

NEW OUTLOOK

OCTOBER, 1932

page 32

Creed of A Man About to Vote

By Hi. Phillips

I BELIEVE IN THE United States of America, but doubt that there is any such thing as wizard control.

I BELIEVE in representative government but think the people should pay more attention to what their representatives represent.

I BELIEVE in the American party system, week-end, bridge and political, but have a feeling that the character of the two major party conventions has reached a point where somebody should decide whether they are to come under the head of radio entertainment, vaudeville, Minsky burlesque or important business.

I BELIEVE Herbert Hoover has had one of the toughest jobs ever faced by an American President; that compared to it Cal Coolidge's term was a mere episode in button-pressing, Indian headgear inspection and sap bucket demonstration; and that Mr. Hoover's determination to run again can only be explained as due to something he ate.

I BELIEVE John Q. Public's present plight was inevitable, as he had been driving up and down Main Street intoxicated for at least six years and was due to be hauled in for reckless driving anyhow.

I BELIEVE that the slogan "Never change barrels going over Niagara Falls" is pretty good as a general rule, but I have to admit that this year there are so many people traveling in barrels that a change might do them good.

I BELIEVE Herbert Hoover's speeches are easier to understand than Franklin D. Roosevelt's, but that, even so, it is difficult to find two people who agree on what he said.

I BELIEVE a great many people are going to vote for Norman Thomas because his speeches are never printed in detail, and nothing that he ever said in a campaign for the presidency crowded out the baseball scores, the latest Long Island wife murder or tomorrow's selections at Bowie.

I BELIEVE there will be little visible reform no matter who is elected, but I think that if the Democrats should win there will be more of a feeling that a new pitcher is in the box and that maybe he has a hop on his fast one.

I BELIEVE it possible to feel hungry under either major party, but that under the Republicans it seems to hurt more.

I BELIEVE the prize boner of political history was Mr. Hoover's crack about the chicken in every pot, but I can't escape the conviction that some Democratic office-seeker got him to put that clause in the speech.

I BELIEVE the average American has gotten over the yen for a two-car garage and that he now feels four tires were always enough for any working man to worry over.

Creed

I BELIEVE John Nance Garner could have answered the telephone the night Al Smith phoned him from the Chicago convention, and that it will cost him the vote of countless Americans who have always wanted a chance to strike a blow at the custom of asking "Who wants him?" before saying whether or not Mr. Glutz is in.

I BELIEVE Gene Tunney was employed by the Democrats as a campaign speaker to assure the party a long count in case it needs it.

I BELIEVE that, no matter who wins the election, America is out of the ditch, and that the country will be zooming down the road in high again as soon as it is definitely settled whether the trouble was water in the gas or gas in the water.

I BELIEVE that while Uncle Sam may have lost his shirt, he looks more formidable in a pair of overalls anyway.

I BELIEVE in the ability, instinct and capacity of the average American to fight his way out of any difficulty, scale any reasonable heights, make the final payments on his auto and look any adversity in the face. I believe in common sense and natural vision as opposed to fidgets and smoked glasses.

I BELIEVE in the silver lining, the rainbow in the sky, the plunge through center, the infallibility of the slogan "Never block with your chin!" and the potency of the cry "Block that kick!" and "Hold 'em, Notre Dame!"

I BELIEVE the depression was never as bad as it was advertised, that the patient will recover if the specialists don't return, that those "Men Working" signs should be taken from the roads and used indoors, and that a little less gravy wouldn't hurt the average American anyhow.

I BELIEVE that an egg in every omelette is more important than a chicken in every pot.

I BELIEVE that regardless of the November election, good times are ahead (or nearly so), if we get rid of the notion that 1927, 1928 and 1929 were normal years, and that all that is necessary to get them back is a little flag waving, some community singing, a daily statement from the White House and a return to pajamas for business wear.



Splinter from the Future

. . . gracious, how the kiddies enjoyed
That glorious Easter dawn,
And the thought of rolling the unemployed
On the White House lawn . . . O. N.