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The influence of weekly news-
papers on public opinion exceeds
that of all other publications in
the country.—Arthur Brisbane.

POPULATION DATA
(1930 Census)

Salisbury	16,951
Spencer	3,128
E. Spencer	2,098
China Grove	1,258
Landis	1,388
Rockwell	696
Granite Quarry	507
Cleveland	435
Faith	431
Gold Hill	156

(Population Rowan Co. 56,665)

"DON'T" FOR A HAPPY FOURTH

Fourth of July is a safer holiday nowadays than it used to be—but it still results in a great number of deaths and accidents. The strategy is that all those accidents and deaths are preventable. You can have a "safe and sane" Fourth that is also an enjoyable Fourth—if you'll remember the following list of "don't's":

1. Don't forget that the proof of Fourth of July patriotism is home protection.
2. Don't shut your eyes to the great Fourth of July hazards: Fireworks, automobiles, drownings, fires, firearms, falls, poisons.
3. If you must have home fireworks, see that they are the safest procurable.
4. Tell the children why home fireworks are always dangerous.
5. Don't neglect to clear your premises of all rubbish.
6. Don't discharge fireworks near buildings. Get out in the open.
7. Don't let children play with matches. Keep matches out of their reach.
8. Don't let children throw sparklers. They remain hot some time and are dangerous.
9. Don't let children discharge fireworks unattended.
10. Don't let children stand too close to fireworks that are being discharged.
11. Don't let children pick up undischarged fireworks. They might explode.
12. Don't keep fireworks in the home uncovered. Keep in tin box until used.
13. Don't forget, above all, that most Fourth of July accidents can be prevented.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

The Democratic platform, adopted unanimously at Philadelphia, is commended for its brevity and conciseness. There is little side-stepping and as little straddling, and, if platforms mean anything to the voter, the ten minutes spent in reading this one will be worth the time.

The record of the Democratic party covering the past four years is defended and commended in the "self-evident truths" that form a prelude to the party pledges. It enumerates certain inescapable obligations that government in a modern civilization owes to the people, and that these obligations shall not be neglected.

The platform points with pride to party accomplishments in the protection of homelife, in the safeguarding of savings and investments, and the foundations it has built for the security of those who

are faced with the hazards of unemployment and old age.

It defends the power rate yardsticks, and declares that as a result electricity has been made available to the people at a lower rate, and pledges the party to a continuance of the program of rural electrification.

The document declares that "we have taken the farmers off the road to ruin . . . and promises a fair-minded administration of agricultural laws, and will seek to recognize and meet new problems and conditions."

The labor plank is the broadest ever written into a party platform and what is more it is backed by past performance covering collective bargaining and self-organization, free from the interference of employers.

Unemployment is looked upon as a national problem to be dealt with by the national government, rather than through conflicting effort of forty-eight state legislatures.

It promises to maintain the letter and spirit of the constitution, and that if problems cannot be effectively solved by legislation within the constitution, clarifying amendments will be sought to assure the proper power to deal with such problems within the jurisdiction of state and national governments.

It endorses the merit system in government and through the classified civil service, promises to embrace the many continuing positions which, because of emergency have been exempt from its operation.

Again the platform is committed to a reduction in the expenses of government, and says: "Our retrenchment, tax and recovery programs thus reflect our firm determination to achieve a balanced budget and the reduction of the national debt at the earliest possible moment."

Granting that platforms may be variously construed and that they are designed and built with a certain amount of flexibility, this one is sufficiently emphatic that if any ambitious soul unscrews a plank and scampers off with it, same can be used to build a fire under his feet.

