

PROBLEM OF VOTING IS MOST IMPORTANT

HISTORY THROUGH AGES

President of Northwestern University Outlines Growth of Franchise; Interesting Talk

Following is an extract from the address by Walter Dill Scott, president of Northwestern university, from Radio station WGN, recently, on "Get Out and Vote." Dr. Scott spoke under the auspices of the Illinois League of Women Voters.

"The problem of voting is not now, but it is assuming increasing importance and is being given increasing attention. The qualification of a voter and the method of casting the vote has differed from age to age, and from land to land. In ancient Greece the selection of candidates was determined by lot. All eligible men were regarded as candidates and the casting of lots relieved the citizens of the necessity of deciding among those who were available. This method has much to commend it, but it would be quite impractical in a land such as America.

"In England at one time the franchise was for all practical purposes limited to the lord, or the chief citizen of the district. He selected among the available candidates, whether the position to be filled was a seat in the parliament or an office of lesser dignity.

In India
"In India at the present time the franchise is restricted to those who own land or to those who have, seven years previously or more, been graduated from a standard college or university. It is said that the right of vote is highly prized in India; that those who have the right exercise it, and that the results are satisfactory, at least to those who vote, although, of course, only a very small percentage of the total population thus have the right to suffrage.

New Republics
"Following the World war republics were organized and in their constitutions the right of suffrage was widely extended, and the responsibility for voting was sometimes expressed in forceful language. In Czechoslovakia, for instance, the right to vote is most general,—every person whose name is on the voting list must either vote, be sent to jail for one day, or pay a fine of considerable magnitude. I understand that in Czechoslovakia it is not difficult to get out the voters.

"In America we do not yet need to resort to chance, as did the Greeks. We need no such restrictions as are used in India, or were used in the colonial days in America. We have in this land universal suffrage including all men and women above the age of twenty-one,—and the citizenry is of such high calibre that very few, if any, restrictions are necessary. Furthermore, I do not believe it is necessary that we should follow the example of Czechoslovakia by imposing a fine or imprisonment on those who fail to vote. The people of America need but to realize the importance of voting and they will respond. As far as I can judge at the present time the greatest single factor in educating the voter is the League of Women Voters,—and other organizations of women who have assumed responsibility for educating both men and women on the importance of voting.

Buying of Votes
"A few days ago I was discussing some of the great problems of America with one who is a great leader in one of the groups of our foreign population. He stated that the people of his land had never been trained in their homeland to vote; that in coming to America they had not learned the importance of the ballot, and that a very large percentage of the voters were in the habit of voting on which ever side, or for whatever candidate, would pay them most for their votes. He felt that this practice was detrimental to the welfare of the people of his nation, and he and I both agreed that the welfare of America depended upon the elimination of such practices.

"In buying votes those candidates that have the most selfish interests to serve stand ready to pay most for ballots. If therefore, the better methods and the better policies are to prevail, it is important that all voters should be educated, and should be induced to refuse to sell their votes. In the interest of the better policies, in the interest of the better candidates, all American citizenry should be induced to exercise the right of suffrage.

As an educator I regard the act of voting as an essential step in developing patriotism, and all that goes to make a worthy American citizen. Americanism may be forwarded somewhat by lectures, by telling people of the deeds of our ancestors, by descriptions of the glory of the flag, and by plays and moving pictures descriptive of the sacrifices and the heroism of those who defended our land,—but nothing educational is as effective as participation.

The New Brunswick murder case has become so complicated now that we doubt whether even Sherlock Holmes himself could unravel it.

It is understood France will attach some reservations to its debt settlement and the reservations or probably all we will ever get out of it.

Now the wire manufacturers of Europe are forming a big combination. The wire pullers have already been together several times at Geneva.

GENERAL APATHY ON ELECTION REPORTED

People Little Interested in Trifling Issues and Political Bunk

Both the Republican and Democratic chiefs, at their several headquarters in Washington, New York and Chicago, are frankly admitting they are in a state of worry over the apathy of the voters. It may as well be confessed that no one of them has yet succeeded in working out the magic formula which will bring the voters to the polls. In diagnosing the situation, however, leaders of both political parties have reached one common conclusion, namely, that a considerable part of the apathy among the common and garden voters is because of the confidence which the said common and garden voters have in President Coolidge, his days and ways.

The Democrats, with a rather sour grimace, are admitting that they have been frankly obliged to abandon anything which hinted at an adverse comment on the president. They say they have tried it out in various instances, but the reaction was so strong that they wisely abandoned that course, and began to deliver their wrath and indignation at the managers of the Republican campaigns and at the individual candidates whom they were opposing. They admit privately among themselves a considerable number of Democrats have so fine an admiration for the President, that while pledging their party allegiance for future contests, that they have really determined and decided to remain away from the polls and not even vote for the Democratic candidates in the coming contests.

On the Republican side, confidence in the President has really solidified the activities of the most earnest enthusiasts. In brief, satisfaction with and confidence in President Coolidge

is so general, that the people have relegated the congressional elections to the side lines, and are refusing to become excited over it.

FIFTY MILLION IS HORSEPOWER TOTAL In Productive Capacity of U. S. Electric Operation; Still Is Growing

The 50-millionth horsepower was added to the productive capacity of the United States on September 1 of this year, according to a statement made recently by the National Electric Light association, based upon United States census reports.

Regardless of wars, depressions or "business cycles," prime mover machinery in industries and the power houses of the country has increased with phenomenal regularity since the beginning of the present century, the report shows.

With the arrival of the 50-millionth horsepower mark, there is indicated a prime mechanical force of 425 horsepower for each thousand of population in the United States. This compares with 310 horsepower for Great Britain, and immediately suggests one reason for the present disparity in the prosperity of the two countries.

"While the grand total of power is growing at a regular rate," the report says, "the installation of prime movers in the factories themselves has reached its peak and is now showing a steady decline. Industries—with few exceptions—long ago found it more profitable to secure their energy in the form of electricity from the lines of the light and power companies than to make it for themselves.

The Queen of Roumania, buying gowns in Paris for her American trip, is described as "blonder, bobbed haired and chic." That's the way most of the queens in America look too.



New Zealand, perhaps! Or the Islands of Orkney!

TRYING for DX doesn't always bring the startling thrill of a faint voice—a strain of strange music—an unusual sound—blown out of the ether from some unknown land. But it does happen! And it happens with more and more frequency!

When you sit before your set at night and tune in, you come face to face with a mystery that is as fascinating as any problem that has ever worked upon the minds of men. The field is fresh—new—unexplored! The field is yours!

Some boy awkwardly fumbling with wires and screw-driver tonight may before his life passes send the spark to Mars! There is nothing in the field of radio that can be declared impossible. Nobody knows. It is a new world—a vast world—where the mind can set out exploring alone.

The Chicago Daily News—whose business is to keep pace with the trends of civilization—has devoted a great deal of effort to the development of a

radio department that leads all others in radio news, research and practice.

WMAQ—The Chicago Daily News broadcasting station—is known over the continent. It is one of the most active stations in existence. On Saturday nights, co-ordinating with the Photogravure Section of the paper, it promotes one of the greatest educational efforts of the period—the Radio Photologue—an illustrated lecture over the air. Its concerts delight radio fandom.

If your interest is chiefly technical, you cannot find better information and advice than comes in the Radio Section of The Chicago Daily News. The greatest available experts write for it and staff correspondents supply up-to-the-minute news.

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