilson.

There seems to be more or less justice in the democratic contention that as they would have been held responsible for industrial stagnation, whatever caused it, they should get full credit for prosperity.

The fact the country is prosperous is not disputed. Even the most bigoted republican partisan would not attempt to argue the point. If he did he would be driven to cover by a fusillade of the most amazing figures it has been possible to use in connection with business since the world began.

President's Advantage.

Now, nobody knows better than do the republican campaign managers what a strong strategic advantage this gives President Wilson in his campaign for re-election. They realize the hopelessness of the Hughes candidacy unless he can raise an issue that will appeal to the voters as of more importance than the issue of prosperity. And, at the same time, it is good Hughes strategy to try to prove that our prosperity is in spite of, rather than because of, Wilson policies.

This explains Hughes' effort to make Wilson's foreign policies the paramount campaign issue, and his attempts to deprive the president and his party of credit for prosperity by insisting that it is due entirely to the European war.

This is the argument:

"The prosperity of the country is only temporary, due to abnormal conditions with which President Wilson and his party have had nothing to do. As soon as the war in Europe ends, which will be in all probability during the next four years, there will be a tremendous slump in American business, unless republican policies are in force to prevent it."

Contentions Not Backed Up.

Unfortunately for Hughes and his party, the facts and figures as to our present prosperity as interpreted by disinterested economists do not back up their contention.

It is admitted the European war has increased the foreign trade of the United States, but this is a small part of the total increase in our business operations.

As Theodore Price, editor of Commerce and Finance, New York, an unimpeachable authority on American business and finance, puts it:

"It will be admitted that whatever profit the United States has derived from the war in Europe is measured exclusively by the increase in the balance of trade in our favor. As our imports have varied but slightly since 1912, the increase in our exports must include everything that we have gained from the expansion of our foreign trade."

War Gain Slight

Price goes on to show that upon this basis of reckoning our maximum possible gain from the war, up to June 30, 1916, is \$2,130,000,000 or \$21.30 per capita. Against this, we find that the national wealth has increased \$41,000,000,000 or \$410 per capita. Price asks this pertinent question:

"If the war in Europe has been the only reason for our prosperity by what alchemy has the gain of only \$2,130,000,000, from our foreign trade been multiplied nearly 20 times in the growth of our national wealth?"

If Price stood alone among econ-

DRY LAND ALONG PACIFIC COAST LANDRITH'S PLEA

GALT, Cal., Sept. 20.—Pleading for a "dry" land on the west coast from Mexico to the north pole, Dr. Ira Landrith, prohibition vice-presidential candidate, reopened today in California his party's coast to coast campaign tour. The campaigners were in Nevada yesterday.

If California should go dry this fall, Dr. Landrith's plea will have been met as Washington, Oregon and British Columbia already have adopted prohibition. Landrith's arguments today were directed particularly against the grape growers, who, he said, are being advertised as temperance gatherings.

"The upright grape grower," said Dr. Landrith, "will be the first to resent the plea of the 'wets' that his vineyards shall be saved at the expense of his state's self-respect or the morality of communities or the happiness of thousands of drink-cursed homes. No mere financial industry, however great, will be allowed to stand in the way of California's progress in the prohibition march of the western states."

The campaigners will be in San Francisco tonight for five hours. Following their meeting there they will continue down the state.

BATTLE RAGIN ON EAST FRONT

(Continued from page one)

Russian forces resulted in the Turks completely maintaining their positions.

Serbs Victorious.

In Macedonia the trend of the campaign appears to favor the entente armies. The Serbians are reported in a continued advance along the western end of the line, driving the remaining Bulgarians out of Florina and capturing the highest peak in the Kaimakalan range, north of Lake Ostrovo. Sofia, however, denies the success claimed for the Serbians in the Kaimakalan region.

Greece again appears as a probable new factor in the military field in the Balkans. She is reported to have sent an ultimatum to Germany demanding the return of the Greek troops taken at Kavala by the Bulgarians and sent to Germany for internment.

Comparative quiet prevails in the Somme region. Paris sends news of a German attack at Hill 70, north of the river, which the French repelled, ejecting such Germans as succeeded in gaining a foothold in advanced positions.

omists in his interpretation, there would not be so much significance to it. But so far as I can find there is no economist of national reputation who even attempts to interpret the whole, or even the major part, of our prosperity in terms of the European war.

Many of them frankly credit much of it to the laws enacted by congress under the leadership of President Wilson.

Chief among these is the federal reserve act, which enabled this country to withstand the shock of the European war by giving strength and mobility to our financial resources.

Increase in Deposits.

Millions upon millions of workmen in the United States are more secure in their employment and are getting better wages than ever before in their lives.

Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation of Labor, says that never before in history were so many people employed at such high wages and under such favorable conditions.

Bank deposits in two years have increased over six and one-half billion dollars, or about \$65 per capita.

The sixteen millions odd men and women who are to vote for president November 7, are among those who are sharing in this prosperity.