THIRD PARTIES

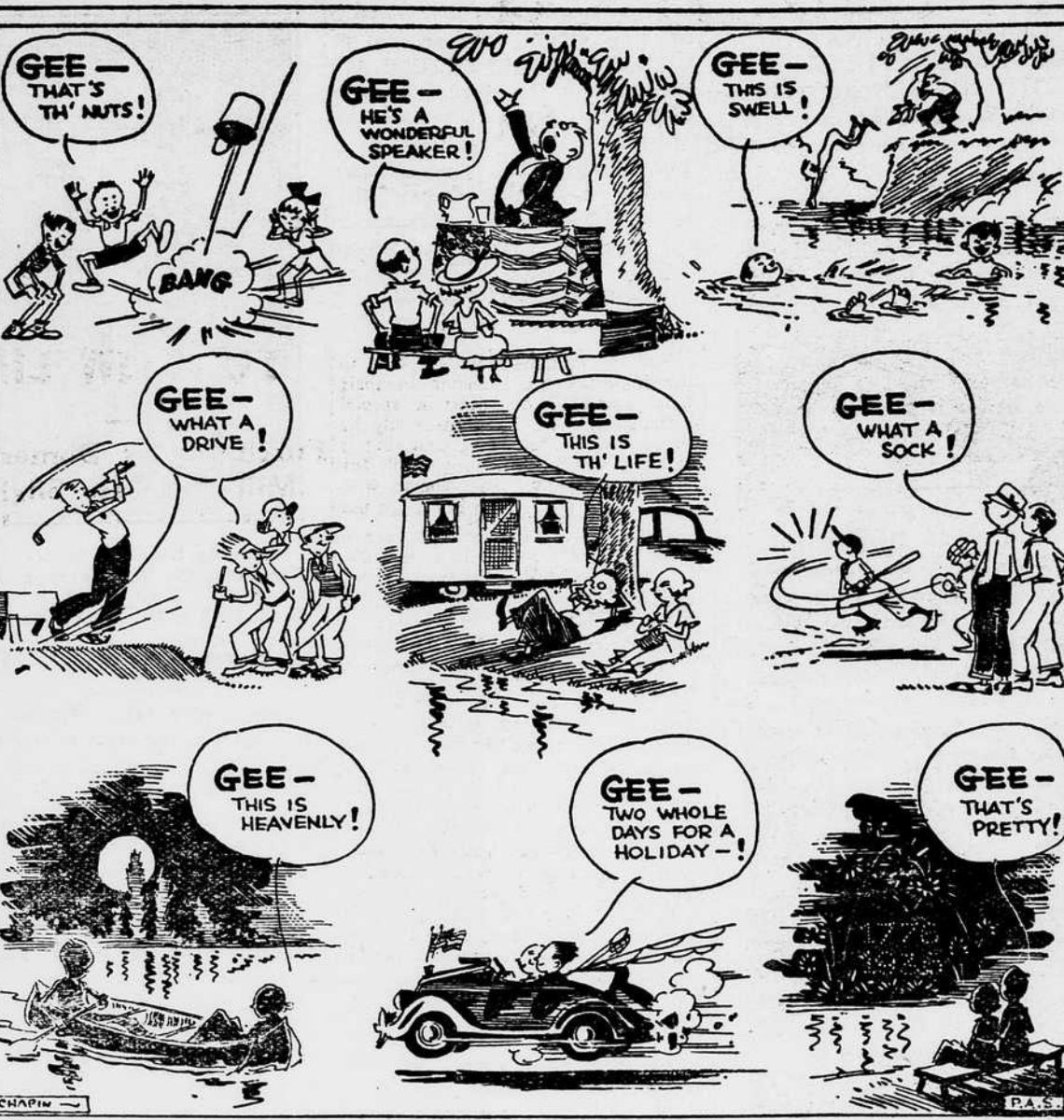
The launching of a "third party" in this year's Presidential campaign was not unexpected by shrewd observers, but nobody saw, a month ago, the combination of elements which have united to form the new Union Party. Back of its Presidential candidate, Representative William Lemke of North Dakota, there are lined up, so far Father Coughlin and his Union for Social Justice and Dr. F. E. Townsend, with his following of devotees of the Old Age Revolving Pension plan. Mr. Lemke himself is spokesman for a large element of farmers and others in the Northwest who hold that the way out of our economic difficulties is by the issuance of more money, regardless of its gold backing.

Not every third party movement has been entitled to be taken as seriously as this one. Whether or not the Union Party will deflect more votes from the Democratic ticket or from the Republican candidates no one now can predict; but that it will get a large vote in many states is hardly to be doubted. It is a new factor in the campaign, and one seriously to be reckoned with by both sides.

