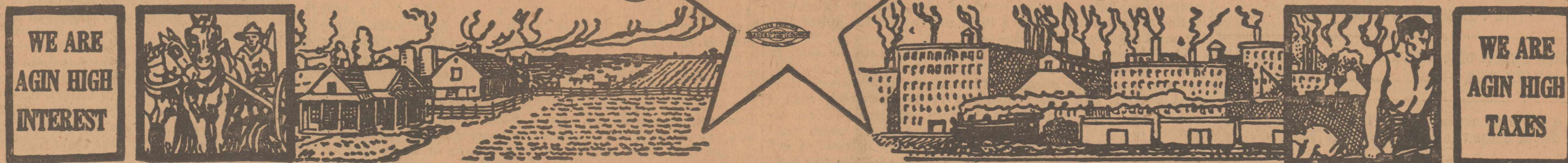


# The Ferguson Forum



## Kaleidoscopic View Of Political Outlook As "It Seems To Me"

(By HEYWOOD BROWN)  
In Houston Press

A few weeks ago I said that Franklin D. Roosevelt could not possibly lose. Now, in my opinion, he is in grave danger of defeat. Indeed, I doubt if he can win on points. In May it was well enough to talk of footwork and a good left jab. But this is July. The political map of America has changed overnight. Now Mr. Roosevelt must make up his mind to get in there and slug.

At the morning session of the Democratic convention Jim Farley made a good speech, and at the end he said in loud and clear tones, "Franklin Delano Roosevelt." There was a fair to middling demonstration. At its top it hit 60 on the sound machine. But the delegates did not go wild, and neither did the galleries. Franklin Delano Roosevelt cannot sit on his record and coast home to victory. People are still asking, "Where do we go from here?" At least that is the way I see it.

And so I am firmly convinced that the third party movement is a very dangerous threat to the Democrats. I think that William Lemke is a sincere Progressive who has allowed himself to be used by some of the most shameless demagogues who ever participated in American politics. I refer to Father Coughlin and I refer to William Randolph Hearst.

Old Man of the Sea  
Several wise political commentators have told me that I have developed a Hearst phobia and that he plays no such important role in the present campaign as I would assign to him. Indeed, I am informed that I am flattering Mr. Hearst, which was not precisely my intention. I am quite ready to admit that at this stage of the proceedings Alf M. Landon would probably like to be quit of the Lord of San Simeon, but Sinbad the Sailor had exactly the same attitude toward the Old Man of the Sea. And he could not rule him out of the picture.

Victims of Ambush  
Partisans of the President have described his position as being a little to the left of the center. If he continues in that approximate middle-of-the-road he will fall easy prey to the ambush which has been laid. Behind an oak a Liberty Leaguer draw a bead and fires. On the other side the redskins yelp

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## 7000 PENSIONS ARE DELAYED IN THIS AREA

Old People Will Wait in Vain for Checks That Postman Fails to Bring Due to "Muddled" Investigation

(In Houston Press)

Seven thousand of the 14,000 applicants for the old-age pension in the Harris County district are going to wait in vain for the postman to turn in at their gates in the next few days with their checks.

C. J. Parchman, district supervisor for the Texas Old-Age Assistance Commission, revealed today that the applications of only about half the 14,000 eligibles in the district have been approved to date.

The situation in the local office is rather "muddled." Mr. Parchman revealed, and there appears to be no immediate solution to the problem of getting action on the 7000 applications not yet approved.

About \$140,000 is due to be distributed, beginning today in the 13 counties of the district, to those residents whose applications have been acted upon, the checks averaging \$30 each. About half of the applicants reside in Harris County.

The first checks were placed in the mails today at Austin, initiating a new era for social security in Texas. The Federal Government is stretching dollar for dollar with the state up to a total pension of \$30. Amount of the check is determined by the applicant's standard of living and needs, as judged by investigation of each case.

Parchman attributes the delay in acting on applications to the unfamiliarity of the investigators with the work when they were employed.

No Bookkeeping  
Mr. Parchman, who said he is "busy as a pup," admitted he didn't know exactly how many investigations have been made.

"I'd rather not give an interview on activities here in the office," he said.

"I don't know how many investigations have been made. I have no machinery in this office for bookkeeping and such things as that," he added.

The supervisor admitted that while 20 investigators have been employed by his office since the law became effective, they have not been making investigations all the time.

Earlier he had said that for the past 45 days the investigators had each been averaging 12 to 15 cases per day.

