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TUESDAY, OCT. 5, 1920

REPUBLICAN TICKET

- For President—**WARREN G. HARDING.**
- For Vice President—**CALVIN COOLIDGE.**
- For Delegate to Congress—**DAN SUTHERLAND.**
- For Attorney General—**JOHN RUSTGARD**
- For Senator—**E. E. CHAMBERLAIN.**
- For Representatives—**A. E. LATHROP**
JOS. H. MURRAY
R. E. ELSNER
ARTHUR FRAME
- For Road Commissioner—**GUST JOHNSON**

WHY HE WANTS A CHANGE

Now and then we hear from certain "independent" voices, journalistic or individual, that there is no real difference between the major parties and the country would be equally well off under a Republican or a Democratic administration. If that be so, it would be gracious and appropriate service to the public if your "independent," who is uniformly impartial and judicial in word, and always partisan in deed, would support the Republican ticket. He never does. He discovers the absence of all distinction between the parties only on those occasions when he is on the loser's side, or fears that he will be. Then he is filled with a great and holy zeal to suppress all signs of partisan spirit in the opposition. Indeed, in the lexicon of the "independent" when it is Republican it is partisan; when it is Democratic it is non-partisan. The whole theory and scheme of Democratic partisanship is to persuade any other kind of partisan that he should not support the principles nor the candidates of the Republican party.

Let the professional independents and spurious non-partisans go down south and preach their doctrine there. Let them begin by helping to break up the Solid South and thus reduce the two parties to equal terms, so that the tremendous handicap to free party action of ten or eleven states devoted always to stark partisanship may be removed. Let it not be always clear that the rise of non-partisanship in one section of the country may not only serve the aims of partisanship elsewhere.

It is a significant fact that in the south there are nine or more states which in fifty or sixty years have voted one way only in presidential years (except under coercion during the "carpet-bag" era); and it is an equally significant fact that there is only a single state north of the Mason and Dixon line which in a half century has an unbroken record of voting for one party. This means that the Republican party stands for growth, progress, freedom of opinion and discussion, new ideas, new leaders, new light; it means that the Democratic party is too much wedded to old issues, old habits, old thoughts—all of which spell stagnation and reaction.

The president of the United States said once in a public address that the Republican party had not had a new idea in fifty years. This shows the length to which egotism, intolerance and pride will go. It was not true. It was probably not expected that it would be accepted as literal truth. It would be interesting to know just what new idea the Democratic party has fostered, in the last half century, that had not first had its origin elsewhere and had not been sponsored by some element within the Republican party. This is not to say that it had always been adopted by the Republican party. Too often it has not been, and at times the failure of the Republican party to act has been the opportunity of its enemy. A split among the Republicans in 1912, for example, led to election of President Wilson. A catch phrase elected him in 1916. But no Republican division exists in 1920, and the inventors of Democratic stogans have been singularly unfertile, and everybody knows what is going to happen in November.

Why is it that the people are so

heartily and unreservedly renewing their confidence in the Republican party? Is it because of the League of Nations—the league. A league or no league? It is not. Is it because of the "senate oligarchy" or belief in its non-existence? It is not. Is it because of prohibition? It is not. Is it because of progressivism and its promises or of reactionism and its menaces? It is not. Is it because of the tariff? It is not. Is it because of high taxes and the cost of living? It is not, wholly. What then is the reason.

The reason the country faces an impending change, and that a vast majority of voters in their present humor propose to make it, is their complete loss of confidence in the present national administration and the Democratic party. Whether or not four years of Cox means four more years of Wilson—as Cox promises—the electorate will take no chances. If it means the end of Wilsonism, and merely the beginning of Coxism, again the voters intend to take no chances. They have had enough of the Democratic party for the present and enough of Wilson for all time, and they are looking for no legatees or crown princes of Wilsonism to put in his place. The citizen may indeed have this or that particular reason for voting against Cox and for Harding, but behind it all is his dissatisfaction with the present regime, his desire for a change, and his belief that the Republican party is better qualified to meet the great problems which confront the country.



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