

THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT

Established 1899

HICKORY, N. C., THURSDAY, NOV. 5 1908.

Democrat and Press, Consolidated 1905

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TAFT NEXT PRESIDENT

Tremendous Slump in the Republican Vote.

Democrats Win Governors in the Middle West States—Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Other States Claimed by the Democrats Voted Strongly for the Republican Nominee.

General election returns throughout the United States, received up to an early hour Wednesday morning, showed the following results:

William H. Taft, of Ohio, has been elected president with 298 electoral votes secure, and thirteen doubtful states.

Practically no change is indicated in the complexion of the national house of representatives.

The United States senate will return its present republican majority.

Governor Charles E. Hughes has been re-elected in New York state by about 76,000 plurality.

Indiana has gone for Taft by from 15,000 to 18,000 plurality.

Bryan apparently has carried Nebraska, although the republicans still

to his friends, while the heavy vote for Mr. Taft, especially in the borough of Brooklyn, completely eclipsed the most sanguine hopes of the republicans. Governor Hughes was cut heavily up the state, but not so deeply as to imperil his election, once the drift in his favor below the Bronx had begun to make itself felt.

Some of the figures relating to the republican slump in certain states, regarded as certainly republican, are little short of amazing. Pennsylvania's immense plurality of over 500,000 four years ago, has been cut in two.

Illinois, which gave Roosevelt 305,000 in 1904, has gone for Taft by about 170,000. The highest claim of the republicans for Indiana is 15,000, as against a plurality of 93,000 for Roosevelt.

Iowa, which gave Mr. Roosevelt 153,000 plurality in 1904, has dropped down to about 40,000 for Taft. The return of Missouri to the democratic column on the presidential ticket, wiped out a republican plurality of 25,000 four years ago.

Maryland and West Virginia are confidently claimed by the republicans, but the returns are too meager to justify a classification of either state.

Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey were striking exceptions to the generally reduced republican pluralities.

There has been a shrinkage in the democratic vote in several of the southern states, notably in Virginia and North Carolina.

Mr. Taft has carried Wisconsin by a plurality estimated at 75,000, a falling off from the Roosevelt plural-

ity of the republicans a majority of 69 in the sixty-first congress. Later returns may change this estimate somewhat, as there are several close countesses in which we expect to make republican gains.

Returns up to date show the election of sixty-four democrats to congress and 78 republicans.

Republicans gain a district in the state of Pennsylvania heretofore held by democrats.

SOUTH LAND

NEWS FROM DIFFERENT SOUTHERN STATES.

ALABAMA.

Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 4.—Nine democratic congressmen have been elected in Alabama, and returns indicated the defeat of the proposed constitutional amendment providing for the formation of new counties, and the biennial sessions amendment. The good roads amendment seems to have carried. The indications are that the normal democratic majority has been maintained.

ARKANSAS.

Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 4.—Bryan has carried Arkansas by a reduced majority, according to scattered returns, as the result of a heavy negro vote throughout the state. All democratic congressmen were elected.

FLORIDA.

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 4.—The election in Florida resulted in the usual democratic majorities of from 18,000 to 20,000, owing to the slow count of the long ballot, however, actual figures cannot be given.

GEORGIA.

Atlanta, Nov. 4.—Incomplete returns from over the state indicate that Bryan and Kern have carried Georgia by a clear majority over all other candidates. The majority, however, will be small, probably not over 20,000 or 30,000.

Taft has carried eight counties and two others from which the completed returns have not been reported are in doubt, with indications pointing to the success of Taft. The Taft counties are Chatooga, Forsyth, Haralson, McIntosh, Pickens, Polk, Taliaferro, Whitfield, Gilmer and Gordon are in the doubtful column.

Watson carried seven counties, in which his home county of McDuffie, Glascock, Johnson, Lincoln, McDuffie, Oconee, Screven and Warren. The Higen and Graves vote throughout the state was a negligible quantity. The independence party candidates did not carry a single county.

