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PATRIOTIC OBLIGATION.

A New England food marketing publication asserts that "The most significant fact of 1943 in respect to food was that in spite of war created dislocations, more severe and complex than any since the Plymouth Colony went through its first winter, American civilians ate the best food people on earth.

"For this great blessing, it is not unbecoming to suggest that the patriotic obligation on the home front is to look back with a measure of thankfulness, and forward to the new year with courage and continuing belief in the effectiveness of the nation's food producing and food distributing resources, from farm to shipboard."

It has often been said that the purpose of rationing is to afford everyone a fair share of necessities. That is true, but unless the goods are on hand at the time and place called for by ration coupon holders, the entire rationing system is threatened with imminent collapse. So far, the distribution system has succeeded in keeping the foundation under the rationing system. Food, clothing and thousands of other necessities vital to daily living have been on the store shelves when consumers called for them. Merchants throughout the country have helped to make this possible. They have made rationing work. Thanks to them, the public can "look... forward with... belief in the effectiveness of the nation's... distributing resources."

BRITISH FUTURE.

Marshal Jan Smuts, who plays a considerable part in the politics of the Empire, assumes that four great powers now fighting for freedom — the British group, the United States, Russia and China — must hang together. Lord Halifax, British ambassador at Washington, says:

"If, in the future, Britain is to play her part without assuming greater burdens than she can support, she must have with her to peace the same strength that has sustained her in this war. Not Great Britain only, but the British Commonwealth and Empire, must be the fourth power in that group upon which, under Providence, the peace of the world will henceforth depend."

In the company of "new Titans," Halifax modestly says, Britain alone could hardly claim equal partnership. Yet he thinks it likely that western Europe hereafter, as never before, "will look to her for leadership and guidance," because she has been such an "invincible fortress of freedom in the West," meaning western Europe.

In all this little is said about our own country. But there is the clear assumption that while the British nations are being their share in rebuilding a decent world, we Americans will be doing ours.

EDITOR LOOKS AT GUINEA PIG.

Anyone who has followed the political trend in this country and who is even faintly familiar with history, shudders at the piteous acceptance by American labor of the enmeshment of government in personal liberty. A few labor leaders have kidded themselves into the belief that they can do into partnership with the government—with themselves as the senior partners. In their blindness they have led labor to the brink of disaster.

At last a cry of protest comes from the state of Washington, where a labor publication voices alarm over a bill to be submitted to the people at the next general election which would socialize Washington's electric light and power industry. In commenting on the proposal, the editor of the Washington labor paper declares: "We recognize the danger of anti-labor bureaucrats getting control of publicly-owned monopoly and using their entrenched position to fight the unions. That is why we raise the question: Do we want all power and light in this state to be publicly owned?"

It is long past time that labor awake to the danger to the liberty of American workers inherent in the drive to socialize the electric industry. As has been pointed out again and again, if the utility industry should be brought under the ownership of government, other industries would follow as surely as night follows day. And as each industry was subjugated, the freedom of the workers in that industry would be ruthlessly swept aside. This is not opinion. It is historical fact. For a time the authority of government might be wielded with a velvet glove, but when an issue arose, the glove would come off.

Under government ownership, the workers could not bargain with government, for the simple reason that if they were to impose their will on government, they would overthrow the government. In many nations, labor learned this hard truth too late.

The electric industry has been the milken pail of American socialists. It is encouraging to note that some labor leaders are at last questioning the experiment.

DREW PEARSON TALKS OF POLITICS, DALLAS

DALLAS, Feb. 4.—Mild-mannered Drew Pearson, who twice has been called a liar by President Roosevelt, talked here long enough Thursday to discuss: 1. That Mr. Roosevelt will have



SHE SWIMS TOO—Ester Williams, former 100-meter free style and 200-meter medley national champion, who turned movie actress hasn't quite forsaken the water. She has been named queen of "Swim for Health Week."

POLITICAL.

