

HEAVY VOTE IN COUNTY WITH RESULT VERY CLOSE

Democrats Expect to Carry County, but So Do Republicans—Good Nature Prevails at All Four Precincts in City—Two Wards May Vote Fast and Late

With Democratic leaders pleased with the number of voters who early on to the polls, the prediction was made this afternoon that Catawba county would be Democratic by at least 200. This was the general opinion among Democratic workers. The Republicans on the other hand were just as confident that they would repeat their performance of two years ago. The bulk of the confidence, however, seemed to be with the Democrats. This is not the Record's prediction, as it can afford to wait for the returns.

In two Hickory precincts, northwest and southeast, more than half the registered vote had been cast by noon, but in southwest and southeast Hickory, where the books showed more than 1,000 names in each ward, long lines still stood in front of the booths. Here the principal work was done this afternoon.

Slight showers during the forenoon did not dampen the ardor of the men and women at the polls and it was declared that the women were just as eager to vote as the men. It was a good natured crowd at each precinct and there was no feeling of any kind, so far as could be learned.

So rapid was the voting during the forenoon that at 2:30 this afternoon most of the vote had been cast in the four Hickory precincts and the workers were out combing the township for the few who had not yet presented themselves at the polls. Instead of the long lines of the forenoon, the precincts were quiet.

At 3 o'clock the pollholders began counting the absentee votes.

The sun broke through the clouds shortly after 2 o'clock, but there was no assurance of fair weather tonight.

VOTING BEGAN EARLY

Reports to the Record from High Point, Statesville, Salisbury and Concord, points on the Associated Press leased telephone wire, stated that a heavy vote was being cast at each place, with many women voting. At High Point one fight had occurred. The vote was heavy there.

Concord reported that the vote was heavy in Cabarrus and the prediction was made that the county would swing back into the Democratic column.

In Statesville it was only a question of the Democratic majority. The same was true of Salisbury, where it was predicted that Rowan would give Congressman Doughton a plurality of 2,000.

Under drooping skies the voters of Catawba county marched to the polls today to decide the destinies of the country and to do their utmost for the congressional, state and national tickets. The sun apparently did not rise this morning, thanks to a cloudy sky, but at 6:45 all the polling precincts in Hickory were thronged and by 9 o'clock the long lines were more extended than they were the hour before.

For the first time in the history of North Carolina elections women took part and the feathers on their hats could be seen waving above the heads of men in the line. There was no delay at the polls. The first to come were the first to vote, and many women were forced to sit down out of sheer exhaustion until such time as there was a let up in the number of voters. It was demonstrated that the three extra polling places were not enough to handle the crowds and at least three more voting places in Hickory will be necessary adequately to take care of the voters.

It is not known whether all the women who registered will vote, but there was every indication that the great majority would have expressed their choice before the day closed. There was a shortage of constitutional amendment ballots at some of the precincts, it was reported. Friends of the income tax amendment feared that it would suffer because of this fact.

Reports from Conover, Maiden and Newton were that the voting was rapid in those places.

No disorders were reported at an early hour this morning from anywhere in the county. There was a good deal of enthusiasm in Hickory in spite of dreary-looking skies, and women poll workers were busy for the first time in their lives. They did not know the game like the men, but they lent their presence and were ready to volunteer assistance.

A hundred automobiles and a half a dozen trucks were running at all hours during the day bringing voters to the polls. Nobody was forced to walk, although hundreds preferred to do this.

The polls will close tonight at 5:40.

FIRST TO REPORT FOR REPUBLICANS

By the Associated Press. Boston, Nov. 2.—The town of New Ashford in Berkshire county was the first in Massachusetts to report its vote for president today. The tabulation of the vote was completed at 7:30 a. m.

Harding and Coolidge, Republican, 28; Cox and Roosevelt, Democrat, 6. Four years ago New Ashford gave Hughes, Republican, 16, and Wilson, Democrat, 7.

ELEVEN CHINESE SHOT IN MUTINY

By the Associated Press. New Orleans, Nov. 2.—Eleven Chinese members of the crew of the British steamship Elanek were wounded early today when guards resorted to pistol fire to quell a mutiny aboard the vessel.

Twenty-four Chinese participated in the riots which was precipitated when officers of the ships that in compliance with federal regulations n shore leave would be granted. According to reports at the customs house, the Chinese armed themselves with knives, pieces of iron and rushed from the forecastle in an effort to overpower the guards.

