

RIGHTS OF LABOR UPHELD BY COX

Candidate, in Twin Cities, Urges Farm Measures and Supports Bargaining

AGAIN TALKS OF LEAGUE

By the Associated Press

Minneapolis State Fair Grounds, Sept. 6.—Labor and agriculture were timely subjects discussed here today by Governor Cox, of Ohio, and he declared that interests of both would be served by success of the League of Nations.

Measures to increase farm production and labor supply were advocated by the Democratic presidential nominee, and he declared again for collective bargaining by labor. He also pledged himself specifically to increase salaries for postal employees.

The Democratic nominee's address at the state fair was the first of three scheduled here today on his visit to St. Paul and Minneapolis on his western tour. Numerous receptions were also arranged. Interests of labor and agriculture, Governor Cox declared, are intertwined and interdependent.

Referring to the League of Nations with a statement that it was not a political question except when turned to partisan uses, Governor Cox said: "Millions of men, women and children in devastated regions are suffering literally starving to death when America has the ability and resources to provide for them all. But this provision can be made only when reconstruction of the world has been undertaken under definite plan.

"Civilization of World at Stake "Although our soldiers achieved a victory in the great war and by their direct contribution brought the war to a close, we still do not have peace. Until that peace is accomplished little headway can be made. Not only is the civilization of the world at stake, but the material welfare of our own country is vitally affected.

"Waste and extravagance must continue until by the ratification of the treaty of peace and the other countries should know definitely where we stand.

Turning to the labor question, Governor Cox continued: "Labor is vitally interested in the plan of readjustment which will be adopted. There are those who think the answer to present difficulties lies in the adoption of plans of the past; that progress has been made by the old methods. I think that the solution is the dawn of a new day when the human soul and the human body shall count for more than the worldly dollar.

"So long as men work for hire there will be differences of opinion between those who labor and those who employ labor. Industrial disputes cannot be avoided, but industrial disputes can be prevented from menacing the welfare of the nation when both parties to the dispute can be made to understand that government is fair and that neither one nor the other may gain an advantage.

Public Opinion Rules "Public opinion rules in America, and public opinion will always settle industrial conflicts if the game be played in the open.

"Labor Day came to be as one of the mile posts on the road of progress. But for progressivism, Labor Day could not have been. Reactionists would not recognize it. The reactionists are in various groups. They consist primarily of the holders of privilege and privilege conferred by laws. They strive not only to retain existing privileges, but to secure additional ones. 'Special interests' is only another term for privilege.

"The privilege of a few are assisted by those who, through deliberate misconduct or miseducation, permit the elimination of the majority rule. Special privileges are sided by the extreme reactionists, who propose a thing that are either unworkable or advanced ahead of their time. By misguided advocacy of inappropriate things, they deceive many earnest citizens who desert from progressivism.

"Labor should have the right to organize and through representatives of their own choosing negotiate collective bargaining. This right never has been denied capital. Care must be exercised that government at no time be made oppressive in maintaining the laws of the land.

Rights Must Be Impaired "I have said that public opinion will settle industrial disputes, and to this end believe the government should provide for proper investigation in all cases, with provision for the filing of the facts without prejudice, so that the public may have full information. The right to free speech and free press and the right of orderly assembly, guaranteed by the constitution, must never be infringed.

"Too long have we urged the down-trodden of other lands to come to us as laborers without giving a thought to their proper absorption in the melting pot. Once on our shores, they have been forgotten until, by our own neglect, they have become a serious menace through lack of education and understanding of our ideals.

"Americanization must be seriously undertaken by the government, with in-

stance upon full co-operation by the employers of this labor."

Urging adequate remuneration for government employees, Governor Cox said that if elected he would sign a bill granting the "long suffering and loyal postal employees the relief of as richly as possible in the way of appropriate and adequate wages."

Discusses Farm Problems "Discussing agricultural problems, Governor Cox reiterated many suggestions made in his speech of acceptance, including federal reclamation, agricultural extension and home building.

"In working out the problems of American farm life," he said, "the extension of transportation systems, the building of good roads and the creation of modern school facilities in the country, which bring the boy and girl on the farm the opportunities that are offered to the boy and girl of the city, go hand in hand. It is now possible also to bring even the most remote rural district the entertainment facilities to be found in the more populated centers.

"Farm work should no longer be drudgery. Labor-saving machinery long since reduced the period of toil in the fields. It is now possible to apply the same method to make more enjoyable the existence of the farmers' wives."

The governor also reiterated his advocacy of federal regulation of cold storage declaring that it would "break the circle of profiteering."

