

Morrison Tells Tale of Editorial Gun That Exploded in Two Directions

ALMOST EVERYONE considers himself a humorist of sorts. Member John L. Morrison has proof that he is: He is paid for his humorous sketches (though not by THE BULLETIN!). The parable he offers here came in response to a form letter about sons in service, asking "Or what else have you got on your mind?"

By JOHN L. MORRISON
Editor
Greenville Record Argus

BEING without descendants and with in-laws barred, I am stymied on divulging the information requested in your broadside to A. S. N. E. members. Please note that I use periods instead of "ASNE" lest we be confused with an alphabetical agency. However, your notation in or on the margin gives us an opening on another subject.

Our reference is to a feature article in *Editor & Publisher* relating to the unusual situation in Louisville, Ky., wherein the *Times*, evening, and the *Courier-Journal*, morning, (same ownership) are giving diametrically opposite support to two opposing candidates. Feeling, possibly, it may be of historic interest to the editorial profession, and admitting, certainly, that your correspondent is a bloodhound taking up the slightest scent of personal publicity, I make bold to relate an incident which befell me.

In my callow youth I was editor of the Greenville *Advance-Argus*, a weekly paper, owned half and half by my father, L. Morrison, and Rev. L. Hippee, a retired Lutheran minister. Neither owner, except on the rarest occasion, ever wrote a line for the paper. The *Advance-Argus* was an old newspaper (dating from 1848) with a large circulation, of great influence and dearly loved by the Republican party.

Republican party conferees

from the four counties constituting the district, after repeated effort, nominated a candidate who, in deference to libel laws, we shall call Mr. A. Shortly afterwards two of the conferees naively admitted each had received an honorarium of \$500. (These were the days of the horse and buggy and low prices.)

Mr. A. published a statement that he had not paid a dollar to these conferees or to anyone else to effect his nominations; that he accepted the nomination in good faith, and his hat would remain in the ring to the finish. My father, in common with almost everybody who knew A., continued to support him in the campaign, feeling that the "confession" was a phony and that if the two conferees really received a bribe, it was part of a dark and dirty trick of the opposition. The ministerial end of the paper felt it was disturbing to the conscience.

The *Advance-Argus* came out as usual and when ye young ed. looked at the paper he was

astonished to see one editorial supporting Mr. A. to the hilt, followed by another editorial denouncing him as a thief and robber and pledging the support of the A.-A. to Mr. B. (subsequent rump convention nominee), also to the well-known and justly celebrated hilt.

For the benefit of those keen for complete facts, the result: B., political amateur whose barrels of money were tapped and disseminated by the high moral faction, and A., supported by the "organization" polled almost the same total of votes but both were defeated and the Democrats elected a congressman, by a margin of a few votes, and for the first time since the Civil War. Hundreds of politicians, for the first time, discovered there was gold in them thar hills. Subsequently A. was elected to a much higher office to be followed by a high position in the national government which he retained until his death. B. continued to grow richer and richer and died in opulence as an outstanding citizen, revered and respected as was indeed his due.

Thus ended the lesson of the editorial gun which exploded in two directions.

World War I Veterans in ASNE Confess They're Not Heroes to their Soldier Sons

DUTIFULLY answering the questionnaire to the last detail, our members report that parallels between fathers' activities in War I and sons' in War II add up to 00.

"To their credit, the service of neither son parallels their father's activities in the last war. I won that one with an Army typewriter and my only wound resulted from being hit in the head with a stray bottle Armistice night at the Port of Embarkation, Newport News."—Judson Chapman, Greenville Piedmont.

"There is no particular parallel with my service. I was honorably discharged with the rank of captain in the last war and that is about all. I was never so happy in my life to get out of anything as I was to get out of

the Army and back to newspaper work."—Sevellon Brown, Providence *Journal and Evening Bulletin*.

"He hasn't much in common with his old man, whose service in the last war was about the shortest on record—put in at an officers' training camp and lasting just about long enough to buy a couple of uniforms ahead of the Armistice."—Frank Jenkins, Klammath Falls *Herald and News*, referring to son wounded at Guadalcanal.

"We are late starters in the parenthood derby and Bill's two sons and my daughter aren't even in kindergarten, much less the armed forces."—Vincent S. Jones, Utica *Observer-Dispatch*, speaking also for William J. Woods.

ASNE and Press Freedom —By Kent Cooper

A practical suggestion regarding the discussion of advocacy by the Society of worldwide press freedom came from Member William R. Mathews, editor of the *Arizona Daily Star*. "If the ASNE would ask Kent Cooper of the Associated Press for his advice and counsel," Mr. Mathews said, "it would be asking one who knows what should be done and what can be done." Mr. Cooper graciously responded.

By KENT COOPER

Executive Director, The Associated Press

I AM COMPLIMENTED by a suggestion from a well-meaning member of the ASNE, who is a friend of mine, that I write of my proposal that an energetic movement be fostered to gain an enlarged world adherence to the idea of a free press.

It may be that the ASNE is the one organization in the United States which could sponsor a movement in this direction.

The first step, then, would be for the ASNE to decide that it should be the sponsor.

The next step is that it undertake to obtain ample finances—and I mean ample finances. The task is so big that anything from one to five million dollars easily could be necessary to effect results.

Having decided to be the sponsor and having obtained ample finances, the next step would be for ASNE to set up a force of competent news men, under an executive head, all of whom have had wide knowledge and experience in foreign news collection and dissemination and who therefore

know the difficulties that will be confronted in undertaking the work abroad.

My idea contemplates a stupendous undertaking with education on matters of the press as the basic motive. The program should undertake:

1. Freedom of the press of the entire world as we know it here. That is striving for the millennium, but it seems best to attempt that in order at least to gain acceptance of the second point of the program, namely:

2. Insistence (A) that news at its source shall be freely available to all news men everywhere; and (B) that no country shall give preferential transmission facilities to its own press as against the press of any other country. This means that correspondents of individual newspapers and press associations everywhere should have direct and equal access to the news of all governments, with equal facilities of transmission thereof to their own countries.

I have often said that the greatest advance in newspapering has been registered in this country and that it would be wonderful if the force that is available from that success would be directed altruistically toward the extension of the American accomplishments to the rest of the world.

Not being a member of the ASNE, it is not for me to tell the Society what it should do, but I can compliment it by the expression of the belief that it could accomplish a great deal if it would with virility and militance back the program to which I have referred.

"The Society Should Be for It, Though the Road Be Rough and Long"

C. A. ROWLEY, Publisher, Ashtabula Star-Beacon

A FREE PRESS for the whole world? In a broad sense, yes. However, there are angles to be considered. There may be some countries, because of their own culture, customs, standards of education, and forms of government, that would not care to have a free press in the same sense that our press in America is free. It might be wise for some countries to approach the matter slowly.

If we advocate a free press for the world, we should, by education and example, attempt to show the other countries that their welfare will be best served by a press that is free, rather than by one that is controlled. That might have to be done gradually.

A free press in some countries would be like democracy in some countries. The countries I have

in mind are those where ignorance dominates, where people still look to leaders to do their thinking. These countries have to be made ready for such a far reaching development as a free press. They have to be educated up to it. They have to know that a free press may easily be misused—that it may cause much more damage than good unless it is made to operate ONLY for the best public interests. This requires a process of education and most certainly the ASNE should do all in its power to help. An intelligent, informed free press throughout the world is a desirable goal. But it needs to be approached with an intelligent understanding of the peculiar backgrounds and problems that exist in the various nations of the world. A free press is a sacred responsibility for those who would enjoy its privileges.

I would say that I am in favor of the ASNE taking a stand for a worldwide free press, on the basis of the three principles enunciated in the July 1 issue of the BULLETIN. The Society should be for it, through an educational process—though the road be rough and long. We may not get far, but anyway, it's in the right direction and our action should be heartening to fellow craftsmen in other lands.

Board to Meet Soon

PRESENT PLANS, like everything else subject to change, call for a meeting of the Board of Directors in mid-September, according to President Roberts. Any member who has ideas about the spring meeting or other ASNE affairs is invited to submit them to the President without delay.

Looking to Future, Dear Asks Survey Of Reading Ability

By J. ALBERT DEAR, JR.
Executive Editor,
The Jersey Journal

THE NEWSPAPERS of America sell to the public everything from toothpaste and real estate to war bonds—everything except knowledge of what makes the free press free.

Merely to have a constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press is far short of the full answer. Even after we have also given due credit to the importance of a free judiciary, we have not yet impressed upon our readers all the essentials for an effective free press. We have two additional vital points still to make before we have done the job and unless these two points are successfully introduced into the public consciousness our press will not continue as free and as strong as it should.

First.—Our devotion to truth in the news report is so personal a precept of daily conduct with both the editorial department and the business management of newspapers that we have failed to advertise it sufficiently. The remarks of the president to the White House correspondents have a serious tendency to exaggerate the erroneous impression that it is a policy of American newspapers to mix up editorial opinion with the news report so that the news report is colored by bias.

'Tis a delicate matter . . .

But I believe that we have to find a way to keep the public aware both of our intention and our success in reporting news without bias if we do not wish to permit the President's erroneous conception to injure the newspaper business.

Second.—A companion problem which deeply affects the value of the free press and freedom of the press itself is the low standard of reading ability which is set in many of our schools. Once again, as in 1917 and 1918, military enlistment examinations have

TOM HANES, Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch, is off to his second war, this time as a correspondent, accredited by both Navy and Army. "Where" is verboten. But knowing Tom, it's a safe bet that he wants to be—and will be—afloat and in action.

brought out the extent of the failure of our educational system to produce an adult population 100% literate.

An illiterate man or woman can never be a customer of the newspapers nor of the newspaper advertisers: but will be subject to radio suggestion. As editors we can let the business departments point out to advertisers the relative worthlessness of illiterate trade.

As editors, interested in the success of popular government by an enlightened public, and as newspaper men interested in the strengthening of our industry which would come from an increase in the number of people able to read newspapers, we ought to do something about this.

The state of the matter is even worse than indicated by the illiteracy statistics now available. Our industry has a keen interest—or should have—in the ability of the rising generations not merely to read but to read with ease and rapidly. I believe if our Society were to make an inquiry into the reading capacity of the average grammar or high school graduate, the results would prove that one of the big factors holding down newspaper circulation of the future will be an increasing deficiency in the reading ability of the public due to a considerable extent to the failure of our school system and to the temptations which radio offers to the lazy minded.

It will be interesting to hear what members of the Society think about these subjects. I believe we might be able to work out a program which could be carried out through the years with great benefit to our nation.

Sons in Service

(Continued from page 5)

G. A. Smallsreed, Columbus Dispatch: George A., Jr., signalman, petty officer, 3/c, in Navy armed guard, been in a year, still only 20. Remember the CBS broadcast of the Booker T. Washington being lost from its convoy off Iceland? Young George was on it, later saw action en route to Africa, came home, transferred, now off again—no telling where.

Comdr. James G. Stahlman, Nashville Banner: Ann Geddes, WAVE; covering the Navy and general recruiting beat for the Banner, while awaiting orders to report for officer training at Smith College.

Harry G. Stutz, Ithaca Journal: Peter S., Pfc., with Medical Detachment of Field Artillery at Camp McCain, Miss.

Kenneth D. Tooil, Toledo Blade: Jack Pershing, Cpl., somewhere in North African theater.

O. S. Warden, Great Falls Tribune: Robert D., Dept. of Navy, Bureau of Aeronautics, Publication Section, Washington. (And that's why the Tribune has a new managing editor.)

W. W. Waymack, Des Moines Register and Tribune: Edward R. Ensign in USNR, temporarily at a West coast port.

Capt. J. R. Wiggins, St. Paul Dispatch Pioneer Press: William, USN, on a PT boat somewhere in the Pacific. (Note sent to Member Herbert Lewis: "Mr. Wiggins is obviously too young to have a son in service but as a matter of form, will you take care of this questionnaire?" Reply from Mr. Lewis: "He may be too young but he has just the same.")

Lee M. Woodruff, Grand Rapids Press: Charles H., private in Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Okla.

Doing Noble Work Too

MORE POWER to the many ASNE sons who are doing important war work but could not be included in the honor roll in this issue because they are not in the armed forces.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Roberts Announces War Conference Set For January

THE BOARD of Directors of the Society at its semi-annual meeting, in Washington on October 1, decided to call a two-day war conference of the membership in Washington in January, in lieu of the April convention of pre-war years.

The dates will be Friday and Saturday, January 21 and 22—tentative only because all things must be subject to change these days, but definite enough to mark on your calendar now.

With every officer and director except one present, the Board spent most of the day on groundwork for the meeting. The outlines are already laid.

One day, President Roy A. Roberts announced, will be devoted exclusively to newspaper problems. And that, he said, means the actual problems that are acute headaches to every member, presented and discussed by editors who are facing them every day.

War and post-war problems, more general in nature but of vital importance to editors, will be the subject of the sessions the other day, Mr. Roberts said.

The annual dinner will be held as usual, with innovations designed to outshine all past banquets. The date is Saturday, January 22. Although details cannot be announced until plans are complete, any member can invite his guests now with complete assurance that they will not be disappointed in the evening's program.

Only Board member absent was William Allen White. After spending the summer at Estes Park, recuperating from his illness of last winter, he is back at work in Emporia. "I am getting better," he wrote, "but I am not challenging anyone for the heavyweight cups."

Jones Named Program Chairman; Other Committees Appointed

TO HEAD the all-important Program Committee Mr. Roberts has named Alexander F. Jones, managing editor of the Washington Post and an indefatigable worker in the affairs of the Society. On him will rest the entire responsibility for making the meeting supersede in interest all previous sessions. Serving with Mr. Jones will be:

DAVID LAWRENCE, United States News

B. M. McKELWAY, Washington Star

JOHN O'ROURKE, Washington Daily News

FRANK WALDROP, Washington Times-Herald

ROBERT B. CHOATE, Boston Herald-Traveler

N. R. HOWARD, Cleveland News

OLIVER J. KELLER, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

SAMUEL L. LATIMER, The State, Columbia

J. F. FITZPATRICK, Salt Lake City Tribune-Telegram

Resolutions

WILBUR FORREST, New York Herald Tribune, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, will be assisted by:

ERWIN D. CANHAM, Christian Science Monitor

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE, Emporia Gazette

RALPH COGHLAN, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

A. R. TREANOR, Booth Newspapers

GARDNER COWLES, Jr., Des Moines Register & Tribune

ALLEN MERRIAM, Dallas Times-Herald

WRIGHT BRYAN, Atlanta Journal

PAUL SCOTT MOWRER, Chicago Daily News

STEPHEN C. NOLAND, Indianapolis News

LEE B. WOOD, New York World-Telegram

Special Committee

In addition, Mr. Roberts has named Mr. Canham, Mr. Forrest and Mr. White to frame a resolution on the Society's attitude towards post-war problems, particularly world press freedom. Taking into consideration the views expressed by members when Mr. Roberts propounded the question last summer, this resolution will crystallize them into a definite stand to be taken by the Society. It will be submitted to vote of the general membership at the meeting.

