

Harding Scandals, Mooney Case, Red Hysteria, Protective Tariff, Republican Prosperity, Harlan County Horrors, Gastonia Riots, Militaristic Madness, Labor Injunction Evil, Lynching Mania, Unemployment Disgrace? It would be "very unscientific," yet it is safe to say there is a high degree of agreement among the members of the social science societies on these and many other important questions of public policy. As individuals, scientists take their civic responsibilities very lightly; as groups, they refuse to admit that they have any.

This is the Great Betrayal. Scientists are the inspired prophets and logical

leaders of an age whose religion is science. If they continue to manufacture their dangerous toys and allow the quacks, racketeers, corrupt politicians, exploitive industrialists and stupid populace to use them undirected, the end is inevitable and inescapable disaster. Unless scientists in every field develop a high degree of social intelligence, replace their moral apathy with enlightened moral fervor, and take their rightful place as prophets and promoters of the good life, Western culture is doomed to slow decay and final destruction.

And it may not be so slow!

THE POLITICAL DIVERSITY OF ECONOMIC GROUPS

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IN THIS study an attempt has been made to determine the differences in political activity and ways of voting between groups in Alameda County, comparable in number but differing in wealth. No funds were available for measuring differences in wealth on the basis of average rentals, average income or otherwise, but that such differences exist is a matter of common observation. No elaborate investigation is necessary to show that some sections of a city are poorer than others. The general characteristics of the districts selected are as follows:

1. Piedmont. An incorporated town, without industries, occupying one of the best residential districts of the East Bay, with a large percentage of expensive homes. Population, 1930, 9,333.

2. The residential section surrounding the University of California in Berkeley, a typical university community. Population, 1930, 9,476.

3. The residential section surrounding

Mills College in Oakland. A residential section, in which the faculty represent a smaller percentage than in the Berkeley area. Population, 1930, 10,355.

4. A section in West Oakland, one of the older portions of the city, lying between the business section and the waterfront. A fair percentage of Negroes occupy this section. It is a low rent district and semi-industrial. Population, 1930, 10,142.

Of these sections, Piedmont is undoubtedly the wealthiest; the difference between the second and third is not great, although they probably appear in order of wealth; and the fourth district is undoubtedly the poorest.

In Table I these districts are listed in order of wealth, together with their population as of 1930, the average size of census (not natural) family, and the number and percentage of registered voters, as well as actual voters in that year.

From the foregoing it is evident that

the poorer section furnished a relatively small percentage of registered voters. It undoubtedly has a larger percentage of aliens and possibly a larger percentage of minors, although, curiously enough, the average size of its census family is smaller than in the wealthiest district. There are no data available showing the average size of the natural family in these areas. It is probable, however, that in the richer section of Piedmont there is a relatively large number of parents living with grown

The results of the vote on the city manager type of government were selected because that issue is not distinctly local in character. The results in Oakland clearly indicate that the residents of the poorer sections are overwhelmingly opposed to this type of government. Similar results have been reported in other cities where the plan has been proposed. It serves to illustrate the differences in the political philosophies of our economic classes. The writer has no final explana-

TABLE I
POPULATION AND VOTERS IN FOUR DISTRICTS IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

DISTRICT	POPULATION	AVERAGE SIZE OF CENSUS FAMILY	REGISTERED VOTERS	PER CENT	ACTUAL VOTERS	PER CENT
Piedmont.....	9,333	3.83	5,587	59.7	3,386	36.5
University of California.....	9,476	2.84	6,297	66.4	3,384	35.7
Mills College.....	10,355	3.49	5,459	52.7	3,320	32.1
West Oakland.....	10,142	3.77	3,684	36.3	1,833	18.1

TABLE II
VOTE ON CITY MANAGER AMENDMENTS

	FOR	AGAINST
Mills College District.....	60.2	39.8
West Oakland.....	31.4	68.6

sons and daughters, and a much larger percentage of domestic servants. The reasons for the difference in the percentage of registered voters are as yet matters of conjecture. It is also significant that in the poorer section only half of those who registered voted at the general election of that year.

The greatest difference between the districts, however, is to be found in the way in which they voted on certain measures and candidates. Table II gives the percentages for and against the city manager charter amendment cast by the two districts lying in the City of Oakland.

TABLE III
VOTE ON DAYLIGHT SAVINGS MEASURE

	FOR	AGAINST
Piedmont.....	47.8	52.2
University of California.....	53.7	46.3
Mills College.....	43.6	56.4
West Oakland.....	15.6	84.4

tion of this difference of opinion. On the basis of the Oakland campaign, it would appear that the people of lowest income are opposed to the city manager plan because it normally means that the manager will receive a salary which to them seems excessive. Moreover, they are opposed to the selection of any important official otherwise than by popular vote. Psychologists might say that their economic status gives them an inferiority complex for which they seek compensation by feeling important on election day. No

high office must be filled without them. Unfortunately, we have no equipment for measuring the unconscious motives of voters.

In Table III are the percentages of votes cast for and against the state initiative measure providing for "daylight saving," another proposal of nation-wide interest.

Although the daylight saving measure was defeated throughout the state by a wide margin, the figures for the foregoing districts reveal a remarkable difference of opinion between the economic classes. But one must be a fanatical Marxian to see conflicting class interests involved in this proposal. In California the fight for daylight was led by the oil companies that wanted us to drive around in the long evenings, and the fight against it was made by the theater interests that wanted us to spend our evenings indoors. It was in no sense a "class" conflict and the difference in opinion shown above cannot be explained in terms of class interest. The difference can be explained in part, I think, in terms of the fundamental conservatism of the workers, who, in this case, were less willing to accept a change than the "better" classes. Moreover, in this campaign, the really sensible arguments for and against the measure were swamped by the stupid ones. It was said that a favorable vote meant "getting up earlier in the morning" and even that it interfered with the "natural" way in which a beneficent Providence had divided the day and the night. Such arguments would obviously have less effect upon the University of California community than they would

have in West Oakland, and it is probably in terms of difference in intelligence rather than in conflicting economic interests that the votes of these districts can be explained.

In Table IV are given the results of the vote in the Republican primary for the gubernatorial nominee. In this campaign, Young was running as the incumbent, Rolph had for years been Mayor of San Francisco, and Fitts was the Prosecuting Attorney in Los Angeles County. All of these men are still living and it would be inappropriate to attempt to characterize them or their campaigns. Here we can

TABLE IV
VOTE FOR GOVERNOR IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

	YOUNG	ROLPH	FITTS
Piedmont.....	57.8	30.7	11.5
University of California.....	60.4	20.5	19.1
Mills College.....	47.1	36.3	16.6
West Oakland.....	42.7	55.3	12.0

only observe the difference in the way in which these sections voted.

The difference of political opinion revealed above can hardly be explained on the basis of class interest. All three candidates were seeking the Republican nomination and no appeal was made to any particular economic group or class. The fact that the percentage of votes cast for Rolph in West Oakland was nearly three times as large as it was in the neighborhood of the University of California would indicate that our various economic groups have different standards for measuring the personality of candidates, quite apart from any class interest in their programs.