

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

Pennsylvania and Oregon Primaries Intrigue the Political Prophets. Politicians, officeholders, party leaders and newspaper writers have been busy for the past two weeks trying to interpret the results of the primary elections held in Pennsylvania and Oregon.

The returns from Pennsylvania created the greatest interest. Both parties were engaged in bitter fights. In the Republican camp, Judge Arthur H. James, backed by the conservative faction, battled Gifford Pinchot, former Governor, identified as a Progressive. The Democrats staged a struggle between John L. Lewis and Senator Guffey on one side and Governor Earle and State Chairman Lawrence on the other. On the day before the voting, Jim Farley urged the election of one candidate on each side, advocating votes for Governor Earle and Thomas Kennedy, the CIO candidate for Governor.

The Pennsylvania electorate turned out in surprising force, more than sixty per cent of the registered voters going to the polls. The Republican candidates polled approximately 140,000 votes more than the combined total of the Democratic candidates. The Democratic total of about 1,300,000 votes and the Republican total of more than 1,400,000 votes were contrasted with the results in 1936, when President Roosevelt beat Governor Landon by a little more than 600,000 votes, 2,253,000 against 1,690,000.

Taken on its face, the results of the primary indicated that if both parties continue united, the election in November will be close. However, there are factors to be considered. Democrats point out that their total primary vote was more than twice as large as the next highest in Democratic history, in 1934, when 569,744 Democrats went to the polls. The Democrats, moreover, insist that steady increases in Democratic registration in the last few years is evidence that Republicans by the thousands are changing to the Democratic party.

Considerable interest in the Pennsylvania primary was based on the fact that one of the candidates for Governor on the Democratic ticket was an active member of the CIO and the candidate of John L. Lewis. Mr. Kennedy, the Lewis candidate, failed to win the nomination for Governor but he polled sufficient strength to indicate that the CIO organization, at least, can defeat the successful Democratic nominee if the half million CIO members in Pennsylvania turn against the Democratic party. The likelihood of such a step is less probable when one realizes that Judge James, the successful Republican candidate, made Mr. Lewis and his CIO a major issue against Gifford Pinchot, attacking Pinchot as a "New Dealer" and "pro-Lewis" candidate. The CIO strength will not be thrown to Judge James. It might, under some conditions, go to an independent Labor candidate or follow the new tactics of the economic struggle and "sit-down" during the Fall election.

The Pennsylvania vote was hailed by John D. M. Hamilton, chairman of the Republican National Committee, as a definite indication of a Republican victory in November. Alf M. Landon, Republican presidential nominee in 1936, expressed practically the same opinion. Republicans generally seem to take the primary results as proof that a united party can win the state from the Democratic candidates.

That Republicans get encouragement from the prospect of winning control of Pennsylvania, a state that for decades has been a foundation of Republican strength, indicates the havoc which the New Deal has made in political alignment in this country. Whether the election this Fall will show that the Pennsylvanians have swung back to their normal Republican preferences remains to be seen.

Aside from the failure of John L. Lewis and the CIO to demonstrate domination of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania, the primary results carry another reflection. It comforts the Republicans in much the same way that the Florida results encouraged the New Dealers. The Florida primary came after considerable debate as to the President's loss of popularity and prestige and the results bolstered New Deal morale by exhibiting the strength of President Roosevelt. In Pennsylvania, the primary comes after discouraging defeats to the Republicans and gives them hope and courage by strengthening their belief that, after all, it is possible to beat the Democrats.

In the Democratic primary in Oregon, the New Deal is generally credited with a victory. Governor Charles H. Martin, a New Dealer who criticized the Wagner Act and the NLRB, was defeated by Henry L. Hess, a State Senator, who made his fight almost wholly on a New Deal platform. Mr. Hess had the open endorsement of Secretary Ickes, and Governor Martin was the subject of an attack from Senator Norris, or Nabraska. Because the Governor waged his campaign on "law and order" and "anti-labor racketeering" issues, he was assailed by both the

American Federation of Labor and the CIO forces.