Nominations

WALDO ARNOLD, Milwaukee Journal, heads the Nominating Committee. Other members are:

DWIGHT PERRIN, Philadelphia Bulletin

J. M. NORTH, Jr., Fort Worth Star-Telegram

PAUL BELLAMY, Cleveland Plain Dealer

W. R. MATHEWS, Arizona Daily Star

Reception

The Reception Committee, to extend a welcoming hand to new members, follows:

MICHAEL A. GORMAN, Flint Journal, chairman

F. M. LINDSAY, Decatur Herald and Review

GEORGE A. SMALLSREED, Columbus Dispatch

MILES H. WOLFF, Baltimore Evening Sun

RICHARD J. FINNEGAN, Chicago Times

J. N. HEISKELL, Arkansas Gazette

Membership Committee Proposes And Board Elects 31 New Members

THIRTY-ONE editors, from 15 states and the District of Columbia, were admitted to the Society by vote of the Board of Directors. Under the energetic direction of Dwight Young, Dayton Herald and Journal, the Membership Committee canvassed the country for new members who would meet the increasingly high standards of eligibility. Election of the following applicants resulted:

WILLIAM L. AYERS, Managing Editor, Chicago Journal of Commerce

ANDREW BERNHARD, Managing Editor, Brooklyn Eagle

E. M. BOYD, Managing Editor, Cincinnati Enquirer

JAMES R. BENHAM, Managing Editor, Terre Haute Star

JOHN H. CLINE, Chief Editorial Writer, Washington Star

FRANK A. CLARVOE, Editor, San Francisco News

PREVOST COULTER, Managing Editor, Duluth Herald-News-Tribune

E. Z. DIMITMAN, Executive Editor, Chicago Sun

LEE ELLMAKER, Editor, Philadelphia News

MARSHALL FIELD, Editor-Founder, Chicago Sun

J. A. GUTHRIE, Editor & President, San Bernardino Sun

W. J. HOOTEN, Editor, El Paso Times

T. T. HUNT, Managing Editor, Beaumont Enterprise

RALPH JORDAN, Managing Editor, Deseret News

LOUIS LACROSS, Editor, Editor's Page, St. Louis Globe-Democrat

EDWARD LINDSAY, Editor, Decatur Herald and Review

JOHN BARRY MULLANEY, Associate Editor, Cleveland News

RALPH NICHOLSON, President, New Orleans Item

WILLIAM PAPE, Owner, Waterbury Republican and American

JOHN A. PARK, Editor, Raleigh Times

EDWARD M. POOLEY, Editor, El Paso Herald-Post

JOHN W. POTTER, Editor, Rock Island-Moline Argus

CHARLES K. ROBINSON, Editor, Asheville Times

HARRY T. SAYLOR, Editor, Philadelphia Record

FRANK D. SCHROTH, President, Brooklyn Eagle

ELIEZER SHAINMARK, Managing Editor, Chicago Herald-American

tor, El Paso Herald-Post

Dwight Young Suggests Reorganizing Committee for More Efficient Operation

IN TWO YEARS' service as chairman, Dwight Young has given intensive study to the problems of membership and become a specialist in the subject.

As a result of that study he has suggested to the Board that "a more or less permanent membership organization" of state representatives might well supplant the annually appointed group of ten members. Now that the Society has well over 300 members, a presumably desirable maximum, Mr. Young pointed out, it is more important than ever for the committee to be composed of members who are sufficiently familiar with their own areas to select only the most desirable membership material as it develops.

"An intimate knowledge of his area is a prime requisite for anyone doing a detailed membership job," he said. "Likewise it must be obvious that under the present plan of allotting anywhere from three to eight states to each member of the committee any such intimate knowledge is quite impossible."

Mr. Young paid tribute to the cooperation given him by the two committees with which he has worked. Both have performed admirably under the serious handicaps of the present set-up, he said, and concur in the need for changing the procedure. (Incidentally, Mr. Young is not campaigning for a permanent post for himself. With a continuous organization reporting state by state, he says, "it is questionable whether a membership chairman would be necessary.")

JAMES A. STUART, Editor, Duluth Herald and News-Tribune

RUSS STEWART, Managing Editor, Chicago Times

BERT A. TEETERS, Managing Editor, Springfield (O.) News and Sun

FREDERICK WARE, Managing Editor, Omaha World-Herald

HOKE S. WELCH, Managing Editor, Miami Daily News

Election of members in cities of less than 50,000 population is deferred pending further screening of candidates.

Member Malcolm W. Bingay always has been against off-the-record speeches, long before that notice ordering reporters not to accept confidential statements went up on the Detroit Free Press bulletin board.

When he was a cub the answer to "Can I talk to you confidentially about this?" was "No. Our readers are entitled to know what you say."

Mr. Bingay would like it if that rule still held, and that goes for ASNE conventions too. Among his comments on the last meeting:

"From early morning till dewy night we listened to speeches. All off-the-record. Even in a few of the feeble question-and-answer periods—now almost extinct—nothing new was added."

"Not one of the dozen or more leaders in Government who talked to us 'off the record' told us a thing that we could not have found out by reading our newspapers and current magazines."

"Off-the-record has been a synonym for the run-around."

"With the exception of Gen. Marshall (who was magnificent merely as a blunt, honest personality with dynamic force and who talked without notes) most of the gentlemen read carefully prepared papers that we all knew had been checked and rechecked

before being permitted even 'off the record.'

"And don't tell me it is on account of the war."

"That's the way it was long before we got into the war."

That seems to sum up quite adequately Mr. Bingay's desires in regard to the form the next meeting of the Society should take.

P.S. One exception Mr. Bingay makes: "It is fitting and proper for all Presidents to be allowed to speak to the press confidentially."

Already, Mr. Jones said, the Board has put a lot of work into planning the January meeting and that's a good beginning. Going on from there, the '44 program chairman is plotting "a change in tempo." He thinks we've been talked to enough on military problems, particularly since the military program for the entire war is now set. If there's a general on the program, he'll be straight from the battlefield to reveal his personal experiences.

War and post-war problems vital to members, not only as editors but as citizens, will be discussed and in a manner, Mr. Jones guarantees, that will keep members so interested they will forget the customary complaints about the hardness of ballroom chairs.

At sessions devoted exclusively to newspaper problems, Mr. Jones sees no need for outside speakers. There are plenty of editors in the Society to talk to editors.

As for the dinner: "That's going to be a great show. And over my dead body are they going to have chicken. It's going to be roast beef if I have to start now to save my own red points to get it for them."

If You're Going to Attend

The next three issues of THE BULLETIN will be important to every member planning to attend the January meeting in Washington. They will contain information about hotel accommodations, transportation arrangements and other plans being made for the convenience of members.

Two Members Tell Kind of Meeting They Would Like

CARL W. ACKERMAN, dean of the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, writes:

"Please accept my congratulations for the double issues of the ASNE BULLETIN. I am happy and proud to be a member of a Society where the members participate in a live forum on problems of journalism."

What a fine development it would be if our next annual meeting could be a forum—a newspaper congress or parliament where issues could be considered and debated, where editors could meet without being told what they should think and do!

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By-Law Provisions Will Be Proposed

AT THE Board meeting in Washington, revision of the by-laws of the Society to meet current conditions was considered. Principal change would be a provision that any member who has missed three annual meetings would be dropped from the rolls. Exceptions would be made where a member shows satisfactory reason why he cannot attend the third meeting. Object of the ruling would be to keep the membership active and free of "members in name only" from this year on, not retroactive.

In accordance with the by-laws, proposed changes will be submitted to members, in THE BULLETIN, at least 30 days before the convention.

Williams Still Faithful

LONG YEARS as an ex-member cannot quench S. M. Williams' interest in the ASNE. Shutling between Washington, D. C., and Sturgeon Lake, Minn., he writes:

"I enjoy receiving THE BULLETIN to keep up with the doings of my former confreres."

"Roy Roberts' suggestion for world press freedom is a Utopian idea, wonderful if it could be accomplished. But I regretfully think that it will be a long time in realization. Yet somebody must start the ball rolling, so why not ASNE but with modest approach, avoiding too large demands and expectations at first."

Jones Outlines Type of Sessions We Will Have

"IT'S GOING to be a swell convention," Casey Jones predicted, following the Board meeting at which he was named program chairman, "and the reason for that is that Roy Roberts has the whole thing outlined in his mind, and Roy's a perfectionist. He won't be satisfied with less than the best."

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Successful Ventures: Bees, Garden Festivals And Army War Show

THERE'S NO LIMIT to the variety of editors' ingenuity. Last month's inspirations ran from a mammoth Army Show to a pair of diminutive Disney bees, focusing attention, respectively, on the Washington Post and the McClatchy Newspapers.

The war show, to stimulate sales in the Third War Loan, was Member Eugene Meyer's idea. Busier than a McClatchy bee was Member Alexander F. Jones, managing editor of the Post, who made the arrangements with Army chiefs and Treasury officials, and sold Secretary Ickes on permitting use of the Monument grounds. An estimated 300,000 Capitalites skipped their lunch to see the arrival of the "Hollywood Bond Cavalcade" which preceded the "Back the Attack" show under the direction of Major General Alexander D. Surles. The public never had a better bargain: Admission free, and a chance to see every type of equipment used by the Army, plus the investment value of bonds purchased.

Portraits of Scoopy and Gabby, whose twin births aroused a storm of interest, were done by Walt Disney at the request of Eleanor McClatchy, president of the McClatchy Newspapers. The price for the sketches of the bees, now trademarks of the Sacramento Bee, the Modesto Bee and the Fresno Bee, and their radio stations, was \$1,500—paid to the Army Relief Fund.

McClatchy Newspapers, under the direction of Member Walter P. Jones, editor, with their radio stations recently sponsored outstandingly successful Victory Garden Festivals in the three California cities where they operate. A total of \$1,000 in awards was offered, in addition to plaques. The Sacramento event drew 1,300 people in two days; 239 exhibitors; 654 exhibits displaying up to 10,000 items. In Fresno and Modesto the shows went correspondingly well.

Popular enthusiasm was

"UNTIL RECENTLY," Peter Edson said in his syndicated column of September 22, "pictures of dead men—dead Americans that is—have been taboo. Pictures of the wounded have been passed only after the wounds have been washed up, after bandaging, after the maimed have been tucked between clean sheets in hospital bunks."

In pictures and text, he went on, OWI now is determined to tell the full story. But, he asked his readers, "Can you take it. Or do you think you should be spared the gorier details?"

A member passes that question on to fellow editors. Should horror pictures which the war is producing be printed? Your opinions are wanted for the next issue of THE BULLETIN.

matched by that of Mr. Jones who says:

"They were one of the finest newspaper promotional and community build-up enterprises it ever has been my pleasure to be connected with in 30 years of newspaper work. Exhibitors urged that the shows be repeated next year. The cost to the newspapers was nominal and the good will which accrued was many fold greater than the financial outlay."

Purely Personal

HOSPITABLE Harry M. Ayers, publisher of the Anniston Star, was host recently to all city and county officials of Calhoun County at a party given in Jacksonville, Ala., in honor of Hubert Lester, newly elected mayor of that city.

Vincent Dallman, Illinois State Register, attended the annual Copley Press conference in Coronado, came back enthusiastic about the meeting, based on the effort of the press to hasten permanent peace, and dewy about the "wonderland of flowers."

Repository Reveals Novel Way to Please All Its Readers

QUITE the most entertaining letters to the editor to come to our attention appear in the Canton Repository.

Take the one from Constant Reader, complaining that he submitted an item worthy of the front page and had to look through the whole paper to find it. He wrote:

"The trouble with you newspapers is that you don't have more space on the front page so all the important things can be printed there. Therefore I propose that you rotate the front page by dividing your total circulation each day by the number of pages and printing that many copies with each page in the paper as the front page. You may not understand, but read it over again and even you will get it. On some copies, the funnies would be the front page on some, the sports page would be on the front, and so on. This would make everybody happy. . . .

"I realize this would make some confusion, but it would not be half so complicated as my other idea, which is to print your newspaper on a big paper sack which the subscriber could blow up and look at. One place then would be just as good as another place, but it would present mechanical difficulties.

"Incidentally, the item I brought in was about my century plant blooming the other night. I am sure it would have interested a great many people if it had been given a better position. . . . Think over my suggestion. Be bright for a change. It might prove to be habit-forming, which would be a break for all of us."

These "letters to the editor" appear frankly under the by-line "Truman Twill," pseudonym of Darrell L. Mansell, chief editorial writer of the Repository. "Every now and then we razz ourselves in this fashion," says John D. Raridan, editorial director. "We on the staff enjoy it." Chances are Repository readers do too!

Leckrone Tells How Indianapolis Averted Threat of Race Rioting

Writing in the New York Times, Turner Catledge cited Indianapolis as a city which, for years, had a large Negro population but no real Negro problem. That harmonious state has been violently disrupted by the war, he said, attributing the change in part to the influx of white workers who lack the racial tolerance which characterized pre-war relations between colored and whites.

Following up the discussion of the racial crisis in the last BULLETIN, an Indianapolis member here reports by request on other angles involved, and on the part the newspapers have played in averting riots which seemed imminent when fantastic rumors spread and actual clashes occurred.

By WALTER LECKRONE
Editor, The Indianapolis Times

YES, WE DO HAVE a race problem, as Turner Catledge has quite accurately reported. Tension has ebbed and swelled, seems now (early September) to be somewhat relaxed. Essentially it is not unlike the situation in other industrial cities, accentuated perhaps by the fact that our Negro population is proportionately larger than that of most Northern cities.

War employment opportunities have thrown more Negroes into direct competition with white men and women, thousands of newcomers of both races with no stake in the community have tended to upset the old balance of tolerance, and the general awakening of Negro consciousness has made its contribution. Housing conditions here are not good, although Negro housing, I believe, is relatively better than in some other cities.

No Enemy Activity Found

There have, to be sure, been agitators both white and colored, seeking to foment trouble for their own selfish ends, but this, I am quite sure, is a symptom, not a cause. We found no evidence of enemy subversive activity, although the suspicion is always present that some of this must be involved.

Fantastic rumors circulated widely—in many cases the same rumors that preceded violence in other cities. These we traced, when possible, to the facts which invariably were quite different. A rumor that Negroes were arming for war proved to be

founded on the fact that pawnshop firearm sales had been abnormally high, and largely to Negro buyers, a direct result of the fact that many Negroes were badly frightened after the Detroit riots and had little confidence in adequate protection by the police if trouble started.

Familiar Fiction Cropped Up

Renewed assurances of equal treatment seem to have partly relieved this fear. Stories of impending attacks by whites on Negroes and vice versa always turned out to be fiction, as did the old familiar yarns about the Eleanor Clubs, the "Bump-em" Clubs, etc.

There were, of course, actual clashes. In one important war plant 6000 white men walked out for 24 hours because a Negro had been promoted to a more skilled (though not a supervisory) job. In another a white foreman was badly beaten by a Negro in an altercation over the assigning of three new Negro girl employees to a slightly more difficult, though higher paid, job than was given three white girls employed at the same time.

Prevention Is Goal

A white night watchman was killed after chasing a gang of Negro small boys who had been annoying him (arrests were made, no formal charges filed). Gangs of small boys, usually, but not always, Negro have attacked and beaten individuals on lonely streets at night, streetcars coming from a privately

owned amusement park, which does not admit Negroes, have been stoned.

