

FOUR STATES HOLDING BALANCE POWER, APPEARS; BOTH PARTIES EXPECTING TO CARRY COUNTRY IN NATIONAL ELECTION

New York, Illinois, Ohio and Indiana Big Four Upon Whom Responsibility Rests—A Big Handicap for Wilson But Majestic Quartet Hold More Than 40 Per Cent. Enough Electoral Votes to Elect—Republicans Contend Missouri and Kentucky Debatable Ground—Both Houses of Congress and Hundreds of State Officials to Be Elected—How Will the Women Vote?—Prohibition Issue in Number of States.

(By R. J. Bender)

New York, Nov. 6.—Tomorrow the American voter says who will be the next president of the United States, dictates who will compose the Senate, and chooses the House of Representatives. Viewing the situation today, with claims of a cocksure victory by both parties, it appeared that the people of New York, Illinois, Ohio and Indiana hold the balance of power.

Both sides claim this "Big Four" of states. Their total in the electoral college is 113, nearly 43 per cent of the 263 votes necessary to a choice. The strongest Republican claim does not include Missouri and Kentucky, considered by the Republicans debatable. In the race for the White House, Wilson has a handicap of 136 votes to state. However Hughes has conceded 70 votes in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Iowa.

Democrats Claim Big Majority.

Shadow Lawn, Nov. 6.—The President's official family today predicted his reelection with 237 votes in the electoral college. At no time in the campaign has there been such unrestrained optimism on the part of the official. Win or lose the President returns to Washington for the Winter Saturday, after attending the funeral of his grand-daughter, Baby Savva, at Williamsburg, Mass. tomorrow night. Surrounded by his official family, he will receive the returns by private telegraph. Upon returning to the Capital the President faces the most submarine problems arising from the sinking of the British steamer Marine with the loss of five Americans and the sinking of the American steamer Lamo.

Hughes Keeps Close.

New York, Nov. 6.—Charles Evans Hughes kept his family in the Hotel Astor with his family today. His only political activity was a conference with Charles W. Wilson.

Mid-West Will Be Great Battleground of Ballots.

Chicago, Nov. 6.—The mid-West has been the meeting ground for the campaign today, and the verdict of the Middle West will be made known by a vote of 100,000,000. The campaign managers of both parties are busy checking together of votes on both sides showed the mid-West decided to be in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin—a mid-West bunch of states representing 81 electoral votes.

Women Have Politicians Guessing.

New York, Nov. 6.—Four million women vote tomorrow. And, both sides say very frankly that it's difficult to say just what they will do, inasmuch as the women will be more independent than men. "They will not follow their husbands, brothers or sweethearts," said the Republican national committee woman's branch today. "They'll be independent, but we believe the majority will be for Hughes. They have more hope for their cause in the election of Hughes."

On the other hand, the Democratic woman's section said:

"We feel that the larger portion of the women's vote will go to Wilson. We contend that questions affecting men are equally as vital to women. And, we believe that women will not let the suffrage question enter into consideration. If they do, they will have a better chance with Wilson than with Hughes."

Illinois will poll the largest women's vote, as there are about 800,000 women eligible to ballot there. The States in the suffrage column are Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, California, Oregon, Arizona, Kansas, Illinois, Montana and Nevada.

GERMAN MENACE NO LONGER EXISTS IN FRONT OF FORTRESS

Verdun Sector Cleared of Last Important Units of the Offensive

GAINS FOR FRENCH

Sunday's Fighting—German Counters Successful in One Place—British Three Divisions Out of 2 Positions

New York, Nov. 6.—The German offensive following Sunday's important battle in the Verdun sector has been reported as having been repulsed. The German offensive was repulsed in the Verdun sector, and the French gained ground in several places. The British three divisions were out of two positions.

POLAND IS SET UP AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION BY GERMANS

Polish National Council Declared Independent by Treaty of Versailles

WILSON'S TASK HAS BEEN HARDEST EVER FACED BY PRESIDENT

(By GEORGE CREEL) President Wilson has been the hardest fought in the campaign for the White House. His task has been the hardest ever faced by a President.

COWPER FORECASTS PEACE NOT COMING IN TWO YEARS; WAR BY PEOPLE OF CITY

Republicans Strive Strenuously In Onslow, Claim Duplin Outright

MANY TURNING TO WILSON

Scores of G. O. P. Men Will Support Disciple of Peace In This Country—Pollock Strikes Last Blow Monday

Onslow county has been the scene of the hardest fight in the campaign for the White House. Republicans are striving strenuously in Onslow, claiming Duplin outright. Many are turning to Wilson, and scores of G. O. P. men will support a disciple of peace in this country. Pollock strikes the last blow Monday.

