

Special Privilege

By Henry Ware Allen / Wichita, Kansas, 11 December, 1935

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The opportunity so generously provided by Mr. Roosevelt to aspirants for the Republican Presidential nomination is evidently making them a little careless. Colonel Knox and Hamilton Fish have assured Western farmers that they would be quite as well treated by the Republican party as by President Roosevelt. It is quite natural that this should be assumed. But as The Literary Digest poll proceeds it will become evident that the agricultural States are solidly against the AAA notwithstanding the enormous subsidies to farmers.

Incidentally, it will be well for Mr. Hoover to remember that before he signed the Hawley-Smoot Tariff Bill he was warned by more than one thousand leading economists in a signed statement that the passage of that iniquitous bill of special privilege would be sure to bring on the business depression which followed and which President Roosevelt has failed to cure in the right way. That Mr. Hoover condemns the partial freedom of trade with Canada indicates that he has learned nothing in the science of political economy since he left the White House.

With the two leading parties pledged to systems of special privilege the intelligent voter is made to exclaim, "A plague on both your houses."