G. O. P. Candidate Supports Unionism

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for the high wage the American workman shall give to his task the highest degree of efficiency. I am not advocating the driving, slavish period of toil which saps men's energies, but I hold that the slacker, the loafer on the job, is not only the greatest obstacle to labor's advancement, but he is the luxury of life.

"Let no one beguile you with dreams of idleness, of the passing of employment, on the abolition of employer and employee. Life without toil, if possible, would be an intolerable existence. Work is the supreme engagement, the sublime luxury of life.

"And there will be employers so long as there is leadership among men, and there will be employees until human progress is paralyzed and the development of human kind dies an eternal, eternal altar of mediocrity. Our problem, then, is to find the highest order of employment, the ideal relationship, the conditions under which we may work to the highest attainment and the greatest common good for all concerned.

Labor and Capital Not in Conflict "It is utterly false to assume that labor and capital are in deadly conflict. It is not important to establish which element comes first, since each is essential to the other. We do know that labor, the human element, is of deepest public concern. The deplorable side of modern industry is that too many men are toiling like machines at work.

"Men ought to know a pride in the thing done. The big inspiration in life is to get on. When men toil this is the privilege of the few, they challenge your intelligence.

"I wish I could plant the gospel of loyalty to work and interest in accomplishment. It is the ambition to succeed, the determination to do the most and best—these speed men on to the heights. The pity is that we do not have enough of it under modern conditions.

"There is too much mechanical grind, too little contact between employer and employee, too little understanding of their mutual interests and their joint triumph in success. I hail with equal satisfaction the workman who has pride in the factory and its output, and the employer who has pride and sympathetic interest in his workmen.

"I am sorry the old, intimate contact between employer and employee is gone. I wish we could have the intimacy restored, not in the old way, but through a joint committee of employers and employees, not to run the business, but to promote and maintain the mutual interests and the fullest understanding. Herein lies the surest remedy for most of our ills.

Would Prevent Labor Strife "The world is thinking about means to prevent war among nations, and we approve, and share the aspiration. But America is also thinking about preventing industrial conflict, and all attending waste, suffering and anxiety. The matter has become of interest to the

public, even more than the forces engaged in any conflict.

"Our observation is, as an eminent labor leader has said, that 'all strikes sooner or later are settled around a table; then why not get around the table before the strike begins?'

"We cannot have compulsory arbitration, because all parties must consent to establish arbitration and enforce its conclusions. I think we can have and ought to have voluntary arbitration. The best thought of the day commends this way to settlement.

"The wage scale which contemplates a rental cost in one place might be wholly inadequate to meet the cost in another, and a nationalized scale would work an injustice. This point was developed in the recent railway controversies.

"This brings me to the subject of railway legislation and the enactment of the Cummins-Each bill restoring the railways to the lawful owners. We owed it to the railway owners to restore their property, seized for war service, just as we owe the railway owners the people's money invested in government loans. In free and thoughtful America we do not take advantage of war's tumult to change the regular order of things.

"I am well aware that many earnest railway workers and advocates of the Socialist plan preferred to take the railroads and put them under the operation of the employees, but that was not contemplating faith with America or American premises. We were superior to such a turn, favoring it for the additional reason that I do not believe in government ownership.

Government's Hands Full "The government must do many things, but it has enough to do with-out invading the hold of private activity, not at any rate, until government demonstrates its capacity for efficiency.

"I do not pretend to say the railway act is perfect; indeed, I know it is not. But Congress was dealing with a problem of first importance, and it had to speed the legislation. There was the conflict of many minds, as it was right there should be, and the final act was a compromise. Nevertheless, I believe it to be a good law, and cordially supported it.

"It does not guarantee dividends, it limits them. It did make a six months' guarantee, but that was to enable the stupendous financing for rehabilitation. There was no guarantee during the war, and the public is suffering today from railroad inadequacy.

The government has had a commission control over financing, ratemaking and all that concerns the shipping public, and has made working conditions and wages matters of concern to government itself.

Rail Workers Preferred Class "Railway workers are made a preferred class, and government has singled out railway workers to see that their just treatment is a matter of public pledge. This is progress.

"This law does not contain an anti-strike clause. You cannot take away from any man the right to quit his employment, but it does aim at the prompt, instant grant of justice, full justice; and justice, men, is the best guarantee of all civilization. It does not interfere with collective bargaining; on the contrary, it facilitates it.

