

THE FRONTIER

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LACKS "T. R." QUALITIES

Portland Oregonian (Ind. Rep.): We shall not know the truth about Roosevelt until he reveals himself by what he does about Mayor Walker, Tammany's gigolo.

We do know from the reaction in the convention and attitude of the states near where he lives that he does not have those qualities of magnetic leadership which distinguished his distant cousin, Theodore Roosevelt. He cannot assume that air or red-blooded virility which made the country forget that Teddy was born to the social purple.

COLD POLITICAL BARGAIN

New York Evening Post (Ind. Rep.): Without seeking to inject bitterness into Governor Roosevelt's hour of triumph, we feel bound to say that both the way in which the nomination was made and the prospect it holds out for the United States must strike dismay into many American hearts.

The nomination was brought by as cold a political bargain as our convention histories have known. Speaker John N. Garner, in control of the ninety votes of California and Texas, was bribed by an offer of the Vice Presidential nomination to hand over to Governor Roosevelt the Presidential nomination.

CAMPAIGN LIKE THAT OF 1896

Kansas City Star (Ind.): Governor Roosevelt owes his nomination chiefly to two considerations—political availability, and the belief in the West and South that he represents opposition to the big interests.

Most of the delegates at the Chicago convention knew very little about their candidate. There was an extraordinary lack of enthusiasm for him personally. Roosevelt was far from being the idol of his convention supporters that Al Smith was.

The set-up for the campaign then is somewhat like that of 1896, when Bryan sought to align the South and West against the East.

VETERANS MISLED

Chicago Post: The veterans gathering in Washington have been misled by demagogical politicians, and in many cases by revolutionary communists, who delight to fish in troubled waters and would be pleased to see riots and other disorders in the National Capitol.

The right to petition Congress is inviolable, but the veterans can sign petitions at home. And they must know that bonus legislation at this time would wreck the financial program of the government and inflict irreparable injury on the nation's business and great hardship on the nation's workers.

AN OPPORTUNIST

Boston Herald (Rep.): The Democrats have chosen a man who, by the admission of friends long associated with him, is deficient in the qualities of leadership and statesmanship and is inferior in character, ability and intellectual impact to such rivals as Smith and Baker and Ritchie. Not since 1896 when William Jennings Bryan orated himself into nomination has the party selected a standard-bearer in whom the country has so little confidence.

The suspicion that Governor Roosevelt is a slippery opportunist who will break the rules of the game when it is to his advantage to do so has been pretty well confirmed by the tactics at Chicago.

QUIT KICKING AND GO TO WORK

Continual howling about reduced earnings of many corporations is doing much to prolong the depression, intimidate the individual and drive money into hiding.

Why shouldn't corporation and private earnings fall below the peaks of two or three years ago? We were then living under abnormal conditions.

When an automobile salesman without any capital could open an expensive show room and sell automobiles as fast as he could get them, we were not living in normal times. When a bond salesman without any practical experience, capital or knowledge of

the intrinsic value of the securities he handled, could open an office equipped with expensive furniture and oriental rugs, and sell securities, bonds, stocks, etc., to a clamoring public, and make money faster than he ever dreamed of, ordinary caution should have warned anybody conditions were not normal. When a real estate operator could take worthless land and sell it at fabulous figures which no normal crop value could justify, it should have been self-evident that there was something wrong. And so on through every line of industrial, agricultural and financial activity.

During ten years of inflation, countless persons came to think that by their own ability and shrewdness they were creating wealth for themselves by speculation when, as a matter of fact, most of them were creating nothing and saving nothing while they lived in a fool's paradise which they thought would last forever.

The majority of persons have more today than they had in pre-war times but they complain about having less because they are making comparisons on a false basis.

This is true of individuals and it is true of companies. Industrial concerns expanded beyond any normal requirements. They have endeavored to maintain operations on an inflated basis which cannot be done because there is no longer any artificial demand to maintain such production.

All over the nation, one-man industries and one-man farms are starting again on a deflated basis. You can drive through the country and see little "shacks" springing up on cheap land and in the far away places. The occupants of these little homes are going to produce their living and gradually make a little surplus. The big farmers who bought high-priced land on the strength of high-priced crops, as well as the industries which built and equipped plants at peak prices and built up peak overheads, are all going to have to readjust themselves to the basis of the man who is starting at the bottom today. The laboring man who enjoyed wartime wages for the past decade is in the same boat.

The same inflation that affected industry and the individual also affected government and taxation, and government is among the last to recognize conditions and reduce its mushroom expansion accordingly. The trouble with government is that its managers (our public officials and public servants) will not reduce their own functions voluntarily. The reduction will have to be forced by a tax-weary people who, after they have adjusted their own personal and business affairs, will turn to their governmental problems which in a large measure they have permitted to expand, by their own indifference, without check during the past decade.

