

ELECTIONS

L.J. - Sunoco. Tues., Sept. 15/36.

London
- 1000

The ways of politics are a good deal like the age-old ways of human life. Two people have an argument, and an umpire decides which is right and which is wrong. Then the two wranglers stage another argument, debating whether the umpire was right or wrong. Today ~~we have no~~ ^{it isn't a} case of an umpire - it's a barometer, [^] that familiar political weather-vane, MAINE.

7 (There's no dispute about the way Maine voted. The Pine Tree is Republican again. And, except in the special case of Governor Brann, the Pine Tree is G.O.P. by old-fashioned pluralities.) Lewis Barrows beat Harold DuBord for the Governorship by nearly forty thousand. And that's a most substantial figure in Maine.

The Democrats are getting small comfort out of the tremendous fight put up by Governor Brann, running for the Senate. He was beaten by Wallace White, Junior, by a mere five thousand votes, while his running mate lost by that heavy bulky forty thousand. But everybody concedes the election day power of Governor Brann's great personal popularity. And moreover, ^{he has been pretty much of} ~~Here~~ [^] an anti-New Dealer Democrat. The Republicans are saying

that he would have won, if it hadn't been for the Presidential Year handicap of the New Deal. And I believe that's true. A year ago Governor Brann and I addressed a Bankers Convention in Maine and on that trip I found he was almost as popular among Republicans as among the members of his own Democratic party. And Governor Brann may demand a recount. (But is Maine really a barometer? That's what the Democrats are asking today.)

The Democrats add:- "Sure, the Maine September election has nearly always been a forecast of the Presidential battle in November. But what of it? It simply means, "they shake a sententious finger, "that Maine nearly always goes Republican and the nation has nearly always gone Republican - so what? Then the Democrats lead us into some higher realms of logic, when they say: - "But -- take the times when a Democratic President has been elected, and then look at the Maine barometer. You'll find it not so accurate." By this they mean to point to Nineteen Twelve and Nineteen Sixteen, when in each case Maine in September went Republican, while in November Woodrow Wilson was elected.

The Republicans however, come right back at that and point their finger at Nineteen Thirty-Two, when the Maine barometer went Democratic, and Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected. So they insist it is an accurate barometer adding:- "Now in Nineteen Thirty-Six, the barometer has reversed itself." So say the Republicans. Well, you can form your own conclusions.

The Democrats, in attacking the Maine barometer, erect another barometer. "Never mind about yesterday", they say. "How about today?" As against Maine, they point to Michigan. The Wolverine State hasn't been renowned hitherto as a sign or symbol of the political weather. But it is pointed out that this year a tell-tale primary is being held - today. A Democratic primary and a Republican primary. In it New Deal Chieftains are not looking so much at the Democratic side of it as at the Republican. The specific point is that the Wolverine G. O. P. is choosing a nominee to run for the Senate in November. And one of the Republican aspirants is a New Dealer:- Senator Couzens fighting for re-election against Governor Bruckner, the same outspoken Senator Couzens who is a powerful advocate of President Roosevelt

The question is - will the Michigan Republicans send a New Deal supporter to represent them in the Senate? Or just how much New Deal support will show itself in the Michigan Republican primaries?

Administration supporters are banking on Senator Couzens to win. So they say - "Keep your Maine barometer, and we'll take our Michigan weather-vane."

But getting back to the Maine election yesterday, the vote was a record-breaker. And the same sort of news comes from Michigan tonight. No returns in yet, only word of crowded polling places, the voters flocking to cast their primary ballots, not only in Michigan but in a number of other states also.

These heavy election turn-outs give us one certain prognostication, a barometer that no one will dispute:- They point to the huge interest and hot excitement in this year's national election; they point to a record national vote in November. It's going to be a record-breaker.

HURRICANE

Today the wireless continued to crackle the signals far and wide, signals from the U. S. Weather Bureau, warnings of a tropical tempest, the worst this year. It's roaring up from the South, and already hitting with tremendous fury out at sea lashing the ship lanes. So far it seems to be strictly oceanic. That's the word the United States Hurricane Service has been putting on the ether today.

But amid that orderly stream of wireless messages, there came broken flashes, garbled disjointed signals - the way the wireless code so often comes from a ship in distress. From these it was possible to read -- Norwegian steamer TORWANGEN -- sinking -- five hundred miles North of the Virgin Islands -- disabled, foundering. And it was easy to paint the picture -- a water-logged freighter, wallowing in a boiling sea, caught in the fury of a seventy-five mile an hour wind.

Then the wireless brought hopeful word. The TORWANGEN'S distress signals had been picked up by other ships. These were beating their way through the storm to the rescue. Already

one of these has reached the imperiled TORWANGEN. The rescue craft is likewise a Norwegian -- NORAVIND. The United States Coast Guard Cutter URALAGA reports she is on her way. Likewise the F. J. WOLFE from Panama.

"Steamer saved in the teeth of the hurricane."

That's the word we hope will come yet tonight.

COURT

3
That World Court of knowledge sounds like a cosmic Brain Trust - a Brain Trust not merely for one nation, but for the entire world. The idea emanates from Harvard, which hasn't been having such a good football team of late. But what's football beside a world high court of knowledge, which would be a fountain head of all the wisdom, learning and science on this earth.

