

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Nation Indorses President and the New Deal at the Polls— Democrats Gain Nine Seats in the Senate.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT and his fellow New Dealers had every reason to gloat over the results of the elections, for, generally speaking, their policies and acts were endorsed by the citizens of the United States by what amounted to a real landslide. The Democrats gained nine seats in the United States senate; and on incomplete returns, appeared to have just about held their present strength in the lower house.

Outstanding among the many Democratic victories was that scored in Pennsylvania. That state has not previously sent a Democrat to the senate in a half a century, but this time Joseph Guffey, the party boss, rode roughshod over Senator David A. Reed, leading adversary of the New Deal, and sent him to the discard. Two other persistent critics of the administration who were retired were Senator Simeon R. Fess of Ohio, beaten by former Gov. Vic Donahey; and Senator Arthur R. Robinson of Indiana, soundly walloped by Sherman Minton. Hatfield of West Virginia, Walcott of Connecticut, Herbert of Rhode Island, Keen of New Jersey, Goldborough of Maryland and Patterson of Missouri, all Republican senators, must give up their seats respectively to young Rush D. Holt, Francis T. Maloney, Peter G. Gerry, A. Harry Moore, George L. Radcliffe and Harry S. Truman, all Democrats.

Upton Sinclair, the extreme radical, had the fun of scaring California out of its wits with his EPIC campaign for the governorship, and at little or no expense to himself; but the national administration had turned him down and the Republican nominee, Gov. Frank F. Merriam, won by a handsome majority. So the wealthy "refugees" who make California their home decided not to abandon the state. Hiram Johnson, being the nominee of everyone for re-election, goes back to the senate.

Wisconsin remained true to the La Follette dynasty even though it had created a new "Progressive" party for its own uses. Senator Bob La Follette had been patted on the head by President Roosevelt, and John M. Callahan, the Democratic nominee for the senate, was not acceptable to the administration because he was a friend of Al Smith; so Bob came through with a big plurality over Callahan and John R. Chapple, the Republican candidate. To clinch the victory of the third party, Phillip La Follette was elected governor again, defeating Gov. Albert Schmedeman, Democrat, and Howard T. Greene, Republican.

There was a crumb of comfort for the Republicans in the re-election of Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan, who has condemned parts and espoused other parts of the New Deal. One other crumb, less comforting, was afforded them in Maryland where Albert C. Ritchie was defeated in his attempt to annex a fifth consecutive term as governor. He was beaten by Harry W. Nice, a Republican of Baltimore whom Ritchie defeated for the same place in 1919.

The old line Republicans succeeded in re-electing Senator Austin in Vermont and Senator Townsend in Delaware.

Illinois, New York and Massachusetts were among the states that were swept by the Democrats. In the first named they took five house seats from the Republicans, the defeated including the veteran Fred Britten. New Yorkers returned Dr. Royal S. Copeland to the senate and H. H. Lehman to the governorship by tremendous majorities. Senator David I. Walsh was re-elected in Massachusetts, and Jim Curley, three times mayor of Boston, was made governor.

In the main the Democratic campaign had been skillfully conducted under the leadership of Postmaster Jim Farley. A fight to oust the "ins" always is difficult, and the Republicans in their hearts had not hoped for much. They did not get even the little they had expected. For at least two years President Roosevelt is assured of full support by congress for whatever policies and experiments he may undertake, and the voters of the nation have told him to go ahead and do what he can to restore the country to prosperity.

SEVEN states voted on repudiation of prohibition and only Kansas, still stoutly Republican, remained dry. The others, all turning wet, were Florida, West Virginia, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming and Idaho.

In Nebraska Senator George Norris succeeded in putting over his pet amendment to the state constitution providing for a small one-house legislature, and there is a belief that he will

run for governor in 1936 to guide the experiment. Under the amendment, the 1935 legislature will pick a number of legislators—between 30 and 50—for its one-house successor. Annual salaries will be determined by dividing the number into \$37,500.

FIRST of the administration chiefs to make a post-election speech, Secretary of Commerce Roper said over the radio: "We are not going to have a dictatorship to the left or an autocracy to the right."

He insisted that the Roosevelt recovery program contemplates the restoration of private profits and that, in fact, the government's essential revenues, through the income tax, are dependent upon private profits.