Obviously any such incident, and there have been many like these, could touch off an explosion. Actually the city is well prepared to cope with violence—with city and state police, and units of nearby military police in readiness to move in swiftly.

This is not the solution. Merely quelling a riot, no matter how quickly, would be failure—preventing the beginning of a riot is the city's goal.

Newspapers Cooperated

Indianapolis' three daily newspapers (all edited by ASNE members, by the way) have been fully aware of the danger, intelligently trying to avert it. All publish the facts, but play down race violence, either here or elsewhere. We do not, for instance, identify as "Negro" any burglar, hold-up man or rapist so described by a frightened victim and otherwise unidentified. When the walkout closed on shift of the Allison factory we frankly printed the facts, though without the inflammatory statements of angry men involved in it. We try, within the limits of human frailty, to treat Negroes and whites in the news exactly alike.

Council Formed

This is perhaps a somewhat negative policy, but important in a situation where even one story, improperly handled, could conceivably be the signal for a riot. On the other side of the ledger we have kept in close touch with Negro leaders, possibly had some influence in shaping their course. We assisted in a small way in the formation of the Indianapolis Citizens Council, an inter-racial group formed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Council of Churches in the interest of improved race relations. Clergymen of all denominations responded to the appeal of this group, which we supported editorially, preached sermons debunking rumors and urging patience and understanding.

(Continued on back page)

PRESENTING 8 OF 17 MEMBERS WHO HAVE DONNED UNIFORMS



Major Talbot Patrick, Goldsboro News-Argus, top. (Harris & Ewing Photo)
Lieut. Paul C. Smith, San Francisco Chronicle, center, in the Marines. (Official U.S. Marine Corps Photo)

On Our Honor Roll

THREE NAMES have been added to the list of our members in service:

John P. Harris, Hutchinson News-Herald, commissioned a captain in AMG, is at Camp Custer, Mich.

Charles E. Green, Austin American-Statesman, joined the Navy, Lieut. (s.g.)

James S. Pope, Louisville Courier-Journal, is in the Office of Censorship.

From top down:

Commander William J. Conners Jr., Buffalo Courier-Express, now in Panama.

Major Burrows Matthews, Buffalo Courier-Express, School of Military Government, Charlottesville, Va. (Photos by Elizabeth Kahle)

Lieutenant B. E. Maiden-burg, Detroit Free Press, Pacific area.

Again, top to bottom:

Capt. James Russell Wiggins, St. Paul Dispatch & Pioneer Press, Air Corps Military Intelligence.

Tom Hanes, Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch, just back from temporary assignment as war correspondent.

Lieut. George R. Shoals, Rochester Democrat & Chronicle.

Clippings From Your Paper Can Bring Happiness to Boys in Eighth Air Force

AMONG the vivid impressions Secretary Walters gained at first hand on his trip to England was how much stories in the newspapers at home about the activities of the Eighth Air Force mean to the boys engaged in bomber and fighter operations against Germany. Their magnificent contribution to the war is recognized, but they rarely see our front pages. So, Mr. Walters came home with a plan.

"If every paper represented in the ASNE," he says, "will assign a particular person on its staff to take care of the following request, I am certain it will afford a great deal of happiness to a lot of fine boys in England."

"Lieut. Col. Lester A. Lear, Public Relations Officer, Hq. 8th Bomber Command, APO 634,

New York, N. Y., would like to have mailed to him daily, if possible, or at weekly intervals, all material which appears in your paper in regard to the 8th Bomber Command. The name of the paper and the date should be designated, either on the clippings or in an accompanying letter.

"Col. Lear says each crew member is deeply interested in what the folks at home say about his accomplishment. He eagerly reads every word which pertains to the activities of the heavy bombers based in England. Col. Lear is part of that organization and proud of it but does not want to ask for the clippings himself.

"In addition, Major Hal Ley-

shon, Public Relations Officer, U. S. Army Eighth Air Force, Hq. PRO, APO 887, New York, would like to have sent to him clippings dealing with all phases of our Air Force in England.

"I assured both these men they could depend on members of the ASNE to help with this project, which they consider an important factor in morale."

Col. Lear will have the clippings pasted up and circulated through all stations of the Bomber Command. Clippings sent to Major Leyshon will be made into albums and sent to fighter as well as bomber stations.

If your library staff is too busy, here's a suggestion: Ask for a volunteer anywhere in the office, perhaps someone with a heart interest, relative or friend, in the Eighth Air Force. Any questions that come up concerning handling of the clippings may be addressed to the Office of the Bulletin.

List of Sons in Service Grows; George Grimes Adds Four

LATEST REPORTS on members' sons in service bring the total to 80 and disclose a four-star father—George Grimes of the Wall Street Journal, formerly of the Omaha World-Herald.

Grimes boys in the Army are Lee, Lieut., Signal Corps, in Washington; Thomas M., Lieut., Tank Destroyers, Camp Hood, Texas; George E., Air Cadet, State College, Miss. The fourth, David C., is a Naval Air Cadet at Olathe, Kansas.

Manchester Boddy, Los Angeles Daily News, has two boys in service: Robert M., Lieut., Infantry, North African and Sicilian campaigns; Calvin J., Pvt., Army Air Corps.

Oliver K. Keller, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, adds two sons to the list: Daniel S., T/5 Signal Corps, USA; and Oliver J., Jr., AS, V-12, USNR.

William E. Scripps, Detroit News, also reports two sons: William J., Capt., Army Air Force, just returned from six months in Africa, now at Wright Field, Dayton; and Robert W.,

Coxswain, Navy. A grandson, James E. III, is in the Merchant Marine.

The others who swell the total are:

Richard J. Finnegan, Chicago Times; Richard Adams, 2d lieut., Camp Croft, S. C. Lieut. Finnegan enlisted early in 1942, was assigned for Signal Corps training at Camp Crowder, Mo., later to OCS at Fort Benning, where he won his commission in Infantry.

John Day Jackson, New Haven Register; William B., Pvt., Air Service, now at Lowry Field, Denver.

Santford Martin, Winston-Salem Journal and Twin City Sentinel; Santford Jr., Pvt., Fort Bragg, N. C., where he has just been graduated with honors from the cadre school, Field Artillery.

Ernest G. Smith, Wilkes-Barre Times Leader and Record; Andries DeWitt, lieut., Infantry. In Africa for nine months, Col. Smith's son may be in action in Italy by this time.

Tom Wallace, Louisville

Times; Henry F., staff officer, Merchant Marine.

Young Wallace tried to enlist in the Air Corps in 1940, was rejected because of pulmonary tuberculosis, tried to no avail to sell the Army docs on the idea that all they saw was "a few spots of scar tissue." Just after Pearl Harbor he nearly made the Army but on re-examination he was rejected, 4-F. Later accepted in the Naval Reserve, he went to Maritime School, until the X-rays caught up with him. Discharged, he applied for a junior assistant purser with the Merchant Marine. Since then he's been traveling around the world, and last month returned home from a five-month "cruise" largely spent dodging torpedoes.

William G. Vorpe, Cleveland Plain Dealer, brings the record of grandchildren in service to six. Lieut. Stephan L. David, the grandson who several months ago presented him with a great-grandchild, is in the Army Air Corps, has been in action around New Guinea since January, 1942, and has been cited for bravery.

Indianapolis

(Continued from page 5)

Recently the *Times* deliberately opened its "Hoosier Forum" (letters to the editor) column to a discussion of race problems, allowing a wide latitude of expression, but barring letters which were either deliberately or stupidly inflammatory and destructive. There has been great interest in this. It has led to many new contacts among Negroes, especially, and brought a surprising number of letters quite calm and constructive in tone, yet thoroughly awake to the problems involved.

It is still too soon to say the danger is past, but it does seem more remote than it did, and we are hopeful. All downtown theaters have opened their doors to Negroes in recent months (for the first time in history) and contrary to expectations in some quarters few Negroes have availed themselves of the opportunity to attend, and there has been no trouble about it. They do not patronize leading restaurants, but department stores have undertaken to treat them without discrimination. Much of the progress is no doubt due to the attitude of prominent Negroes who have wisely counseled their people to go very slowly in availing themselves of new privileges. Some groups, white and



Associated Press Photo

AS PRESIDENT of the Overseas Press Club, Member Barnett Nover presided at a meeting at which Prime Minister Churchill spoke. The associate editor of the *Washington Post* admits he's "still glowing from the thrill."

colored, which were responsible for some of the tension, apparently have become alarmed at their own handiwork and are now trying to allay it.

With luck we won't have any race riot here, and in time we may learn to live together in peace and tolerance, since we have to live together anyway.

OBITUARY

Helen Smith Hovey, wife of Member Lewis R. Hovey of the *Haverhill Sunday Record*, died September 18 in Haverhill, Mass. She was principal stockholder in the *Record* and a leader in civic work.

GREMLINS ARE OLD STUFF — Henry J. Heiskell, *Arkansas Gazette*

These Gremlins that infest the planes
Are old stuff to the papers.
We know their diabolic tricks,
And their Satanic capers.

An advertisement of a sale
Went haywire in its prices
For Gremlin hands had cut and slashed
With devastating slices.
And when this merchant's ad appeared
The women mobbed his store.
Those Gremlins offered bargains that
Were never seen before.

A debutante all innocent
Was victim of the types.
And Girlie groaned and Mama moaned,
And Dad gave vent to gripes.
No explanation satisfied,
Repeated o'er and o'er.

They held a hunch suspicion that
'Twas malice thought afore.

A single letter out of place
Brought sneer and jeer and snort,
From fellows once described as lewd
And of the baser sort.
They ribbed the hapless editor,
With jest and crack and gloat.
And was his face a lobster red?
And did they get his goat?
A stately lady crimson blushed.
(Sophronia was her name.)
She tonged that sheet four feet away
And dropped it in the flame.

Thus do the Gremlins pull their stuff
Of every impish sort.
And printers cannot thwart or foil,
Nor Proof Room can abort.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Down to Earth Discussion of Newspaper Problems Planned for Meeting; Members' Suggestions Asked

Question Box Offers Editors Opportunity to Air Their Views

THE PROGRAM for one day of the ASNE war conference in the Statler in Washington, January 21 and 22, is entirely up to the membership. And what the members will want, in the opinion of President Roberts, is discussion of newspaper problems pure and simple, for editors and by editors.

Military affairs have had a large place on the programs of the past few years. That was necessary and welcome, but by the time everything of a military nature that could be told has been told. And so, Mr. Roberts decided, "we'll give the meeting back to the editors."

Program Chairman Alexander Jones concurs, agreeing that it will be a distinct pleasure to have a meeting at which the theme is editorial problems. Multitudinous and acute as they are, the key decision to be made is: What subjects are most important? That questions do our members and other editors to answer from their own experiences?

The Question Box is open now. Suggestions should be addressed to Mr. Jones at the Washington Statler.

"If enough editors will submit their ideas," Mr. Jones says, "we can get a cross-section of opinion, and the program will be balanced on this basis."

It is still too early to announce dinner speakers, but the plans now being worked out give assurance that it will be an outstanding event.

Other details concerning the meeting are covered elsewhere in this issue.

LAST MONTH President Roberts appointed a committee to draft a resolution on the Society's stand on world press freedom. This is the text, prepared by Wilbur Forrest, *New York Herald Tribune*; Erwin D. Canham, *Christian Science Monitor*; and William Allen White, *Emporia Gazette*. Read it now. Discuss it and vote on it at the January meeting.

WHEREAS, the American Society of Newspaper Editors, conscious that a constantly widening area of freedom of the press is vital to the advancement of representative government and world peace, and moreover cognizant that its attainment is primarily dependent on the freedom of peoples, and

WHEREAS, international freedom of communications is a distinct forward step in order that news of international significance be widely known, and

WHEREAS, freedom of the press requires constant protection even in the areas where, as in the United States of America, its exercise as a right of the people has led to an enlightened public opinion,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Society pledges such support as is within its power to further the principle of worldwide freedom of communications and of the press, and that we condemn the practice in any government of regarding the press as an instrument of government which thereby renders it a menace to enlightenment and future peace.

Lawrence Favors Plan To Protect U. S. Press

AT ITS October meeting, the Board of Directors expressed considerable interest in a proposal by David Lawrence, *United States News*, that the Society should take active steps to defend the freedom of the press at home.

Mr. Lawrence thought the Society should consider employment of a lawyer who would be on the alert to advise the Society of any legislation or any court rulings which might eventually develop into a real peril to the freedom of the press and that the Society should equip itself with proper talent to enter actively into the protection of freedom of the press.

President Roberts suggested that a discussion of this interesting subject should be made a part of the program for the next annual meeting.

Tips to New Members Attending Convention

NO INVITATIONS to attend the annual meeting are extended; you're a member, therefore you are welcome, and we hope you will come.

This and the two succeeding issues of THE BULLETIN should give you all the information you need.

Members are privileged to buy tickets for guests for the dinner meeting. Yes, it is open to ladies and they enjoy it immensely.

New members are usually introduced at one session. Chances are that you already are well acquainted with other editors who will attend. If not, write Michael A. Gorman, Editor, *Flint Daily Journal*, Flint, Mich. As reception chairman, his job is to make new members feel at home.

Capital Committee Is Arranging For Hotel Rooms

YES, there will be a hotel room in Washington for you, so don't let the much publicized housing shortage deter you from attending the war conference, January 21 and 22.

Last year, the Greater National Capital Committee handled the arrangements with the result that everyone who followed instructions had adequate accommodations. Program Chairman Alexander F. Jones already has the GNCC working on similar plans for the January meeting.

Letters will be sent to every member of the Society, with a questionnaire to be filled in and returned. So far as possible, members' preferences as to the hotel they wish to stay at and the type of accommodations they want will be honored. If you can't get precisely what you want, remember that no one can in war-times, and it's something to be taken care of at all!

Plans also are being made to facilitate transportation through a central agency. Members will make their own arrangements for going to Washington; reservations for the accommodations you wish on the return trip will be handled by the transportation committee if you desire. Details will be announced either by direct mail or in the next BULLETIN.

Directors Hail Valor of Underground Press

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, at its semi-annual meeting, adopted the following resolution:

"To our colleagues, the editors of the underground press of the occupied nations, and to all their co-workers who aid them in the task of telling the truth in spite of the enemy, the American Society of Newspaper Editors sends you its greetings and its respectful admiration. We greet you as professional colleagues; we admire you as men who do, in constant and deadly peril, what we do in safety and honor—men who at the daily risk of your lives are upholding the noblest traditions of the free press as an essential instrument of free men. Each day you bring the truth to peoples whose bodies are in bondage but whose spirits are still free; and the truth will keep them free in spirit until the day when the united effort of the United Nations will restore the liberties of all men, everywhere."

THE FOLLOWING amendment to the by-laws will be submitted at the January meeting:

"Any member elected after October 1, 1943, who fails to attend the annual convention for three successive years shall be notified of this fact and if he fails to attend the next convention, shall be dropped from membership unless retained by vote of the officers and directors."

This is your official notice, as required by the by-laws. The proposed amendment has been approved by the Board of Directors, must now be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the members attending the meeting.

Society Puts \$5000 Into War Loan Bonds

THE REPORT of the treasurer, David Lawrence of the *United States News*, submitted to the Board at its meeting in Washington, showed that the Society now has a total of \$14,975.47.

