

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Perhaps you've heard the rumor that President Roosevelt has been re-elected. Or have you? Anybody who hasn't, must be deaf, dumb, blind or living in Patagonia.

As the late returns come in, (the totals are simply staggering. Of course even yet the figures aren't complete. But they are complete enough to show Mr. Roosevelt, our next President, with an electoral vote of five hundred and thirty-one. Mr. Landon carrying only two states, Maine and Vermont.)

And Mr. Roosevelt was overheard to say today: "I wish I had gone against Jim's advice and campaigned up in Vermont. We'd have carried that too." It is an epoch-making, bewildering result. Few of even the President's most fanatical partisans ever dreamed of such an outcome for this bitterly fought campaign.

(Even Kansas, Governor Landon's state, gives the President a plurality of almost fifty thousand.) Almost everybody took it for granted that the northern New England states were a cinch for the G. O. P. To add to the shock of the general landslide, news

came about noon that New Hampshire was in the Democratic column.

It's impossible so far to say what Mr. Roosevelt's probable plurality will be. As the total stood a few minutes ago, the President had twenty-one million, nine hundred thousand, odd. Governor Landon, thirteen million, seven hundred thousand odd. The estimate now is that the eventual Roosevelt plurality will be not far short of ten million. The total vote for Lemke so far is three hundred and fifty-one thousand, four hundred and some. Though he was backed by Coughlinites, Townsendites and Share-the Wealthers.

Running for president with his left hand, Lemke kept his right hand on his seat in Congress. And since the opposition to him in his Minnesota district was divided, he stand more than a fair chance of holding it.

A week ago nearly everybody said: "Even if the President is re-elected, the Democrats will be weaker in Congress." Today the Democrats are stronger in Congress. The New Deal has a firmer grip on both Senate and House of Representatives.

Naturally the Congressional figures will be the last to come in. Here's what we know so far: (The Democrats have sixty-six sure-fire and undisputed Senators. In nine states where the returns are incomplete Democrats are leading. The Republicans have fourteen Senators and are leading in three contests.) In the last Congress only ~~seventy~~ seventy out of ninety-six Senators were Democrats. So the prospects are that the President may ~~be~~ enter his next term with a Democratic majority of sixty-four to back him up in the Upper Chamber. (As for the House two hundred and sixty-three Democrats have been definitely elected. Fifty-four Republicans are in.) As the ballots are being counted, every minute it looks more and more probable that the New Deal will have an even larger support than the three hundred and twenty-one Democrats in the last Congress.

Probably you've already heard of some of the other upsets, that the Democrats won everything in sight in Delaware, that Pennsylvania is Democratic for the first time since the beginning of the Civil War. And there's a curious feature in the New York returns. When Governor Herbert Lehman announced last

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May he'd not g run again there was consternation among the Democrats. New York was then considered doubtful for Roosevelt. So they said Lehman must run to help his friend. As the returns show it was Roosevelt who swept Lehman in and not the other way around. The New York Governor, though his plurality is nearly six hundred thousand, ran behind the President.

Equally curious is the situation in Massachusetts. ~~and~~ There the President's plurality was more than a hundred and fifty thousand. But young Henry Cabot Lodge, grandson of the great statesman ~~and~~ whose name he bears, won easily from ex-Governor Curley.

Now for some oddities in the election. My colleague, Lew Lehr got some votes. Twenty-three to be precise in a Pennsylvania district. And there's going to be some fun in Mississippi shortly. The Lieutenant Governor of that state bet the Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina that South Carolina would show more Roosevelt votes than Mississippi. The bet was that the loser should ride a donkey all the way from his own home to Washington, D. C. That issue is another one that is still

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in abeyance. The total ~~xx~~ Roosevelt vote from South Carolina is eighty-three thousand, nine hundred and eighty-seven; from Mississippi twenty-one thousand, six hundred and eighty-three. There are still five hundred districts to be heard from in South Carolina but more than fifteen hundred in Mississippi.^{sci}

REACTIONS

How are the Republicans taking it? Their attitude was amply and properly expressed by that sportsmanlike telegram which Governor Landon sent early this morning to President Roosevelt.