"More, the brief experience already

had proves that Congress has provided the way to immediate hearing of the grievances of railway workmen and prompt compliance with their just demands. No labor in the world today is so fortunately situated as that on the American roads.

"Let us try out the act and the railway restoration in patience. If we have fallen short, the conscience of America will sanction every modification needed to aim at perfection.

To Reduce Living Cost "I want to see profiteering isolated and punished. It is a moral wrong and an economic robbery. The one who practices profiteering is false to business and to country. I do not know of a deadlier foe to our common country, because he creates the unrest that threatens from within and emphasizes the appeal to class.

"I do not blow you a bubble of imaginary equality of opportunity, but I do proclaim equality of opportunity, proved in America and making America the best land of hope in all the world."

Senator Harding has not rejected the League of Nations wholly and finally. Nothing in his address of August 28, in which his attitude was fully set forth, can be construed as inimical to a center of nations for the prevention of war. Neither does the position of the Republican nominee contemplate a separate peace with Germany, or commit him to a course.

George W. Wickersham, of New York, formerly attorney general and ardent Republican pro-league, yesterday gave an interpretation of Senator Harding's views.

La Follette Awaits Voting Tomorrow "Continued from Page One

crime, the railroad brotherhood call it a crime, and the Germans, glad to get anything with which to hit a man who voted for ratification of the treaty, also call it a crime.

Lenroot Stands on Treaty Record "Besides his vote for the Each-Cummins railroad bill, Lenroot has had to defend his vote for the treaty. These are the two big issues which the La Follette people have raised against him.

Against the La Follette candidates the issue is raised that their victory means the Non-Partisan League's control of the state. And there is something to this charge, for it seems certain that whoever wins the Non-Partisan League and the Socialists will together control the Wisconsin Legislature.

If the La Follette candidate, Blaine, is nominated, Wisconsin will have a radical governor, co-operating with the Non-Partisan League and Socialists, and the state will start upon a career of radical legislation similar to that of North Dakota.

The issue divides the state. The Democrats will probably vote in the Republican primaries for Lenroot, and

the Socialists will probably also vote in the same primaries for a Follette candidate, Thompson. They did so almost to a man in the spring primaries when delegates to the national Republican convention were chosen, with the result that La Follette's slate of delegates won by a majority of 45,000.

Socialist Vote Is Big Factor "The result of the contest between Lenroot and Thompson will depend largely upon two factors: To what extent the Socialists vote for Thompson and how large a vote Mayor McHenry, of Lacrosse, another La Follette man, who is seeking the senatorship, obtains.

McHenry is a wet candidate and Lenroot's friends hope that he will cut rather deeply into the Thompson vote. They hope also that the efforts of the Socialist party managers to induce the Socialists to vote in their own primaries and not in the Republican primaries will be successful. If these two hopes are realized, it is thought that Mr. Lenroot will be nominated.

It is said here that Lenroot has made progress in the last two weeks of the campaign and now has a fair chance to win. A fortnight ago the state was virtually conceded to La Follette.

The La Follette candidate, Blaine, has a better chance to win the governorship than has Thompson to win the senatorship. There are two La Follette men seeking the governorship—Blaine and Dithmar. The latter is disavowed by La Follette, but his German name may attract some of La Follette's German support.

The anti-La Follette strength on the governorship will be divided among four candidates, of whom the two leaders are State Senator Roy P. Wilcox and Dr. Gilbert E. Seaman. This division of the opposition almost assures Blaine's nomination.

Will Cut Republican Votes "Whichever side wins there will be a big defection of Republican votes at the polls. The Democratic party will put in the field two unusually strong candidates—Dr. Paul S. Reineck, former minister to China and former head of the department of political science in the University of Wisconsin, for

senator, and Colonel Robert Bruce McCoy for governor.

If the La Follette candidates win, the more conservative Republicans will feel they owe no party obligation to support the La Follette ticket, it being regarded as more Nonpartisan League than Republican. And if Lenroot wins many of La Follette's German voters will be attracted by the German name of Doctor Reineck and support him for the senatorship.

But the Democratic party is only the third party in the state, and the big majority by which Senator Harding is likely to carry Wisconsin will be almost certain to pull through the Republican candidates for senator and governor, no matter which faction wins tomorrow. Senator Harding is expected to have a majority of at least 100,000 in Wisconsin.