Reminded that by simple multiplication at that rate approximately 13,500 cases could have been completed in that period, Mr. Parchman said:

"Well, they (the investigators) haven't been making investigations ever since they were employed."

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## THE ISSUE FORMS

By JIM, The Editor

I was greeted most cordially by 5000 voters to hear my speech at Brady last Saturday night in behalf of Senator Sanderford's candidacy for Governor. People were there from a dozen counties or more and I was glad to again meet the boys who formed the old guard in other days.

The issues in the campaign for Governor are now fast taking on form and public thought is fast crystallizing to be expressed at the polls on July 25th. While there will be more or less discussion of other issues, the election will be determined on two issues. They are abolishment of state ad valorem taxes and payment of the old age pension. People who are in business as well as people who own farms and ranches, as well as people who own real estate in towns want to know if there is going to be any relief from the high property taxes that have almost destroyed all real estate values. The tenant farmer has begun to realize that the question of high taxes on farming lands means that rents are to be raised and that on building of houses for their homes will be the result if state ad valorem taxes are not reduced. People in the cities realize that as long as real estate taxes remain high they too can look for higher rents and not net income from the ownership of property.

How to pay the Old Age Pension is about to become the most acute proposition that the people of Texas ever dealt with. It is funny to see how the candidates for Governor are trying to side step the issue. All of them except one are either too ignorant to know how to solve the question or they are too insincere to express an honest opinion. But the people have got the number now of all of the five candidates for Governor and they are fast getting ready to cast their ballot to express their views in no unmistakable terms.

The voters are not going to take Brooks because he is conducting a campaign of noise and not of thought. He simply says he wants to pay the old age pension, but the people have heard that before, and what they want to know now is how are you going to pay it. So pass Mr. Brooks up and let him toot his horn to his own satisfaction.

Candidate Fischer has made some progress on a deceptive platform that at first appeared to the people as plausible, but a discussion of facts has now shown them how fallacious and foolish his plan to pay the old age pension would be. Fischer started out with a big proposition that he was going to reduce the present four cent gasoline tax two cents. As he now comes out and says that he is not going to hurt the highway department, that means then that he will not reduce the gasoline tax now going to the highway department. That leaves him urging the abolishment of the 1 cent gasoline tax that now goes to the schools. The school people all over Texas should take notice of his position. It also leaves him urging the abolishment of one cent of the gasoline tax now used to pay the interest on the bond issues for roads in the different counties. The commissioners courts of each county had better be on guard as to Fischer's proposition if they want their people to be relieved of the burden now paid by the gasoline tax.

Fischer's other plank, and he only has two, is to tax oil 15 cents a barrel and take the money and pay the old age pension. Now let us see where we would land if the people were to elect him on his 15 cent oil tax. He admits that 85 percent of the oil produced in Texas now goes out of Texas and is sold to the people of other states. He thereby puts the old people on a straight gambling chance of whether he could sell Texas oil with a high tax of 15 cents a barrel added to the price. If he couldn't sell his oil with the high tax attached then he would never be able to pay the old people a thin dime. If Texas oil was offered on the world market at the market price plus a tax of 15 cents, any man with a thimble full of brains would know that that kind of oil couldn't be sold. What would happen? The people of other states that now buy 85 percent of our oil would promptly go into Oklahoma, California, Kansas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Venezuela and buy their oil and give us the horse laugh for thinking we could hold them up for 15 cents a barrel. The big companies own large oil fields in these states and before they would pay the tax of 15 cents a barrel, they would shut down business and only produce enough oil in Texas for our consumption which under Fischer's plan would be taxed 15 cents a barrel above the market price and they would add 15 cents a barrel on the present price and gasoline would very promptly go to 30 or 32 cents a gallon. In other words Fischer's proposition is to tax the devil out of the home people on what they consume and drive the purchaser away from us who would buy the rest of our production. I am not concerned about the market or the welfare of the big oil companies because they can take care of themselves, but it is well known that there are 150,000 people in Texas who make a living by their employment by oil companies. If you destroy the oil market for Texas oil, you destroy

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## League Seals Ethiopian Doom as Assembly Votes End To Italian Sanction

### OUTSTANDING SITUATION IN A NUT SHELL

(By HECK)  
In Houston Labor Journal

The question of taxation will enter largely in the gubernatorial race this election. The candidate who presents the mode of taxation appealing to the people will have a great advantage over the other candidates. Therefore, it behooves us to find out.

