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## Washington Letter

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)  
THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION:

Certain well-meaning Democrats profess to be seriously concerned regarding the uncertainty which prevails as to whom the Republican National Convention will select as its standard-bearer just a month hence. It is noteworthy, however, that this anxiety is confined almost entirely to Democrats. The Republican leaders are expressing no anxiety. They regard the position of the party as entirely encouraging. A large number of delegates have been chosen, there are many favorite sons, in the field, there is an abundance of enthusiasm and complete unity of sentiment on essentials. The attitude of the vast majority of Republicans was well expressed recently by Senator Lodge, one of the uninstructed delegates-at-large from Massachusetts. Mr. Lodge said: "Let us one and all address ourselves to securing the nomination of a candidate for the Presidency who is most certain to unite all who are opposed to the present Administration and to an assured and complete victory; a candidate who will fully represent Republican principles, of national defense, of the protection of American rights everywhere, of the restoration of the influence and standing of the United States among the nations of the earth, of the protective tariff, of economic stability and of justice to business and industrial interests of the country and of those domestic policies of which the Republican party has long been the exponent." Everything points to united action actuated by the single purpose of, as Mr. Lodge puts it, "driving from power the present Administration which has been so injurious to our welfare at home and so destructive to our influence abroad."

OHIO'S REPUBLICANISM:—The strength of Ohio's Republicanism and the length and breadth of President Wilson's unpopularity in the buckeye State have proved an occasion of the greatest surprise and discouragement to the Democrats, so much so that the members of the Democratic State Organization admit their fear that they will be able to save nothing from the wreck of their hopes next November. With the returns in from something over three-fourths of the primary districts, it is shown that Senator Pomerene, Democratic candidate for reelection has fallen about 14,000 votes behind former Governor Cox, about 9,000 votes behind former Governor Harmon and nearly 8,000 votes behind former Governor Campbell. Furthermore, out of about 86,000 votes cast for Democratic delegates, Frank Monnett, who made his race on his opposition to Woodrow Wilson and his Administration, polled nearly 25,000. It has been known for some time that most of the Ohio Democrats who made the fight for Woodrow Wilson in 1912 have become hostile to him and the primary election it was noteworthy that the vote for Monnett was heaviest in those districts where Wilson once was strongest, but even the most pessimistic Democrats expected no such showing as actually occurred. Indeed no Republican had accurately gauged the extent of the silent, but not less effective, opposition which Mr. Wilson and his Administration have engendered amongst those who only four years ago idealized Mr. Wilson and looked forward to his Administration with the most pleasurable expectation. In the light of these developments, the most sanguine Democrats now hope only to reproduce the situation of 1908, when Taft carried the State but a Democrat was chosen Governor.

DEMOCRATS FUTILE EXPLANATIONS:—What the Democratic party needs at the present time, and needs most urgently, is an explanation clerk. The general public is developing a very irritating curiosity as to the way in which the promises of 1912 and 1913 which were made by the Democratic party have been carried out. It is curiosity of a persistent kind which is extremely annoying in a Presidential

year. The party will have to submit a reckoning during the coming months but, in the meantime, it is trying to fix the books. The first nine months of the Underwood Tariff demonstrated conclusively the absolute failure of that measure as a revenue producer, and the war with its nullifying effect was a piece of good fortune to the Democrats. They were enabled to reduce their deficits by a so-called war tax, and they have since explained this war tax on the ground that imports are limited. That explanation is now somewhat frayed in view of the fact that in January the imports to this country were the highest in its history and it is also significant of the actual effect of the Underwood Tariff to know that duty was collected only about 9 per cent of the goods imported—thus we see 91 per cent of our imports coming in free, and still from a revenue-raising point of view the Underwood Tariff is supposed to be effective. The war tax would never have been necessary under a republican tariff measure, and the war tax has been not only a nuisance but a direct imposition, entirely unnecessary tax is well understood by Democratic politicians, and for that reason it is proposed now, just before a Presidential election, to repeal the stamp tax and as much of the war tax as possible, in the hope that the people may forget the unnecessary tax imposed on them because of the failure of the Underwood Tariff law as a revenue raiser. Let no one be deceived with regard to the repeal of the stamp tax. It is repealed only because this is 1916, a

FOR U. S. SENATOR

Those who know Walter S. Dickey know that he is, first of all, a patriot and after that a Republican whose devotion to his party is based on his conviction that it stands for what is best in Nation and State and who is therefore incapable of being swerved from party loyalty by any consideration of merely personal ambition or aggrandizement, either for himself or anybody else. That's the sort of Republican Walter S. Dickey has always been. He gave the party more than thirty years of unselfish and forceful service before he became a candidate for favors at its hands. Mr. Dickey is a candidate for the nomination for United States Senator because assurances have come to him from all parts of the state that his nomination will strengthen the ticket and help to guarantee its victory. He considers that no man ought to be nominated for any office unless he is the strongest man that can be chosen for that place, because he regards Republican victory this year of more importance than any man's personal ambition.

Presidential year, and the people are scrutinizing the history of the Democratic party since its advent on March 4, 1912. It is hoped to excuse an unnecessary tax by removing it after it has taken more than one hundred million dollars out of the pockets of the people. Furthermore, the tax is simply going to be shifted around and those who are now paying the tax directly will hereafter pay it indirectly, because taxes which are levied on one set of citizens, or one group of manufacturers, is bound to be prorated among all the people in one way or another.