The Cisco Daily Press is authorized to announce the following candidates for the offices under which their names appear, subject to the action of Democratic voters at the primaries to be held Saturday, July 23:

- COUNTY CLERK: R. V. (Big) Galloway (conservative), W. V. (Might) Love.
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4: Arch Bost (conservative).
COUNTY JUDGE: C. H. (Hasty) G'Brien.
DISTRICT CLERK: John White.
ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR: Clyde S. Karslake (re-election).

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the Solid South if he seems a fourth term. 2. That Speaker Sam Rayburn of Bonham stands an excellent chance of being Mr. Roosevelt's running mate. 3. That Wendell Wilkie is the best-liked Republican candidate in the eyes of the south, but that he won't carry southern votes in a GOP convention. Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio, sponsored by Taft, will get them. 4. That Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio will be a dark horse in the Republican convention and may well appear as the choice of a smoke-filled room — when a deadlock between Wilkie and

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York develops — just as Warren Harding was in 1920 at Chicago. 5. That Gen. Douglas MacArthur wants the GOP nomination tentatively. 6. That Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York also wants the nomination but hopes to be drafted without putting out too much effort. Pearson was invited to Detroit for the first of a series of addresses he will make in Texas, discussing his tour of the state with a speech at the Dallas Athletic club Wednesday. In his journey through Louisi-

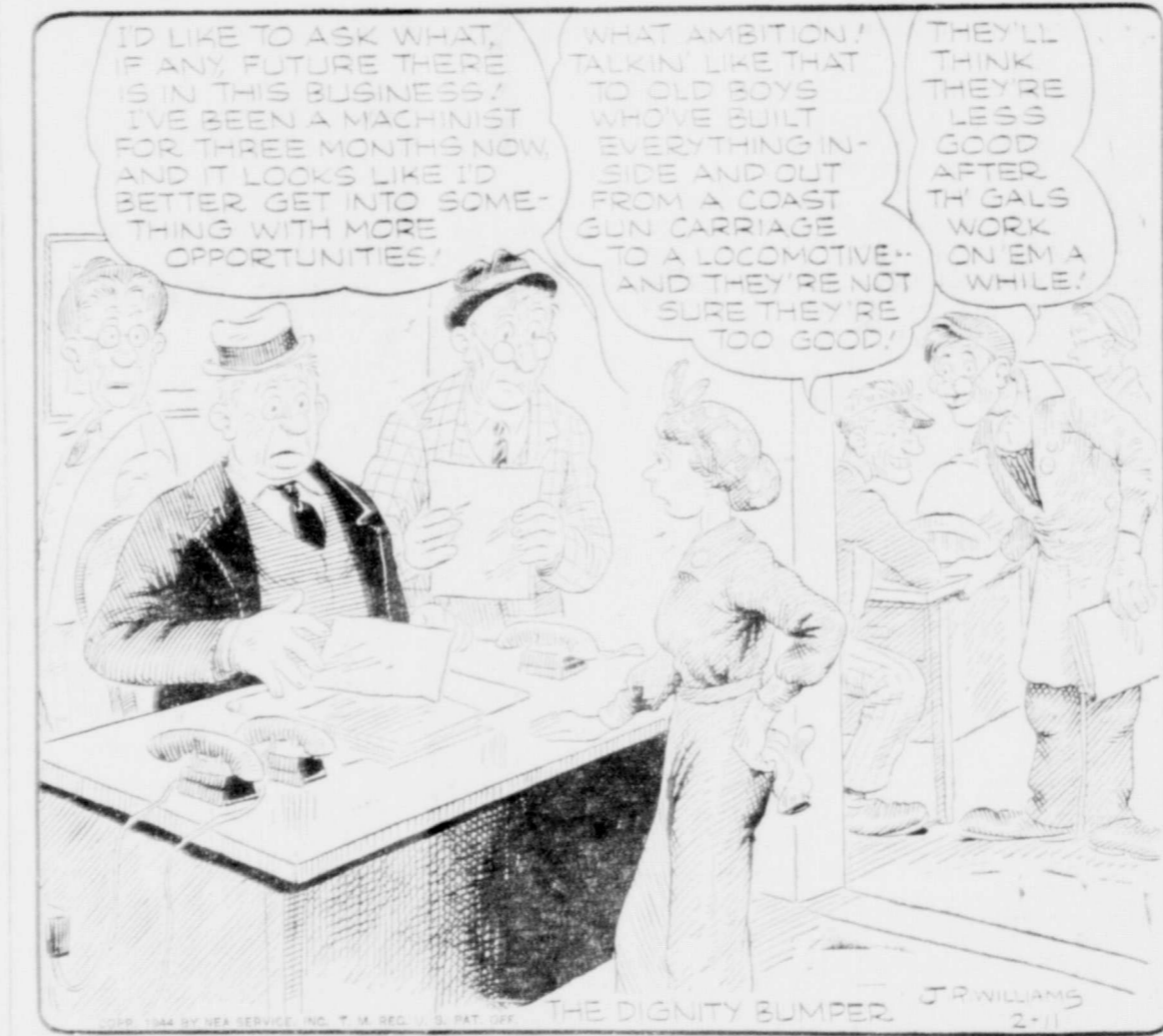
ana and through his early discussions in Texas, Pearson disagrees with former Postmaster Gen. James A. Farley, who thinks Texas may go Republican. He believes, however, that the president will seek to make peace with all factions of the Democratic party before starting a fourth-term campaign. He said a letter has gone from the white house to a group of Democratic conservatives like Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, Bennett C. Clark of Missouri and Farley. In this letter, Pearson said, the president has told the right wing of