A number got over the ship and hid themselves in the woods bordering the river. The rapid firing of the guards influenced most of them not wounded to surrender. Two will die, according to reports.

TOPEKA IS CLOSE EARLY VOTE SHOWS

By the Associated Press. Topeka, Kans., Nov. 2.—The first election returns here reported at 10:30 a. m. from the three city precincts and two in the second precinct gave Harding 54, Cox 81 and Debs 1.

HARDING IN LEAD

By the Associated Press. Topeka, Kans., Nov. 2.—Incomplete returns from four precincts out of 26 in Topeka gave Harding 109, Cox 99. Under the double election system, the count began at 10 a. m.

EIGHT PERSONS KILLED IN CLASHES AT HAVANA

Havana, Nov. 2.—Eight persons were killed in local clashes in the provinces during the elections last night, according to reports here.

The followers of Gomez started a demonstration in Havana after the electoral board has temporarily closed its office, without any official returns having been received.

LOST HANDBAG AND KEYS

Miss Mary Rosebrough lost a blue velvet handbag containing some money and keys last night, but no trace of them had been found this afternoon.

Just as the sun goes down, and it was evident that voting must be rapid if everybody got a chance at the ballot.

Although the lines were as long at 10 o'clock as they were at 9, the crowd seemed to increase and there was some fear that in the southeast precinct that all the voters might not get to cast their ballots. It was planned to allow every man and woman a chance to cast his ballot, however, and as the sun sinks this afternoon, those standing in line will be allowed to enter the booths and cast their votes.

There were strong indications of rain during the forenoon, and there was a slight shower early in the morning. Towards noon the clouds, while gloomy, did not promise much rain and it was hoped the showers would hold off until night.

OHIO VOTERS OUT IN SPITE OF RAIN

By the Associated Press. Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 2.—Notwithstanding a steady downpour of rain the first hours of voting today, reports from over the state were that the voting was exceptionally heavy and that in most cities two-thirds of the total vote probably would be in the ballot boxes by noon.

CAPITAL WEALTH INCREASES IN STATE

(BY MAX ABERNETHY) Raleigh, Nov. 2.—In seven years the per capita wealth of North Carolina has increased \$1,057,100, statistics compiled today by the state department of agriculture based on the 1920 population show that the per capita wealth is \$1,381, an increase per ten year of sixty per cent.

Ranking fourteenth in population North Carolina surpasses Kentucky. The total value of North Carolina property as reported by the state corporation commission is \$3,532,644,173. Of this amount \$1,981,563,494 is listed as real property while personal property values approximate \$813,552,925. Banks, cotton mills and power companies, representing corporations is valued at \$486,940,596. Railroad property within the state totals \$250,587,158.

Internal revenue receipts paid into the federal treasury this year amount to \$162,667,320, placing North Carolina eighth in the list of states, New York leading with over one million dollars. Adding to this enormous sum in Federal taxes paid by the state the tariff and import taxes, which amount to \$2,778,980, North Carolina in taxes \$165,446,300.

Governor Bickett will not call a special session of the North Carolina general assembly as requested by John S. Wannamaker of the American Cotton Association for the purpose of passing a law curtailing the cotton acreage in the state 13-13 per cent next year.

The governor is expected to issue a statement concerning the Wannamaker request later in the week. He does not believe in legislative enactment as a means of raising the price of farm products.

Seaboard Railway machinists and helpers in the road's shop here who were laid off last week are today departing the city for points further north where they go in search of employment.

More than 100 of the railroaders are affected by the order which lays them off without any first hand information, they say, as to the reasons. Shipmen in Virginia are similarly affected which is believed to indicate that the policy of the system is to curtail the repair facilities in the south.

HARDING IS BUSY PLAYING GOLF TODAY

By the Associated Press. Marion, Nov. 2.—While the nation was recording its decision today on his candidacy for president, Senator Harding threw politics from his attention and gave the greater part of his time to a game of golf.

Arranging to cast his ballot early in the day, Senator Harding planned to absent himself from political circles.

Tonight with Mrs. Harding and a circle of relatives and friends he will learn the result of the balloting at his home, where local Republicans have planned a redfire celebration in his honor.

Senator Harding and Mrs Harding reached the precinct voting place shortly after 10 o'clock. They were cheered when they entered the building and several of those who were waiting ahead of them offered to give up their places. The senator, refused, however, and took his place 13th in the line just ahead of Mrs. Harding.

