

The Birmingham Eccentric
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"Will the Republican party ever recover from the overwhelming defeat of last year? That is a question which one frequently hears from men and women who are interested in the political future of this country."

"Do you think John L. Lewis will start a third party—a labor party?"
"Will President Roosevelt run for a third term?"
"Will the New Deal continue under the Democratic banner, or will it become separated as the Congressional revolt in the last session indicated?"

In answer to all these questions it can be said without fear of being accused of partisanship, that there is political, economic and social confusion in this country. This confusion is not a good thing. We need mediums through which the people of the country can express themselves. Today they do not have such mediums.

What is to be done about it? The answer is, I believe, that certain fundamental facts and philosophies exist which give strength to the claim that many of the existing political subdivisions give the voter a chance to vote and know what he is voting for.

Let us take the New Deal as an example. The New Deal is NOT typical of the Democratic party. People who voted that ticket in 1932 had no conception of what was coming. There is nothing in the history of the present administration that conforms to the 1932 party platform. We are not saying this to condemn the New Deal—merely stating a fact.

We hold that the Republican party has an indefinite and vacillating program in 1936. No one knew exactly what would happen if Landon had been elected. We doubt if Landon knew. The Republicans did offer an avenue for a protest vote against the New Deal. About 16,000,000 voters did protest. But... there were 27,000,000 voters who approved.

What is to be done about it? We know that there are numerous Democrats who are worried about the experiments and the squandering of the New Deal. We know that a large percentage of the 16,000,000 G. O. P. voters of 1936 are still futilely, in most part, protesting. We know that a new voter factor has come into the political set-up in the person of John L. Lewis and his newly organized C. I. O.

How can these varying American groups find expression for their beliefs and be assured they are voting for what they think they are? It is a conceded fact that conservative southern Democrats and conservative northern Republicans who think alike, will not join in either the Republican or Democratic parties. The southerners, like John Garner, could not vote a Republican ticket. The northerners who might be represented by Senator Vandenberg, would not vote a Democratic ticket.

There are plenty of properties available for the new postoffice, this selection ought to be determined only by the practical needs of the community— which simply means that the new postoffice should go where land is reasonably priced, and where it will be convenient both for the public and the people who work in the local postal service.

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Now that Washington postal authorities have announced a federal appropriation of \$155,000 for the purchase of a site and the building of a new postoffice for Birmingham, the usual scramble to select a site will probably take place. In our opinion, this selection ought to be determined only by the practical needs of the community— which simply means that the new postoffice should go where land is reasonably priced, and where it will be convenient both for the public and the people who work in the local postal service.

Our New Postoffice
Personally, we have no particular choice in the matter. We do, however, wish to record our belief that the use of the center block in the Municipal Center lands, lying between the City Hall and the Baldwin Public Library, is not deserving of much consideration, however nice it may seem from a general observation. That land was purchased for our citizens at a tremendous cost, and ought to be held for the future needs of our own local government.

Men's clothes have hardly changed in a century. The only radical change—though it is a gross exaggeration to define it thus— is the wearing of the 20th Century has been the switch from oversized coats and oversized trousers to undersized coats and oversized trousers, according to Hal G. Vermees in the Rotarian Magazine.

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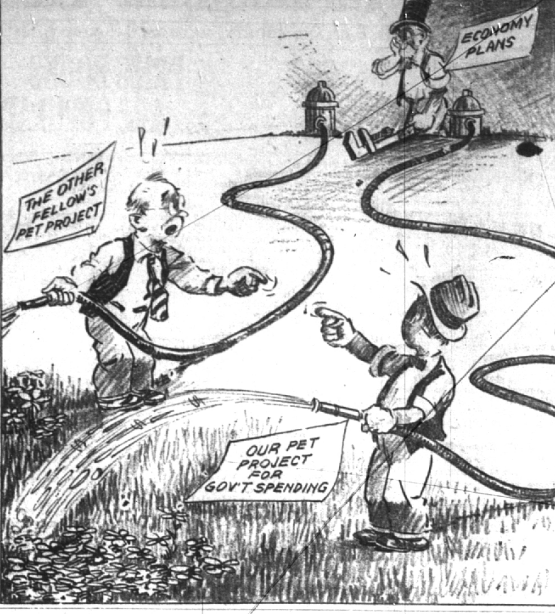
"And away with the double-breasted coat! Away with the stiff-boomed dress-shirts! Away with stiff straw hats, stiff heavy brogues. Let's remove once and for all the stiffness which results in stuffiness."

