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FRANK LUTHER MOTT

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Abstract

FOR a long time most Americans have assumed that the way Franklin Roosevelt wins elections with a majority of the press against him is something unprecedented. A good many go further, and worry: in a democracy, can a press be sound which seems to speak for a minority?

This article substitutes exhaustive analysis for assumption, and the fresh facts are merged into a striking reevaluation of the historic relationship of the American press to American elections. Out of this reevaluation comes a new viewpoint which offers relief to those who worry about the present.

Frank Luther Mott is the Dean of the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri and the dean of all students of American journalism.

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