

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HUGO S. SIMS
ELECTION PUZZLES.
NO NATIONAL VOICE.
JAPAN SPEAKS OUT.
U. S. FACES PROBLEM.
SPREADING THE BENEFITS.
SUBSIDIES OF THE PAST.

Now that the election is over with, the votes counted and the returns announced, one would ordinarily assume that the people of the United States, through a solemn referendum, have made clean-cut decisions upon public issues. As a matter of fact, such is not the case.

Who, for example, can take the returns of Tuesday's ballots and tell what the people of this country think about the Farm Program, the Public Health issue, the Reorganization of the Government, the foreign policies of this country or the contemplated program of greater preparedness for war?

To ask these questions is to answer them. As a matter of fact, it is impossible to say that the election of so many Republicans means so many votes against any particular measure or that the Democrats hold so many seats is equivalent to that many votes for or against any proposition. Some of the candidates elected under the label of one party are in fact closer to the political division of their opponents than they are to other members of their own party.

The Congress will include Conservative Democrats and Liberal Democrats, Progressive Republicans and Conservative Republicans, and others under party names that mean little or nothing on national issues. Not only will the Conservatives tend to oppose the Liberals, but the views of the members will be colored by the states from which they come. For example, members from agricultural areas will favor liberal legislation for farmers, those who represent industrial and urban centers are apt to support liberal unemployment payments, and those from seaboard states are, in general, more apt to support preparedness plans than others from interior commonwealths.

As stated in this column several times before, the main issue decided by the election is whether President Roosevelt retains the support of a large majority of the members of Congress. It may be that his Republican opponents, aided by the Conservative Democrats, will be able to seriously interfere with his legislative program. This, however, will not be known until the members of Congress cast their votes upon the legislative proposals that emanate from the White House.

The writer cannot comment at this time upon the results in individual states because, to be frank, this article is being written before the results of Tuesday's election are known. Next week, if the election returns trace a definite picture on the political horizon, we will try to sketch its outline.

Diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan will likely become increasingly strained during the next few months. The recent note of the United States protesting against Japanese treatment of American commerce in Manchuria and threatening discrimination against our trade in other areas of China has been followed by plain indications that Japan intends to assert some sort of overlordship over the Far East. Inevitably, the Japanese will attempt to exploit the Asiatic Mainland and to assert its right to preferential treatment in violation of the Open Door policy.

It is easy to see that if the United States insists upon its position in regards to China, which is absolutely in accordance with treaties signed by Japan, and the Japanese continue to pursue their imperialistic designs, a head-on collision is inevitable. Whether the interests of the United States in the Far East are sufficient to warrant a diplomatic stand that will invite a conflict is the only question to be decided by this country. In our opinion, if the United States refuses to yield to what the Japanese consider the new position in the Orient, the chances of hostilities are considerable. Undoubtedly, the Japanese are determined to carry out their Asiatic policy of supremacy regardless of the attitude of foreign nations, including the United States, and nothing will check the Japanese venture except the weight of superior strength in battle.

Many of those who study the relationship between Government and its people have been amazed during the past few years to realize the vast number of citizens now receiving some form of financial assistance from the Government of the United States. The process, strange as it may seem, is not a new function of our Government, although the benefits are being distributed today on a broader scale than ever before.