A half dozen spotlights were centered on them and a battery of cameras clicked away as the candidate voted.

LIBERALS CLAIM VICTORY FOR THEIR CANDIDATE

Havana, Cuba, Nov. 1.—No official returns from yesterday's presidential election reached the electoral board at 9:30 o'clock last night.

DEMOCRATS SURE OF A HEAVY MAJORITY

(BY MAX ABERNETHY) Raleigh, Nov. 2.—While no political sagacity is necessary to predict that today the Democratic party in the state will be victorious a review of the campaign from an independent standpoint may show why the Republicans will lose.

Unlike the national campaign in some sections of the country the Democrats in North Carolina have managed to make the league of nations the outstanding issue before the voters. This fact coupled with the well known prejudice of the masses of Tar Heel Democrats against the Republican party which dates back over a period of years to the Russell administration leaves no doubt in the mind of the average North Carolinian that today's election will not uncover anything unusual. The state having gone Democratic for over 29 years it would be foolish to predict a Republican victory today because the facts do not justify it.

Claims made by the Democratic leaders outweigh those from the opposition camp because past political events are decidedly one-sided. Back of the Democratic claims there is a long list of victories, and North Carolina is a part of the "solid south."

Under the leadership of John J. Parker as nominee for governor the Republicans have conducted a radically different campaign and with much better effect than at any time in the state's history. This is admitted by Democrats and Republicans. His declaration when accepting the nomination at the Greensboro convention that he had no desire to revive the race question in North Carolina politics undoubtedly strengthened his party.

There has been, however, no indication at any stage of the campaign that a break was imminent in the Democratic ranks. Mr. Parker's speech making tour has revived interest in the Republican strongholds and has also had the effect of cementing virtually all factions of the millionaires party. But even if he has done this the Republicans still face defeat because Democracy united cannot be interpreted otherwise. There certainly is nothing on the surface to indicate that there is a rift in the Democratic cloud.

Where the Republicans blundered in the state admitting that they had an opportunity of retaining the Democratic majority, was in attacking revaluation after the measure was passed by both houses of the general assembly without a dissenting vote from Republicans or Democrats. It has been known that some of the leading Republicans objected to their candidate making his campaign against revaluation because they favored the law. For a time it was feared that the new taxation system was going to cost the party votes particularly among the farmers. This was early in the year but at the special session of the legislature the objectionable features were eliminated.

This having been done the Republicans found themselves at sea and were forced to change their tactics somewhat, substituting the original opposition charge to "The plan is all right but the law is being administered unwisely." That the act is not perfect is freely admitted but there is not argument enough to convince the voter that the system of listing property at its true value is not a forward step.

With the league of nations held out to them as the only possible means of preventing future wars, the covenant having been accepted by 40 free nations of the earth and only Turkey, Russia and Germany of the big countries on the outside, the women of North Carolina are anxious to go in. Revaluation also appeals to them because they think it is "honest, just and fair." It is not believed that revaluation will lose any woman's vote for the Democrats; it may gain some.

Although the Republicans believe that they will win three western districts, the south and ten in the east, there is only one that has given the Democrats worry. That is the tenth, and they are predicting that for the woman's vote will save it for the Democratic nominee. Democratic strength in the legislature will not be materially changed, the Democrats think and while they admit they may lose some counties they claim victory in others which will not reduce their representation.

ANOTHER TOWN HAS GONE FOR HARDING

By the Associated Press. Boston, Nov. 2.—The town of Mashpee on Cape Cod gave for president 4, Harding 43; for governor, Republican 44; Walsh, Democrat 2.

Four years ago the vote of Mashpee for president was Wilson Democrat, 21, Hughes, Republican, 12.

THIS TOWN FOR HARDING

Boston, Nov. 2.—The town of Norwell in Plymouth county voted as follows for president and governor: For president, Cox 48; Harding, 409; for governor, Cox, Republican, Walsh, Democrat, 30.

LABAMA SECTION IS REPORTED QUIET

By the Associated Press. Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 2.—Pesses stationed in the Ramer community and other parts of the county last night to quell any disturbance of night raiders returned to Montgomery today and reported a state of quiet throughout the area.