On motion of Dwight Marvin of the *Troy Record*, whose endeavors in his five years as treasurer started the balance on its upward trend, the Board authorized Mr. Lawrence to purchase \$5,000 worth of negotiable war bonds, Third War Loan.

Members, Guests Meet Headliners At Reception

IT'S TIME, right now, to start thinking of your guest list for the annual dinner of the Society. Saturday evening, January 22, in the new Statler Hotel in Washington. Don't try to reserve your tickets yet; just listen to the plans.

The speakers and others at the head table will be as impressive, from the standpoint of national and international interest, as any group ever assembled in Washington. Looking over the prospective list, President Roberts decided, "It isn't enough for members and their friends to see them; they will want to meet them too." And so an innovation. The Society will be host to members and their guests at a reception preceding the dinner, giving everyone a chance to meet and mingle.

With the certainty that it's going to be a most distinguished affair, members will invite their most celebrated friends, admirals and generals, diplomats and high-ranking officials in our own government. Result: More acute headaches than ever before for the seating committee. Plans are being worked out now for the fairest possible arrangements, so that a member who invites a large and eminent party will not feel that his guests are slighted; so that the member who brings only one or two friends will find congenial company with a larger group; and so that the member who makes his reservations early, and sticks to his original arrangements, will have a good place in the banquet hall as reward for his cooperation.

The dinner, too, will be at the Statler, second floor and no waiting for crowded elevators.

The ballroom is ample to accommodate all our members and their guests, imposing no limits on the size of your party. So make up your list now and wait for the instructions on when, where and how to make your reservations in the next BULLETIN.

Deadline for Applications For Membership Is January 1

By DWIGHT YOUNG

Editor in Chief, *The Dayton Journal-Herald*
(Chairman, ASNE Membership Committee)

THE MEMBERSHIP Committee is deeply grateful to the membership of the Society for its helpfulness in our work this year. Largely as a result of this assistance we were enabled to submit to the Board of Directors at a meeting October 1 in Washington, a list of 31 applications from cities of more than 50,000 population, all of which were approved.

In addition the Board authorized the committee to extend formal invitations to five editors from cities of less than 50,000 population, making a total of 36 new members so far this year.

Heretofore the Board has continued to accept applications for membership right up to the eve of the Society's annual meeting. This policy, however, led to so much last-minute confusion that the Board has adopted a new rule. Hereafter, starting this year, no applications received later than two weeks prior to the annual meeting will be accepted by the Board.

This change is due to the fact that all applications received after the mid-year meeting of the Board must be voted upon by mail.

Accordingly it has been decided to make January 1 the deadline for membership applications this year.

This leaves only a few weeks in which to complete this year's membership work. Therefore it is particularly urged that anyone who may have a prospective member in mind communicate immediately either with the chairman or some other member of the Membership Committee.

This is necessary since it requires considerable time to send out application blanks, get them filled out and properly signed by two sponsoring members and then into the secretary's hands, preliminary to the Board's balloting.

Our committee welcomes all suggestions of good membership

material. However, members should remember that the Board accepts applications from cities of less than 50,000 population ONLY at its October meeting.

For the convenience of the Society in suggesting eligible prospects the members of the Membership Committee and their addresses are:

JAMES STUART, Indianapolis *Star*

JULIAN MILLER, Charlotte *Observer*

GEORGE W. HEALY, Jr., New Orleans *Times-Picayune*

OLIVER J. KELLER, Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette*

MILTON TABOR, Topeka *Daily Capital*

WALTER P. JONES, McClatchy Newspapers

GEORGE OLDS, Springfield (Mo.) *News-Leader and Press*

STANLEY P. BARNETT, Cleveland *Plain Dealer*

JAMES KERNEY, Jr., Trenton *Times Newspapers*

DWIGHT YOUNG, Chairman, *Dayton Journal-Herald*.

Elections Announced From Smaller Cities

UNDER the by-laws, not more than five members can be elected to the Society each year from cities of less than 50,000 population. Mr. Young announces the following successful candidates in this group for 1943.

FRED C. CHRISTOPHERSON, Associate Editor, *The Argus-Leader*, Sioux Falls, S. D.

MERLE R. CHESSMAN, Editor and Publisher, *Astorian Budget*, Astoria, Ore.

MELVIN M. OPPEGARD, Editor and Publisher, *Grand Forks Herald*, Grand Forks, N. D.

PAUL S. WALCOTT, Editor, *Recorder-Gazette*, Greenfield, Mass.

EDWARD A. WYATT, Editor, *The Progress-Index*, Petersburg, Va.

Still More Sons Of ASNE Members Reported in Service

A NEW MEMBER, Bert A. Teeters of Springfield (O.) *Newspapers* reports two sons in the same outfit, Joseph G., staff sergeant, and Bert A., Jr., Pfc., Infantry. The brothers have been in active service in the Pacific area for nearly two years and at present are in the Solomons.

Kenneth D. Tooill of the *Toledo Blade* has a son, Cpl. Jack P., now with the service of Ordnance and Supplies in the Italian campaign.

H. D. Paulson of the *Fargo Forum* lost his political editor when son John D. went into service. He is a 2d lieutenant, assigned to the Provost Marshal General Department and now at Fort Custer, Mich.

The distinguished service as war correspondent of Richard Mowrer, son of Paul Scott Mowrer of the *Chicago Daily News*, was covered in *Editor & Publisher*, October 9, in a story on the Mowrer trio. Richard, who was with the British 8th Army, when it drove Rommel's forces out of North Africa, next covered the invasion of Sicily and has recently been assigned to Cairo.

Lt. Carrick White Heiskell, son of J. N. Heiskell, *Arkansas Gazette*, is now in India.

Dwight Marvin, *Troy Record*, mentions a son in North Africa.

This brings to 86 the total of sons in service reported to date.

Two Members Honored

LLOYD M. FELMLY and Col. Ernest G. Smith last month received honorary degrees, Doctor of Letters, from their Alma Mater, Lafayette College.

Col. Smith, *Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader and Record*, is an ASNE member of long standing.

Mr. Felmy joined the Society two years ago. His connection with the *Newark News*, of which he is now managing editor, dates from his graduation from Lafayette and was interrupted only by Army service in World War I, as 1st lieutenant in the Transportation Corps.

Horror Pictures—Effective or Only Shocking?

REPLIES TO THE QUESTION "What is your policy on horror pictures of the war?" indicate that the OWI might well consider a wider survey on the extent to which these pictures are being used. Some members are definitely against them. Others say they judge each picture separately. No one reporting is enthusiastic about their value as a stimulant to the war effort, and some feel

they may have a deleterious effect.

The Canton Repository and Editor & Publisher have announced their stand against the use of such pictures in editorials. Responses of new members, queried for further views, afford gratifying evidence that the October Class of '43 is composed of editors who already are taking an active interest in the affairs of the Society.

Editor & Publisher

FROM AN EDITORIAL in Editor & Publisher, Arthur T. Robb, editor:

"Much as we sympathize with any reasonable effort to bring the facts of total war home to the American people, we can't become enthusiastic over the idea of pictures whose only reason for being is their ghastly horror. . . .

"No picture, no feat of the human imagination can convey the real horrors of a battlefield to one who has never seen or smelled one. In our opinion, no attempt to do so by pictures will cause one more tank, ship or plane, to be added to our armament; indeed, the ultimate effect might be to increase present neuroses due to war and hamper vital production. We shall have plenty of the innate terrors of war and it hardly seems the function of the newspaper to emphasize them with illustrations."

E. Z. Dimitman Speaks for Chicago Sun

I FAVOR a realistic report on the war. The American people are entitled to know exactly what goes on and how. I am confident people can take it.

As far as horror pictures are concerned, I think each editor must consider his own readers and what they have been accustomed to. Newspapers which have regularly printed horror pictures of automobile accidents, fires, etc., will, no doubt, continue that policy by publishing the striking pictures now being released of our own troops.

Many editors, on the other hand, have been extremely cautious in past years in publishing such news pictures. I must confess that I am in that group. I have always given thought to the man or

Canton Repository

THE CANTON REPOSITORY (Joseph K. Vodrey, managing editor, and John D. Raridan, editorial director) complimented the OWI editorially on its improvement in clearing more factual news and more promptly. As to OWI policy on pictures, it said:

"Each photograph will be judged by this newspaper not for its probable effect on some complacent citizen who probably can't be jarred out of his complacency anyway, but for its certain effect on the mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers and sweethearts. They do not need to be reminded that violent death walks with their loved ones on the battlefields. As a matter of decent taste and ordinary restraint, this newspaper does not propose to add to the heavy burden they already bear by any attempts to jar a lethargic minority into hysterical awareness of the horrors of war."

woman at the breakfast table who opens the newspaper which has entered his home as an old and trusted friend. Then, with his eggs, he unfolds the paper and there is a horror picture that offends his appetite.

I feel that each newspaper editor must work this problem out for himself. He knows his newspaper and he knows his readers.

In the case of the Chicago Sun, we have published a limited number of the recently released pictures because we feel that our people should know, and that they want to know.

On the other hand, I do not believe in publishing each and every one that comes in. I do not think a repetition of gruesome and hor-

rible battle scene pictures, showing dead American boys, will help to win the war in any way. When the use of a picture of this nature is timely and fits in with the day's news, I think it should be used, but I do not believe that they should be used in any mistaken belief that their publication will increase War Bond sales, or armament production, or that such action will hasten victory.

But, every editor for himself.

E. Z. DIMITMAN
Executive Editor,
The Chicago Sun

Bad Policy, Says Tabor of Topeka

ON THE SUBJECT of printing pictures of dead or wounded soldiers—we DO NOT print them, and don't intend to. We know it is bad policy. They do no good, and irreparable harm.

Mothers and fathers realize that their boys in combat service are in danger. Many fine Kansas boys have been killed or wounded. Every mother lives in fear that her boy may be next. It is cruel to remind them of the gruesome side of the war, needlessly.

We think the OWI did wrong in releasing that type of pictures. They do not inspire patriotic Americans to harder work. Indeed, fathers and mothers in war production plants may be seriously hampered by seeing pictures of soldiers lying dead—their imaginations may well picture their own sons in the same plight.

We do not print pictures showing dead Japs or Huns, either. And for the same reasons.

MILTON TABOR,
Managing Editor,
The Topeka Daily Capital

OUR POLICY is to print such pictures as are not offensive to our readers, or more particularly, to us.

LEE ELLMAKER,
Publisher,
Philadelphia Daily News

Rock Island Argus Still Undecided

TO DATE we have avoided using some of the war horror pictures, but we have not yet reached a definite policy in regard to them. It is very likely, as the war progresses, we will feel that it is necessary to do so because of their appearance in other publications, particularly in the magazine field, although it is our natural inclination to shrink from publishing pictures of this type in a family newspaper. On the other hand, their publication probably would stimulate war efforts on the home front.

JOHN W. POTTER, Editor,
The Rock Island Argus

War or Peace, Park Prefers Eye-Appeal

JOHN A. PARK, publisher of the Raleigh Times, is definitely against any repulsive pictures but seems to feel that the tendencies of the times are overriding his personal reactions.

With his letter he enclosed tear sheets from his own paper, in which ads for the United War Fund appeared. "The picture of a mother as a victim of the war is the writer's opinion is more pathetic than horrible," he commented. "On the other hand, the picture of a starving Greek child is an example of what we would find both horrible and repulsive."

A dozen years ago it was the established policy of the Raleigh Times to hold out the picture of a corpse, of a man being hanged, electrocuted, or as the victim of a fatal accident. Probably it was the tabloids and Life magazine that changed our attitude by example and performance. In our publications apparently

nothing is held back as being too horrible or repulsive."

Any unpleasant picture, regardless of subject, is distasteful to Mr. Park. He admits he "got in dither" recently about a single column cut of a noted woman writer on the front page. "It was a jar," he says, "to see the homely critter who was really not worth a picture on the front, back or elsewhere."

He believes in the power of eye appeal to attract attention and, contrariwise, he is convinced that repulsive pictures repel readers.

E. M. Boyd Believes Words Should Suffice

FOR A LONG PERIOD of years the Enquirer has had a policy of not using horror pictures of any nature, and we have not deviated in World War II.

However, recently we have used several pictures of our wounded boys. Unless the war takes a decidedly bad turn I don't believe it will be necessary to publish too many of these pictures to keep our people buying bonds or at their jobs. Word pictures, we hope, will suffice.

EVERETT M. BOYD,
Managing Editor,
The Cincinnati Enquirer

Coulter Opposes All Horror Art

WE HERE ARE OPPOSED to publishing horror pictures of dead or dying Americans. I had in mind specially an OWI release in connection with the Third War Loan Drive which showed a group of paratroopers stacked up like cordwood.

You can be very certain that this would have bothered the mothers of boys in the Sicilian campaign no end, particularly if they had not heard from their sons for some time. The picture, a wirephoto, was not clear and it would not take much imagination for the distraught mother to believe that one of the boys might represent her son.

IN MY OPINION, war horror pictures should be judged photo by photo. Some of them are very dramatic and effective; others are too blood-soaked and undignified to do any good and are not proper for delivery into American homes. Our policy is to judge each picture on its merits.

EDWARD M. POOLEY,
Editor,
El Paso Herald-Post

Consequently, we do not publish this type of art.

PREVOST COULTER,
Acting Managing Editor,
Duluth Herald & News-Tribune

No Shocking Pictures In Deseret News

WE ARE NOT USING very many horror pictures of the war. We are not using pictures at all which show dead Americans. I think that our people here at home could very well do with constant reminders of what our men at the front are suffering, so that we at home will work harder. But there is such a thing as shocking people, especially mothers, to no avail, and I think showing dead Americans comes in this category.

This is about all we bar, however, for we do believe in picturing realistically most of the unpleasant phases of warfare.

RALPH B. JORDAN,
Managing Editor,
Deseret News

Question of Judgment Says Edward Lindsay

IN GENERAL, it seems to me that we need not have a policy, in editing newspapers, about such pictures. Each picture can be judged on its merit and if it appears to be in bad taste, I would hope it would not be used. On the other hand, if it tells something that seems important, I see no reason for omitting it.

EDWARD LINDSAY, Editor,
Decatur Herald and Review

We Classify Our Reporters

The Scene: Any Newspaper Office Where Editors Struggle Valiantly with Wage-Hour Regulations

By PAUL SCOTT MOWRER

Editor, Chicago Daily News

"I KNOW it's crazy," said Lynn. "So are a lot of other things. That's not the point. It's the law, and we've got to do it."

"But you can't lump reporters together as if they worked on machines," Ev protested. "They aren't interchangeable. Every one of our men is an individual writer, with his own gifts and defects."

"I know all that," said Lynn. "A reporter on a story," I said, "is a specialist. It's his story. He's supposed to know all about it. He represents the paper in this particular activity. He has to have judgment and initiative. We can't pull him out of it in the middle somewhere, and put another man in."

"Listen," said Lynn. "I agree it's cockeyed. What of it? Now let's start. What about George? Is he a special writer? Or just a reporter?"

"Well, he writes special stories," said Ev. "I suppose he's a special writer."

"Put down special writer," said Lynn.

"What difference does it make?" I asked.

"Why," said Lynn, "if he's a special writer, or a columnist, he doesn't get time and a half for overtime."