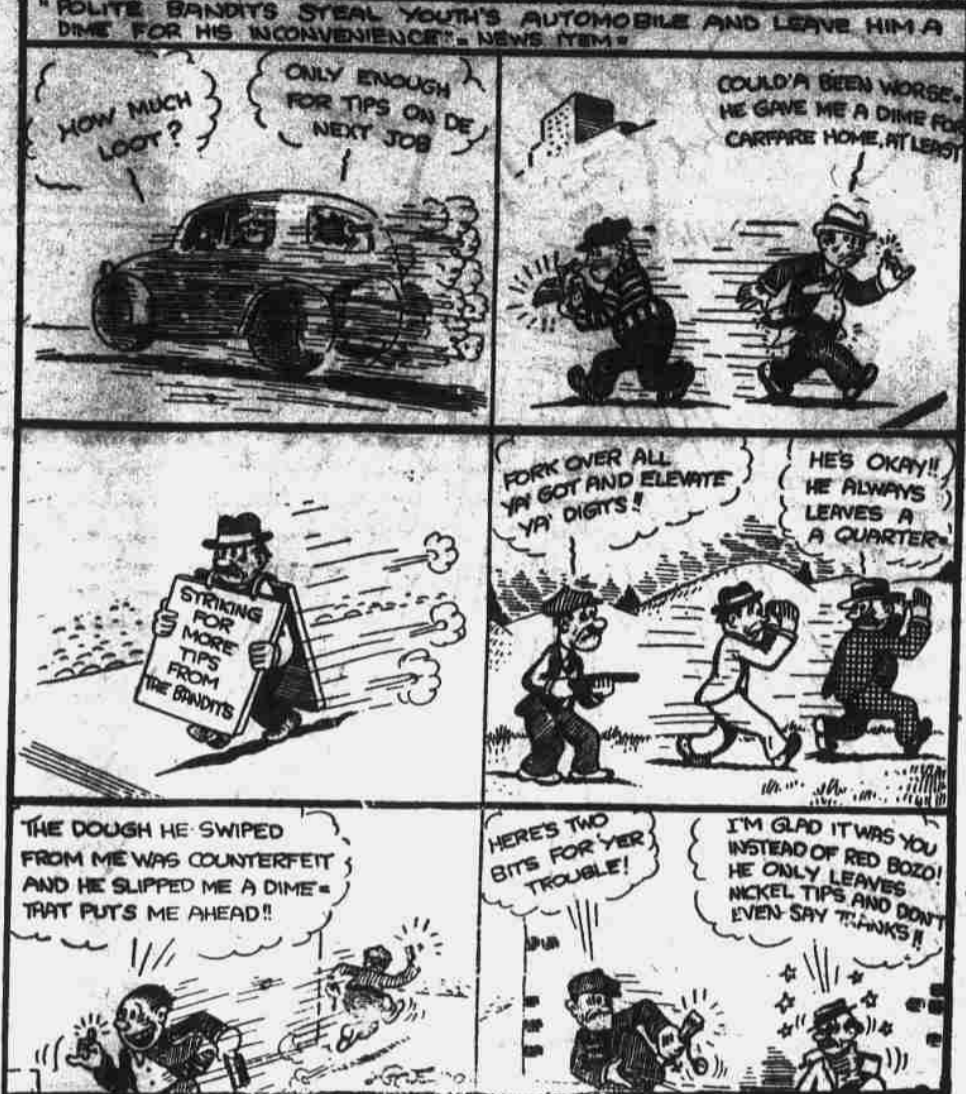
with what has gone on in the past. The favors of the Government have not always been expressed through this distribution of money. For example, tariff legislation has provided a subsidy of uncounted billions of dollars to protected industries, various regulations in the past have taken care of banks, insurance companies and other financial organizations, and there have been numerous policies of Government to the advantage of monopolistic corporations. In addition, legislation in the interest of the railroads, shipbuilders and ship operators, as well as measures designed for the benefit of organized labor have benefitted special classes. There was also the distribution of public land on a scale of bounty and the payment of immense sums to veterans of the wars of this country.

Subsidies for carrying the mails have been divided between railroads, steamships and airplane lines, and many public projects have served the interests of a limited group of citizens. Today, the Government continues much of its legislation and many of its policies which assist the groups and classes referred to in the above paragraphs. In addition, the field of beneficiaries has been widely enlarged to include new payments to veterans, to provide work for the unemployed, to give farmers something of an offset to the tariff for industry, to provide funds for the benefit of the old-age group and to bring many advantages into the reach of the lower-income groups, such as Social Security provisions and the proposed health measures. So far, we have not mentioned the vast army of Government workers, including the young people in the CCC, and those that benefit through the NYA. Nor have we referred to the industries that receive the orders which are necessary in keeping the country prepared for war. In addition, there are other activities that, like the Public Health Service, operate for the common good of all citizens.

Now, it seems, the Government is about to embark on a policy of assisting great industries, such as the railroads, the public utilities and other necessary units, by providing funds for expansion and reorganizations that are deemed vital to the safety of the nation. There is talk of a two-price system to assist the lower third of the population to buy some of the surplus products of agriculture. Where the process will end, no one can guess. Only the future will tell the complete story.

