

the popular Roosevelt but a tacit peace was reached with the regular Republicans and both factions ultimately supported Charles Evans Hughes. A former Governor of New York and a Supreme Court Justice at the time of his nomination, Hughes proved to be a creditable candidate in the general election, but it proved difficult to defeat an incumbent leading a unified party. President Wilson and his running mate had been renominated by the Democrats without opposition.

The incumbent President significantly increased his national popular vote over 1912 but the reunified Republican party made the electoral voting the closest in the twentieth century (277-254).⁴³

Wilson increased his popular vote total in Maryland from 1912 by over 26,000 and defeated Hughes 138,359 to 117,347 to capture Maryland's eight electoral votes. The Republican candidate carried only the state's two westernmost counties (Allegany and Garrett) and three of its southern counties (Calvert, Charles and Somerset) demonstrating that Wilson's strength was broad based.

1916 ELECTION SUMMARY

Candidate (Party)	Popular Vote		Electoral Vote	
	Md.	U.S.	Md.	U.S.
Allan L. Benson (S)	2,674	589,924		
J. Frank Hanly (Pr)	2,903	221,030		
Charles E. Hughes (R)	117,347	8,546,789		254
Arthur E. Reimer (L)	756	15,284		
Woodrow Wilson (D)	138,359	9,126,300	8	277

1920

The inability to avoid involvement in the First World War, an unpopular effort at international peace keeping and failing health contributed to President Wilson's fall from power.⁴⁴ Unpledged delegates led the vote-getting in the Democratic primaries and on the first ballot at the San Francisco convention, 24 candidates received votes. It took 44 ballots for the Democrats to settle on Governor James M. Cox of Ohio as its presidential nominee. Gaining the vice presidential nomination by acclamation was Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was then an Assistant Secretary of the Navy. The Democrats endeavored to break from the Wilson administration with new personalities but the burdens of unpopular policy were to prove too heavy to bear.

The Republicans also began their convention with the nomination in doubt. Twenty primaries gave six individuals and unpledged delegations over 100,000 votes. Maryland favored Maj. General Leonard Wood of New Hampshire over Senator Hiram Johnson of California 15,900 to 8,059 in its May 3rd primary election. Eleven candidates received first ballot votes at the Chicago National Convention and, two days and 10