

The Proof of the Pudding –

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– Which will soon be occupying the White House may result in its lip-smacking consumption or convulsive disgorgement. The Democrats, deaf and blind to the real conditions of the country, nominated a candidate who epitomizes all the faults of a dying system. So, hey Democrats, do you get it now? The economy that went through its death throes 2007-2009 is still dead for most Americans. What is termed recovery is merely the movements of a festering corpse. The last person they would want to vote for is a corrupt insider who has made a second home out of deep Wall Street pockets.

As for the shock of having a babbling racist idiot serving as president, we've had our share of idiot presidents -- like a senile Ronald Reagan who detailed his military experience in WW2 Europe when he never spent a minute in Europe during the war. Was it so wonderful having a guy who confused scenes from his movies with reality with his finger on the red button? This is also the guy who declared nuclear war on Russia during a mic check.

As for the racism -- this is a bred-in-the-bone racist nation from its founding to the present day -- from systematic discrimination to legalized murder -- and those in authority who don't acknowledge it and break with the system are its de facto supporters. Trump is the norm in power.

The 2016 electorate totaled 225 million. The vote count was an evenly divided 120 million. That means *none of the above* took the contest with its 105 million non votes. Very likely the participation rate would have been higher had Sanders been the Democratic candidate. He almost certainly would have beaten Trump. That Trump was elected doesn't mean there has been a general move to the right, we could just as well had a Jewish president who calls himself a Socialist and actually says nice things about Cuba. The thinking was: since we are stuck with these two lousy political parties, let's at least have a candidate who hasn't been groomed within the despised system for years in order to win the contest.

As for the danger of having an ignoramus running the country, it's clear that Trump is a populist demagogue. That means he holds few strong positions, unlike Rubio and Cruz who would more likely rule with a distinct reactionary mission in mind. As a showman, Trump will perform on the world stage in such a way as to to win occasional applause. Nonentities cannot manage strong convictions. The only way he could be a Hitler is if he has someone behind him pulling the strings.

It's said that Trump's protectionist attitude would endanger the world economy. There has never been a long economic downturn when nations have not instituted protectionist measures to bolster their economies. Recently that has been the reaction to the availability of cheap Chinese steel. A few days ago the US slapped huge tariffs on many types of Chinese steel.

Immediately after Trump's victory was declared Nobel laureate in Economics Paul Krugman was asked when the markets would recover (at one point an 800 point drop in the Dow was expected). His reply -- "a first-pass answer is never." Actually they never needed a recovery because they boomed for the most part in

the following days -- the Dow set new all-time records on Thursday and Friday. The main cause was Trump's plan for a conventional real economy infrastructure stimulus of the FDR sort; something the Democrats gave up on after a brief effort and instead decided to focus on market stimulus. So here we have a right winger doing what the unions love -- creating more good, high-paying jobs. Speculators believe such a program will lead to inflation and have sold bonds worldwide. The yield for US Treasuries on Friday was a very high 2.152.

The US and the EU have been taking provocative actions against Russia -- staging a coup in Ukraine and moving missiles and armies in positions near the Russian border. It seems like the US is angling toward a nuclear first strike capability. Trump appears to be rather more sensible on the matter by saying he'd like to talk things over with Putin.

As for deporting the undocumented, Trump will have a hard time finding many available since Obama has kicked out five million and the depressed economy has lessened interest in making the hazardous passage over the border. Many bad things that Trump would like to do are not possible because congress and the courts will have to grant approval. Obama used an executive order to allow undocumented young people to remain in the country. That is something Trump may be able to undo.

It only took a day for Trump to change his mind on Obamacare. Now he says he would like to keep the basic structure.

Krugman in today's column says that Trump's intellectual dishonesty will do immense damage to America and the world. By that he must mean that Trump is rather inept at being dishonest, unlike the professionals that Krugman consorts with. Then he has grave concerns about our civil liberties because of Trump's authoritarian streak. What's with this asshole -- hasn't he observed the gutting of our basic civil liberties over the past 20 (mostly Democratic) years? Basically he sets Trump as a red herring for all the evils that have already been committed.

What is most important about the Trump victory is that it represents a serious break in ruling class solidarity. That makes it a propitious time for those seeking basic changes in our crumbling social system to organize, plan, and then shift power from the few to the many.

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