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SS: Stylized Shorthand

— by Margaret Friedrich

*Near fifty years or so ago
A new language began to
show.*

*Then we began to speak in
tongues;
Novel words exercised our
lungs.*

*IWW — “I Won’t Work,”
some said;
Strikes did not earn their
daily bread.*

*WWI aroused our people —
Farms, factories, and under
steeple.*

*The Great Depression
brought no pay.*

*Then came FDR, NRA,
CCC, and alphabet soup.
Hundreds of others followed
suit.*

*Soon WAC and WAVES
came into use*

*For women in uniforms
spruce*

*Who in WW II lent their
aid*

*And thus their contribution
made.*

*Now IRS and FBI
Help keep us honest, or they
try.*

*And there’s NATO to keep
the peace,
Watched by CIA (forced to
cease).*

*RTA and AARP
Identify the old, you see.
Our travel with AAA frees
From goofs. Or we can use
our CB’s*

*There may be in your sky
above*

*A UFO. Aim? War or love?
A modern concept: LWS
Could be romance or maybe
stress.*

*All these acronyms running
loose*

*Grow every day without
excuse.*

*Dozens of others clog our
speech.*

*There’s no dictionary to
reach.*