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Democratic Landslide

It was a democratic landslide in the 1910 elections.

The next house of representatives will be controlled by the democrats. The democratic majority in the house will be large enough to be entirely safe—probably thirty-five.

Among the surprises in the congressional elections was the victory for Victor L. Berger, the socialist candidate from the Fifth Wisconsin district. He will succeed a republican.

Joseph G. Cannon was re-elected to the house by a reduced plurality.

It is plain, too, that the democrats have gained several seats in the senate.

New York elected John A. Dix, democrat, governor over Henry L. Stimson, republican, by a plurality of about 60,000.

New Jersey elected Woodrow Wilson, democrat, governor over Vivian M. Lewis, republican, by about 15,000.

Massachusetts elected Eugene N. Foss, democrat, governor over Eben S. Draper, republican, by about 30,000.

Ohio re-elected Governor Judson Harmon by about 15,000 over Warren G. Harding republican.

New Hampshire elected Robert P. Bass, republican, governor by about 6,000.

Pennsylvania elected John K. Tener, republican, governor.

Rhode Island re-elected Governor Pothier, republican by a reduced plurality.

Tennessee elected Benjamin W. Hooper, fusion and temperance candidate for governor by 15,000.

Nebraska elected Chester H. Aldrich, republican, and county option candidate for governor by about 15,000. It also elected G. M. Hitchcock, democrat, over Senator Burkett.

Wisconsin elected Francis F. McGovern, republican, governor and chose a legislature that will re-elect Senator LaFollette.

West Virginia showed large democratic gains in the congressional elections.

Delaware went republican and paved the way for the re-election of Senator Dupont.

Oklahoma elected Lee Cruce governor and a democratic legislature.

Maryland showed democratic gains in the congressional election.

Georgia elected a solid democratic congressional delegation.

Iowa wiped out the republican majority and the fight between Governor Carroll, republican,

and Claude R. Porter, democratic candidate for governor, was close, both claiming it. Later returns indicated Porter's election.

Kansas re-elected Governor Stubbs by a big majority and chose at least six republican congressmen.

Illinois showed big democratic gains, and democratic members in the legislature who voted for William Lorimer ran, according to the Associated Press, "considerably ahead of their opponents."

Minnesota elected Governor Eberhart, republican, over James Gray, democrat.

Missouri chose James A. Reed of Kansas City United States senator over David R. Francis of St. Louis. The prohibition amendment was defeated.

Virginia returned the usual democratic vote.

Washington elected three republican candidates for congress and five republican supreme court candidates. The temperance forces here won victories, nine cities going dry.

Indiana elected the democratic state ticket and legislature insuring the election of John W. Kern over Senator Beveridge.

Alabama elected Emmett O'Neal, democrat and local optionist by 50,000.

Florida returned the usual democratic majority and defeated the state wide prohibition amendment.

South Dakota elected Vessey, republican, governor.

Utah showed some republican gains in the congressional elections.

Colorado probably re-elected Governor Shafroth, democrat.

Louisiana gave the usual democratic majority. Wyoming elected Carey, democrat, governor.

Texas elected all democratic congressional candidates and the democratic state ticket.

Michigan elected Osborne, republican candidate for governor.

Arkansas elected all democratic congressional candidates.

Mississippi elected all democratic candidates. North Carolina went democratic by 42,000.

MERE MENTION

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago says: "Returns indicate that the democrats have gained eight seats in the United States senate. The following states which now have republican senators, have probably elected a democratic legislature, or assured by popular vote a democratic senator: Indiana, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and West Virginia."

As soon as it became known that there was a democratic landslide Colonel Roosevelt became conspicuous by his absence from public places. An Associated Press dispatch from Oyster Bay said: "The probable attitude of Colonel Roosevelt, in view of the result of the election, can be judged only by what he has said the last few days. In his speech at Davenport, Ia., last Friday he said if the republicans were beaten this time they would win next time, and that, win or lose, the fight would go on. Just after he had voted today he said again that whether the result was favorable or not 'the party would keep up the fight.' He had made it clear that he regards today's election as only a step in a fixed program, and that so far as the New York state situation is concerned, he believes his victory over the 'old guard' has placed the party in a position from which it can go steadily onward. Colonel Roosevelt has given no indication as to what political moves he will make in the future. All he has said is that he hopes to enjoy the seclusion of Sagamore Hill for some time to come."