PEACE NOT COMING IN TWO YEARS; WAR MAY LAST LONGER

None of Belligerents Expects Cessation of Hostilities Soon

GERMANY IS DESIROUS

Teutons Believe They Have Come Nearer to Victory Than Enemies Ever Can. Prepared for Long Defensive War

Ray W. Howard, president of the United Press, has obtained from leaders in England, France and Germany their personal views on the chances for peace. Their statements furnish the basis of the following articles. Germany is desirous of peace, but the Teutons believe they have come nearer to victory than enemies ever can. They are prepared for a long defensive war.

\$300 GIVEN SUNDAY BY PEOPLE OF CITY FOR ARMENIAN FUND

Half Hundred Men and Women Made House-House Canvass and Found Liberal Response—Contributions Yet Receive

Approximately three hundred men and women of Kinston who in accord with the proclamation of President Wilson canvassed from house to house throughout the city Sunday afternoon in the interest of the suffering Armenians and Syrian people. In special sermons Sunday morning the various pastors of the city presented the story of the terrible plight of the unfortunate people. Those who have gone to Armenia and Syria to investigate first-hand the conditions that prevail there as the result of the depredations of the brutal, blood-thirsty Turks, have reported that no pen can depict nor words tell the story adequately. The canvassers Sunday afternoon found the people waiting and willing to lend a helping hand to the sufferers. Five hundred was the goal set by the central committee and it is hoped that enough additional will be gotten from a canvass of the business section Monday and from those who were away from home or otherwise unprepared Sunday. Mr. Charles M. Jordan was elected treasurer of the fund, and he will be pleased to have contributions that may be sent to him or the banks will act as receiving agents. The Free Press will be glad to transmit any money that may be sent to it. The time is short and the campaign is not to be long drawn out. The money will go forward to New York for its transmission to the afflicted people within the week.

FOUR MINE WORKERS KILLED BY EXPLOSION OF GAS

Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 5.—Four whites and four negroes were killed by a gas explosion in the Bessemer mines, 20 miles from here, today. Two headless bodies have been recovered.

DEATHS FROM DEPARTMENT OF N. S. TRAIN ZEBULON

Salisbury, N. C., Nov. 5.—The train Zebulon, which was wrecked at Salisbury, N. C., on Sunday, Nov. 5, has been identified as the train of the Southern Railway. The train was carrying a large number of passengers and freight. The cause of the wreck is still under investigation.

ELECTION RETURNS AT THE COURTHOUSE TUESDAY NIGHT

Full returns from the elections in National State and County will be received in the Courthouse Tuesday night. A private wire will be run into the building, and as fast as the bulletins are taken by a competent operator they will be announced. The organizations of both parties are sharing in the affair, and the general public is invited to be present. Ladies, especially, will be welcome. Those in charge wish it to be well understood that the occasion will be jointly conducted by Democrats and Republicans.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD AND CITIZENS FIGHT

At Least Five Killed and Two Score Wounded at Everett, Wash., When Ship Bearing Objectionable Union Men Arrived—Town Would Not Tolerate Them

Everett, Wash., Nov. 5.—At least five persons were killed and forty wounded today in a fight at the Everett wharf between 250 members of the Industrial Workers of World, who came here from Seattle on the steamship Verona and a posse of 150 men headed by Sheriff Don McRae. Sheriff McRae is among the seriously wounded.

The number of casualties aboard the Verona is not known. After the shooting in which about 1,000 shots were exchanged, the Verona turned around and started back to Seattle. Many men were seen to fall on the deck of the steamer and others, panicked, jumped overboard. Some were taken from the water, but others disappeared and it is believed they were drowned.

The trouble between the Industrial Workers of the World and the authorities at Everett has been on for several months and was the outgrowth of a strike of shingle weavers here. After several minor outbreaks of violence during the strike, Sheriff McRae organized the citizens' committee and expelled all members of the Industrial Workers of the World from Everett.

WANTS INFORMATION ELECTION RESULTS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

Democratic County Chairman G. V. Cowper urges that the precinct election officials forward the results of Tuesday's elections as early as possible to him in this city. Mr. Cowper wishes to impress the necessity for this upon the pollholders. There is more interest than ever before in the outcome of an election in this county, and the public will be on edge to get the news. The chairman asks that the pollholders make plans to telephone the accounts or forward them by courier as soon as they are completed.

HUNDREDS THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN LOST IN DISASTER AT SEA

London, Nov. 4.—It is feared that 300 perished in a collision of the British steamers Connemara and Retriever in the Irish Sea. Only one survivor has been reported officially.

El Paso, Nov. 4.—Col. Rosario Garcia, Villista leader, and two of his followers were executed at daybreak at Juarez. Before facing the firing squad Garcia in a long speech, declared he was not a Villista, but a Constitutional, and asked that care be taken of his family. One of the bandits shot with him was only 17 years old.