COX RETURNS TO DAYTON TO VOTE

By the Associated Press. Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 1.—Governor Cox, the Democratic presidential candidate, was an early voter today, but on arriving at the polls found more than 200 of his neighbors had cast their ballots ahead of him.

Accompanied by Mrs. Cox, the governor reached the polling place at 10 o'clock, but the line of waiting voters delayed the deposit of their ballots to 10:17.

The vote of Mrs. Cox was not her first, she having lived in Illinois and voted at a state election a few years ago.

In the voting booth she showed her knowledge of the old Australian ballot, marking up four different forms composing it and beating her husband by 30 seconds.

This afternoon the governor went to his fathers near Jacksonburg, the place of his birth, planning to return here early in the evening to receive the election returns.

As a parting shot to his campaign, the governor said: "I am confident that the cause for which I have stood during the entire campaign will be victorious today. The campaign has been based entirely on a great moral issue and in all the history of the world where a great moral issue has been presented to the people, it has not failed; it will not fail today."

By the Associated Press. Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 2.—Governor Cox, the Democratic presidential candidate, back from Toledo where he made his last speech of the campaign last night was ready today to cast his vote, as he said, for the league of nations.

His special train arrived here early in the morning, but he was asleep. Soon afterwards he arose and expected to stop on his way home at a crossroads store to cast his ballot. Mrs. Cox also expected to vote with him.

The last words of the Democratic candidate's long campaign uttered last night at Toledo were: "Peace on earth; good will towards men."

These words sung by the angels of Bethlehem 2,000 years ago, would come to true with America's entrance into the league of nations.

After casting his vote the governor planned to go to his farm to remain there until the returns began to come in at his down-town newspaper office.

VOTING IN SOUTH IS UNUSUALLY HEAVY

By the Associated Press. Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 2.—Heavy voting throughout the south with thousands of women casting their first ballot for president was predicted by election officials when the polls opened today. Favorable weather conditions were expected to continue during most of the day, although showers had been forecast for the Atlantic states.

Rain, leaders said, would keep many voters at home, particularly in the rural districts. Democrats predicted large majorities in all southern states.

The Republicans claimed, however they would be able to elect their congressional candidates in half a dozen districts. The election of Col. Alf Taylor, Republican gubernatorial nominee in Tennessee, was forecast by his supporters, who said his majority would be at least 15,000.

VOTE IS COUNTED IN KANSAS TOWN

By the Associated Press. Wichita, Kans., Nov. 2.—The first 258 ballots counted in six of the 29 precincts in Wichita gave: Harding, 168; Cox, 90; Allen, Republican for governor, 132; Davis, Democrat, 108.

VOTERS OF NATION TODAY BALLOTING FOR PRESIDENT

Between Twenty and Thirty Million Voters, Many of Them Newly Enfranchised Women, Deciding Issues of Campaign—Fight for Congress Is Keen Everywhere

DEBS TO RECEIVE RETURNS IN PEN

By the Associated Press. Atlanta, Nov. 2.—Eugene V. Debs, socialist candidate for the presidency now a prisoner in the United States penitentiary here, where he is serving a sentence for violation of sedition laws, will receive news of the voting today through the kindness of Warren S. Zerbst. Although Mr. Debs will not have the benefit of any special wire arrangements, the warden has arranged for wire service to the principal newspapers of the city.

WEATHER FORECAST IS NO DETERRENT

Raleigh, Nov. 2.—Weather predictions of showers apparently had no effect on the early voting in North Carolina today which was reported unusually heavy. A feature of the early voting was the large number of women early at the polls waiting to cast their ballots. The polls opened at 6:38 this morning and will close at 5:18 this afternoon.

Besides the presidential ticket, the entire set of state and county office holders are to be elected.

Reports at noon from various sections, especially from eastern North Carolina, indicated that the vote being cast was heaviest in history and that the women were heavy voters.

It was reported from Wilson that 452 of the 1,038 votes cast there up to noon were by women.

RECORD RETURNS AVAILABLE TONIGHT

On account of the high wind today and the prospects of rain tonight, the Record will not throw its bulletins from the election on the screen in front of its office. The returns will be received, however, and persons who want to get what the Associated Press has may call around to the office, where the returns will be posted and read out.

The Lutz Drug Store will throw the returns on a screen on Fourteenth street and the Hickory Township Republican Club will receive them at the Hub theatre.

The Record will answer telephone calls and give all the information available to those who ask for it.