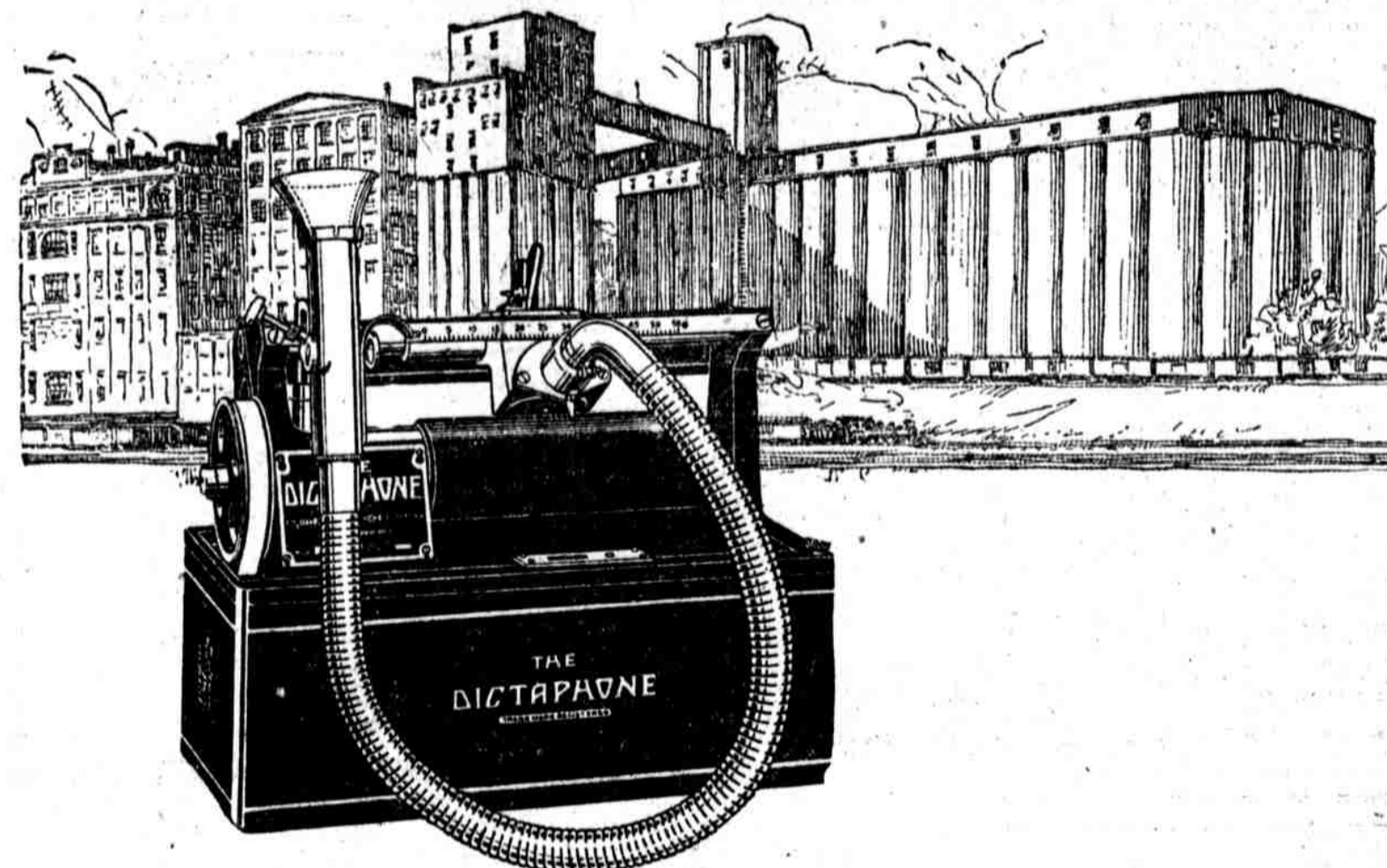
Cox Left Out in the Cold "The Harding majority is something upon which nothing can make an impression. Governor Cox went up against a stone wall on his visit here. The state is angrily determined to get rid of the La Follette party in Washington. Governor Cox's audiences here were cold, and the one at the State Fair was hardly even courteous.

The visit to Milwaukee was a day wasted by the Democratic candidate. In fact, many of the Democratic national leaders regard Cox's whole western trip as a waste effort. There are only a few spots in the West where a visit for him will do good, and he gets further toward the Pacific coast he will receive less and less publicity in the great battleground of the East and Middle West.

FEDERAL OFFICES CLOSE

Labor Day Is Celebrated in Capital With Barbecue

Washington, Sept. 6.—(By A. P.)—Government offices were closed and business generally was suspended here today for the observance of Labor Day. Taking advantage of virtually a three-day vacation, thousands of government clerks left the city for the week-end.



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