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HUGHES SEES CIVIL WAR AS RESULT OF AVERTING STRIKE

GREEN BAY, Wis., Sept. 20.—The pathway of "surrender to force," Charles E. Hughes told an audience here today, in renewing his attack on the administration Adamson bill, "leads but to one end—civil war."

Mr. Hughes referred to the action of the administration as "unpardonable."

The nominee also declared that nobody could embarrass him by talking about Americanism.

"I am for the United States, first, last and all the time, without regard to anyone or anything else," he said.

"I speak with added emphasis as the friend of labor," Mr. Hughes said, in discussing the Adamson law.

"When I say that the serious blow delivered recently at labor and enterprise in this country was unpardonable, that blow being the surrender of the principle of arbitration and the yielding of reason to force."

"We look forward in this country to a future very uncertain unless we have peaceful settlement of grievances by a careful examination and open-minded consideration of the facts."

DEFENDS EIGHT-HOUR LAW

(Continued from page one)

self with Mr. Morgan, multi-millionaire, prince of Wall street, maker and wrecker of railroads, lord of the British exchequer in America.

"Is that really the issue Mr. Hughes presents to the judgment of the American people? For myself, I proclaim this achievement, considered in its immediate and patent blessings, as one of the greatest in the history of the republic."

"Mr. Hughes, hard driven, is appealing to powerful special interests. I am sorry to behold this spectacle in our public life. I am sure the president will not shrink from this issue. He has other things of vastly greater importance to talk about, but he can meet this issue without a shadow of apprehension."

Appeal to ePeople.

"I would turn from Morgan, Perkins, Roosevelt, Root, Lodge, Penrose and all such as these who preach these strange doctrines and ask the great masses of the people whether the president was right. Moreover, when powerful, opulent, sinister special interests assail the president because of this fine act of Christian statesmanship I would ask the working men who, with the president, must bear the brunt of these attacks—for they are aimed at the great labor interests of the country—what answer they make."

DETROIT, Sept. 20.—Detroit's chances of winning the American league baseball pennant faded perceptibly today when Boston won its second consecutive victory of the present series. The score was 4 to 3.

Henriksen's single in the eighth, scoring Scott won the game for Boston. Except in the second inning, when two Boston errors helped Detroit to score three runs, Leonard was invincible.



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DERBY CERTAIN OF ALLIED VICTORY EUROPEAN WAR

LONDON, Sept. 20.—"I wish I could pick up my horses as a winner with the certainty of victory for the entente allies," said Lord Derby, the British under-secretary of war, on receiving the American correspondents today on his return from a visit to France, where, in company with General Sir Douglas Haig and General Joffre, he saw the trials of the "tanks" before they were sent into battle against the Germans. Lord Derby continued:

"We now have an European army with better guns, better rifles and better ammunition than any other country in the world. But I do not agree with the people who expect the war to end within six months, as it must surely continue over the winter."

"We are fighting the best organized nation in the world, and it would be a reflection on our own troops not to admit that the Germans are showing extraordinary bravery. Two years ago they had a great chance to win. They are exceedingly strong in engines of destruction, but we at least are even in this respect now, and I cannot help feeling that our men individually are better. Soon we hope to have a distinct margin of superiority."

"We are able to continue to increase the arms, munitions and food of our troops and we will get more men if needed, but no concrete proposal has been made yet to increase the age limit."

CALDER CARRIES G. O. P. PRIMARIES

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—As the returns from upstate districts continued to come in on the vote at yesterday's primary election in the contest for the republican nomination for United States senator, William M. Calder's lead over Robert Bacon showed a substantial increase.

With 908 districts missing out of 5719, Calder's plurality over Bacon early this afternoon was 10,899, the vote being: Calder, 130,882; Bacon, 119,983.

HALF A MILLION LOST BY ALLIES IN SOMME DRIVE

BERLIN, Sept. 20.—British and French losses in the battle of the Somme have reached about 500,000 men the Overseas News agency estimates.

"Recent local successes obtained by the British on the Somme are belated by the English press as great victories and events, occasioned a special message from King George to the British commander, Sir Douglas Haig," says the news agency. "It is said the British occupied the villages of Fleres, Martinpuich and Courelette in the first day's fighting, although it had been planned to take them in the course of four days of battle."

"Nevertheless the British were enabled to make this advance only after 11 weeks of the most desperate efforts. The result of the battle of the Somme should be gauged by considering the amount of French and Belgian territory occupied by the Germans which amounts in all to about 50,000 square kilometers. Of this, 29,000 is Belgian and 21,000 French. The efforts made by the French and British have resulted in the reconquest of 1,500 kilometers or three per cent."

"The price paid for this territory is appalling. According to a conservative estimate the British lost 350,000 men up to September 15. This, together with the French losses, brings up the total to about half a million men."

LONGER, LESS FLARING SKIRTS FOR WOMEN

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Longer and less flaring skirts are indicated for the fall fashion, says the semi-annual report of the Silk Association of America. They will be of ankle length, frequently made of pleats and requiring as much or more material than last season, is the prediction.

Paris fashions, it is asserted, have not favored the extremely short, almost freakish skirts which have been worn here this year.



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