

"The habit of criticism grows upon us because criticism is the easiest thing in the world. It does not take a thimbleful of brains to find fault, and the biggest numbskull in the world can find fault with the greatest man in the world. We flatter ourselves that

criticism is a sign of superior intelligence. It is not. It is usually a sign of bad manners, of lack of self-restraint, and of an entire ignorance of psychology." — Dr. Frank Crane.

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'K. P.' in Desert



The not so cryptic letters "KP" mean kitchen police, and they mean it the whole world over, wherever American fighters chance to be. Every soldier who has drawn a K.P. can sympathize with the appalled expression of Pvt. Paul Newlin, of Marengo, Ind., as he contemplates the stack of dishes awaiting his services in the desert training center, California.

Dancing is excellent exercise, but I don't care for it. It is merely hugging set to music. The thing I don't like about it is the music.

Girls, you can catch men with face powder, but you hold them with baking powder.—Some can't hold 'em and then they use gun powder.

**TODAY and TOMORROW**  
By DON ROBINSON

ELECTION . . . opportunity

Let's stop bemoaning the fact that we have an election coming up. We're lucky to be having an election. In Germany, in Italy and even in many of our Allied nations it has been years since the people have had an opportunity to express their views through the democratic method of a national election. Even in England elections have been called off and the people haven't had a chance to vote since 1935.

Of course anyone in this country can see that the election prospects have, at times, seriously interfered with the most efficient execution of our war program. But that is no reason for us to let Hitler put even a temporary end to the working of the democratic process when we are fighting the war to protect that system of government.

We should all look at the coming election as an opportunity to look over the records of our congressmen and re-elect them or replace them, depending upon whether they have proven themselves fit to be part of a governing body which must solve the most complicated problems which have ever faced our nation.

FAVORS . . . . . inflation

It is true that many of our legislators, in seeking re-election, have attempted to do favors for their constituents at the expense of the rest of the nation.

The farm bloc has fought to boost the farmer's income by practically exempting farm products from price ceilings and, as a consequence, the cost of some foods has as much as doubled during the past year.

Representatives from labor districts, plus other members of the government who have an eye on the large labor vote, have interfered with all efforts toward curbing wages and outlawing strikes. As a consequence, strikes continue to be called in vital industries and wages continue to rise.

Any congressman who has given thought at all to the dangers of inflation realizes that increasing costs for necessities such as food, coupled with a policy of increasing wages to labor in proportion to the rise in the cost of living, is a sure-fire plan for bringing it about.

But because some congressmen think in terms of possible votes instead of the national welfare is no reason for not having an election. In fact it is an excellent reason for having one—to give the voters a chance to show that they at least are not ruled by narrow, selfish considerations and will not support the men who are.

PARTY . . . . . ability

Because this is not a presidential election year, ordinarily the vote would be light and a large number of voters wouldn't bother to look into the records of the various candidates. There are still plenty of us, who have always voted the Republican or Democratic ticket, who would just wait until election day, go in and mark our X's alongside of the names nominated for "our party" and feel that we had exercised our rights as citizens.

But it is probably more important this year that the voters forget parties than that the candidates do. Each candidate will again be listed on the ballot as representing a certain party, but the thing which should concern us is what he stands for personally, what he has done personally and whether he has the brains and the honesty to cope with gigantic legislative problems.

The new congress will not only be responsible for formulating the policies of our nation during the war, but, if the war should end before 1944, will have the responsibility of formulating a plan for peace to prevent future wars.

The whole future of this country will probably be in the hands of the new congress so that, even without a President up for office, it may prove to be the most important election of all time.

DECISIONS . . . . . opinion

It has always been a question whether a congressman's job is to express the opinion of his constituents or to take his election to mean that the people want him to make decisions for them.

Recent developments in the science of measuring public opinion, however, have made it apparent that there might soon be no need for a congress if it was elected merely to speak the sentiments of the people. A public opinion expert, such as Dr. George Gallup, could then serve as an inexpensive substitute for congress.

But there is little doubt that during this war period and the adjustment period which follows, the job of congress must be more one of making decisions for the people than it has ever been before. In the coming election we should not be content with electing men who will limit their work to speaking for us. We should consider each candidate's qualifications in the light of his ability to guide us through one of the most perilous periods in the history of the world. The ability of the next congress is our responsibility. If we elect the wrong men in November the consequences are frightening to contemplate.

"I wonder whether Jack will love me when I'm old."

"You'll know pretty soon now, dearie," assured the other.

"I don't like the looks of that mackerel."

"Well, lady, if it's looks you're after, why don't you buy a goldfish."

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Jack Eaton

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