the party that he will allow them to name a running mate if he is the fourth-term nominee. "And they are liking the idea," Pearson said. "They seem to figure it would be better to win with Roosevelt than to lose with a Republican."



OUT OUR WAY.

By J. R. Williams.



RED RYDER

Refusal.

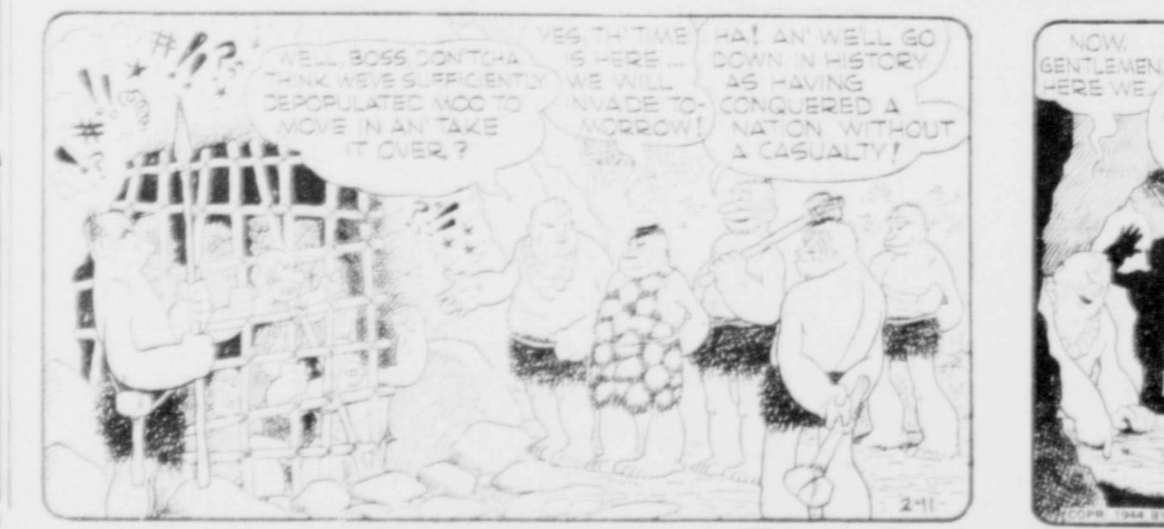
—By FRED HARMAN.



ALLEY OOP

Let's Be Sociable!

—By V. T. HAMLIN



IN THE UNITED STATES, 47,000,000 PEOPLE LIVE ON TWO-THIRDS OF ONE PER CENT OF THE TOTAL LAND AREA, AND 75,000,000 ON THE REMAINING NINETY-NINE AND EIGHT-TENTHS PER CENT. (Color Control Pictures)

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