House Passes Wage and Hour Bill; Senate and Nation Debate Effects. Last week the House of Representatives, by a vote of 314 to 97, passed a Wage and Hour Bill, applicable to all interstate industry, calling for a minimum wage of 25 cents an hour the first year and increasing five cents each year until it attains forty cents. The bill also provides for maximum weekly hours, dropping from forty-four the first year, to forty after the second.

Anyone who was in Washington in December of last year and witnessed the feverish excitement on the floor of the House when that body recommitted the original Wage and Hour Bill to the House Labor Committee, will find it somewhat difficult to explain the astonishing reversal. Since the special session, the House Committee, at the insistence of President Roosevelt, held hearings to draft the present measure. The Rules Committee refused to give the new measure right-of-way and the legislation seemed blocked. However, late in April, 218 members signed a discharge petition, giving the bill the right to the floor.

While generally the measure applies to all interstate industries, there are some exceptions. These include the fishing industry, newspapers of less than 3,000 circulation, child movie actors, the processors of perishable food products and those engaged in the packing, canning, etc., of farm commodities if employed in the area of production.

The vote in the House does not end the fight. The Senate, which passed a much different Labor Standards Bill last year, must act on the new bill. It is expected that Southern Senators, opposed to the legislation, will wage a victorious battle against it unless there is a digifferential allowance for the South.

Organized labor, through the A. F. of L. and the CIO, backed the bill in the House. The measure also drew strong sectional support from industrial areas, where it is believed that the pending legislation will protect the interests of those areas against the "cheap labor" of the South. It was vigorously opposed by Southerners who contend that it will prevent that section of the nation from taking advantage of a huge supply of labor.

While no one can tell exactly what will happen to the bill in the Senate, the probability is that some sort of legislation will result. This will give the Government again the job it first undertook in 1933 when the NRA blanketed nearly 22,000,000 workers under various codes, regulating wages and hours while enforcement of these provisions gradually weakened, the structure was not discarded entirely until the Supreme Court, in May, 1935, rendered its decision holding the NRA illegal.

The Senate is recorded in support of a study of conditions in various industries, with a provision for compulsory wages as high as forty cents an hour and a maximum work week as low as forty hours. The House bill applies to the entire nation and eventually will mean forty hours' work, at forty cents an hour, or a minimum of \$16 for all workers.

Figures compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, showing the average minimum hourly wages actually paid to common labor in the different regions of this country, reveal that the Pacific States, with fifty-nine cents, have the highest average. The North Central area, with fifty-six cents is second, followed by the Middle Atlantic and Mountain States with fifty-three, the New England States with fifty, the South Atlantic States with forty-one cents, the South Central States, thirty-eight cents, and the East South Central States with thirty-seven cents. These are average figures for unskilled male workers in twenty industries.

The real effect of the bill is seen when one realizes that very few Northern workers enter common labor at less than forty cents an hour, while nearly half of the Southern workers fail to receive that much. In the South, it is reported, one-fifth of the workers take jobs that pay less than twenty-five cents an hour. These figures show why the bill is generally regarded as being aimed at the South rather than the other regions of the United States.

Under the NRA, most of the codes provided lower minimum wages in the South than in the North. The minimum labor standards that the Government requires from companies filling Government contracts recognize this differential. The Senate measure also permitted a lower minimum wage in the South than in the North. Objections, however, are raised by organized labor and many congressmen from the North.

The South, with a labor surplus which is not highly organized and where living standards are inclined to cost less than elsewhere, seeks to maintain an advantage in attracting industry, which it maintains is necessary to balance the present overwhelming agricultural economy. Other sections of the country would like to remove some of that advantage by

legislation. The fight is almost exclusively confined to wages, inasmuch as the average work week differs very little.

Undoubtedly, there is much to be said in favor of the "ceiling" for hours and "floor" for wages in this country. Advocates of the measure claim that where the differentials now exist in fact that they will exist in the future, as labor, better organized in certain areas, makes its demands progressive. Opponents insist that further study should be made of the effect of wage and hour legislation in specific industries before such a measure is put into effect. Moreover, the contention is advanced that with so many unemployed, the passage of a strict wage and hour law will result in the discharge of less efficient workers who will have to give way to those equipped to render more efficient service.

