



The care of the Eyes in the Home

Here are a few simple hints that will help keep your eyes healthy and comfortable.

- (1) Sleep with the window well open. Fresh air benefits the eyes.
- (2) Don't read facing or backing the window. Arrange if possible, for the light to come over your left shoulder.
- (3) Never rub the eye if you have a piece of dirt in it, or if you have a sty or boil. Always bathe the eye and if the trouble persists, consult a doctor.
- (4) Don't read in bright sunlight or twilight.
- (5) If you have the slightest doubt as to the efficiency of your sight, consult a Qualified Practitioner at once.

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TVA As A New Zealander Saw It

Massive Project a Storm-centre of Controversy

TO many New Zealanders the letters TVA, MVA and CVA—Tennessee, Missouri, and Columbia Valley authorities—are no more than further additions to the rash of alphabetical symbols dotting the pages of American magazines. To Norman Lamont, of the Department of Agriculture in Christchurch, they represent in TVA's case (with the other two yet to be developed) one of the world's most important ventures in river control, power supply, and irrigation. And he should know, for he has just come back from visiting the United States to inspect them.

"Democracy is far more than a catchword with most Americans. Not only do they believe in it completely, but they do their best to practise it," Mr. Lamont said, to a *Listener* interviewer. Government servants believed in it, and exercised it at times when they could, if they had wished, have taken refuge in the authority vested in them by their jobs. He gave an example.

"Around their dams the TVA had a number of small patches of land—the unflooded remnants of farms they had bought because the area was to be flooded. These bits and pieces, amounting in all to a tidy piece of land, represented valuable little farmlets.

"They belonged to TVA, and TVA had the sole right of disposing of them. They gave the use of them to the owners of near-by farms. But the choice of who got them was a matter for the farmers themselves. TVA got together a small committee of district farmers, sent one or two of its own men along, and the land was distributed on the basis suggested by the farmers themselves. The farmers would meet and say that one good little piece of, say, 20 acres should go to Bill Jones. He was farming a near-by property and could easily work the new section, and, what was more, he was a man who took good care of his land, and kept to the soil conservation principles so dear to TVA's collective heart. Therefore he got it, and on the recommendation of his neighbours. That was democracy in genuine practice."

Criticism was of course still directed against what TVA had done in Tennessee, but most of this, it seemed to Mr. Lamont, was circulated to weaken the prospects of the next similar scheme—the Missouri Valley authority, which was on a much bigger scale.

The propaganda for both sides was very skilful. Sometimes it was a little reckless. For instance, travelling once in a bus, Mr. Lamont was a little disturbed to see a huge front-page headline, "Totalitarianism Marches On." It

didn't march very far on the front page, but on an inside page there were a whole eight columns of anti-TVA stuff.

Irrigation and Navigation

Many of the opponents of TVA were opponents mainly for the purpose of preventing the similar and much bigger authority from beginning in Missouri, Mr. Lamont thought. In Tennessee the authority had not had the opposition to face that would be met in the huge Missouri river area, which went almost through to Canada. That was because the Missouri scheme would put much emphasis on irrigation, and thus come in conflict with the big river navigation interests.

"If you take water for power, you can put it back and still use rivers for navigation purposes," Mr. Lamont said. "The dams you use for hydro-electricity can well serve the purpose of dams for river locks. But when you take water for irrigation, it is gone for good. You can't put it back."

However, as well as those who opposed the Missouri Valley scheme because they were interested parties, there were many others who opposed it on the grounds that it meant too much centralising of power and control in Washington. America was a huge place, and the people of the West considered they could provide all the irrigation and

How the United States looks to a Tennessee Valley New Deal Dreamer floating on a pink cloud of fantasy.



THIS cartoon map, which satirises the TVA enthusiasts by showing the Tennessee Valley area as a sort of paradise in the midst of droughts, floods, and industrial warfare, is one of the milder samples of anti-TVA propaganda