One candidate, Mr. Sanderford, is for a three per cent sales tax. He claims that not only will this simplify taxation, but that it will enable the state to pay an adequate old age pension and abolish the obnoxious and unjust ad valorem, or property tax. He favors a straight land tax, with no tax on improvements.

The other four candidates advocate a state income tax and a high tax on oil. These four are also prohibitionists, while Mr. Sanderford is anti.

So the lines are drawn clearly. We make our choice and go to the polls and vote. It seems to be one against a field of four, one of whom is the present governor.

Personally, I am not interested in who is to be our next governor, but I am vitally interested in taxation, for, we are all taxpayers—the poor as well as the rich.

Of sales taxes we already have many, though most of them are invisible. The Houston Press recently gave some figures presented by Henry A. Frazier of the California Consumers Association. Says Mr. Frazier: "A baker wraps up 53 taxes with every loaf of bread he sells, or 3 cents on a 9 cent loaf. "Threefourths of the price you pay for the breakfast bacon, or 36 cents out of 48 cents per pound represents hidden taxes. Taxes on eggs represents 61 per cent of the cost. "There are approximately 205 accumulated taxes in the price of (Continued on page 4)

Selassie Refused Loan to Keep Up Fight, Duce Wins. 'Reprimand' in Resolution Does Not Annoy.

GENEVA, July 5.—The League of Nations, rejecting a fiery Ethiopian plea for moral and financial aid to renew "the march against the Italians," today bowed to Premier Mussolini and, in effect, wiped independent Ethiopia off the map.

In a resolution that did not even mention Ethiopia, the assembly voted to end the league's economic offensive against Italy. Sanctions will end next week, probably July 10.

Amid tumultuous scenes that focused the attention of statesmen on Europe's new trouble point — Danzig—the assembly, after hearing an impassioned appeal of Ras Mayden, the Ethiopian spokesman, denied Ethiopia a \$50,000,000 war loan, and closed the "Ethiopian affair" by accepting the severest defeat ever administered the league.

By a vote of 44 to 1, with four powers abstaining and Mexico absent in "disgust," the assembly adopted a draft resolution recommending that its sanctions co-ordinating committee lift the economic and financial penalties imposed on Italy eight months ago in an attempt to save Ethiopia, the league's first effort to halt an armed aggressor.

One Negative Vote  
The committee will meet Monday and probably set July 10 as the day when member nations are to end the punishment of Italy voted last October.

Only conquered Ethiopia voted "no" on the resolution which also sought to prevent disintegration of the league with a reference to the so-called "Stimson doctrine" against recognition of territory won by force. Thus formal recognition was withheld from Premier Mussolini's annexation of Ethiopia, but member states are not prohibited from extending recognition when they deem fit.

Reformation of the tottering league was called for in the resolution.

The league's first attempt to punish and halt an armed aggressor was given its death blow under circumstances which, Italian (Continued on page 3)

## Senator Sanderford Announces Speakings

Week Beginning July 6, Ending July 11

- Ft. Worth, Thurs., July 9, 8:15 p. m.
- Waco, Friday, July 10, 8:15 p. m.
- Farmersville, Sat., July 11, 2:30 p. m.
- Dallas, Saturday, July 11, 8:15 p. m.

Week Beginning July 13, ends July 19

- Brenham, Mon., July 13, 8:15 p. m.
- San Antonio, July 14, 8:15 p. m.
- Gonzales, Wed., July 15, 2:30 p. m.
- Victoria, Wed., July 15, 8:15 p. m.
- Liberty, Thurs., July 16, 2:30 p. m.
- Port Arthur, July 16, 8:15 p. m.
- San Augustine, July 17, 2:30 p. m.
- Kilgore, Fri., July 17, 8:15 p. m.
- Sulphur Springs, July 18, 2:30 p. m.
- Ennis, Saturady, July 18, 8:15 p. m.

Senator Sanderford will discuss at these meetings Old Age Pensions, Sales Tax, Taxation, State Income Tax and Law Enforcement. He especially invites the voting public to come out and hear what he has to say.

## Speaking Dates of Hon. Jas. E. Ferguson

in the interest of the candidacy of Senator Roy Sanderford for Governor

- Lampasas, Thurs., July 9, 8:00 p. m.
- Brownwood, Fri., July 10, 8:00 p. m.
- San Angelo, Sat., July 11, 8:00 p. m.
- Houston, Thursday, July 16, 8 p. m.
- Galveston Friday, July 17, 8 p. m.