Literally, of course, the Union Party is not the "third" party. Officially recognized in every state is the Socialist Party. In nearly all states the Communist Party has long had a place on the official ballot. In several states the Farmer-Labor party is the dominant one. Indeed, the Farmer Labor party, with one Senator and three Representatives in Congress, and the Progressive Party, with a Senator and seven Representatives, might properly be called the "third" and "fourth" parties.

The test of a political party's real strength, however, lies in its

The Gee-lorious Fourth by A. B. Chapin



ability to carry states for its Presidential electors. Only twice since the Civil War has a third party done that. The People's Party, in 1892, won 22 electoral votes, and the Progressive Party of 1912 polled 88 votes for Theodore Roosevelt in the Electoral College. Its name remains, but its influence does not extend far beyond the borders of Wisconsin. The Republicans who flocked to the Bull Moose standard under "Teddy's" leadership are now the nucleus around which the Republican Party itself has been reorganized.

BACK TO THE FARM

More Americans are living on farms today than ever before in the nation's history, according to a report just made public by the United States Bureau of Census. There were 31,800,907 in the farm population of Jan. 1, 1935. That is 1,356,557 more than on April 1, 1930, when the last previous farm census was taken.

This increase in the farm population may seem, at first glance, somewhat difficult to account for in view of the widespread talk about distress and starvation among the farmers of America. But everybody who knows anything about rural America knows that there are two kinds of farmers. One is the speculative, commercial farmer, usually operating on a one-crop basis, whose situation is comparable more to that of a business man than to the typical farmer of tradition. The economic distress among this class of farmers is far from being typical of farmers generally. It affects probably less than a quarter of all American farmers.

The typical American farmer operates the "family type" farm. He has for the most part been neither a claimant for nor a beneficiary of political efforts to "do something for the farmer." With him, farming is a mode of living rather than an effort to enrich himself. And most of the new population on the farms falls into this class.

According to the Director of the Census most of the current increase in farm population consists of families who have moved back from industrial centers to the security and peace of the land. They are "subsistence farmers" in the phrase now current. They are the type of Americans who prefer to dig their own living out of the soil, even at the cost of remoteness from the movies, rather than to go on relief.

Stokes County tobacco growers report a reduction of 20 per cent below the planned acreage this season due to the recent drought.

THE SCRAP BOOK

THERE IS only one place in this TOWN WHERE the little incident OUTLINED HERE could have HAPPENED, BUT even at that WE ARE not mentioning any NAMES. "I want to buy a present FOR MY wife," said a certain WELL-KNOWN man to the MANAGER OF this store. "How LONG HAVE you been married, SIR?" ASKED the manager, "ten YEARS," WAS the reply. "O. K." WAS THE prompt reply of the MANAGER, "THIS way to the BARGAIN BASEMENT, sir." I THANK YOU.

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

(Continued from page 1)
campaign is being borne out. John Hamilton, the new Republican national chairman, is actively taking the field and expects to live mostly in airplanes for the next four months. Col. Knox, vice-presidential candidate, will make more speeches than will Gov. Landon. Mr. Landon, however, after a short vacation, plans also to "take the stump" and speak at several strategically selected times and places. Again, as in 1932, Mr. Roosevelt will himself be the principal speaker for the Democratic ticket. Vice-President Garner is not expected to be heard from. Postmaster General Farley, Democratic national chairman, expresses complete confidence in the practically unanimous reelection of Mr. Roosevelt. One point of agreement here is that as things stand today the outlook is for a very close election. All who make the study of such things their business are also agreed that the presidential contest in the long run comes down to the personalities of the heads of the respective tickets. The men themselves, Roosevelt and Landon, will count for a great deal more with the general run of voters than will the party platforms.

L. A. Zimmerman, Marshall, route 3, is proving that erosion on steep mountain farm land can be controlled by strip cropping and terracing.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

—BY—
FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

"TASHMOO" . . . in race
When the big excursion steamboat "Tashmoo" struck a rock in the Detroit River the other day and sank just as her captain beached her, the news carried my memory back 35 years, to Memorial Day, 1901. That was the day of the great steamboat race on Lake Erie between the "Tashmoo" and the "City of Buffalo."