Harvard is celebrating its three hundredth birthday. President Conant, who has been thinking seriously about a few shifty ball carriers, was talking with Howard Bleakslee ~~of the Associated Press, who is also~~ Chairman of the National Association of Science Writers' Committee. The Prexy said to Howard: "Next to a fast backfield, we ought to have a world institution to collate all the branches of learning." And then and there they talked up the idea of a court of knowledge that would guide humanity, be an intermediary for an interchange of ideas among the nations, and investigate the problems of the peoples of the world. That's the latest inspiration from Harvard -- and in addition they would like to find a good drop kicker. *like Charlie Baichslay.*

ELSIE DEWOLF

Today's social news from aristocratic London tells of the triumph of a lofty lady of title. In Piccadilly she's Lady Mendel. In New York ~~he~~ she's better known as Elsie DeWolf the interior decorator.

Elsie DeWolf has been decorating for a long time. She's seventh-four. She was the first woman interior decorator in this country, and is credited with being the first to introduce the use of chintz. She also invented the fad of having fake plaster curtains in the corners of rooms. She climaxed all that decorating by marrying an English Lord. Not so long ago Lady Elsie DeWolf Mendel scored a triumph when King Edward commissioned her to direct the embellishment of the new rooms added to his country home at Fort Belvedere. That was a feather in her Ladyship's cap. Today's news gives her not merely a feather, but a whole feather bed. Wear that in your cap. Buckingham Palace, no less, is being renovated and redecorated. And King Edward has commissioned Lady Mendel to do the job. Decorating Buckingham Palace, that's a royal honour. *So, in one way - and another*
~~Even Mrs. Simpson, the King's friend, can hardly boast~~

the Stars and Stripes seem to be waving proudly over in
London, with His Majesty having close American friends and
an American interior decorator.

SPAIN

(Spain tonight seems to be in the throes of its biggest battle - the Battle of Talavera. That's sixty miles southwest of Madrid, with the Rebels driving hard to isolate the capital from the South - and also to relieve their comrades besieged in the Alcazar of Toledo. Today's fighting went in favor of the Rebels.) The Madrid Government admits its troops were driven back six miles, and it is mustering every man for a last, desperate defense. Whether the Rebels in their six miles advance are breaking through is not clear. Tonight the battle remains in doubt.

b In the North, the Rebels, having captured Irun and San Sebastian, are attacking Bilbao. That's fifty miles from San Sebastian. The Fascist Commander there has proclaimed some sort of blockade. Foreign ships are warned that the Rebels are going to bombard the city, and plant mines in the harbor. They are told to leave port at once. I don't know how foreign nations will take this blockade, ~~more or less~~. Maybe it means some more international complications.

Red Barcelona is still threatened by terrorism. There

the Radical authorities have ordered the soldiers and police to shoot to kill whenever they find looters at the work of plunder.

We would expect General Mola, the Fascist Commander-in-Chief, to say hard things about the Reds. But today his harsh words were shot in a different direction entirely - at Ex-King Alfonso of Spain. General Mola denies that the Spanish Insurgents are Royalists fighting to restore Alfonso to his throne. The General declares that no Rebel leader has thought of the possibility. He added scathingly that they wanted no King who did not know how to die like a man - and added that when Alfonso was dethroned in Nineteen Thirty-One he fled from Spain like a woman, because he was afraid to remain in Spain and fight it out. Yet we hear constantly of the Royalist flag flying, especially in the North of Spain. And perhaps the Fascist commander's declaration today against the Ex-King may not go so well with certain elements of the rebellion.

~~Pyramid~~
~~FOLLOW ELECTION~~

discussing the
A bit earlier I was always ticklish
~~But let's get away from this doubtful and disputed~~

But now let's
real of political prophecy, ~~and~~ take up some serious forecasting and predicting. Five hours from now a new day will begin - a day of the most momentous and even portentous significance. Wednesday, September the Sixteenth, Nineteen Thirty-Six, is marked on the calendar as a day of terrific eventfulness. Anything may happen, the world may come to an end, Hitler may join a synagogue, or Rudy Vallee *and Harry Richmond* may get a big *to sing* contract ^A in Grand Opera. Anyway, it will be something great.

So say the Pyramidologists. Who are they? Why they study the pyramids, Egyptian pyramids. Specifically, the Great Pyramid of Cheops ^K. But these scientists don't go in for anything as prosaic as archeology, or history, ceramics, or anthropology. They study the occult significance of the pyramids, the mystical side, the cabalistic *a-brak-uh-dab-ruh* ~~abracadabra~~. They figure out mysterious signs ~~xx~~ and portents. They believe that the ancient Egyptians had hidden sciences which they incorporated in the pyramids in a cryptic way - omens, prophecies.

58 1/2

For years the Pyramidologists have had September Sixteenth ringed with red on the calendar. They've doped this out from measurements of the Pyramid of Cheops:- The dimensions of the gallery that traverses that venerable monument. They take the various measurements of that gallery, return them into mathematical twisters and then tangle it all up with astronomy. They say that each inch is equivalent to a Solar Year, and inches in various directions point to various years. They claim that one set of dimensions prophesied the Birth of Christ. ~~Th~~ And another measurement pointed to tomorrow - as a day of stupendous happenings.

9

Let's look at the events scheduled for tomorrow. The third round of the Amateur Golf Championship will be played on Long Island. Vice-President John N. Garner will make a political speech in New York. The Giants will play Pittsburgh, trying to snatch another game for the Pennant. And everybody will be talking politics.

However, you'd hardly call any of those events
- in a cosmic sense. until tomorrow
stupendous. So we'll have to wait to find out what great

Pyramid -
FOLLOW ELECTION - 3

happenings the Pyramidologists and the Pyramid of Cheops have^K
in store for us. ~~And~~ --

9 1/4 So - SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.