Emphasizing the term "hard times" has become more or less a racket indulged in by a growing army of theorists who would remedy our ills through schemes which try to create employment at public expense, thereby further discouraging industry through exorbitant taxation, thus creating more unemployment. Most of our economic doctors are afraid to state in plain English that we are on a new basis; that products of all kinds will be selling at pre-war prices; that a large part of our unemployed are going to have to make employment for themselves at wages more nearly what they received before the war. Many of the jobs they enjoyed will never return because the conditions that produced

them are gone forever unless we start another world-wide war, which would be a terrific price to pay to stimulate employment.

It may be hard medicine to take but it is reality and the sooner we recognize the conditions and adjust ourselves to them, the sooner will we conquer the depression by merely returning to more normal standards of living.

BACKING AND FILLING

Topeka Capital: More recent events have shaken the confidence, however, in Governor Roosevelt's qualities. Former Governor Smith was the first to charge that his successor had hedged on power control in New York State. Meantime Governor Roosevelt began a course of wobbling which continued even up to the convention. He issued a statement that attacks should not be made on President Hoover. This offended so many Democrats that he quickly reversed himself and made the speech in which he accused the President of being run by big interests to the neglect of "the forgotten man." In the Tammany inquiry he either was silent or broke out in abuse of leading citizens, including Rabbi Wise, who desired corruption exposed and punished. With all the evidence of the misconduct of Mayor Walker in accepting money in huge sums with no pretense of returning value received, unless in political favors, Governor Roosevelt publicly criticized not Walker but Judge Seabury, conducting the inquiry, although no charges against Seabury were made of any character from any quarter.

At last the New York World Telegram and the whole group of Scripps-Howard papers printed a blistering arraignment of the Governor in a featured double-column editorial headed: "The Transformation of Roosevelt." Besides the independent Howard press the New York Times, Evening World, Evening Post, The American and the Herald Tribune joined in declaring loss of faith in the candidate for President. "The saddest thing in American public life," deplored the Evening World, "is the thing politics has done to Franklin Roosevelt." The World-Telegram concluded its review with the remark, "and thus is made clear the reason why those who are closest to him see in Franklin D. Roosevelt not another Teddy, but another trimmer."

He has four months to reinstate himself among these and other former admirers. The campaign will put his qualities of character to a further test. As between Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt the country will render a just verdict in November.

BLAME RESTS ON ADULTS

Education of motorists in traffic safety is still in the little red schoolhouse stage of development, in the opinion of Harold G. Hoffman, Motor Vehicle Commissioner of New Jersey, who believes that adults are largely responsible for the slow progress of safety training.

Although good work has been done in installing safety codes in the young, Commissioner Hoffman comments, "Our efforts in teaching safety to children cannot come to full fruition until we have been successful in bringing to the adult motorist a full sense of responsibility to his own children and others. We must engender, too, a general and wholesale respect for the motor laws designed to promote safety on the highways, and insist upon their equitable enforcement."

Commissioner Hoffman also points out that while younger children have demonstrated an aptitude to assimilate safe practices, the elder ones, now in high school and college have not shown the same tendency.

"Statistics show," he says, "that these youngsters are notoriously unsafe drivers, and for the tragic accident record of youth, I am convinced that our high schools and colleges must accept a large share of responsibility. The high schools prepare these boys and girls for various activities of life; but when it comes to an activity that we are sure most of them will take up, that of driving a car, they do comparatively little."

"Education in the traffic field is universal in its application. Too often we are tempted to confine consideration of it to children, and even to the motor vehicle owner and operator, forgetting that the automobile manufacturer, the motor vehicle administrator, the highway engineer, the legislator, and even the corner traffic cop always must go on acquiring new and more useful knowledge."

IT IS A NEW DEAL

Des Moines Register (Ind. Rep.): The Democrats have avoided the effects of a long, disruptive deadlock.

They have adopted an Eastern nominee and a wet platform, but have shelved the typically Eastern leadership of Smith and Raskob. It is a new deal.

It is going to be Hoover versus Roosevelt. And Roosevelt has been rather effectively tagged . . . as a shifter and an intellectual dodger, . . . too timid to make a last-ditch fight for anything at any time.

IS THIS A STATESMAN?

In the course of an hour-long speech accepting the Democratic nomination for president, Franklin D. Roosevelt brought forward just one plan for the alleviation of unemployment, a plan which he characterized as "a very hopeful and important means of relief, both for the unemployed and for agriculture." The plan proposed convert-

Continued on page 5

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4.50-21	4.38	4.25	1.05	5.00-21	5.72	5.53	1.33
4.75-19	5.14	5.07	1.08	5.25-18	6.16	5.99	1.17
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4.50-21	6.03	5.85	1.18	5.50-19	9.41	9.14	1.81
4.75-19	7.03	6.84	1.35	6.00-18 H.D.	11.82	11.47	1.79
5.00-19	7.38	7.16	1.35	6.50-19 H.D.	13.65	13.24	2.36
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