"As soon as future relief requirements can be determined," Secretary Roper said in announcing a new approach to the relief problem, "the major portion of these expenditures should be assumed by the states and localities, with federal assistance supplied only in those instances where the situation cannot possibly be met without federal aid. We need to discourage the growing tendency to 'let the federal government do it.'"

GASTON DOUMERGUE, utterly unable to make headway against the political schemers in the French cabinet, has resigned the premiership and returned to the retirement from which he was called last February to save the country from imminent civil war. The six Radical Socialist ministers, determined to frustrate his plan for constitutional reform, refused the premier's offer to postpone discussion of this scheme until after a regular budget was voted, provided the chamber of deputies first passed a three months' budget. Doumergue thereupon read his resignation, and at the suggestion of Edouard Herriot, leader of the Radical Socialists, the entire cabinet resigned.

President Lebrun immediately asked Pierre Laval, foreign minister, to form another coalition government, but he refused the commission. So the difficult job was turned over to Pierre-Etienne Flaudin, a left Republican who was minister of public works in the Doumergue cabinet.

The crisis aroused fear of armed conflict in Paris between the Socialists and the so-called Fascist groups, for both these parties called on their militant elements to be ready for action. There was danger, too, that the meeting of war veterans and patriotic societies on Armistice day would be turned into an anti-government demonstration.

OFFICERS and crew of the Morro Castle are held to blame for the heavy loss of life when the liner turned, in the government's report on the disaster, but no attempt is made to fix the origin of the fire that took 134 lives.

"After a careful examination of the wreck and evaluation of the testimony," says the report submitted by Dickerson N. Hoover, assistant director of the steamboat inspection service, "it is not possible to state what the exact cause was."

Blame for the catastrophe is placed by the government also on the construction of the vessel itself.

FOR the information of those who are hazy as to what the Germanic Faith movement is all about, here are the nine commandments just issued for the neo-pagans, to replace the ten commandments of the Christian Bible:

1. Honor the deity, the World Foundation.
2. Honor ancestors and grandchildren.
3. Honor the great of thy people.
4. Honor thy parents.
5. Keep yourself clean.
6. Be loyal to your people.
7. Do not steal.
8. Be truthful.
9. Help the noble.

SOVIET Russia celebrated the seventeenth anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution with a parade of the great Red Army before the tomb of Lenin in Moscow, and at the same time the Comintern, or Third Internationale, issued by cable an appeal to the toilers of the world to unite in a common front against imperialist wars and Fascism.

BECAUSE of her personal achievements and not because she is the wife of the President, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has been awarded the second Gimbel prize of \$1,000 and a medal for outstanding work for America. She will receive the award in Philadelphia on December 12.

Mrs. Roosevelt has requested that the \$1,000 be applied toward sending a child suffering from the effects of infantile paralysis to Warm Springs.

UNDER the auspices of the National Association of Manufacturers, a drive has been started "to prevent labor union coercion," and all state legislatures, when they convene, are to be asked to enact six specific provisions "for the purpose of fixing the legal responsibility of labor organizations for their acts." The association says it is moved to this course because it believes the federal government is at last aware of the "terrorism" practiced by union members against other employees who desire to act.

The laws to be asked of legislatures are:

1. To make sympathetic strikes and sympathetic lockouts illegal.
2. To make both employers and unions equally responsible for the observance of contracts.
3. To make it illegal for any association of employers or employees to expel, suspend, fine or otherwise punish members refusing to participate in an illegal strike or lockout.
4. To make picketing illegal when it is carried on in such a manner as to intimidate or coerce employees or customers.
5. To declare illegal employment contracts requiring a person either to join or not to join any labor organization.
6. To require written consent of the employee before the deduction of any part of his wages for the payment of organization dues may be made.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT agreed to extend the automobile industry code until February 1 without changing its wage or hours provisions. The American Federation of Labor had demanded an immediate and drastic revision of the code, and this the President refused. Mr. Roosevelt, however, said he believes the code needs revamping, and he hinted that on February 1 he may demand that the industry stabilize employment and pay rolls.

"I have no hesitation in telling you," the President wrote in a letter to William Green, president of the A. F. of L., and Alvan Macaulay, secretary of the Automobile Manufacturers' association, "that there are a number of matters connected with this code with which I have never been fully satisfied."