We talked about Jim and Eddie and Frank and John, and so far as we could see, they were all special writers, on occasion.

"Wait a minute," said Gene. "It says here he has to be original and creative, and he can't be a special writer if he spends more than twenty per cent of his time on routine. For example, it says 'The writing of fiction, to the extent it may be found on a newspaper, would also be considered as exempt work.'"

"No fakers need apply," muttered Clem.

"But they all have to spend some time on routine, or we

couldn't get the paper out," said Ev.

"As much as twenty per cent?"

"Sure. Sometimes more, sometimes less."

"Then cross out special writer and put down reporter."

"On all of them?"

"We'd have to keep a time check," said Ev, "to find out about that twenty per cent."

"But suppose we send John on a trip to New York," I said. "Do we pay time and a half while he's riding on the Century at our expense, sleeping his head off?"

"No," said Gene, "it says here, out of town trips are excepted."

"Then how will we know how many hours a day he works after he gets to New York?"

"Well, you just take his word for it."

"I don't see what it's all about," said Clem. "Our men aren't complaining. They seem to like to work, especially out of town. They like to take trips."

"Next," said Lynn. "What about Mary?"

"She was a special writer until she finished that series yesterday," said Ev, "but I guess today she's just a reporter."

"What have we been doing about overtime?" asked Gene.

"Why," said Clem, "if a fellow works a while longer one day, we make it up to him another."

"That's all right if it's in the same week," said Gene.

"But suppose it happens Saturday," said Clem. "Can't we make it up to him Monday?"

"No. That would be the next week."

"You know Al is working an extra day just now," said Ev.

"He asked to."

"At time and a half?"

"No. Straight time."

"But that's against the law," said Gene.

"But it gets him more money," said Clem.

"How can that be?"

"Because time and a half means over 40 hours a week, and Al only works 35, more or less, so time and a half on 40, plus two, would be less than straight time on 35, plus seven."

"It's like Bob Casey said," remarked Ev. "Nobody was going to make him work any 40 hours a week."

"You see," I said, "it's slightly irregular—reporting. Some days you work hard and some days are easy—you never know. Sometimes you just have to live with a story, and even eat and sleep with it."

"I know," said Lynn, wearily. "Next name?"

Three Papers Sending Air Force Clippings; Volunteers Needed

FIRST newspaper to respond to the request of Secretary Walters to send clippings about 8th Air Force activities to public relations officers in England is the Canton Repository. Miss Jane Becker is undertaking this labor of love.

Next to check in is the Buffalo Evening News, where Ray Zawadzki has volunteered for the task. Mrs. Helen Elden is doing the same work for the Minneapolis Star Journal and Tribune.

The boys in the bombers and fighters over Germany, the ground forces that are supporting them, want these newspaper stories that tell of their valor and their triumphs. They need this recognition to counteract the discouraging news from home, of conflict in Washington, of strikes everywhere, of civilians grousing about rationing and shortages.

Some members have replied that their library staffs are too overburdened to undertake this additional chore. That's understandable. Yet it's a small and interesting job for some volunteer time. Can you find a volunteer in your office?

For complete details of the plan, consult the October issue of the Bulletin. For further information, write the Office of THE BULLETIN.

Introducing Two Recent Members You Will Meet in January

GEORGE W. HEALY, Jr.



And George DID! What's What They Say at the Times-Picayune

AMONG new members from the Deep South, ASNE this year required George W. Healy, Jr., vice-president and managing editor of the New Orleans Times-Picayune. The slogan, "Let George do it," became standard around the Times-Picayune office after this George joined the staff in 1926. George did it so well he was named assistant city editor in 1930, became city editor in 1931, drew the treasurer's post in 1939, and last year was honored with a vice-presidency.

By appointment of Byron Price, he serves as Louisiana mission-ary for the Office of Censorship. Just to keep time from hanging heavy on his hands, he also helps out with community chores as director of the New Orleans neighborhood for the Blind; of the Red Cross chapter; of the Chess Club; and as member of the Southern Yacht Club's governing board. Sailing, incidentally, is his favorite diversion and

the Club's log rates him "expert skipper." He is a member also of the Boston Club, the Round Table Club and Sigma Nu. To take care of his idle moments, President Roberts appointed him to the ASNE Membership Committee.

Biographical data: Born in Natchez, Miss. Attended old Stanton College and the University of Mississippi. President of the "Old Miss" Class of 1926. Served briefly with the Knoxville Sentinel. Married Miss Margaret Hoy Alford, also a Mississippian, in 1927. They have two sons: George III and Floyd Alford Healy.

Moore's Ambition: To Explain Farmer's Views to City Folks

ARTHUR MOORE started newspaper life on the Daily Pajaronian of Watsonville, Cal., in 1937 and now is editor of the Daily Pantagraph in Bloomington, Ill. He maintains this is a career unmatched in American journalism because there aren't any other

ARTHUR MOORE



FROM time to time, as space permits, THE BULLETIN will introduce some of the newer members of the Society in brief biographical sketches. Messrs. Moore and Healy start the procession.

papers with names like those.

Born in McCool Junction, Neb., in 1905 he went to California with his family in 1914. "Too young to protest," he says. "I thought corn grew everywhere."

He graduated from Grinnell College, Iowa, in 1927. After short tours on the Pajaronian and the Sun-Star of Merced, Cal., he landed on the San Francisco News. He was doing the police beat when he left in 1929 for the San Diego Sun, partly to join the copy desk there, but chiefly to marry the society editor.

Mr. Moore was made managing editor of the Sun in 1934 and the following year joined the Pantagraph in the same capacity. Five years later he was made editor.

For his hobby he does magazine writing—when three daughters permit. "I like," he says, "to explain farm opinion to city people, trying three times in the New Republic over the past year. I don't see things getting any better." Undaunted, he made another effort in a recent issue of the Atlantic Monthly.

PNPA Changes Date To Avoid Conflict

THE Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association had already had the date of its meeting set for January 21 and 22 when the ASNE war conference was announced for the same days. William N. Hardy, PNPA manager, advises that the Pennsylvania publishers will meet January 28 and 29 instead. This gracious cooperation permits editors who are members of both societies to attend the national and the state meeting.

Fat Salvage Drive Needs Prodding; National Average Is 43.5% of Quota

LAST APRIL President Roberts asked ASNE members to get behind the fat salvage drive. "Government officials," he said, "have laid information before the ASNE Board to the effect that the fat shortage is one of the most serious problems facing the government."

THE BULLETIN's forecast, "Publicity alone won't do it," has proved correct. Recent OWI figures show that the nation's housewives are contributing only 43.5 percent of the required quota.

Three states prove that it can be done, despite the smaller quantities of meat purchasable under rationing. Nevada contributed 167.9 percent of its quota; South Dakota, 133.6 percent; and Utah 102.2 percent. Of those that did not reach their quotas, Arkansas, 98.9, and Florida, 98.0, came closest to it.

Sixteen states are down in the 30 percents. Among them are Alabama, Georgia, New York, New Jersey, Missouri, Montana, Wisconsin, Texas and Virginia.

Geographical location gives no clue to the cause of success or failure. OWI officials concerned with the problem admit they can draw no conclusions from the figures and know only that we need more fat for the war and we aren't getting it.

Here's a problem for promotion managers or women's editors to tackle. Any newspaper which devises a plan for getting fat out of the kitchen, and into the explosives and medicinal salves for which it is used, is urgently asked to report it to THE BULLETIN for dissemination among other ASNE members.

There's no end to the imperative civilian efforts which newspapers are asked to back, yet some of them must take priorities over others. We asked the OWI to name a few that are urgent problems pertaining to women, with this response:

The turnover rates in war plants are of great concern. Newspapers have done a swell

job all over the country of giving this situation good play, but the problem isn't licked yet.

Increased recruitment for the WAVES is needed; the week of November 15 is to be the first peak of this drive.

And, a bit in the future comes the campaign to get people to give war bonds and stamps for Christmas. This begins on Armistice day, will reach its peak just before Christmas.

Newspapers Need More Editorials Like This One of Patterson's

MEMBER Grove Patterson has a fairly high boiling point but he reached it, the other day, when he heard again the old canard that advertisers control newspapers. He wrote in the Toledo Blade:

"The only thing an advertiser is interested in is circulation. That's the only thing he wants and the only thing he buys. He has something to sell. He seeks the best medium through which to get his message to the public. He may, like other folks, read the editorial page, or he may, like other folks, never read it. I don't know. Anyway, he wouldn't put up a nickel, as far as the newspaper is concerned, except for one thing—the opportunity to reach that newspaper's circulation with his message. . . . Thinking is a difficult and a painful process and I suppose it is too much to expect loose talkers, either in public or private meetings, to think things through."

But not all critics, do you think, Grove?, are incapable of straight thinking. Sometimes they simply don't know how newspapers operate. Sure as we are of our own earnest efforts to make newspapers as good as is humanly possible, we forget that readers are not always in possession of the full and true facts. We need more of the enlightening propaganda that your editorial contains.

GREMLINS

By J. N. Heiskell

A CORRECTION deserves the same prominence as the error, so there it is—J. N. Heiskell, in 14 pt. type. The editor of the Arkansas Gazette is the author of the verses in the last BULLETIN. "Henry J. Heiskell" to whom they were credited, is a euphonious but inaccurate composite of J. N. Heiskell and H. J. Haskell.

Mr. Heiskell writes: "I should be glad to acquire the journalistic reputation and standing of Henry J. Haskell, editor of the Kansas City Star, but I feel sure Mr. Haskell would not be willing to trade."

Apologies to both members, but obviously there's no more appropriate place for a gremlin to lurk than in a gremlin poem.

Speaking of names, and their elusive qualities, THE BULLETIN and the secretary's office have been listing our Topeka Daily Capital member as Milton Tabor, while the offices of the president and the membership chairman have held out staunchly for "Taber." We put the discrepancy up to the real authority in the matter. He writes:

"Dwight Young started the -ER business, which is understandable, since Louis J. Taber is an Ohioan. He also is a cousin of mine, and he realizes that some of his ancestors erred when they changed the spelling of our name—in his case. It would be fine if you could inform all of the ASNE officers that my name should be spelled TABOR."

With the January meeting, the membership list will be printed again in the annual Proceedings. Any member who is not satisfied with the present listing of his name is invited to notify us.

Son Killed in Action

Lt. Marc F. Pitts, missing since June 13 when the Fortress on which he was bombardier failed to return from Germany, was killed on that raid, the Adjutant General's office announced on October 12. He is the son of Alice Fox Pitts and Fredric G. Pitts.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

New York Times Publisher Views Guild Shop

Arthur H. Sulzberger Resists Guild Only in News Department

By ARTHUR H. SULZBERGER, Publisher, The New York Times



ARTHUR H. SULZBERGER

THE ISSUE of the so-called Guild shop in news and editorial departments is as simple as it is fundamental. In my judgment, no publisher who is concerned with an objective presentation of the news can fulfill his responsibility if he permits any common denominator, other than Americanism, to exist in the news departments of his newspaper. He must, therefore, resist the Guild shop.

I have never made the charge, although others have, that members of the Guild have shown bias because of affiliation with the union. I have argued, rather, that since individual bias cannot be avoided in any report or any aspect of life, for that matter, it is the publisher's duty to try to prevent collective bias, and that he can do this by keeping his editorial departments open to all good newspapermen be they Catholics, Protestants or Jews, Democrats or Republicans, pro-Guild or anti-Guild. He cannot be expected to count noses to see that every group is represented on his staff. He can, however, make certain that none is barred.

I have frequently cited the case of what would happen in a group of Americans talking about the French if no Frenchman were present. My fear has

been that someone would use a derogatory phrase—speak of the French as "frogs," or what-not—and that the conversation would thereupon become biased solely by reason of the words employed. It has been my contention that the mere presence of a Frenchman in the group would avoid this type of thoughtless bias.

I was concerned, too, with the reaction of newspaper readers and the bias they would expect to find in columns of a newspaper whose news department was made up of any special denomination. Would the public, during the Spanish Civil War, have trusted a newspaper known to employ only Catholics? Would the reports of the outrages against Jews in pre-war Germany have been credited if only Jews in turn handled the news? These Catholic and Jewish newsmen might have been the best

Duty, as He Sees It, Is to Prevent Collective Bias

there are; but large segments of the world would not have found their work acceptable.

And only recently I received permission to quote Mr. William Green as to his complaint to me that the American Federation of Labor could not get a fair break in the news because the CIO controlled the Guild, to which statement I had replied that I did not agree with him but feared he might be right if the Guild succeeded in gaining the closed shop in editorial departments.

On the other hand, I have only one concern regarding the Guild shop for other than editorial workers, and that is that it is the same union which covers both groups. A bona fide separation of these groups—and I stress the question of good faith—would, in my judgment, advance the office workers' chance of securing a union shop by removing the chief objection to it.

On the Times we have many closed shop agreements with unions. We benefit from them in many ways, primarily by knowing what our competitors are paying for similar work. I don't quite see how clerical work can be standardized to fit union shop practice but, separated from the editorial departments, I have no moral objections to considering it.

Quite the contrary. I have always felt that the white collar worker in the newspaper business received short shrift and

(Continued on page four)

ASNE MEETING TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON NEXT APRIL
BOARD APPROVES CHANGE OF DATE — STORY ON PAGE 3

Okay, Mr. Jones; Here Are Suggestions For the Program as You Requested

AMONG the subjects suggested to Alexander F. Jones of the Washington Post, program chairman, for convention shop talks are several that will win a hearty amen from other members, particularly the problem of paper conservation.

Racial Conflicts

Carl M. Saunders, Jackson Citizen Patriot, says his biggest problem is "how to make a police reporter out of a society girl who has never been on a beat and whose mother doesn't like the thought of her associating with police, deputy sheriffs and court bailiffs."

He doesn't expect the answer to that one from a round table discussion but he does believe further discussion of the handling of inter-racial conflicts and problems would be profitable. He'd like specific suggestions for policy. For instance, citing a rape case, likely to develop into murder as the girl was critically injured, he says: "We did not feel that we could in our news story suppress her identification of the assailant as a Negro, yet we did attempt to submerge that angle as much as possible. This was followed yesterday by two additional attacks on white women, in each case the attacker being identified as a Negro. We printed that fact, although I doubt if we were right, since I suspect during the present tension every woman who sees a man moving toward her in the dark will judge him black, that being a subconscious reaction to these events."

Handling of this type of news is such a delicate problem that Mr. Saunders would like to know what other papers do under similar circumstances.

He also wants to know whether anything can be done to prevail upon syndicates to have their political columnists, who are writing as expansively as in the lush days, edited more closely at the source instead of

leaving the burden to the over-worked desks of individual papers. And he would welcome a discussion of "what happens to local news when we put the squeeze on the general news content of the paper."

Newsprint Limitation

Past President Donald J. Sterling, formerly of WPB and now back at the Portland Journal, suggests a discussion of how different newspapers have met the newsprint limitation orders, especially on the news side. He reminds us that successive mandatory cuts "could have been overcome had the brothers been willing to face the facts of life a year ago." He recalls a very informative talk on this subject delivered by Member Dwight Perrin of the Philadelphia Bulletin at the AP managing editors' meeting in Chicago last September, thinks a similar discussion at this time would be interesting.

