

There is one important consideration in the coming election which, in my opinion, ~~dominates~~ *for outweighs all others,* ~~should dominate the thinking of the voters of Rhode Island.~~

It is to be expected that there will always be a lot of pointing with pride and viewing with alarm in the course of a campaign for public office. There is always a certain degree of window dressing and a variety of spectacular stunts intended to catch the public eye.

However, all these performances are merely the setting against which individual candidates ~~should~~ endeavor to set up their campaigns.

The most important thing to be remembered, it seems to me, is what a candidate stands for, what his political party stands for, what can be expected of a candidate should he be elected to the office he seeks. In this connection, It is most important for the voters of Rhode Island, to determine for themselves whether they wish to exercise their franchise in such a manner as to indicate their desire to go forward with the job of building a more progressive America - or whether they intend now to rest on their oars, as it were, and see what ~~will~~ *without their resistance or master,* will develop.

It is my ~~honest~~ firm conviction that Laissez Faire is dead in political thinking. I believe our country can be made a much better country - one more completely responsive to the needs of all its citizens. I don't believe the American public have any desire for a sleepy, ineffectual administration such as that which marked the ~~previous~~ period of Republican rule prior to 1932.

At the close of World War I the Republican Party had taken over the reins of Government in a country entering upon a prosperous era. This Country was a force for good in a world that was weary of war. The peoples of other lands looked this way for leadership and President Wilson had set forth certain concrete proposals which promised a lasting peaceful order.

All this was forgotten by the Republican Party in its selfish desire

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to take care of the privileged few.

The scandals attending the government's handling of Surplus property and Veterans Affairs was exceeded only by the scandalous misappropriation of the ~~Our~~ Country's natural resources.

Veterans' were considered more as objects of charity and hand-outs than as men to whom the Nation owed a debt of honor. Their pitiful complaints to their government were met with scorn and abuse. Their ~~insistent~~ later insistent demands were met with rifle fire and tanks in the streets of the Nation's capital

The hope of the ~~world~~ peoples of the world which lay in a permanent association of all nations was reduced to despair when the ~~the~~ GOP destroyed the League ~~of Nations~~ merely ~~to gain~~ because it had been created by a Democratic President, ~~and~~ <sup>T</sup>o gain the upper hand politically, the GOP believed it was ~~The necessary to wreck the Republican leadership~~ necessary to wreck everything the Wilson Administration stood for.

While they were destroying the world's hope for peace through international cooperation, they further reduced this nation's effectiveness by taking our newly ~~created~~ built Navy into the Atlantic and sinking it.

With one hand they destroyed our effectiveness abroad - and with the other destroyed our protection at home.

They destroyed all hope that we could promote peace through cooperative effort - and at the same time destroyed all hope that we could exercise our influence for good - through <sup>the power & strength</sup> ~~our strength~~ of our military ~~establishment~~ establishment.

At home the Republican Administrations had no conception of the problems which were piling up through the administration's lack of concern for the country's welfare.

Our National resources were being plundered by selfish greedy men. The forests and farms were being wasted through lack of care and planning. The ~~poor~~ pockets of investors were being picked - and the ~~thrift~~ savings of the

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thrifty were endangered - all because of a lack of concern at the National level.

We were told that all was well. Prosperity was here and there was no need of planning for a rainy day. The Boom would last forever. We learned to our sorrow that it lasted just long enough to fatten the purses of those who were ~~xxxx~~ able to manipulate it for their own gain.

The working men and women of the country were given but scant consideration. When they were thought of it was in the hope they would stop their constant bleating for some guarantee of security against the dangers which men predicted were threatening.

Labor-saving devices were multiplying. ~~but no thought was given to~~  
~~the possibility of unemployment~~ - efficiency experts and the stretch-out were reducing the total number of jobs available - but no thought was given to those who were thus forced into ~~xxxx~~ idleness.

The history of those days reads like a nightmare when one sees on every page a warning that unemployment was gaining by leaps and bounds.

But like drunken spend-thrifts on a mad merry-go-round the administration paid little heed to the signs which pointed to ~~growing~~ growing trouble.

We all know the sad price we paid for this lack of concern.

The veterans finally did receive attention and reward - they were given permits to sell apples.

The working men and women finally ~~received some~~ saw some show of interest in their lot - they were exposed to public charity and told to double up or ~~resort~~ *move into* to the hob-towns which sprang up all over the land.

The farmer found some attention from ~~the~~ the law of the land - he saw evictions ~~and~~ curses because he ~~had~~ failed to produce his food for nothing.

The business man and professional people received the same consideration.

And the previous inattention was replaced by a lot of rosy promises,

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while hunger and misery stalked the land and in people's faces there grew a look that had but one meaning - there was no hope.