He disclosed both in his letter and a separate formal statement that he is launching an investigation into working conditions and wages in the industry, with especial attention to the workers' annual earnings.

FOLLOWING a week's conference with agricultural economists from 40 states, officials of the Department of Agriculture and leaders of the AAA, the bureau of agricultural economics has issued a bulky report forecasting generally improved conditions for the farm industry during the coming year. Here are the chief points in the predictions:

1. Greatly reduced supplies of most farm products will be seen, which, with improvement in consumer purchasing power, will probably bring a higher level of farm income during the first half of 1935, this despite low foreign demand for American farm products.
2. Farm production will be larger than this year's unusually small production.
3. This year's higher prices may tend to stimulate excessive planting of some crops not under production control next year.
4. Continued improvement in demand late next year will depend primarily on recovery in the durable goods industries.
5. "A small improvement in the purchasing power of farm families may, in general, be expected."
6. Prices of goods used in farm production are expected to average somewhat higher, at least until June, 1935.
7. The farm credit situation "will continue to show gradual improvement above the bad conditions of the past several years."
8. Next year's wheat crop is expected to result in an export surplus, with prices hanging close to an export basis.
9. Substantial advance in prices of meat animals is expected, with no material expansion in live stock numbers sighted before 1936.
10. Next year's wool clip will be the smallest in several years, with prices dependent on world production.
11. "A generally favorable" outlook is seen for poultry raisers, with prices remaining at seasonably high levels until next summer.

FRANCIS J. GORMAN, head of the United Textile Workers' committee that directed the recent strike, in a letter to George A. Sloan, head of the Cotton Textile Institute, said that union labor would be glad to co-operate with the industry in developing new markets for the output of the factories.

He declared that after controversies had been ironed out by the federal board named as a result of the strike, representatives of the two sides could "begin conferences looking toward the improvement of the industry."

Mentioning the increased competition from Japanese goods and other factors which caused demand for American textiles to fall "millions of yards" below production capacity, he said: "A part of the purpose of the conferences which I have in mind would be to create joint employer-union machinery for the expansion and extension of the textile market. Such a program would be in furtherance of the interests of workers and employers alike."

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted
by William Bruckart

Washington.—It has been seldom since President Roosevelt took the helm of government that Washington has witnessed such an upheaval of conditions and plans as has occurred in the last few weeks. Part of the changes result naturally enough from development of plans for submission of new national policies to congress which will convene again in about six weeks. The other part comes from a sudden determination by the administration to revise its recovery methods.

Possibly the most significant of the forthcoming changes in recovery plans is the determination to try, at least, to get away from direct relief. Instead of plain gifts of money, the administration is now seeking to find additional means for creating work so that individuals needing help may obtain their relief in the form of jobs for which the government will pay.

Officials still are loath to discuss exact figures, but they are, nevertheless, going steadily forward with plans for converting the vast federal relief machinery into an extensive program that will embrace such things as slum clearance, low cost housing and rural rehabilitation.

Mr. Roosevelt will wait until the last moment before he fixes in his own mind how many hundreds of millions of dollars will be needed to carry out these projects. The total cost obviously will depend somewhat upon how quickly the dole can be abandoned. It may run into billions of dollars because, according to some authorities, removal from the dole is going to be opposed by certain types of persons. And, it seems, they can hardly be blamed because once the government altered its traditional policy and made direct gifts of money it created a new psychology and the people who benefited thereby quite naturally will be unwilling to have the source of the gifts closed for this easy manner of living.

One of the plans under consideration as a part of the whole program is provision for employment by direct federal subsidy for housing. Under this plan, the government would advance part of the cost for individual homes of low price construction. Estimates said to be in the hands of the President indicate that an expenditure of \$1,500,000,000 in this manner would release more than three times that amount in private capital and give work to an estimated four million persons.

In keeping with the theory that the number on relief rolls will descend in direct proportion to the revival of private construction, advocates of this plan contend that the cost would be less than outright relief. They say that with the government advancing part of the funds needed, private lending agencies would feel more secure and would offer aid in the form of the remainder of the loans necessary.

It has long been recognized that recovery cannot be accomplished without a tremendous increase in construction.

