

FORUM WORD CONTESTS

TWO Contests are now being conducted in this magazine, and the reader must not confuse the two. The Definition Contest has continued over many months, the new one, "The American Language" was first announced in September, and its first "soundings" will be published in January. The Definition Contest announces single, definite words, about which there is general confusion, that readers may help to clarify their meaning in short paragraphs (one hundred words or less) of definition. The next word for our 1926 lexicographers is

A GOOD SPORT

Stacy Aumonier, in September, told the story of a "Spoil-Sport"; but now we want a definition of the term "A Good Sport". They thrive in many communities besides our colleges, though here is football in THE FORUM for debate. As in "High-brow", we want an x-ray analysis, not a series of definitions beginning, "A Good Sport is one who . . ." We expect these, of course, and a few will be published as leaven, but we want profound definitions. Remember, limit your letter to one hundred words, and typewrite it; write your name and address plainly, though no manuscript will be returned. Payment of five dollars for each "winning definition" will be made upon publication. Definitions of "A Good Sport" must reach The Definition Editor by midnight of December 1, 1926. If received later they cannot be considered for competition or publication in the February number.

"The American Language Contest" focuses attention on the newly coined words which are entering our American speech in the come-and-go manner so characteristic of this nation. Which of the words that have come are destined not to go, but because of their vitality and usefulness deserve to remain, deserve to be incorporated into our Speech? Or perhaps more new words should be coined for our use? For each suggestion, stated in fewer than one hundred words (typewritten) selected by the judges, THE FORUM will present a book chosen by the winner, to the value of five dollars. The volume indicated must be among those mentioned in our columns. Address The American Language Contest, THE FORUM, 247 Park Avenue, New York City.

GEORGIA GOES MARCHING ON

ROBERT PRESTON BROOKS

THE "Empire State of The South" rises in protest against recent newspaper and magazine articles which in the process of x-ray analysis have illuminated defects and left in shadow the sound tissue. Georgians have no desire to condone the evils of their State; they desire only that "outsiders" understand the difficulties which they face, that their attitude may be one of sympathy and their criticism be tempered with mercy. Cultural progress depends on economics, but Georgia nevertheless marches on.

I HAVE been asked to "take up the cudgels for Georgia" in reply to the article by Mr. Thomas Boyd in the July issue of THE FORUM, and to submit an "analysis of cultural progress in Georgia". I am much more interested in the latter of the two requests, though I feel that fairness demands some preliminary comment on Mr. Boyd's views. First of all I wish to say that I have no desire to detract from the glory

that has come to Mr. Julian Harris by reason of his fight against the Klan and other maladies that afflict Georgia. I approve of Mr. Harris and his work. Mr. Boyd has, however, done his hero an injury by claiming too much for him. Mr. Harris has not been without effective aids in his work. His predecessor on the "Enquirer-Sun", Thomas W. Loyless, really started the anti-Klan movement. Ex-Governor Thomas W. Hardwick has for years been in the forefront of the fight. While the "Enquirer-Sun" has, perhaps, been more persistently on the trail of the Klan and the lynchers than the other newspapers, the "Macon Telegraph" and the "Athens Banner" have not been far behind; and for many years before Mr. Harris assumed control of the Columbus daily, other papers such as the "Atlanta Constitution" and the "Macon Telegraph" had been uncompromising in their attitude toward lynching. In many pulpits, in numerous college classrooms, and on the rostrums of Georgia, strong voices have been raised against the current evils, and all of these agencies should share the credit for the decline of the Klan, the failure of the anti-evolution movement, and the decrease in lynching figures. Mr. Harris did not accomplish these things single-handed. The whole country was electrified by the attack on the Klan delivered by Mr. Andrew C. Erwin at the last Democratic National Convention.