

ARTICLE BY WILL ROGERS, " THE SCHOOL OF '79" APPEARING  
IN STAR TELEGRAM SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 1934 SENT THE FOLLOWING:

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Postmaster General,  
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Asst. Secy to President Roosevelt,  
Washington, D.C.

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Federal Housing Administration,  
Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Harry R. Kay,  
875 Burr Ave.,  
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Lee Olwell, Publisher,  
N. Y. Evening Journal,  
New York City, N. Y.

E. M. Swasey,  
753 Bonnie Brae,  
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Paul Patterson,  
Baltimore Sun  
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Vice-President John N. Garner,  
Uvalde, Texas.

Alfred O. Anderson  
Dallas Dispatch,  
Dallas, Texas.

Tom Gooch,  
Dallas Times-Herald,  
Dallas, Texas.

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55 Wall Street,  
New York City, N.Y.

Gordon Rentschler, Pres.,  
National City Bank,  
55 Wall Street,  
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45 Nassau St.,  
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# The School of '79

"Mr. Rogers" Accused of Spreading  
Propaganda for Old Age Pensions

BY WILL ROGERS

Well all I know is just what I read in the mail. Got an awful lot of Birthday Greetings couple of weeks ago, I was kinder letting the thing slide by, and had even forgotten it, but they won't let you. They want to remind you how old you are getting, and too you would be surprised at the amount of people that was born on that very day, Nov. 4th, '79. Along on that date in '79, must have been quite a day for births.

But I was mighty glad to hear from all of em, and we can console each other on reaching such a ripe old age; I am going to start in demanding a little more respect. You take a dignified fellow thats arrived at 55 years of age, and "Hello, theres Old Bill," and "Look at that old guy Rogers over there." Well thats all got to stop. From now on there is going to be some "Mr. Rogers" used. My hair is arriving at a sort of blend that it deserves respect if nothing else. A greying head is a mark of respect in any land, so you guys cut out this rough uncouth stuff. You are speaking to a gentleman of the old school. The school of '79 sah.

One fellow was telling me, "I think you are kinder spreading some propaganda to get in on this old age pension." You know they are going to have that. Thats going to be the very next thing. Its advocated by practically everybody and it would be the grandest thing we ever had. It would be a great mental relief to millions and millions of old folks. There is nothing more terrifying than that thought of facing the future with nothing to carry on with.

I dont know where they will get the money. Take it out of increased income tax, ah, there is a thousand taxes that other countries have that we havent touched yet. Why a match, and a salt tax in many countries are the biggest things they have. India almost has war with England every year over the salt tax. And Luxuries? Why we havent started taxing them yet. But I didnt write this to get started off on any economic theory. I havent got any, but I sure do want to see an old age pension, if we have to print the money for it.

I started in to tell you about my mail here. Here is a awful nice letter from an Ames Agricultural College graduate, that brought out old "Blue Boy" to California and Hollywood. This was a great boy. He is now at Osage, Iowa, working as a county agent. Fine a lad as ever lived. Old "Blue Boy" died last year. The studio had given him to me and he eat me out of house and home, and I give him to the California Agriculture School at San Louis Obispo.

Here is a letter from Rex Beach. Rex lives down in Florida, and in addition to being one of the most constant best authors in America, he is an expert farmer, got a great celery plantation, does it scientifically. Rex and Professor Hamilton Holt of the famous Liberal College, Rollings College, Winter Park, Florida. Rex is an old Alumni. They want to give me a degree (a kind of a non paying old age pension). Now what in the world would I be doing with a degree? A lot of guys that earned em dont know what to do with em, much less me that wouldnt know what one was. They gave Fred Stone one. Well, he deserved it. I can think of a hundred reasons why he should be knighted.

Oh yes here is some daughters of the Confederacy that want to make Irvin Cobb and I a couple of honorary daughters. Cobb was up at my house last night in a kimona arrangement. He is just about ready for some "She" decoration. This was in return for his splendid story of Judge Priest. He has got a new one, and its better than that, up to date.

Talked Finland the other night, and here is a lot of nice letters. Those Finns are the most appreciative people, in fact all the countries are. Here is a banker, J. Rowland, from Youngstown, Ohio, who wrote before this last election and says that it is Roosevelt and not the bankers that are in the "Dog House" as I said. He knows more now than he did before November 6th.

A note from Sam Fordyce, St. Louis pet politician. Amon Carter of Ft. Worth, Texas, sent me a saddle from some South American Republic on his flying trip clear around South America. I hear the next Democratic Convention is to be held in Dallas. I am glad to hear it. She deserves it. Its a great town. Amon will perhaps go back to South America. Govenor Rytty of the Bank of Finland is in this country, and wrote and thanked me. Charley Wagner, my old concert manager, has got the itch again, thinks the Country is ripe for one of those long winded concert tour talks of mine. No, I am going to let the country alone. Its had enough trouble without me adding to it. Thanks for the offer, Charley. Thanks for the wire, Malcolm Stevenson, the international polo player. Here is one telling about the record of the American Airways, from Los Angeles to Ft. Worth, and from there to Chicago, with their first new Douglas. They ramble, those babies. I also have the good news here of the terrible hit Fred Stone made in his new show in New York. Things are looking up since election. I tell you if they would just quit having those things we never would have hard times.

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