Need Private Construction, however, will not go forward in a period of uncertainty now no more than it has in other years and the experts have decided that the government must take the lead in this direction. They have advised the President there can be no real upturn in private building operations unless a start is made by the government. Whether this is the right theory, of course, none can foretell. It may turn out to be that the government is pouring additional funds down just another rat-hole as it has on numerous other occasions in the course of recovery experiments. My conversations with men both in public and private life, men who are qualified to judge, lead me to believe that there will be considerable construction resulting from this program. The conclusions which have been expressed to me, it must be said frankly, do not indicate that there will be any such total of new construction development under the new administration program as the enthusiastic exponents of the program now contend.

There are numerous reasons for these conclusions as they have been explained to me. One of these reasons, and perhaps the most important, is that no one is going to build a house unless he feels that he can continue to pay for it. With depression conditions prevailing and with hundreds of thousands of potential home owners now without reserves or resources of any kind the market for homes naturally is limited. That is to say there are hundreds of thousands of families who would like to have homes but who have no way of acquiring them.

Another road which the administration is now following in its efforts to cause money to flow more freely is the recent ruling easing restrictions on bank loans. Heretofore, banks have not been permitted to make loans of more than 10 per cent of their capital and surplus for industrial purposes to one borrower. The treasury now has abrogated that provision, long regarded as a sound banking ruling, and has told the banks they may loan more

than 10 per cent provided the amount loaned above 10 per cent is guaranteed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or the federal reserve system. Treasury officials think this will encourage banks to extend additional credit.

It happened that on almost the same day that the treasury policy was announced, one of the largest banks in the United States reported privately that one of its vice presidents had returned from a six weeks' scouting trip in an effort to find places where it could loan money. This man visited important cities in 16 states. He is a practical banker and he is thoroughly acquainted with the means of approach to potential borrowers. But his six weeks' tour netted one loan application.

That banks' report may sound silly because there are so many people that need money. Yet, it must be remembered that a bank is trustee for the funds placed in its care by its depositors and it cannot hand out money with reckless abandon. It must feel reasonably sure that there will be a repayment, and this was the thing which the bank's vice president failed to find. There were plenty of individuals and corporations that needed money but they had no security to offer and little to guarantee that they could repay the borrowed funds.

Financial experts, therefore, are not unduly excited about the latest treasury ruling which was released with much gusto and with statements that this will free "many hundreds of millions" to business. I am told that the banks are chock-full of loose cash. Reports to the treasury certainly indicate that to be a fact. But when borrowers who need money have no security and when business is at such a low ebb that only the minimum of funds is needed, I believe it can hardly be said that the bankers are wholly to blame. The bankers have been vigorously criticized in the last four or five years and obviously a considerable spanking was due them. On the other hand, I think it is a plain statement of fact that you can no more force people to borrow than you can make a horse drink after you have led him to the trough.

Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota Progressive Republican, has started on a speaking tour that, as far as I can find, is without precedent. The senator is chairman of the special senate committee named to investigate the munitions, aircraft, and shipbuilding industries, to determine whether these businesses have been active in fomenting trouble between the nations of the world. The committee has held hearings covering a period of three weeks, and the hearings will be resumed later with the prospect that they may run on for many months.

Senator Nye is making a series of six speeches in the United States and one in Canada, dealing with the question of who really starts wars. He has announced that he desires to tell the country how nations are driven into conflict and the inference is, of course, that he believes munition makers and others producing material for war are at the bottom of the heap.

But the point is that Mr. Nye personally is an advocate of government ownership of all plants now engaged in the production of anything used in wars between nations. He is authentically reported to have a draft of legislation in mind which he will present to the forthcoming congress. He is not alone in holding this belief for at least four other members of his committee entertain the same general trend of mind. There are seven members of the committee so that it is apparent the Nye plan will have a majority of that committee supporting it if and when it is presented to the senate.

I have examined records rather comprehensively in an effort to discover whether ever before any senator or member of the house had gone out to the country with an appeal for support of legislation under a circumstance such as this. The committee had three or four months more of investigation ostensibly to ascertain all pertinent facts. Despite the fact that the senate has voted money for the committee to make this investigation and the money will be spent at hearings, Senator Nye has proceeded to make known his views in advance.