"With another clip of the shears, let us do away with long trousers; after an hour's wear—unless we stand stiff-kneed and refuse to sit down—they make us look as if we had suddenly succumbed to a severe case of mumps in the lower extremities. I propose that we should wear knickerbockers. To my mind there is nothing more comfortable."

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ONE OR THE OTHER—BUT WHICH?



WASHINGTON LETTER BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Farm Security Act to Complete Work Resettlement Administration Started

WASHINGTON—Resettlement and Agriculture officials here who will be responsible for the administration of the new Farm Security Act, another Farm Security setup confide their fond hope that the bureau's new name will excite less prejudice than the public felt against Rexford Guy Tugwell's ambitious plan for resettling the nation's poverty-stricken millions.

Projects begun by Resettlement Administration, and for which some \$423,000,000 has been allotted, will be completed. At the same time, the machinery of the RA organization will be geared to spend \$10,000,000 to help tenant farmers as provided by the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenancy Act.

IF at the end of the five years the tenant is considered satisfactory he has the privilege of renewing his lease or buying the farm he is operating from the government, under a 40-year purchase plan with interest at 3 per cent.

THE plan followed was to buy farms already in operation and which already had some improvements. In most states where this experiment has been made, the farms were widely scattered to test the feasibility of reducing overhead costs by having RA county agents and rehabilitating agents supervise

the tenancy projects as an adjunct to their regular work. It is not expected that the new Farm Security Administration will require any expansion of personnel either in Washington or in the field.

During the past year many Americans have been reading a book which describes various problems in the act of living that still await solution. It is a cheerful book. It believes a large number of those problems will be solved, and that the solutions are a very easy attempt to please everybody.

There are two divergent viewpoints. Here are the American in approach and method. The second is foreign. It is the attitude of the spirit which conquered our raw frontiers, and conquered them into some of the most fruitful and pleasant homes on earth.

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RANDOM REMARKS

Ernest Wilhelm Bohle, leader of the Germans Living Abroad: German always a German, wherever he remains a German and nothing but a German."

Edward R. Burke, U. S. Senator from Nebraska: "The proposition of Lewis (John L.) is the best thing a candidate can do in the agricultural regions."

August Heckscher, 89-year old capitalist and philanthropist: "I read the poems of great men because of it is trash, even some of Shakespeare."

Smedley Butler, retired Marine officer: "Use force if necessary to keep American soldiers at home and keep the United States free from foreign entanglements."

Frank P. McNeill, chairman, Federal Power commission: "It is both interesting and significant to note that as electric rates have gone down, production and consumption have gone up."

Helen Keller, back from the Orient: "This terrible situation will advance to a disaster, that the coming of permanent peace."

'My Country, 'Tis of Thee'... By T. H. MILLINGTON

Under to those groups that consider the Public Treasury their personal Santa Claus. That part of the recent speech of the Treasurer, Theodore L. Fry, which refers to the regrettable Michigan Labor trouble, is a marvel in itself. It upholds Governor Murphy's rule. But most people believe that, if Governor Murphy had not been so successful in his campaign to drive a wedge between the members and officers of the C. I. O., he would not have been able to do so.

His eloquent picture of what he calls "carriage" and " Cadillac" is his endorsement of the Governor's surrender to the lawfully constituted powers of the State maintain order. His eloquent picture of what he calls "carriage" and " Cadillac" is his endorsement of the Governor's surrender to the lawfully constituted powers of the State maintain order.

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