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans, Nov. 4.—Bryan swept Louisiana today, the returns indicating a majority of 40,000.

Provost, democrat, was elected supreme court judge, and Shelby Taylor, democrat, was elected railroad commissioner.

All seven democratic nominees, for congress were elected. The constitutional amendment exempting mortgages from taxation is believed to have passed.

MISSISSIPPI.

Jackson, Miss., Nov. 4.—The returns from today's election indicate that Bryan carried Mississippi by a majority of over 50,000. All eight democratic nominees for congress were elected. The vote for Taft showed a slight increase over the republican vote in the last presidential election.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 4.—There will probably be a slight reduction from the democratic majority of two years ago. The figures will be about 40,000 majority for the democrats.

In the eighth and tenth congressional districts indications are for republican victory.

Charlotte, N. C., Nov. 4.—State returns are unprecedently slow, but it is conceded that the complete democratic ticket will carry by a majority of at least 30,000. The republican ticket made gains throughout the state.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Columbia, S. C., Nov. 4.—South Carolina will give Bryan about 50,000 to 60,000 majority, while the state and congressional districts are overwhelmingly democratic.

Later returns will not change the results in this state.

The socialists and independence leaguers polled a very small vote.

TENNESSEE.

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 4.—Bryan's majority in Tennessee on today's elec-

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WILLIAM H. TAFT.

Ohio returns have been seriously delayed, owing to the immense size of the ballot, but Taft has carried the state by a majority ranging from 50,000 to 75,000.

Taft carried New York city by about 11,000 plurality, this being the first time the city has given its vote to a republican presidential candidate since 1896, when Mr. McKinley had a small plurality.

Mr. Taft received a greater plurality in New York state than President Roosevelt did four years ago, the indications pointing to 202,000 for Taft as against 175,000 for Roosevelt.

Higen, the independence party candidate for president, received about 28,000 votes in Greater New York.

The indications are democratic governors have been elected in several of the middle western states that have given their presidential votes to Taft.

Mr. Taft has exceeded Mr. Roosevelt's plurality in New Jersey and Massachusetts, as well as in New York state.

The republican plurality fell off heavily in the middle west, a matter thoroughly surprising to republicans. Speaker Cannon has been re-elected by his usual majority.

Representatives Payne, of New York, and Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, have been re-elected, and the house of representatives probably will continue under its old regime.

Mr. Payne will have charge of the new tariff bill in the extra session, which Mr. Taft will call immediately after March 4th next.

Missouri has returned to the "Solid South" on the presidential ticket, and elected Cowherd as its governor.

The first returns received were from the scattering districts in Massachusetts. The heavy pluralities indicated there for Mr. Taft seemed at once to dissipate any probability of a landslide for Mr. Bryan, as many democrats had claimed, and the republican managers at once began to put out claims of victory.

Returns from the up-country districts of New York state, where voting machines are largely used, were next to arrive. It had been predicted for days that Erie county, including the heavy vote of Buffalo, might be taken as an index to the drift throughout the country. This has proved the case, so far as the national ticket was concerned, Mr. Taft having a plurality of something more than four thousand votes. Erie county, surprisingly, however, gave Chanler a plurality of more than 3,000.

The opponents of Governor Hughes were quick to claim a sweeping victory, but returns from the other large counties and cities soon changed the complexion of the returns completely. The vote in Greater New York for Mr. Chanler was deeply disappointing



JAMES S. SHERMAN.

ity of 156,000 in 1904.

Kentucky has gone safely for Mr. Bryan by between 10,000 and 15,000.

Representative W. S. Cowherd has been elected governor of Missouri over Hadley (republican) by about 20,000.

Governor John A. Johnson, of Minnesota, has probably been elected governor of that state for a third term, although the state has gone safely for Taft.

The voting throughout the country has been exceptionally heavy, ideal weather conditions bringing out the country voters in full force.

Mr. Taft carried practically every so-called doubtful state, except Nebraska, where the indications point to a democratic victory.

