

# COX OR HARDING?

*Each Answers the Question for The New York Times*



By *JAMES M. COX*

**T**HERE has been no time in the history of the United States in which a political party presented more of a non-partisan appeal than does the Democratic Party in 1920. The great issue before the American people does not permit, in honesty, of partisan consideration. There should be no difference of opinion on party lines as to progress in our own country, and peace and progress in the world.

When we were drawn into the great war, there was no consideration of partisanship, of class belief, or of religion. The patriotic demand upon us in support of a common country and a common cause eliminated all prejudice, and when the war came to a successful close, promising as it did democracy in all the countries of the world,—there was no division of opinion in America. This division came only when the Presidential election was in the offing. In my opinion at least, the great issue has been clearly drawn. The election of one man or the other, the choice between one party and the other,—is of little consequence except for the purpose of securing the earliest affirmative action. The position of my chief opponent after several months of indecision and change is now expressed as against the League of Nations, with or without reservations. On this issue there can be no misunderstanding. Because I believe in peace and because I have faith in progress through the League of Nations,—I am making this campaign, and my appeal is to those who believe likewise.

I have been in active public life for nearly fifteen years. In that time as a member of the House of Representatives in Congress, and as Governor of Ohio for three terms, I have advocated those things which come under the general head of progressive legislation and administration. In this brief space and in the time at my disposal, it is impossible to detail those things which I would use to define what progressivism means. In a sentence, to me progressivism means the recognition that Government is of and for humanity rather than of and for things unfeelingly material. I look upon myself as a part of "we, the people," and never upon the people as "they"; and with this view recognize humanity as a thing of flesh and blood and soul and hope. My belief is that the dawn of each new day brings a greater opportunity to the individual and to our country.

As the advocate of progress as against reaction, and as the exponent of peace through the League of Nations as against the possibilities of war without it,—I am standing as a candidate for the Presidency.



By *WARREN G. HARDING*

**Y**OU have asked me to state the reasons of the Republican Party for asking the nation's approval on Election Day; I prefer, with your permission, to state why the American people will give that approval. They will give it because long ago they turned away from an Administration and its proposal to continue its wastes, follies and perversion of constitutional government, by an extreme and undemocratic centralization of authority. The American people are now thoroughly alarmed by a régime of reckless waste, leading business toward chaos, and the American laborer toward unemployment. Unpreparedness for war and for peace has resulted in hideous losses, with the national burden upon the taxpayer. Throughout the campaign no admission has come from the Democratic side of the grotesque errors of distended power misused for nearly eight years. No constructive suggestion for restoring America to firm prosperity or for uniting her people upon a program of going forward has come from the Democratic Party, nor from its representatives. Most of their attention has been spent upon an insolent suggestion that America shall accept without change of form a membership in a particular League of Nations, as to which Americans were not consulted, and which they have long ago rejected. The election

of a Democratic President, provided he kept faith with his program, would mean four more years in which a President and the representatives of the people would each be able to block action upon the part of the other.

The American people, therefore, will turn to the Republican Party because it offers assurance of an end of wasteful, willful and inefficient government, which has menaced our prosperity and the safety of our national institutions. They will turn to it because it offers a plan of peace in industry, a rehabilitation of our agriculture, and because its policies are based upon social justice and a united America. They will turn to it with relief from anxiety and gratitude for a common-sense future and assurance that only under the Republican Party may they expect America to work out her part in an association of nations which shall not wipe out the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, but which shall represent in full our obligations to ourselves and to mankind.