All this resulted from a political party's determination to use the natural weariness of war as a stepping stone to high places - and then wreck everything that had previously been accomplished under the ~~guise~~ **PRETEXT** of a mandate from the people.

The same situation threatens today. The GOP would use war weariness again as a means for its access to the <sup>domination of the</sup> Federal Government - and it would begin again to destroy everything we have been able to gain since the nightmare days of 1930.

~~Im have ex no m fault to x find m~~

~~Form~~ Because I feel strongly that this is so I appeal to you the voters of Rhode Island to weigh carefully the importance of your ballot when you go to the polls on November fifth.

Consider if you will the campaign which has thus far been conducted by the GOP candidates. What have they proposed. What have they offered. What have they said and done.

In a nut-shell, they have offered nothing by way of a concrete proposal for the better government of our State and Nation.

They have found fault, they have criticized. They have used situations which were of their own making as an example of what they call bungling. They promise to reduce the Federal establishment to the point of ineffectiveness. They denounce bureaucrats and say they will wipe them out. Which agencies will they eliminate?

The SEC, which provides safety for those who invest their savings in ~~the~~ corporate stocks and bonds? The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation which protects the savings of the thrifty and the funds <sup>with</sup> ~~on~~ which business functions.

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The Social Security Board, the Federal Works Agency, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. No none of these are marked for death, they will tell you, but OPA is marked. That agency is now practically a thing of the past. Just about all that remains is rent control. Would they ~~not~~ destroy this, too. Almost all of the purelay War-time functions of the government are through. Hundreds of thousands of personnel have been ~~not~~ returned back to private industry in the liquidation of these ~~ex~~ war agencies.

No they don't dare insult the intelligence of the average voter by even suggesting that we might get along without the beneficieal functions of the federal government which were set up under the New Deal which they hate with such violence.

While these functions were being established, I know you will remember, the GOP fought with tooth and nail to prevent their coming into existence. A Paternal Government they called it and said it could not succeed. Unemployment compnesation, Old Age and Survivors Insurance was labeled by the GOP as out-right thievery and a campaign was fought solely on that issue. Men and women in the shops were queried and you were told that everyone in the land was opposed to this plunder bynthe Federal Governm nt.

Now all GOP ~~and~~ campaigners espouse it. All promise fervently that we shall give up none of the social gains which we have been able to obtain.

Why then the bitter denunciation of the ~~present~~ administration as they seek support of their candidacies. They say it is their intention to ~~not~~ eliminate confusion. Stop for a moment and consider the hypocrisy of this statement.

If the GOP is allowed to organize the Cobgress - can you imagine their attitude toward the White House. Will it be one of Co-operation for the good of the people of the country - or will it be one of deliberate and well-planned

opposition to everything the White House proposes - in order to sow confusion and create chaos - for the benefit of Senator Taft in his campaign for the Presidency in 1948.

Already GOP campaigners are predicting the ~~razor~~ course they will follow if they elect enough Congressmen to organize the House of Representatives. By their own predictions this government of ours will run down to almost a complete stand-still, while they turn every Federal Agency inside out in ~~themselves~~ their scramble for campaign material for 1948.

That is their boast publicly - how then can they suggest that their only concern is with efficiency in government.

They pay lip service to social progress - but seek by all sorts of devious means to provide chains for the ~~working people of the country~~ ambitions and hopes of the Nation's working people. They cry their championship of small business - but at the same time their hearts are turned toward the protection of the ~~monopolies~~ monopolies which have grown out of the war.

They insist they are supporters of the United Nations, and while they do, their leader, Senator Taft of Ohio and his able lieutenant Senator Wherry leave no stone unturned in their efforts to discredit this organization, sow discord among its members and bring about the same disillusionment which marked the early years following the last war.

~~They promise immediate and bone-shaking reductions in Federal taxes. There isn't a man or woman in politics who wouldn't love to guarantee the same thing. But some of us are moved by an honest concern for all the people. It is not our belief that excess profits taxes should be eliminated while little people are forced to contribute in excess of their means. It is not our thought that we should borrow trouble by a sudden rush of tax-reduction only to find that we had created a situation that will ultimately require more taxes.~~

The GOP claims it will save money in the operation of the Federal Government. It will, I have no doubt, do it in the same manner it did once before.

While they constantly repeat the words Chaos and Confusion they are deliberately seeking to create confusion and chaos, in the belief that it will help their political functions. *forwards*

~~Because of this campaign of fear I submit to you that they are not worthy of the support of the public and in the interest of the voters of Rhode Island~~

We are entering into the most prosperous era in the history of the country. We cannot afford to waste time. We cannot afford to have our economy scuttled merely for the advancement of a political party! ~~scattered~~