It Wasn't a Haystack
After fifty-seven years a needle swallowed by a Western farm woman has emerged from her foot. Being impatient, she had gone ahead and bought another needle.—Detroit News.

LAUGHS FROM THE DAY'S NEWS!



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN LIFE
International Sunday School Lesson
for November 13, 1938

GOLDEN TEXT: "Thou shalt not kill."—Exodus 20:13. "Who-soever hateth his brother is a murderer."—1 John 3:15.

(Lesson Text: Exodus 20:13; Matthew 5:21-26, 38-42)

The Sixth Commandment is short and simple, "Thou shalt not kill." Many believe that there are exceptions justifying military service and other necessary activities of modern citizens, but these do not appear in the text, and are even more positively denied by the admonition of Christ to love our enemies.

Pick up practically any newspaper these days and you will see that this commandment is wantonly disobeyed in the United States. Even right in our own midst there are instances of

disobedience to this command against the taking of human life by another. In 1934, there were approximately 12,000 homicides recorded in the United States, or approximately 9.5 deaths by physical violence to every 100,000 of our population.

The distressing fact is that this rate is increasing yearly and apparently nothing effective is being done to remedy the situation. Instead of being adequately punished by the courts, it often happens that guilty persons are either acquitted altogether or are given sentences that are out of the crime committed.

Modern fiction and moving pictures, of proportion to the seriousness of in which crime is so minutely depicted and oftentimes attractively portrayed, are lending their aid to the present trend toward cheapening the value of human life. It seems that there are many people in our country who think nothing of hiring men to murder their enemies or to murder them themselves, if by so doing they

can get them out of the way. It is getting to be common to read of racketeers taking their rivals or even their henchmen who "know too much" for "a ride" from which they never return.

But, in thinking of this type of murder, let us not overlook the fact that the man or woman who drives an automobile while he or she is under the influence of whiskey, is a potential murderer and is as guilty of the murder of his or her victims as if he or she wantonly struck them down in cold blood. Disrespect for human life is also to be seen in the criminal negligence in many industrial practices, and unsanitary and dangerous working conditions. Those responsible who knowingly permit unsafe conditions to exist and do nothing to remedy them are guilty of violating this commandment.

Human life was also held cheap by the world into which Jesus came. The condition of the slaves, of women and children, were almost unspeakable. With the coming of Jesus and His teachings, things began to be different. The good news which Jesus brought into the world gave to all men the sense of a new dignity

and a new worth, for Jesus taught the Fatherhood of God and consequently, the universal brotherhood of man.

Jesus, in his teachings, showed that, in order to keep man from killing his brother man, the feelings which engender strife must be removed from his heart. Therefore, instead of hatred, malice, jealousy, revenge, unforgiveness and like feelings, which sooner or later break out into violence, men should be taught to fill their hearts with love so that there would be no room for such sinful feelings.

If Christians generally, in all their dealings with their fellowmen, would practice the teaching of the Golden Rule, as given by Jesus, "Inasmuch as ye would that men should do unto you, do ye also unto them," not only would their individual lives be happier but their community would also be a better place in which to live.

BETHEL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sutton, of Ballahack; Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Bates, of Ocean View, Va.; Misses Mildred Manning and Jeanette Corey and Delmas Rogers and Robert Taylor, of Williamston, visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Ward Sunday.

Miss Thelma Goodwin has returned to her home at Rocky Hock, after spending the past week with her grandmother, Mrs. W. C. Perry.

R. L. Ward, of Edenton, visited W. P. Long on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Raper and daughters, Misses Margaret, Nonie Marie and Mary Lina, of Belvidere, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Perry Sunday.

Miss Lucille Long, of the Winfall school faculty, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Long.

PENDER ROAD NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Bryant and son, Raymond, of Big Indian, N. Y., were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Esyes.