Besides avoiding, or trying to avoid the war tax, the Democrats have covered up the heavy deficits in the Treasury by fictitious statements. The daily Treasury statement is a genuine piece of modern fiction. It shows a net balance of more than one hundred million dollars, whereas, instead of there being a working balance there is an actual deficit. It is, of course, amusing to assume that the people are fooled by this kind of work. The repeal of free sugar has been accomplished as quietly as possible because of the promises made that it would reduce the cost of living. The second half of the Democratic Administration has been actively engaged in correcting the mistakes of the first half, but without success. The war does not explain the high cost of living which is today many times higher than ever in the history of the country. The Democrats are working with feverish haste to provide some explanation of the differ-

ence between their promises and their performances, but it is an impossible proposition.

Increasing Imports—Decreasing Revenue

The statistics for the eight month ended February, 1916, show that foreigners sent to our market nearly one million dollars worth of goods daily more than came in for the same period ended February, 1915, also under the Democratic tariff law. During the 1916 period we imported \$1,291,000,000 worth of goods. During the 1915 period we imported \$1,056,000,000 worth of goods, or \$235,000,000 less. During the period ended February 1913, under Republican law, the value of our imports was \$1,246,000,000, or \$45,000,000 less than the period just past. But the world was then at peace and the goods that came in under the Republican law produced a revenue which enabled us to run the Government efficiently and give us a good surplus. We took in customs revenues for the amount of about \$223,000,000. During the eight months ended February, 1916, the customs revenues fell to \$132,000,000, or \$91,000,000 less than under Republican law although imports were considerably greater. Mr. Underwood declared that his bills provided rates of duty which would create active competition of foreign with American made goods and which would so encourage importation that we would have ample revenues. See how it worked out. We are getting the goods, but not the revenue. Mr. Underwood's theory was all right from the Democratic view point, and so was Darius Green's

Sample of Democratic Economics

Senator Martin, (Dem) of New Jersey, presented a most remarkable document to the Senate the other day. It was a resolution adopted by the National Democratic Club of New York City favoring the Government ship purchase bill, and this was one of the reasons given: "Owing to American standards of wages, safety at sea and humane conditions of labor for American seamen, private enterprise cannot be relied upon to provide the ships, because experience has demonstrated that private capital cannot successfully compete against the handicap of lower standards maintained by other maritime nations."

As an idea in economics that is a gem. Suppose it were followed out in our manufacturing industries. American laboring men receive higher wages, and they operate under more humane conditions than those prevailing abroad. If the National Democratic Club of New York in favor of having the Government operate our factories on that account? Is government ownership to be the fate of any industry which accords fair treatment to labor? Why is this club for government ownership and against a protective tariff, for instance? "The old-fashioned subsidy system has failed, and it is not only discredited but un-

democratic," reads the resolution. When was it tried in this country? It seems to be doing effective work in foreign countries, nearly everyone of which has aided its merchant marine in one way or another. The trouble with the Democratic party is that the problems which are arising today are entirely too big for that party to handle, hence its blind floundering.

Heard at the National Capitol

—Senator John W. Kern and his colleague of recent appointment, Senator "Tom" Taggart, and Representative John A. M. Adair, who is the Democratic candidate for governor of Indiana at the coming election, have recently been in Indiana, where they attended the state convention of their party. All three are candidates for reelection the choice of two senators being due to the recent death of Senator Shively. It was not a happy trio that set out, or which returned. It is stated that they realize that the voters of Indiana have had enough of Democracy and that all are extremely anxious over the situation. The positive indications that Indiana is to return to the Republican column has not only given these candidates, but also the Democratic members of Congress from that state, a political chill.

"I confess I am somewhat surprised to see some of our New England commercial bodies endorsing the so-called Rainey tariff commission bill, which is the administration measure," said Congressman C. A. Salloway of New Hampshire. "They have failed to realize what it means. A tariff commission appointed by President Wilson along Democratic lines, means nothing to protection, because the Democratic party does not believe in protecting American industries. What the Wilson tariff commission will stand for is a tariff for revenue only. This tariff commission will not attempt to foster, protect or develop American industry, but will expend its time and energy to produce a tariff that will raise a certain amount of revenue, regardless of what happens to industry. From gossip that is prevalent here, this commission is to be headed by a college professor, who is long on theory and short on practice. Unless a tariff commission is named which believes protection, it can be but little less than a farce so far as industry and prosperity are concerned."

Adjournment is looking farther off than ever and, if the Democratic leaders in Congress are to be believed, it is the fault of President Wilson. Where it looked a week or two ago as if the present session might end near the first of July, it now appears as though it would be nearer the first of October. Men high in the councils of the Democratic party, state that President Wilson is so insistent for certain legislation, that notwithstanding the fact that he has been told that it will take until fall to pass it, that he will not yield and let his pet measures go over until next winter. It is even being stated that he bobs up every few days with something new he desires. The fact that Congress has been practically marking time since December 1st, is now said to be largely due to the fact that with the constantly changing mind of the President, his party leaders have been obliged to sit around and wait and see just what he really wants.

Another straw vote has been taken this time in New York by a newspaper and the dwindling strength of Wilson from that of four years ago is again shown. Twenty nine men are recorded for Wilson this year, whereas, of the 320 who made reply, no less than seventy-seven confess to having supported him in.

"Our shortened line of communications" in Mexico will follow closely the line of the Kansas, Mexico & Orient Railroad. The practical mind will at once want to know why we do not use the railroad itself. The answer is that Carranza will not let us. Yet Wilson made Carranza.

J. H. FARRISH, PRESIDENT. J. W. REESE, VICE-PRESIDENT.  
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