Naval Censorship

John R. Herbert, Quincy Patriot Ledger, writes:

"If any other member of the ASNE has been bothered by Navy censorship as I have, I think we might very well discuss the Navy's handling of this subject. I can remember a convention when a representative of the Navy presented a glowing

picture of how the Navy handled public relations and how anxious the Navy was to make friends with the newspapers. This particular officer was transferred soon after, and I guess the spirit of his manuscript was destroyed forever. At least this is the impression I have on many occasions when trying to deal with some of the men handling Navy public relations."

News Channelizing

Harold Hartley, Toledo Times, suggests this question:

"Shall newspapers ignore the channelizing of news in political offices, and are newspapers prepared to attack this problem with complete unity?"

He adds: "I am sure others will submit this same problem which is closing in on the free press of the country."

Marshall and King

Harold A. Fitzgerald, Pontiac Daily Press, votes for repeat engagements of Gen. Marshall, "who delivered the outstanding talk we had in 1943" and Admiral King, "in view of the increasing importance of his activities."

On newspaper topics: "Possibly the most important problem of our own is the question of reducing news content."

Question Box Open

With these excellent suggestions—and ample time for other members to make theirs—Mr. Jones is off to a good start in giving members the kind of meeting they want.

"Come Loaded with Ideas for Action"—Roberts

EVERY member read with approval the protest President Roberts made to the White House and the OWI on Reuters' advance release of news of the Roosevelt-Churchill-Chiang Kai-shek conference. Following that protest, Mr. Roberts sent this message to THE BULLETIN:

"The handling of Cairo conference news presents an urgent problem to our press if we are to keep fully informed. I sincerely trust the membership will come to our Washington conference loaded with ideas and views for action on the subject, and particularly with suggestions that will help to avoid a repetition of that situation in the future."

ASNE Will Meet In Washington In April 1944

THE 22nd annual meeting of the Society, announced for January, has been postponed until its traditional time in April.

This change, announced by Alexander F. Jones of the Washington Post, has the approval of the program committee, which he heads, and of the Board of Directors. Several unalterable factors entered into the decision. The original date set depended on events which marched ahead of the scheduled time-table. A meeting in January was still feasible, but no longer a must. Meanwhile the Washington calendar was rapidly filling with other banquets, chief among them the Jackson Day dinner. There literally wasn't a good night left for the ASNE banquet, or enough good waiters to go around, and possibly no choice food available either!

Mr. Jones and his committee saw no point to subjecting the members to the growing inconveniences of a January meeting. And so the pendulum swung back to April when, as in peacetimes, the conference will be held the week before the ANPA convention. This means, among other advantages, that distant members attending the east coast

meetings can make one convenient trip instead of two.

Nothing but the time has been changed. (Date still to be announced, dependent upon the ANPA meeting.) As originally planned, the 1944 meeting will be held in Washington at the Hotel Statler. Promises of a bang-up program remain inviolate. The banquet will be of a nature to command the largest attendance in our history. The reception, at which members and their guests will be guests of the Society, is still on the schedule.

The only difference, aside from the date: More time to anticipate that Washington trip and to plan for it.

Plan for Reservations To Be Announced

PLANS in the making for facilitating handling of banquet reservations, reported in the last BULLETIN, have been completed. Details are withheld because of the postponement—for who knows now who his guests will be next April?

Treasurer David Lawrence, of the program committee, has evolved a plan designed to remove the snarls from this always knotty problem and to eliminate the queue at the registration desk. Please don't jump the gun in making your reservations; wait for the complete announcement.

Ten New Members Elected; Applications Still Open

THE MEMBERSHIP committee headed by Dwight Young of the Dayton Herald and Journal announces that ten new members have been elected by mail ballot of the Board of Directors.

MOSES H. WILLIAMS, managing editor, Worcester Telegram and Gazette

ANTHONY J. O'MALLEY, managing editor, Scranton Times

JOHN DONALD FERGUSON, President and editor, Milwaukee Journal

JENKIN LLOYD JONES, editor, Tulsa Tribune

JACK FOSTER, editor, Rocky Mountain News, Denver

RICHARD P. CARTER, associate editor, Roanoke World-News

CARL K. STUART, managing editor, Daily Oklahoman and Oklahoma City Times

A. VERNON CROOP, acting managing editor, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

WILLIAM P. STEVEN, managing editor, Tulsa Tribune

ROBERT M. BLOOD, managing editor, Manchester Union-Leader

As the convention has been postponed, applications for membership will be accepted until April 1 instead of the earlier deadline originally announced.

Dear Boss:

ANYWAY, the proofreader said she missed my informal reports since they've been crowded out by more important news.

Figuring on a January meeting, as we were, the hotel arrangements are all set for April. I wish members could have been in the huddle with the Statler office. While editors are primarily concerned with intellectual affairs, it does seem to me they enjoy creature comforts plus a touch of luxury at the conventions; and they will have them at the Statler. Plenty of space; no unpleasant crowding. Convention rooms are conveniently arranged, one easy flight up from the lobby, and the spacious banquet hall is really lovely.

I never knew that Mr. Jones is an epicurean, but you should see him wrinkle his nose at the suggestion of chicken. Even capon under a fancy name is just chicken to him. Crabmeat will do for one luncheon, if it's dolled up in a very special sauce. And so on. Between him and the Statler, the food is really going to be superior.

The maitre d'hotel says we need hors d'oeuvres for guests to nibble at the reception. With children starving all over the world, it seems almost wicked to me to pay \$200 or more so that well-fed editors can nibble. "Well," said Mr. Jones in his dry way, "I can remember some awfully good dinners, but I can't recall a single titbit that ever lingered in my memory."

With badges ready, banquet tickets printed (knowing the ways of the world, or anyway of the ASNE, I left the date off them!), and other arrangements all made, I PREDICT (a la Drew Pearson) that the April meeting will be the smoothest in our history.

Four pages this month, in a breathless rush to get out THE BULLETIN following definite word from the program committee; back to eight pages in January, with ample space for members to express themselves on Mr. Sulzberger's remarks re the Guild.

A. F. P.

Extra-Curricular

Affairs of Members

Make Headlines

THE recent article by Virginius Dabney, of the Richmond Times Dispatch, on the press and the racial problem has aroused greater outside interest than any other story ever published in THE BULLETIN. Requests for copies have come from Negro newspapers and from organizations and individuals working for better race relations. His article will also be reprinted in The Quill.

The New York Times on Sunday, December 5, carried a story by Mr. Dabney on the Times-Dispatch proposal that the Virginia law segregating the races on streetcars and buses be repealed. He reported strongly favorable response.

The president and vice-president of Brush-Moore Newspapers made the headlines last week. Louis J. Brush was named by the Republican State Central Committee as its second choice presidential candidate, an honorary token of recognition, Ohio law requiring that two candidates be named on the primary ballot.

Roy D. Moore has been appointed by Gov. John W. Bricker to direct his national campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. Mr. Moore has been largely occupied for the past year with his duties as Ohio chairman of the War Finance Committee.

Postscript to sketch on George W. Healy, New Orleans Times-Picayune, in the October BULLETIN: Mr. Healy has been named to succeed Palmer Hoyt of the Oregonian as Director of Domestic Operations of OWI. Mr. Hoyt will resign January 1 as he stipulated when he accepted the assignment last June.

Grove Patterson, Toledo Blade, just returned from six weeks in England, Scotland and Ireland, promises THE BULLETIN a copy of his diary.

At least three ASNE members will speak at the meeting of the New York State Publishers convention in Albany: Richard J.

Finnegan of the Chicago Times, on the AP suit; Col. J. Noel Macy of Westchester County Publishers and the Army; and Frank Gannett, Gannett Newspapers.

Justly proud is Member Arthur W. Stace, Ann Arbor News. His son Donald, a colonel and liaison officer for the western procurement division of the Army Air Forces in Los Angeles, has been nominated for the temporary rank of brigadier general.

Oxie Reichler, Yonkers Herald-Statesman, has written 11 articles on Proportional Representation which the National Community League is reprinting for widespread circulation.

Sulzberger

(Continued from page one)

needed assistance. I deplore the fact that the insistence by the Guild on the union shop has made it impossible for me to be their spokesman. Last year our editorial Guild accepted a contract, the first clause of which read as follows:

"It is understood by the parties to this Agreement that membership in the Guild will not be a prerequisite to employment in the News and Editorial Departments of the Times or to continuation of employment therein."

This year they refused to renew that clause and appealed to the War Labor Board for maintenance of membership.

My objection to the Guild shop for news departments is basic. I would hold to it if the CIO and AFofL merged. I should hold to it until all Americans are members of one union. Until that time I shall remain opposed to the Guild shop in news and editorial departments.

Discussion of Mr. Sulzberger's argument concerning the Guild shop is indicated, and welcome. The next issue of THE BULLETIN will be eight pages, with ample space to include members' comments.

Perry Writes Book On Metallography Of Meteoric Iron

MOST erudite pamphlet written by an ASNE member ever received in this office is one entitled "Meteorites and Their Metallic Constituents." Co-authors are our own Stuart H. Perry of the Adrian Telegram, Associate in Mineralogy, U. S. National Museum, and Dr. E. P. Henderson, Associate Curator of the Division of Mineralogy and Petrology.

Mr. Perry also has written a book, "The Metallography of Meteoric Iron," which the Smithsonian Institution is publishing soon. It will be the first systematic treatise on that subject, a book of about 200 pages with about 80 plates showing photomicrographs of meteoric iron. The author reviews it for us as follows:

"It is a highly technical discussion of the phase transformations and microstructure of natural and artificial nickel-iron alloys, and I don't expect it to be a best seller. In fact, it would put anybody to sleep except mineralogists and technicians in the iron and steel field."

MacDonald Joins Navy

Kenneth MacDonald, managing editor of the Des Moines Register and Tribune, joins the ASNE honor roll. He has reported for active duty as a Lieutenant (jg.) in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Operations

Miss Amy Comstock, Tulsa Tribune, has been too ill, operation followed by anemia for which the doctors prescribe (to her annoyance) a long rest.

Rumor has it that Hugh Robertson, Westchester County Publishers, is wearing a vest with an isinglass window. When friends ask about his operation, he opens his coat to show them the scar.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Frank Lee Martin Library
Walter Williams Hall

How Your Readers Interpret 'A Free Press'

Bulletin Survey Reveals Some Understanding of Subject but Much Confusion of Thought and Distrust of Newspapers

TO EDITORS the need for a free press is as obvious as the need for air, food, shelter, warm clothes in winter—one of those things everyone knows you can't live without.

But does everyone recognize it as vital to a free nation? Is it just possible that editors, fully aware of their obligation to protect the constitutional guarantee, have failed in the corollary task of enlightening and educating the public on the subject? Has any survey ever been made to discover what proportion of readers have a clear idea of what a free press means?

A modest personal survey was begun in Wilmington, Delaware. Answers received were amazing, led to a request to editors in other cities to try the same thing. They were asked to have a reporter question a dozen persons at random to find out

1) What they think "press freedom" means, and
2) Whether they consider it vital, or even important, to the individual or the nation.

Some of the answers given the inquiring reporters are presented here. They do not pretend to be a nationwide poll; they do not pretend to be even an accurate Gallup-method sampling. But they were taken at random in widely separated cities and constitute the surprising evidence of what some average Americans think on the subject.

Any editor who decides to try the experiment in his own city is asked to send the replies to THE BULLETIN.

Members who cooperated in the survey are B. M. McKelway, Washington Star; Paul Scott Mowrer, Chicago Daily News; Douglas D. Martin, Detroit Free Press; Erwin D. Canham, Christian Science Monitor; Dwight Young, Dayton Journal-Herald; Basil L. Walters, Minneapolis Star Journal and Tribune; and for Wilmington, The Bulletin editor. Some answers their reporters received follow.

WHAT THEY THINK

Sure, we gotta have freedom of the press; the people have to have some place to express themselves freely. In war times there are some things you can't print, but aside of that, no government or other agency should dictate what to print. —HARDWARE DEALER.

Why that's what our form of government is based on. I think the lack of it is what causes a lot of those South American revolutions. —STEREOTYPE FOREMAN.

No such thing in this country. The big fellows tell the papers what they want them to know. It's true here and it's even worse nationally. Ought to have it but we haven't got it. —POLICE OFFICER.

It means the right of me, and everybody, to get printed whatever they want to say and we haven't got it. No sir, I don't think so. —BANK TELLER.

Sure, we must have it. Nobody should be able to control the papers or keep things out of them in a democratic country. —DRUGGIST.

We have freedom of press. We're lucky it's not muzzled like it is in Germany. —HOUSEWIFE.

Freedom of press means no censorship of news. I don't feel it is tremendously important. For instance, I don't think the recent Jap atrocity stories should ever have been printed. They were printed just to help along the Fourth War Loan but what was gained was lost in the effect on women like me who know their husbands was lost in the effect on women like me who know their husbands soon may be fighting the Japs. There is so much news that is misinterpreted by the public that it only adds to the confusion. Permanent censorship wouldn't be a bad thing. —HOUSEWIFE.

Freedom of press means freedom to print anything truthful. Newspapers have it but do not use it. I can understand that newspaper publishing is a business and is run on a business basis and I can

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR BANQUET AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS?
DETAILS OF CONVENTION ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS ISSUE

MOST READERS BELIEVE FREE PRESS IS ESSENTIAL

understand that advertisers and other groups that could affect the newspapers' earnings must be considered by the publishers. We should have absolute freedom, and let the libel laws take care of those that abuse the privilege.
—BUSINESSMAN.

No doubt all the people would be strong for freedom of press if they only knew what in hell it meant.—BROKERAGE CLERK.

With a fellow in the service, I want to know how the war is going. Without freedom of the press, I wouldn't know. And I want to know the bad news, if it's bad. So should everyone else, for the bad news builds up the war effort.

—ELEVATOR OPERATOR.

A good thing, if you mean giving the papers the right to print what they want to. Censorship of the press would be "murder." I'd be against that.

—ELEVATOR OPERATOR.

It means for the papers to be able to print anything, particularly criticisms of the Administration, within the limits of decency. If newspapers were oppressed, I think people would begin to feel oppressed too.

—NURSE.

If freedom of the press goes, other freedoms go with it. True freedom of press won't be achieved until papers stop "slanting news."

—NAVY CPO.

Fine—if we had it. Union and labor news are examples of lack of freedom of press. Doesn't like playing up strikes.

—LATHE HAND.

Just theory. Ordinary people can't get their side of vital issues printed.

—SECRETARY.

Absolutely no freedom of press. Look what papers did to Negroes during riots. Put blame on us. Didn't print our side.

—PUNCH PRESS OPERATOR (Colored).

One Like This from Every City

BOSTON NEWSBOY: "Freedom of press. What's that, a gag? How could I sell papers if they were free?"

WILMINGTON CHAMBERMAID: "I did see something about that in the paper. I know, it was about that Esquire magazine. Don't they want that free press too?"

WASHINGTON HOUSEWIFE: "I never heard that program."

Necessary to combat "isms". No freedom now. Papers cater to advertisers and rich.

—SALESMAN AND WIFE.

Hokey. Must be rich to get square deal from newspapers. People are wise to them (newspapers).
—M.P.

Newspapers interested in freedom of press as it affects themselves. Afraid of losing privileges. No press freedom because both sides are not given.