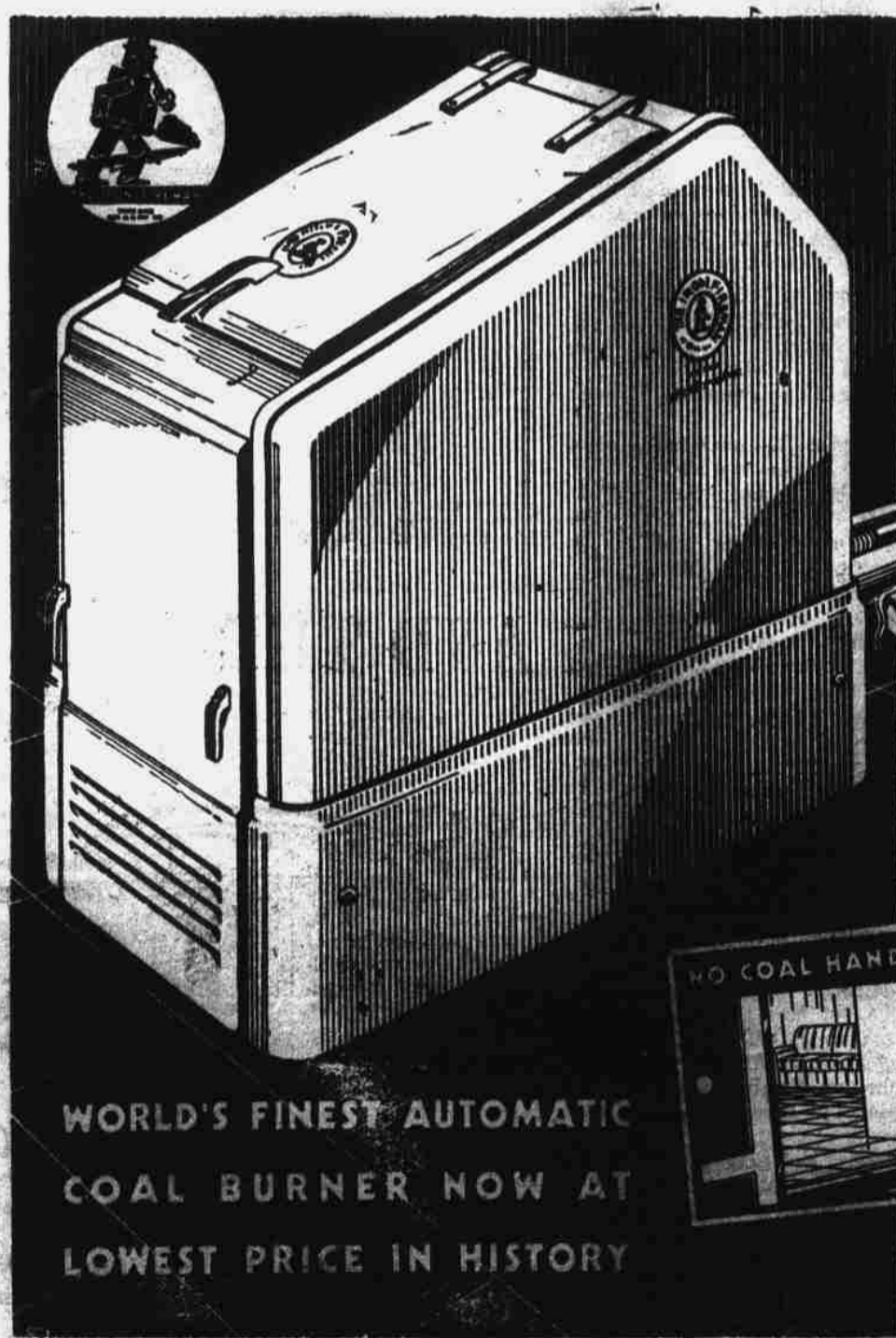
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Clark and Mrs. Lucius Blanchard, of Hertford; Mrs. Sidney Sutton and son, Sidney Tucker, of near Elizabeth City, visited Mrs. Mary J. Wood Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. R. A. Perry and son, J. B., visited Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Perry, near Edenton, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Eaves and children, Onella, John and Ava Ann, of near Norfolk, Va., called to see Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Eaves Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Harrell and children, Juanita and Peggy, of near Norfolk, Va., were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Harrell on Sunday.

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