Frank Ready, Manager of the Waldorf, told me of one amusing Republican talk he had overheard. ~~Incidentally,~~ ^W many gay parties had been planned in the big New York hotels, parties to celebrate a Republican victory. As the returns came in, they put a ~~sat~~ ^{such} damper on all ~~functions attended by Landonites.~~ But the G.O.P. leader whom Manager Ready overheard remarked: "Well, if Mr. Landon had listened to some of Mr. Roosevelt's speeches, he probably would have voted Democratic himself."

~~It can fairly be assumed that~~ the spirit of the ^{today} Republicans ^{is} reflected in their newspapers. Here's the old PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, for instance, editorializing: "The Inquirer extends its congratulations to Mr. Roosevelt and wishes for him a successful second term in office. ~~The Inquirer also congratulates Governor Alfred N. Landon of Kansas for the courageous campaign which he waged against insurmountable~~

Then there's the famous Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger. "No American statesman ever faced a greater responsibility or held greater power in his own hands than Mr. Roosevelt," declares the Ledger.

And here's the BOSTON HERALD, an old and staunch fighter for the G.O.P., saying:- "We repeat our expression of four years ago: 'The people have spoken with a deafening voice, from coast to coast, and every good citizen will join in the felicitation. The Herald gladly joins in it. We have fought Mr. Roosevelt day after day. If we did not do more, it was because we did not know how. We congratulate him, not in sour disappointment, or with any mental reservations whatsoever, but in genuine good faith and the sincere desire that he will live up to the highest expectations of his friends....He has the country behind him. May he lead it forward.'"

The Republican NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE labels its principal editorial, "A Great Personal Triumph," and says: "This triumph is plainly not for the Democratic Party. No more is it

for any clear set of principles or policies. Rather is it a rising vote of confidence in a man. Mr. Roosevelt deserves the good will of every loyal American in every Constitutional undertaking. For his bravery there can be only admiration, and for his health and success every good wish.

And what does Mr. Hearst say? His New York Evening Journal speaks as follows:- "If Mr. Roosevelt adheres to Constitutional government, if he is a GOOD President, a DEMOCRATIC President, an AMERICAN President, he will have the same support from the Hearst newspapers which he had in the first year ~~of~~ of his Administration, and he can count on the ~~same~~ equally united support of the people of the United States."

Now for a bitter opponent on another front, ~~Father~~ Father Coughlin. "Caesar and Napoleon were toy soldiers compared to the power the people voted to Roosevelt!" today cries the Radio Priest. Then he asked: "Does Roosevelt aspire to be a dictator?"

However, Father Coughlin accepts the decision.

"It would be unintelligent for us to oppose such an ~~mx~~ overwhelming vote," he says, "The American people are entitled to what they ask for. May God bless the President with intelligence and wisdom."

Someone asked him, "What's the future of your ~~Nazis~~ National Union for Social Justice?" The Radio Priest countered with the question: "What's the future of the Republican Party?" Then he continued: "The National Union may be compared to Joe Louis in his recent fight with Max Schmeling. Our aim now is a trip to the showers and a new training camp for our come-back."

What about the Man in the Brown Derby? Is Al Smith as sore as ever this afternoon? No! His comment on the election now is an echo of Governor Landon's. Says Al: "The American people have spoken and the cardinal principle of democracy is the will of the majority. Every citizen, every real American, must put his shoulder to the wheel and stand behind the President."

As for Governor Landon, his only animadversion was: "I am getting ready to go duck hunting." The election takes the Kansas Governor out of politics for the time being. Unlike his rival, Bill Lemke of Minnesota, he made no attempt to hold on to the political job he had while running for a new one. He declined to run for the governorship of Kansas and the presidency simultaneously. And a Democrat is apparently going into the Governor's chair.

As for Jim Farley, he said: "What? How did we miss those other two states? "

FOREIGN OPINIONS

So much for ^{American} ~~our own~~ reactions to the political landslide.