—STUDENT.

Freedom of the press means the right to print the truth. I think we should be told everything except military information. There shouldn't be any of this secret diplomatic stuff, and they shouldn't make agreements and treaties that will affect the country for years to come without telling us about it.

—ENGINEER.

It's the right to print any facts that are true, any opinions that are sincere, with the exception of some facts concerning the war that would be of military value to the enemy. Generally speaking, I think we have it in this country. When you consider PM, the Chicago Tribune and the labor papers, if you want to read enough you can find out almost everything you want to know.

—SCHOOL EXECUTIVE.

The papers appear to have plenty of freedom at present. I should hate to see any change.

—BANK OFFICIAL.

It goes along with Freedom from Fear, one of the four big

freedoms for which we are fighting. The two should not be separated.

—BROKER.

Freedom of the press is license to deceive the public by printing garbled news.

—MANUFACTURER.

That's not a question. It's not even an issue. Everyone knows or should know, what freedom of the press means. It's the right to print all the news in peacetime and all the news that will not help the enemy in wartime. And I mean all the news like those Japanese atrocities which the government held back until it could use this news to spur the bond drive. If those Japs have been doing those things, we should know it as soon as the government does. I don't think it's freedom of the press to keep such news back for a minute.

—CAB DRIVER.

Sure it would be nice to have—but you don't have it. You don't have it here. Sure it's important. You can't have no democracy without that. That's what we're supposed to be fighting for, ain't it?

—RESTAURANT OWNER.

There is too much freedom of the press now, at least freedom of advertising. We try to get people to put all their money in War Bonds while the papers carry page ads urging people to put their money in fur coats and jewelry. It doesn't make sense.

—INVESTMENT DEALER.

To me freedom of the press means thinking on which depends individual progress. I hope there

MANY SAY 'NICE TO HAVE BUT WE DO NOT HAVE IT'

will be no regimentation of newspaper freedom after the war.—INVESTMENT FIRM PARTNER.

Vital to everybody. Without it we would be sunk. When you limit the interchange of ideas, you stop all progress.—BROKER.

It's the right to print news as you see it. I should think it is important. (Hesitation) But I'm not sure.—POST OFFICE CLERK.

I suppose it means newspapers should be allowed to print everything, under a set of rules that would be set up by some editorial association. I guess it's beneficial to all the people; yes, I'm SURE it is. It's a little hard to say exactly because I've never really considered it before.

—LIBRARIAN.

I don't understand so much talk about freedom of the press. The papers seem to print anything they want to but certain war laws.

—BANKER.

If the Administration lends the colleges a lot of money after the war, an attempt may be made to dictate the course of government. That would be a great blow to education and a free press.

—INVESTMENT DEALER.

Some newspapers seem to get license and free speech all mixed up. I think a certain kind of freedom should be limited.

—BROKER.

Freedom of the press means that a paper is able to print any news it wants without being boycotted by politicians. It means the voice of the people can be heard in the press; and the editor can get over his ideas—he can't be shut up even if he's a Communist.

It is important to people that newspapers are free to print what they want (except of course in recent news) because it means that each person can form his own individual opinion without being stepped on. Once you've had that freedom you can never

"The comments are valuable in my opinion," says Member B. M. McKelway of the Washington Star, "because they indicate so plainly the lack of knowledge and therefore the lack of appreciation on the part of many people concerning what freedom of the press actually means."

Does everyone agree?

Has anyone any practical suggestions for remedying the situation?

live under any other kind of rule. It gives an understanding of politics that voters need more than they realize. We're able to size up our government, and the wool isn't being pulled over our eyes all the time.—SALESGIRL.

That means they tell us everything. I don't think we have it—I don't think we know everything that goes on. I think it is important. The American people should know everything because it's a democracy. Maybe someday we will have it but we don't have it now.—COFFEE SHOP OWNER.

I haven't the faintest idea.
—ELEVATOR OPERATOR.

Do you mean freedom for publishers or reporters? Publishers want freedom to report all news that will increase their advertising lineage. Reporters want freedom to report that the son of the biggest advertiser was arrested for drunken driving. Yes, it's important, if it's the type of freedom that would eliminate special treatment of stories involving advertisers.

—NEWSPAPER REPORTER.

I don't read newspapers very much on account of all you read is lies. You know darn well that they're a bunch of guys who tell all these papers what to print. And when they yell for freedom of the press all they want is to get to write a lot of stuff about the president that ain't true. I

think they got all the freedom they oughta have. And if they had any more all we guys would get would be more lies for our money.

—PUNCH PRESS OPERATOR.

I don't know what it is exactly. ... I couldn't make up a definition of it. But I don't think we have it. I don't know just how important it is.—SECRETARY.

It's the right of publishing anything they want to—using discretion, of course. It's very vital. It's one of the things this country stands for. It should be emphasized more.—SECRETARY.

It's the most damn vital thing in our whole set-up. I don't think there is anything more valuable to pure democracy.

—BARTENDER.

They want the right of printing the plain facts. Why yes it's important, providing the actual truth is published.

—CLERGYMAN.

It's awful hard to express myself. I guess I never thought about it much. I know I enjoy reading the papers a lot, whether that means anything. I think we do have freedom of the press, so far as I get an idea we do. The press is plenty free, but I think it is important by all means. I trust my newspaper and look forward to reading it almost as much as I look forward to my meals. If I didn't trust what I read, I wouldn't want to read any more.—MOTHER.

Only 50% Understand

"What do you think a free press means?" is not a yes-and-no question, making a mathematically accurate tally of the answers impossible. A careful study of all those received shows that roughly the score is as follows:

Reasonable understanding of and belief in a free press, 50%; no understanding or confused thought, 24%; conviction that it is desirable but we don't have it because of "control," 26%.

Palm Beach Editor Asks 'Should We Plan Drive for Education in Democracy?'

By DON MORRIS,

Editor, Palm Beach Post-Times

IS THE American press living up to its responsibilities to the American people?

Should the American press be a virtual fourth branch of government, the educational branch, yet still operating independently and outside of government?

I've been talking with Sumner Welles, former Undersecretary of State, at his home in Palm Beach, and he has set me to asking those questions of myself.

Not that he was critical of the press. On the contrary. Perhaps the best description of his attitude would be hopeful. It seems to me that he sees in the power of the press the solution to many of the post-war problems. The educational power of the press, he means, of course.

Sumner Welles isn't the icy, austere individual he has been painted. I inject the manner of my meeting him into this because some may raise the question of whether he was trying to sell me a bill of goods. Maybe he was. I don't know. It might not be too hard for the man who was the country's No. 2 diplomat to sell a bill of goods to a smalltown editor, but I don't know just why he should bother.

I invited myself to his house with a purely selfish purpose. I have unusual opportunity here in Palm Beach to meet people connected with national and international affairs—Joseph P. Kennedy and Joseph E. Davies, among others—and I think I should take advantage of it when I can. I think it makes me a better newspaper editor.

I wanted to talk about post-war international organization and we did, but somehow each conversation has worked its way around to the post-war part the press might play. Maybe Mr. Welles leads it that way purposely. I don't know. It interests me intensely, anyway.

In the course of discussion about international organization, he pointed out that freedom of

information was necessary. That same day *Editor & Publisher* had printed a paragraph by me in which I said that universal access to news at its source was essential in international dealings hereafter, and that some means should be found to enforce that.

Mr. Welles agreed with the idea of access to news at its source, but he wondered how it might be enforced. If by appeal to international authority, what would our own attitude be, he wondered, if any special segment of the press of America should appeal to international authority for different treatment by our government?

(You answer that one.)

We talked about democracy and were in agreement that if all citizens would give only 15 minutes a day in actual service to democracy, the effect would be tremendous. But who is going to teach these citizens what they should do? There's where we got back to the press and its part.

(For that matter, can you sit down and quickly give a concise statement of just what democracy is? Not an "of, by and for the people" statement, but one that could be given to a visitor from Mars, say, so that he would have a working knowledge of what democracy is, and how to apply it. Try it; it's harder than you think. And if it's hard for you, how much harder for the drug clerk and the soda jerker and the shoeshine boy. Yet how are they and all of us going to serve democracy if we can't even define it all-inclusively? Is that another subject for the press?)

Still speaking of improvement in democracy, I asked Mr. Welles whether it might be practical to have some council of patriarchs—men whose great minds and sincerity we all recognize—to sit as a sort of permanent investigating commission on our problems. No, he replied, for if that worked, it would result in a sort of oligarchy—exactly the opposite effect we are seeking—or at least in a virtual fourth arm of government outside the Constitution. If we need a fourth arm, he believes it



H. E. Robideaux Photo

DON MORRIS

should be a free and independent press, which already is within the Constitution.

I pointed out to him that many newspaper people believe the prime function of the press is to report the news without fear or favor, that any educational or civic functions it undertakes are secondary, and that in any case the paper must make a profit or it usually ceases to exist, and there ceases with it its power to perform educational or civic functions. I pointed out further that editors and publishers are harassed with a daily burden of routine which scarcely allows them to tackle the problems of international and domestic order.

He understood that. At the same time, Mr. Welles apparently believes it is up to editors and publishers to take the lead in educating the American people to a greater application of democracy.

I'd like to know what other editors think about that.

I'd like to know what they propose to do about it, too, if they agree with Mr. Welles. Only concerted planning, such as was given to the newspaper-sponsored scrap metal drive, would be effective, it seems to me.

But maybe I'm wrong.

What do you think?

This Is What You Want to Know About the ASNE Meeting

GNCC Is Handling Hotel Arrangements

RETURN post cards, for making hotel reservations, have been sent to every member of the Society by the Greater National Capital Committee. There will be rooms for all, but Washington undeniably is still crowded and you can get the accommodations you want only by returning that card NOW, if you have not done so already.

Of course you'd rather have a room to yourself; most people would. But we all have to make concessions in wartimes. With conditions as they are, there are not enough rooms available in first class hotels conveniently situated unless members are willing to double up.

The GNCC, to whom we are greatly indebted for handling these arrangements, urgently requests that members going to the meeting alone share twin-bedded rooms. (You're only asked to share the room, not a bed!) Either name your roommate or indicate your willingness to have some other ASNE member assigned to room with you.

All requests for information concerning hotel accommodations should be addressed to Mrs. Betty Moore, Greater National Capital Committee, 204 Evening Star Building, Washington 4, D. C.

Convention Summary: When, Where and How

TIME AND PLACE: Two-day meeting, April 21 and 22, Hotel Statler, Washington, D. C.

To register and to reserve banquet tickets: Send check in advance to ASNE treasurer (see story this page). Or late-comers may register and buy tickets on arrival at meeting. Banquet tickets: Informal.

To reserve hotel room: Write Greater National Capital Committee. (Story this page).

For railway accommodations: Make your own reservations now, or wait for Transportation Committee's announcement in April issue, re return trip only.

In the April issue the complete details of the program, speakers and topics, will be announced by Alexander F. Jones, program chairman.

Your Guests Invited To Reception

ATTENDANCE at the reception, preceding the dinner, is a must any way you look at it.

The Board has decided that "members of the Society will refrain from individual cocktail parties prior to the annual dinner. Instead, the Society will be host at a reception prior to the dinner at which hors d'oeuvre and refreshments will be served."

The many and impressive guests of honor at the banquet will be invited, of course; and your own guests will enjoy this opportunity to meet them.

And in these days of labor shortages, room service is neither patriotic—nor efficient.

Take President Roberts' word for it: "That reception is something members won't want to miss."

What to Wear

THE BANQUET again will be informal. "Wartime dress (business clothes) will be worn by the men," the Board of Directors agreed. "Women will wear what they please."

That is meant quite literally. Ladies will feel entirely at ease whatever they choose to wear. But for the benefit of those who are wondering what prevails at an affair of this sort, B. M. McKelway of the Washington Star consulted his society editors who told him, "Informal dinner dresses (long), generally with sleeves and high necklines."

When You Arrive--

Opening session is scheduled for 10 A.M. Friday. For members arriving in Washington Thursday, registration desk will be open 4 to 8 P.M.—a good opportunity to pick up badges and banquet tickets before the rush begins.

Banquet Reservations Go To Treasurer

RESERVATIONS for the banquet, Saturday evening, April 22, are coming in fast. The sooner you make your reservation, the better your chances of getting seats close to the speakers' table and the celebrities who will adorn it.

Tickets are five dollars for each member and guest. Add five dollars, please, for registration fee. (Registration fee does not include your banquet ticket.)

Tables seat twelve. Come alone or invite as many guests as you wish. Simply send to the treasurer, along with your check, reservations for the number of tickets you want. Include in your letter to him any special information, requests or questions you may have. He'll deposit the checks only and will pass the reservation data on to the seating committee, who will have responsibility for seats only.

Include your check with your reservation—it eliminates delay in entering your reservation and saves unnecessary correspondence. And be sure in sending a check you tell exactly what it is intended for.

Please be sure to make checks payable to the American Society of Newspaper Editors (not to any individual) and mail to the treasurer, David Lawrence, United States News, 2201 M St., N. W., Washington 7, D. C.

If you are reserving tickets for yourself and some other member, please say in your letter who that member is—and don't neglect to tell him you have paid for him. This will avoid duplication and confusion.

Don't forget: Checks to be made out to the ASNE and sent to the Treasurer.

THANK YOU.

Re Transportation

John O'Rourke, Washington *Daily News*, is making arrangements for facilitating railway accommodations for members on the return trip from Washington. Details in April BULLETIN.

Editors Willing to Do Their Part In Civic Life; But Is There a Limit?

THIS all began in a spirit of fun, but led to a serious question: How much time can an editor afford for community activities and should he deliberately curtail such work to give more time to his newspaper?

Col. Harry M. Ayers of the Anniston Star is among the members who can't find time for contributing to THE BULLETIN because of carrying more than his share of civic burdens. "Come, come," we said, "you can't be that busy. What are all these things that you do?"

That particular day, he wrote, he was appointed to take over the January War Bond campaign. He left his office, choosing a back street, to attend a meeting of the Committee on Economic Development, but he was cornered anyway by someone who wanted him to get a speaker for a meeting. Everywhere he turned he was cornered again, by someone who wanted him to do something about something. (This probably sounds like familiar routine to a good many editors!) And, of course, he is vice-president of the State Chamber of Commerce, a member of the State School Board, and of the State Advisory

Educational Council, board chairman for the Carnegie Library and more, much more; all worthy; all time-consuming.

Then there's a letter from another member, Dwight Marvin, Troy Record:

"Didn't you ever hear that I am earning a living by the sweat of my brow and the dexterity of my hands on the typewriter? Besides my work I am on 19 boards and committees in this town and speak about once a week. You expect me to contribute voluminously also to THE BULLETIN?"

(All we asked him for was his ideas on how to handle letters to the editor in a political campaign; how to attract greater reader interest to the editorial page; and what changes he foresees in the post-war newspaper. All in all, a modest enough request.)

From William F. Maag comes a similar lament, and the question. Returning from England, he made three or four talks a week on his trip, after cutting his overseas travels short to prepare for the Community War Chest drive of which he was chairman. He is also executive vice-president of the Chamber of Com-

For Mr. White

President Roberts requests members who wrote editorials on William Allen White to send clippings of them to W. L. White, Emporia Gazette, Emporia, Kansas.