Regardless of conflicting views, the prospects are that, before long, the nation will have a wage and hour law. The chances are that it will not do as much harm as its opponents think, and, on the contrary, not as much good as its proponents claim. At any rate, the nation can at least observe the operation of the law and pass final judgment upon it.

CUMBERLAND

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Morgan, of Red Springs, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Morgan.

Mrs. E. U. Morgan and son, Ernest Elliott, spent the week-end in Raleigh with Miss Carmen Morgan.

Miss Esther Perry spent Sunday with Miss Celeste Godwin.

The Rev. J. H. Miller, Mrs. Miller and their children, of Hookerton, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Miller.

Mrs. J. W. Brabble and son, Norman Lee, from near Williamston, have returned to their home, after spending several days with Mrs. C. L. Godwin.

Those attending the county meeting in Hertford last Thursday were: Mrs. David Miller, Mrs. Ernest Stallings, Mrs. T. E. Morgan, Mrs. Ernest Stallings, Mrs. George Roach, Mrs. Effie Miller, Mrs. E. C. Hollowell, Misses Eula Mae Morgan and Celeste Godwin.

Mrs. H. D. Hurdle, Miss Ruth Hurdle, and Billy Hurdle visited friends at Parkville on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Davenport, of Elizabeth City, visited Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Godwin on Sunday afternoon.

Sleeping sickness among horses was first recorded in Germany in 1880 and appeared in the United States about 1890.

CHAPANOKE NEWS

Mrs. Tommie Jackson and children, and Mrs. Richard Russell, of Waddell, spent Thursday with Mrs. Wilbur Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Stallings, Mrs. Perry, and Bill Trueblood were in Elizabeth City Saturday evening.

Mrs. Lindsay Russell and baby are progressing satisfactorily.

Mr. and Mrs. John Asbell spent Monday in Norfolk, Va., where they attended the annual outing of the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, of which Mr. Asbell is an employee.

Mrs. John Symons and son, Walter, spent Friday in Elizabeth City, on business.

Mrs. C. L. Jackson is spending sometime in Plymouth with her daughter, Mrs. Raymond Leggett.

A well-trained human eye can recognize about 100,000 different hues and colors.

Gives Setting Date For Sweet Potatoes

Robert Schmidt, associate horticulturist of the State College Experiment Station, says the first week in June is a highly satisfactory time to set sweet potato plants.

If a grower finds it necessary to buy plants, he should insist on certified plants or plants from certified seed, Schmidt declared.

Fertilizer should be applied in the ridge a few days in advance of planting. Experiment Station workers recommend a fertilizer analyzing 3 to 4 per cent nitrogen, 8 per cent phosphoric acid, and 8 per cent potash. This should be applied at the rate of 800 pounds to the acre.

To Clean Gilt Picture Frames To clean gilt picture frames, use the water in which onions have been boiled, as it will restore their brightness.

BELVIDERE NEWS

Dinner guests at the home of Mrs. S. M. Winslow on Sunday were: Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Griffin and daughter, Arline, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Brinkley, Mrs. Maggie Speight, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Winslow and son, Bobby, of Suffolk, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Winslow and son, Leonard, Jr., of Winfall; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Cullipher, of Colerain, and Archie Riddick of Whiteston.

Guests at the home of Mrs. S. M. Winslow on Monday afternoon were: Mrs. Nathan Q. Ward, Mrs. Y. P. Layden, Miss Velma Layden and little Miss Mary Elliott.

OWL ATTACKS JUDGE

Basin, Wyo.—While taking pictures of young owls in a nest to record their growth, Judge Percy Metz was attacked by the mother owl, who struck him on the back, ripped away his clothing and left painful talon marks.

A VOTE FOR Judge C. Everett Thompson



In The June 4th Primary Is a Vote For A Judge Who Has Already Made Good

By study and long experience in civil cases, as well as criminal cases, he has acquired that knowledge of the law which is necessary in the Judgeship.

(This Advertisement Sponsored By Friends of Judge Thompson)

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NEW Zero Control REGULATOR!

More accurate regulation of proper food compartment temperature! New Zero-control dial in new convenient location!

NEW Economy MECHANISM!

Efficient three-dial control built-in Washman mechanism! New easy simplicity and operating efficiency!

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