But what do they think about it abroad? Foreign opinion seems to be one chorus of glad notes. London rejoices. The DAILY EXPRESS, with millions of readers, the organ of Lord Beaverbrook, ^{today} ~~published~~ a special edition, an edition of congratulation. The text of its "leading article," as the Britishers call an editorial, is:

"Mr. Roosevelt, we think you're grand!"

In the same key are messages from Paris. ^{The} Premier ~~Bismarck~~ was the first of his countrymen to telegraph his congratulations. He ~~wrote~~ to President Roosevelt that he was sure the new lease of life on his administration meant continued collaboration between Uncle Sam, John Bull and France.

And our neighbors to the north ^{seem} ~~are~~ tickled ~~to death~~, judging by the comments of Canadian newspapers. ~~Of course~~ Canada is particularly pleased because the second term for President Roosevelt means that the Trade Treaty between Uncle Sam and the Dominion will go on.

To the south, Mexico is ^{cheering.} ~~positively jubilant~~. As they look at it, President Roosevelt's re-election means Josephus Daniels

will stay in Mexico City as Ambassador four more years.

They like Josephus Daniels, and the left leaning government of

President Cardenas likes ^{F. D. R.} ~~President Roosevelt's~~ ideas.

And, Our election news made page one on every newspaper in Germany. ~~For once the Nazi press printed the news without comment. As a matter of fact,~~ ^{*} The Roosevelt victory was expected and openly anticipated in Hitler's country. But so far, the Fuehrer has neither personally nor through his newspapers expressed any opinion.

There was a weird story in one paper, the organ of the National Labor Front. This was a yarn that there had been a deal between Cardinal Pacelli, the Papal Secretary of State, and President Roosevelt. In return for concessions made to the Roman Catholic Church, Cardinal Pacelli was supposed to have promised to deliver the Catholic vote to the Democrats. There's a fable weirder than any campaign propoganda that issued from either side. *Just can't be true.*

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ADD REACTIONS

One of the telegrams received by the President at Hyde Park came from Representative Hamilton Fish, ~~Jr.~~ ~~He was re-elected in Dutchess County, Mr. Roosevelt's home territory.~~ Once upon a time Ham Fish was one of the leading Red baiters in Congress. His ^{joshing} wire read: "From one Communist to another, congratulations."

On top of that he issued a statement saying: "You can't beat Santa Claus with a Communist bogey man," ~~or by attacks on social security legislation which most Republican members of Congress, including myself, favored.~~

And what do the much talked of "big money interests" think of the election? For the opinion of money, we look to the New York Stock Exchange. That's where money ^{frequently} talks. Stocks went up, especially industrials, with the exception of public utilities. They took a drop.

FENCE

Last night I myself was on a fence, trying to achieve a cautious balance -- not daring boldly to make up my mind about what one could clearly feel -- the landslide. Even in the afternoon the impression of a Roosevelt ^{sweep} was definite. After a late lunch I phoned to where returns were trickling in, and asked the girl on the telephone switchboard how they were going. She replied: "A landslide for Roosevelt." She, simple soul, knew. I didn't.

Just before I went on the air I scanned more returns to pick out several with Landon in the lead -- just to stay on the fence, as one always does that early on election night. But, except in New England,

there weren't any. For the rest of the country those random figures were unanimous. And such unanimity had its overwhelmingly probable meaning, which no commentator was bold enough to state.

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During the whole hot campaign it was a case of steering a middle course, neutral, unbiassed -- trying to avoid reproof and protests of the radio audience. Now it's over, and so is that feeling of dodging brickbats all the time.

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Yet what happened today? What was it that came bouncing off my head? What unfortunate thing did I say last night? Reproof from Canada. Scathing remarks from our neighbors to the north. Not because of anything I said about American election. But because of something about the opening of Parliament by King Edward. It came in the news from London, and I repeated it -- that in the past the royal coach of state was drawn by horses borrowed from a brewery. The most magnificent horses in the world are those mammoth brewery horses.

Then came corrections from ~~ix~~ Canada -- a deluge. The Canadians tell me I am all wrong, all wet. The coach of state

not drawn by brewery horses. And in British imperial affairs

Canadians should know.

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