Disclosures made by the committee thus far have been accepted generally, I think, as showing there was some fire as the cause of the smoke. Certain testimony given before that committee linked some of the American munitions makers with foreign interests whose designs were of a political character. It was shown how some of the foreign agents had attempted to provoke trouble between nations of Europe and the logical assumption is that if such activities occurred in two or three instances, they must have occurred in many others. Nevertheless, there is a considerable amount of criticism heard in Washington about Senator Nye's plan of action because, it is contended by these critics, it is hard to see how the senator can conduct an unbiased investigation after having committed himself in this unequivocal way.

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Home Storage Pit Saves Root Crops

No Extra Cost to Gardener, and Supply Is Assured for Winter Use.

By J. W. Lloyd, College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.—WNU Service.

Beets, carrots, turnips, rutabagas, parsnips and salsify all lend themselves to easy winter storage, either in or out of doors. The first four of these vegetables must be protected from freezing, while parsnips and salsify are not injured by low temperatures, if protected so that they will thaw out slowly after freezing.

Packing these crops in boxes with alternate layers of sand and then storing the boxes in a cool cellar is a satisfactory practice where relatively small quantities of the root crops are to be kept for early winter consumption. However, a longer keeping period can be insured by storage in outdoor pits.

Although the method is generally referred to as "pit" storage, vegetables stored outdoors are usually placed entirely above ground in a well-drained location and are covered with layers of straw, soil and manure. After topping, the roots are placed in a conical pile on a four-inch layer of straw that has been spread where the so-called pit is to be made. A series of small piles is usually better than a single large pit, with best results being attained when not more than five bushels of vegetables are stored in one pit.

The pile of root crops is then covered with a four-inch layer of straw and just enough soil to hold the straw securely in place. Two inches of dirt will probably be enough for this purpose. At the top of the pile the straw should be allowed to protrude through the layer of soil for ventilation. With the approach of freezing weather, about four inches of additional earth should be applied. This will protect the vegetables from freezing during the early winter, but when severe winter weather threatens, the entire pit should be covered with a six-inch layer of strawy manure.

Prickly Pear Cactus Is Satisfactory Stock Feed

The common prickly pear cactus can be satisfactorily used as an emergency feed for live stock, past tests have shown, according to H. B. Osland, associate in live stock investigations of the Colorado Agricultural College Experiment station.

Plants should be singed with a blow-torch or put through a chopper to break the sharp spines. Cattle do not like the young joints for some time after they are formed. When the joints swell out they are quite palatable. This green, fresh state is the best. The prickly pears should be cut in autumn and can be used in the winter. This feed can be kept for a month or more after being cut without any material deterioration.

Because of the high moisture content of prickly pears, feeding them alone will cause severe scours. The addition of two pounds of cottonseed cake or three pounds of dry roughage daily will correct this trouble. A small cow can be maintained on 110 pounds of prickly pears plus 2 pounds of cottonseed cake.

Tankage for Dairy Cows

Feeding trials at Kansas State college reveal that tankage is fairly palatable to dairy cows, says Hoard's Dairyman. As high as a pound and a half of tankage has been fed to cows daily. Little difficulty was experienced in getting the animals to consume the tankage when they were started gradually on such feed. A Kansas farmer recently reported that after feeding the tankage for some time in a grain mixture he was able to get the animals to eat as high as two pounds of tankage a day without the necessity of mixing it with the other feed. When animals become accustomed to tankage they seem to develop a craving for this particular feed, which accounts after it has been fed for some time. No apparent effect has been discovered in the flavor of the milk due to the feeding of the tankage.

Gas the Rats

The old fliver makes a good rat killer. Just back the machine up to the rat hole, push a piece of hose to the exhaust pipe, push the other end of the hose in the hole, start the engine and pump carbon monoxide gas into the burrows and runs. A treatment of this kind will quickly put an end to every rat found at home. Those out visiting will have to be caught some other way or given a treatment when they return. If you are bothered with rats, this is worth trying.—Indiana Farmer's Guide.

Vegetable Cellar Easily Made

A vegetable cellar is easily made by erecting a partition between two parallel walls of the cellar or by making a partition across a corner. Any of the substitutes for lumber which are on the market can be used, and should provide better insulation than boards. They should be fastened to 2 by 4 timbers used as uprights. A distinct advantage is found in filling the space between the boards with some kind of insulating material, like cork, sawdust or dried seaweed.