



With electrical irrigation systems land that was previously unusable became productive, providing more food at cheaper prices.

America's Mid-West Region has long been called the "Breadbasket of the World." Some experts believe that China will soon overtake America in production of food, and we will need to look to them for most of our food. The Breadbasket of the World consists of North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, Texas, Montana & New Mexico. Of these eleven states, only two contain major metropolitan areas, Texas & Colorado.



Under a "majority rule" system, would rural communities ever have their needs addressed again? If not, how would that affect America's food supply, which comes from rural America? Would products grown and raised in rural communities decrease in quality and/or quantity? Three generations into the future, will lifestyle differences between urban and rural Americans be as stark as they were in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s? Would future advances in technology enjoyed by metropolitan Americans be denied to rural Americans?

Can democracy long be preserved when the "have-nots" watch as the "haves" choose the politicians who make all decisions?

<http://www.bhrwf.org>

<fb.me/BHRepW>



ELECTORAL COLLEGE VS NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE

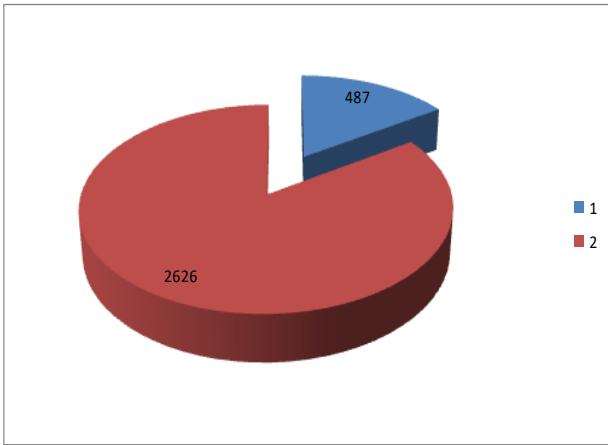
America came together as a union of states, not one big group of people. The founders realized that citizens of one state had different needs than citizens of another state. They were especially concerned that the needs of smaller states would be overpowered by the more populous states. With majority rule, the minority, whoever it is at the time, would have no voice. The founders created the Electoral College to prevent tyranny of the majority.



The thirteen original colonies came together to form The United States of America.

Electing the president by a simple majority ensures that the White House occupant could, and probably would, ignore minority needs. In 21st Century America that would mean that rural residents, who currently make up less than 20% of the population, would have no voice. Only the voices of city-dwellers and suburbanites would be heard in selecting a president.

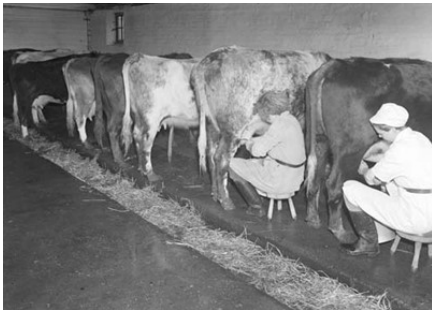
With majority rule, congresspeople representing metropolitan areas would enjoy more power and control than their colleagues who represent rural areas. Likewise, senators from states with large metropolitan areas, such as New York and California, would exert more influence over legislation than other senators. These representatives and senators would also have more influence over the president because he/she was elected by their constituents. The needs and wants of rural Americans often vary considerably with those of metropolitan Americans.



In the 2016 presidential election 487 counties voted for one candidate and 2626 voted for the other candidate. Without the Electoral College just a handful of counties would have chosen our president, completely ignoring the votes in the great majority of counties.

What would happen to farmers and other residents in rural communities if only those in metropolitan areas picked our president? Would they lag further and further behind their city cousins, as little or no federal funding would come their way, as no legislation would be passed to benefit them?

Let's examine the past to see what the future might bring.



It took strong arms, hands & fingers to milk cows.



Digging drainage ditches to irrigate crops was back-breaking work for farmers.

Three generations after city dwellers first got electricity rural residents could only look on in envy. Indeed, Manhattan first obtained electrical service in 1882. At that time, energy companies were privately owned and saw little profit in extending their electrical lines to farms that were miles apart, nor to small towns hundreds of miles from a big city. In 1936, only 10% of farms had electricity.

Eventually, the federal government stepped in. President Franklin D. Roosevelt first established the Rural Electrification Administration in 1935 (REA), via executive order. When that proved insufficient, the US House & Senate passed and the president signed, the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.

“The forward march to electric cooperatives has an even more profound significance in terms of our fight to preserve democracy.” FDR



FDR signs the REA.

The REA provided loans to rural electrical cooperatives so they could purchase power wholesale and string lines to farms, small towns and rural communities, giving them the benefits of electricity. By 1950 80% of rural America was electrified.



Using electrical milking machines made milk production faster and more efficient, thus increasing the supply of milk to consumers, which kept retail cost low.