Mr. Bryan has carried Nevada and Montana in addition to the solid south, which includes Missouri.

Returns from Colorado and Maryland are too meager to form a definite conclusion as to their ultimate alignment.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY IS DEAD, SO "DRY" CANDIDATE SAYS

Chicago, Nov. 4.—Eugene W. Chafin, presidential candidate of the prohibition party, after scanning the election returns, made a statement concluding as follows:

"The democratic party is dead. The fight from now on will be between the prohibition party and the whisky (republican) party, and we will elect a prohibition president in 1912."

CONGRESS IS REPUBLICAN.

Chairman McKinley Says There'll Be a Working Majority.

Early Wednesday morning returns received from 316 congressional districts, out of 391 in the country. Of these republicans had 179, the democrats 129, 9 were (doubtful), and from 64 districts no accurate returns had been received. On this showing the republicans party at this hour lack 17 votes of being able to control the house. Speaker Cannon has been re-elected.

At 1 o'clock Wednesday morning, Chairman McKinley, of the republican congressional committee, gave out the following statement:

"From reports received up to midnight it would appear that 230 republicans and 161 democratic members of the house have been chosen, giving

tion will about equal that of Parker four years ago, something over 26,000. The democratic state ticket is elected by from 20,000 to 25,000. The congressional delegation remains unchanged as to complexion, eight democrats and two republicans, but N. W. Hale, republican incumbent in the second, is apparently defeated by Richard W. Austin, also republican.

TEXAS.

Dallas, Texas, Nov. 4.—Returns indicate the election of the entire democratic ticket, both state and national, by the usual majority.

The count is progressing slowly.

VIRGINIA.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 4.—Bryan's estimated majority in this state, on incomplete returns, is 20,000. Saunders, democrat, has carried the fifth district by from 600 to 800. Siemp, republican, carried the ninth district by about 3,000. All of the other democratic candidates are elected.

The vote in Richmond city was: Bryan, 4,127; Taft, 1,145.

Latest returns from the ninth district (Virginia) indicate that Siemp, republican, will have a majority of 3,000 over Byars, democrat, for congress.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 4.—Returns from West Virginia came in slowly, but enough had been received to indicate a slight advantage for Judge Taft, although the margin was so slight that the state could still be called doubtful. On the first 150 precincts the advantage in favor of Taft contained probably 1,000 plurality for him.

CANNON WINS HIS BATTLE.

His Majority Will Be Between 6,000 and 7,000.

Danville, Ill., Nov. 3.—Joseph G. Cannon has been re-elected to congress by a majority of between 6,000 and 7,000. The returns are incomplete, but enough of them have been received to show that he will receive his normal vote throughout the district.

In this city, eight out of nineteen 7,748. This is an increase of about 100 votes in the same precincts over his majority of two years ago.

VOTES TAFT WILL HAVE IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The indications are that the following votes will be cast in the electoral college for Taft:

California	10
Connecticut	7
Delaware	3
Idaho	3
Illinois	27
Indiana	15
Iowa	13
Kansas	10
Maine	10
Massachusetts	6
Michigan	14
Minnesota	11
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	12
New York	39
North Dakota	4
Ohio	23
Oregon	4
Pennsylvania	34
Rhode Island	4
South Dakota	4
Utah	3
Vermont	3
Washington	5
West Virginia	7
Wisconsin	13
Wyoming	3
Total	298

Fire Insurance.
There are traces in earlier times of enforced or voluntary contributions toward the relief of sufferers by fire, but it is only about the beginning of the seventeenth century that we hear of proposals being made for a more systematic provision, and it was not till after the great fire in London in 1666 that these proposals took practical shape. This seems at first to have been in the form of underwriting by individuals or by clubs, and some attempts were made to engage the corporation of London in a scheme of fire insurance, but in 1681 the first regular office for insuring against losses by fire was opened near the Royal Exchange, and it was followed shortly afterward by others.

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