Both boats had been designed by the same man, Frank Kirby, one of America's greatest naval architects. The "City of Buffalo" was designed for overnight freight and passenger service between Buffalo and Cleveland; the "Tashmoo" for carrying big excursion crowds up the Detroit River to Belle Isle Park. They were the two fastest rafts that had ever navigated the Great Lakes and the question as to which was the faster of the two was so hotly disputed in shipping circles that, finally, permission was obtained from the U.S. Steamboat Inspection to stage a race between them.

Enormous stakes were put up and hundreds of thousands of dollars in side bets. A measured 100-mile course was marked off between Cleveland and Erie, Pennsylvania. The "Tashmoo" went into dry-dock and had her bottom scraped and oiled for the event. The "City of Buffalo" made her regular overnight trip to Cleveland, discharged cargo and passengers, took on coal and turned around without further preparation.

I was on the press boat which went out from Buffalo to see the finish of the race. It was about as exciting a sporting event as I ever witnessed—and about as close. The

"City of Buffalo" beat the "Tashmoo" by less than one minute in 100 miles!

3 1/2 Interest Rate Continuing

Columbia, S. C., July 2.—Julian H. Scarborough, general agent of the Farm Credit Administration of Columbia and president of the Federal Land Bank of Columbia, has been notified by Albert S. Goss, Land Bank Commissioner at Washington, that the action of Congress approved by President Roosevelt on June 23, continues for one year the temporary Federal Land Bank interest which otherwise would have expired on June 30.

The 3 1/2 per cent rate will be effective for all interest payable in the year beginning July 1, 1936 on nearly \$2,000,000 of Federal Land Bank loan made through National Farm Loan associations, according to the message from Mr. Goss. The continuation of the 3 1/2 per cent rate for one year takes the place of the 4 per cent rate that would have prevailed for the coming year and the succeeding year, Mr. Goss said. Under the law as now amended land bank borrowers will resume on July 1, 1937 interest payments at the rates at which their loans were written originally.

GREAT NEW NOVEL
"Box Car," new serial of a girl who was trapped by the fire of flaming love, starts in the July 12 issue of the American Weekly, the big magazine which comes every Sunday with the BALTIMORE AMERICAN. Get your copy from your newsdealer or newsboy.

HOLLYWOOD BEAUTIES
A full page of pictures revealing glamorous Hollywood stars at work and play in featured every week in the BALTIMORE AMERICAN, the big Sunday newspaper. Get your copy from your favorite newsboy or newsdealer.

REGROUPING . . . regions
More and more the idea is talked about regrouping the United States into regions instead of states. It was the main topic discussed at the Institute of Regional Development held recently at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Certainly, most of our economic and social problems are regional. None is nation-wide; few are limited to a single state. If any group of states, such as New England, could agree by treaty among themselves to act as a unit on all matters Congress would have to ratify the treaty. But there are political limits to any regional plan.

No state will give up its right to an equal voice in the Senate, for example. On the other hand, Texas can, whenever it wants to, send 10 Senators to Washington instead of two, for under the terms of its admission to the Union in 1845 it was given the right to divide itself into five states at any future time. I don't expect to see that happen, nor any other material change from the present set-up of states.

FLETCHER . . . canal
For 35 years Senator Duncan U. Fletcher of Florida bent his efforts to the digging of a canal across the Florida peninsula. He lived just long enough to win a victory for his pet project and his beloved state in the Senate; he died before the House of Representatives turned the canal project down.

Duncan Fletcher was a great man and a great statesman. The Florida Canal will eventually be built. It will stand as an enduring monument to Senator Fletcher.

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 - 2 "T" Model Fords ----- 15.00
- McCANLESS MOTOR COMPANY

THRIFT		THRIFT		THRIFT		THRIFT		THRIFT		THRIFT	
Statement June 1, 1936											
ASSETS						LIABILITIES					
North Carolina Bonds	\$	5,000.00	Serial Stock		\$207,351.33						
Stock in Federal Home Loan Bank		3,000.00	Paid-up Stock		281,500.00						
Cash in Bank		13,082.63	Surplus and Undivided Profits		50,456.00						
First Mortgages on Real Estate		491,210.00	Indebtedness		NONE						
Loans on Pass Book Stock		11,108.00									
Real Estate		15,850.00									
Furniture and Fixtures		56.70									
		\$539,307.33			\$539,307.33						

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