"THE CITY BEAUTIFUL"

Springfield Republican. Savannah is taking up afresh the "city beautiful" plans which, as in many other places, were interfered with by the war, and means to take advantage of its climate by making all the parks, roadsides and private grounds bloom with roses. Just now it finds difficulty, like a good many other cities, in keeping the streets and public squares neat, the working force at the disposal of the park commission having been reduced nearly a quarter because of enforced economy and the labor shortage.

The civic bureau of the city tonight concludes that the only remedy to be found in a fresh campaign for educating the public. Considerable progress had been made in this direction in many American cities when the great upheaval diverted attention to other things; it is time to begin reminding people that their cooperation is needed in keeping the home town neat and attractive.

To dispose decently of a discarded newspaper or paper wrapping is a small matter which involves no trouble of consequence; if everybody does it the most serious part of the problem is solved. If, on the contrary everybody is careless the public authorities are wholly unable to cope with the endless flood of refuse which soon makes the most attractive spot look unkempt and disreputable. To be thoughtful in such small things is a part both of good manners and of good citizenship.

What the schools can do they should do, but the difficulty is in reaching and impressing careless adults. It is not a thing that can be done once for all; like most homely virtues orderliness and neatness have to be everlastingly inculcated, but most people appreciate them when they are attained and can be persuaded to do their part. Savannah is on the right track.

DEBS TO RECEIVE RETURNS IN PEN

By the Associated Press. New York, Nov. 2.—Men and Women voters of the 48 sovereign states of the nation went to the polls today to select a new president for the four years beginning March 4 next.

Before the lawn of another day has broken the country in all likelihood will know whether Warren G. Harding, Republican or James M. Cox, Democrat, has been elected to succeed Woodrow Wilson, for it is generally agreed, barring a miracle, none of the other five candidates has a chance.

This choice, it is estimated, will be registered by a record vote of between 20,000,000 and 30,000,000 persons, many of them women who have been franchised since the last election for the first time. Second only in interest to the contest for the presidency is the fight between the two major parties for the control of the next congress. Thirty-four United States senators, 32 to fill seats now held by 17 Democrats and 15 Republicans, and two to fill the unexpired terms caused by the deaths of Senators Bankhead, Alabama, and Martin of Virginia, both Democrats, are being chosen, as well as an entire new house of representatives composed of 435 members.

The present senate is composed of 17 Democrats, 48 Republicans and one independent.

The present house consists of 190 Democrats, 232 Republicans, two independents and one prohibitionist. There are also nine vacancies.

Will H. Hays and George White, Republican and Democratic national chairmen, each continued confidence of victory when the polls opened. Mr. Hays reiterated his prediction that the Republican ticket "was certain to obtain 368 electoral votes" and that there was a strong possibility that the total might reach the 400 mark. A total of 266 is necessary to elect.

Mr. White gave out no last minute prediction on the electoral vote, but renewed his expression of confidence of the election of Governor Cox. Each Chairman also claimed the election of congress.

The campaign itself waged principally around the league of nations issue did not come to an end until an early hour this morning. Senator Harding spent election eve quietly at his home in Marion, while Governor Cox wound up his campaign at a big meeting in Toledo last night, while stated and county leaders kept up their quest for votes into the dark hours of the night.

Unsettled weather with the possibility of rain faced the early voters of the eastern states as they trudged to the polls to cast their ballots, while those of the upper Mississippi valley and northern New York prepared for the weather man's prediction of snow. The rest of the country is expected to vote under clear skies.

HEAVY VOTE AT NEWTON

Newton, Nov. 2.—Seventeen hundred voters out of 2,090 had cast their ballots in the Newton precincts at 3 o'clock this afternoon and the Democratic majority was estimated at around 500.

NEGLIGENCE IS CHARGED CAPE FEAR'S SKIPPER

Providence, R. I., Nov. 2.—The United States inspector of steam vessels here has brought charges of negligence, unskillfulness and violation of pilot rules against Captain H. A. Biggin, master of the steamer Cape Fear, which sank in Narragansett Bay Friday night with a loss of 17 lives after colliding with the steamship City of Atlanta, of the Savannah line.

should do, but the difficulty is in reaching and impressing careless adults. It is not a thing that can be done once for all; like most homely virtues orderliness and neatness have to be everlastingly inculcated, but most people appreciate them when they are attained and can be persuaded to do their part. Savannah is on the right track.