William B. McKinley, chairman of the republican congressional committee, James T. Lloyd, chairman of the democratic congressional committee, and Champ Clark, minority leader, all agreed that the tariff was the cause of the landslide.

An Associated Press dispatch from Pittsburg says: "The first news of the complexion of election returns from the various states was received by President Taft when he reached this city at 11 o'clock tonight on his way from Cincinnati, where he had gone to vote, to Washington. A summary of the results were placed in the president's hands, but he would make no comment upon them."

A DEMOCRATIC VICTORY

Democrats have reason for rejoicing. The election returns indicate democratic gains throughout the country. The next congress will be democratic by a safe majority—which means

Champ Clark for speaker and the overthrow of Cannonism. The democrats gain several seats in the United States senate, and these, with gains made by the progressive republicans, make it probable that the senate will submit a constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. Mr. Taft had an opportunity to recommend the submission of this amendment, and had he done so, he would have secured the credit for his administration but he failed to do so, and now the honor will go to the democrats and progressive republicans.

The democrats have carried New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Ohio and Indiana. The result in a number of states is in doubt as The Commoner goes to press, but enough is certain to give the democrats reason to hope for a presidential victory in 1912 if the new democratic congress makes a good record. Let us hope that the democratic members will appreciate their responsibility.

HAMILTONIANISM

The Independent, of New York, is not afraid of Hamiltonianism as revived by President Roosevelt. It says: "Mr. Bryan accuses Mr. Roosevelt of the Hamiltonian bent of mind. Hamilton was, he tells us, a believer in centralization. So he was, and he was also a believer in States' rights. He was one of the principal writers of The Federalist, whose purpose was to defend and secure the adoption of the constitution, with its centralized power, as well as the decentralized rights of the states. Did Alexander Hamilton belong to the federalist party? Equally did John Adams, and we might say, George Washington. The charge of Hamiltonianism, which Mr. Bryan brings against Mr. Roosevelt, is based on the fact that he wants corporations like railroads to seek national incorporation. So he does, and for the reason that this will allow better supervision. No, says Mr. Bryan; not that, but in order that they may escape state control. We accept the reason given by Mr. Roosevelt as adequate. One national control is better than forty-six state controls, and more likely to be effective in restraining wrongs. It is state legislatures that have been most subservient to corporations. It will not be easy to frighten the people by talking to them of usurpations of power by the national government. It is only what the people give that the central power at Washington, through the will of congress and the approval of the supreme court, will execute. Never was our government more absolutely democratic, in state or nation, than it is today. We shall have no new nationalism except as the people demand it; and this we may assert, that the people take more interest in the national interests, against state interests, than they did in the old Hamiltonian and Jeffersonian days. And the people will rule, undisturbed by bugaboos."

If the editor of the Independent will examine the plan of government prepared by Hamilton he will find that Hamilton was not at all in harmony with our system of government as it is today and that we have been growing away from his ideas rather than toward them. The Independent is also mistaken when it thinks that national incorporation is intended for the better supervision of railroads. Mr. Roosevelt, in his message recommending national incorporation, gave three reasons, one of which was that it would relieve the railroads of state supervision. This was the real reason. We intend national incorporation to secure such additional federal control as may be desirable. There is no need of national incorporation except to get rid of state control. The democratic platform declares in favor of both state and national control, the national control to be added to state control, not substituted for it.

It may be true, as the Independent suggests, that the people do not fear usurpations of power by the national government. All usurpations of power have come gradually and without the people recognizing the danger, but Mr. Roosevelt's new nationalism presents the matter so clearly that when exemplified by his own well known views, the people are likely to resist before it is too late. The word bugaboo may serve the purpose of the Independent now, but if it intends to assist Mr. Roosevelt first to concentrate everything at Washington and then to concentrate everything in the president and then to have the president act as a sort of guardian of the public, it will have to quit using phrases and employ arguments.