They are wanted for the collection of editorial comments which Mrs. White and her son are assembling.

merce, which takes a good deal of his time. These are just a few of his activities, besides being editor and publisher of the Youngtown Vindicator and running a radio station.

"Sometimes I've wondered Mr. Maag writes, 'whether you could not have an interesting discussion on how much outside work an editor ought to do in his town, or whether he would do best in the long run to confine himself to his editing, and let someone else take care of these outside activities—provided there is someone who will do it. Has anyone a solution, or even a helpful suggestion?"

Civic activities, intensified by the war, are only one part of the burden editors are currently carrying; there's the extra work due to manpower shortage too. Soon or later, we knew some member was going to tell us he even had to sweep out the office these days. It came, from J. Vance, New Britain Herald: "Maybe we can get a janitor before the Washington meeting date. If so I'll be seeing you in April."

Here's another member's plaint: "Between a 24-hour printer's strike and computer newsprint for the first quarter my thinking has grown so egocentric that nobody else conceivably be interested in my vagrant thoughts. However, shall try to stage an intellectual comeback some of these days and, if so, I shall pour enough for THE BULLETIN to you and the membership."

If, Incredibly, You Don't Know Tooill, Meet Him in April

(New Members Series)

HE'S "Kenneth duVall Tooill" on the ASNE roster and in "Who's Who in America," but he's plain Ken Tooill to thousands of newspapermen, most of whom do not know about the fancy moniker.

Ticketed for Harvard and the law by an attorney parent, he decided at an early age "to go to Columbia, become a newspaperman and remain illiterate."

His father had been a reporter during college days and swore no son of his would enter the profession. So, at the age of 13, Ken became an office boy for the Ohio State Journal at Columbus, making high school expenses, and returned 20 years later to be managing editor.

Now he's managing editor of the Toledo Blade and entering his third year at that desk.

Between his debut at the State Journal and his return to Ohio lies a wealth of experience, with the New York American and Chicago Herald-Examiner; the Philadelphia Public Leader, Brooklyn Eagle, New York Sun, AP and INS.

There is scarcely a story of national interest in the past 20 years that has not seen him on the job as reporter, or directing the coverage. Included in this list are the Lindbergh kidnapping and Hauptmann murder trial, Snyder-Gray trial, Wall Street explosion, Lindbergh's flight to Paris, numerous hot political campaigns and famous sports events. A series of interviews with noted persons brought him to the attention of the late Hood MacFarland and resulted in his joining the Hearst organization.

His chief gripe against the newspaper business is that the only way publishers could find to reward him for reportorial feats was to make him an executive. It's all wrong, he says. Good executives should be rewarded by being given permission to be reporters. He admits the system has him whipped and he's fairly reconciled to being a newsroom boss indefinitely.



KEN TOOILL

Ken Tooill's associates at the Blade describe him as hard-driving and tough, exacting and demanding, a man to whom the news is his life's blood. All this, they say, up to 5 P. M. on weekdays. After 5 P. M., he undergoes a sort of metamorphosis and by 5:15, surrounded by some of his staff, he's usually at a favorite gathering place indulging in his outstanding vice, which is storytelling. He seldom buys beer for the staff, which one member contends is his second important vice.

Ken Tooill is an amateur actor of some little reputation, active in Toledo's Repertoire Little Theater. His other hobbies are sports and the arts. A bachelor, he occupies a penthouse on the Hotel Plaza, which has become the rendezvous of kindred spirits.

Reno and Knoxville Editors Are Elected

THE Board of Directors has elected two members by mail ballot:

GRAHAM DEAN, Reno Gazette

GUY L. SMITH, Knoxville Journal

April 1 is the deadline for submitting applications to the membership chairman, Dwight Young, Dayton Journal and Herald.

Lt. Green Sees World; John Herbert Honored; Other News of Members

Lt. Charles E. Green, USNR, of the Austin American-Statesman, has been traveling, "as far as Brisbane, through the Fiji Islands, Hawaii and many small islands which are simply fly specks on the broad expanse of the South Pacific." Now he's stationed at Alameda, Calif.

First U. S. Treasury citation to be awarded in Quincy, Mass., "for distinguished services rendered in behalf of the war savings program" was presented Managing Editor John R. Herbert of the Quincy Patriot Ledger at a \$500 a plate bond dinner in Quincy, Mass.

Comment of F. A. Miller, South Bend Tribune, on his picture in THE BULLETIN: "Isn't it awful to be only 76 and to look so old?"

Grove Patterson, Toledo Blade, last week was initiated by Sigma Delta Chi.

Arthur Sinnott, Newark Evening News, isn't up to par and the doctor orders a long rest.

Amy Comstock, Tulsa Tribune, has resigned from the Society, due to ill health.

Gardner Cowles Jr., Des Moines Register and Tribune, has been elected a director of United Air Lines.

Richard P. Carter, for two and a half years associate editor of the Times and World-News in Roanoke, has been made editor of the World-News. In Chicago, in January, he was reelected president of the National Council on Professional Education for Journalism; he was elected president in 1943.

Dwight Marvin, Troy Record, has gone south for a vacation.

More than 50 ASNE members are now sending clippings of 8th Air Force activities to PROs in England. The list of cooperating editors, growing constantly, will appear in a later issue.



Harris & Ewing photo

NO TIMELINESS to this one; just such a good picture of three directors we thought you'd like to see it! Wilbur Forrest, New York Herald Tribune; B. M. McKelway, Washington Star; Dwight Marvin, Troy Record, at last Board meeting.

Akron's 'Life Line' Great Success, Recommended to Other Newspapers

Every month THE BULLETIN will endeavor to present the detailed story of some new newspaper-sponsored project of proven value. A request for information about the Akron Life Line, to start the series, brought the following response from Member James P. Rosemond, managing editor of the Beacon Journal. Contributions are invited.

THE Akron Beacon Journal Blood Donor Life Line has contributed three things of outstanding value to the war effort:

1. It has provided the American Red Cross with a substantial reserve of blood donors for the periodic visits of the blood donor unit so that the unit works to capacity every day.

2. It has brought the community as a whole and thousands of individual citizens closer to the battlefronts of the war.

3. The Life Line has been acknowledged a definite morale builder for men in the service.

The plan is simple and compact. Through proper exploitation prospective blood donors are enlisted in the Life Line, and when called, donate a pint of blood in the name of a man or woman in the armed forces.

The Life Line has been found to work best in close cooperation with factories and stores where mass distribution of enrollment cards can be obtained.

Recruits for the Life Line were enrolled through a coupon run in the Beacon Journal along with the exploitation stories, and by placing supplies of application cards in stores and factories. These coupons and application cards were returned to the Red Cross office, and the prospective donor's name was entered on the list to be contacted later for a definite appointment to donate blood.

The Life Line application cards were white.

At the time the donor actually gives the blood the Red Cross makes out a blue card and returns it to the Beacon Journal.

The name of the donor is filled

in on a form letter and mailed to the service man or woman whose name appears on the blue card as the person in whose name the blood was donated.

This final step in the plan has brought information from the service men showing that the Life Line is a great morale builder because of the knowledge that someone at home has seen fit to give blood in his or her name.

The Beacon Journal Life Line developed from an idea of James G. Daley, who works in the billing department of the General Tire & Rubber Co. in Akron. When four friends went into the service, Daley gave a pint of blood for each, at properly spaced intervals.

Friends of his in the department became interested and Daley suggested that they enroll with the Red Cross to give blood the next time the blood donor unit came to Akron. Soon he had enrolled 130 men and women at the General Tire & Rubber Co. and then the plant labor-management committee took over and made the plan plant wide. The Beacon Journal saw the feasibility of a definite program for organizing a Blood Bank with contributors enrolling similar to War Bond and other campaigns.

The stories about the Life Line made it plain that the pint of blood given by the donor could not actually be set aside for an individual service man or woman, but the theme was "your boy or his buddy may need your blood."

In the period that the Beacon Journal Life Line has been operating, the following results have been listed:

1. The last visit of the mobile blood donor unit in Akron was

100 per cent successful, with 12 pints of blood donated every day of the 12 the unit was in town.

2. Red Cross officials estimate that Akron could double its quota should it be necessary in case of high casualties in the next invasion.

3. Thousands of cards on file at Red Cross headquarters, alphabetically listing individuals who are ready to give blood.

4. Hundreds of persons daily put out more cards, volunteered blood.

5. Servicemen's letters continue to arrive in Akron homes, and the Beacon Journal, thanking the paper and donors for the help they've given in saving lives.

Out-of-town Soldiers Like This Feature In Arkansas Gazette

EVERY DAY a reporter for the Arkansas Gazette stops at the out-of-town service people on the streets to ask, "What do you think of Little Rock?" Three capsule interviews, running better than half a column daily, are distributed with half-column cuttings.

A private from New Jersey at Little Rock is the nicest town in the midwest, which pleases home folks. A boy from Brooklyn allows that "What Little Rock needs is a good job of Brooklynizing" and it makes him better to get that off his chest. The sounds like an all-around good will proposition.

Member J. N. Heiskell, of the Gazette, asks whether other newspaper runs a similar column. As far as we know, it is unique. It is directed to the attention of Member Harry Withers, Dallas Morning News, who last month brought up the question of men from other towns resenting the play the local soldiers get in the home town and wondered if anything could be done to improve the situation.

Other suggestions for improving servicemen their due share of attention in the news are

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Shop Talks Prevail on Program of '44 Meeting

Special Session in Capitol; Conferences with President and Secretary Hull Among Features

IN FEBRUARY, Alexander F. Jones gave you his convention promise: "A program packed with practical newspaper problems and some talks from military and naval men and other high government leaders because newspapers are intimately concerned with the war." That leaves only the details and names of speakers to be announced now, on the eve of the convention to be held April 21 and 22 in the Hotel Statler in Washington.

As program chairman Mr. Jones gives you seven straight shop talks; conferences with President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull; off-the-record talks by General Marshall, Admiral King, General Arnold and Lieut. General Vandergift; the banquet with Secretaries Stimson and Knox introducing general officers just back from the battlefronts; and an innovation unique in ASNE history—a session with Congress in the Capitol.

The program begins at 10 A.M., Friday, April 21. That means members who have not registered in advance must do so between 8 and 10 A.M. Friday to be ready for the prompt opening of the first session. The following shop talks, with the discussion leaders

indicated, will be spotted throughout the four regular sessions, morning and afternoon on Friday and again on Saturday:

NATHANIEL R. HOWARD, Cleveland News: The Guild and Labor Situation.

ERWIN D. CANHAM, Christian Science Monitor: The Responsibility of Freedom in the Press.

WALTER LIPPMANN: American Foreign Policy.

DAVID LAWRENCE, United States News: Freedom of the Mails.

JOHN S. KNIGHT, Knight Newspapers, just returned from London where he was liaison officer between the U. S. Office of Censorship and the censorship offices of other United Nations: Censorship as Viewed from London.

ARTHUR TREANOR, Booth Newspapers, and Director, Printing and Publishing Division, WPB: The White Paper Situation.

The Postwar Challenge to Newspapers will be the seventh subject, the speaker to be announced.

General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, and General H. H. Arnold, Commanding General,

Come Prepared!

President Roberts suggests that members start their basic training now—a few extra vitamins, plenty of fresh air, and some toughening-up exercises—in preparation for the convention which admittedly will take real endurance.

The schedule planned is terrific, but members with whom Mr. Roberts has talked say they don't mind being put over the hurdles, and it is the only way to crowd into two days a program that ordinarily would take three.

U. S. Army Air Forces, will speak at the luncheon on Friday. At the Saturday luncheon the speakers will be Admiral Ernest J. King, Chief of Naval Operations, and Lieut. General Alexander A. Vandergift, Commandant of the U. S. Marine Corps. Both luncheon sessions will be off-the-record.

At 4 P.M. on Friday members will have an off-the-record conference with President Roosevelt, at the White House.

They will cross the street to the State Department for a similar conference with Secretary Hull at 5 o'clock.

At 8 P.M. Friday they will be due at the Capitol. This joint session is still in the making and promises to be of unusual interest. It will be definitely non-partisan and will attempt to bring out the answers to some of the questions that concern the functions of Congress.

The patriotic inspiration and the tragedy of war will be inherent in the banquet program Saturday evening. Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of Navy Knox will speak briefly, intro-

(Continued on last page)

If You Want to Get Home Again

Getting rail accommodations out of Washington, after the convention, will be difficult under present conditions. It is urgent that you make arrangements for Pullman space BOTH ways before leaving home. In making reservations NOW for the return trip, specify that you are attending the editors' convention as ASNE members will receive preferential treatment.

If you have difficulty getting reservations, write William E. Hall, manager, Information Section of the Association of American Railroads, 924 Transportation Building, Washington 6, D. C.; or Mrs. Betty Moore, G. N. C. C., 207 Star Building, Washington 4, D. C.

This practical advice is offered by Member John O'Rourke of the Washington Daily News, who has made the arrangements.

Frank Lee Martin Library
Walter Williams Hall

Nominating Committee Names 12; Six Directors to Be Elected

ONLY the select group of members who have been chairman of the Nominating Committee know the difficulties the job entails—selecting a handful of candidates from the wealth of material offered by more than 300 members, and doing it by mail communication with committee members scattered across the country. This year's hard-working chairman is Waldo R. Arnold, *Milwaukee Journal*, who submits the report that follows.

Six directors are to be elected by the membership of the Society at the meeting in April, four for three-year terms and two for one year each. Roy A. Roberts, whose term is among those expiring this year, is not renominated because, as retiring president, he automatically retains an ex-officio place on the Board. The Nominating Committee's panel follows:

FRANK AHLGREN, *Memphis Commercial Appeal*

*ERWIN D. CANHAM, *Christian Science Monitor*

MICHAEL A. GORMAN, *Flint Journal*

L. D. HOTCHKISS, *Los Angeles Times*

NATHANIEL R. HOWARD, *Cleveland News*

ALEXANDER F. JONES, *Washington Post*

*DAVID LAWRENCE, *United States News*

*JULIAN MILLER, *Charlotte Observer*

STEPHEN C. NOLAND, *Indianapolis News*

BEN REESE, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

*TOM WALLACE, *Louisville Times*

*BASIL L. WALTERS, *Minneapolis Star Journal and Tribune*

(*Incumbents, nominated for re-election)

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Waldo Arnold, *Milwaukee Journal*, chairman; Dwight Perrin, *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*; J. M. North Jr., *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*; Paul Bellamy, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; W. R. Mathews, *Arizona Daily Star*.



WALDO R. ARNOLD, Chairman

Erwin D. Canham

Well known as a Washington correspondent and head of the *Christian Science Monitor* bureau in the capital, Erwin Canham was elected to the Society when he was sent to Boston as executive editor of the *Monitor*. Shortly afterwards he was elected a director, his term expiring this year. He is also on the Resolutions Committee.

Alexander F. Jones

Managing editor of the *Washington Post*, Alexander F. Jones is responsible also for many of the civic projects undertaken by that newspaper. He has been a member of several ASNE Washington committees, last year was in charge of hotel accommodations at the convention. This year, at the request of President Roberts, he took on the toughest job of all—Program chairman.

Stephen C. Noland

Stephen C. Noland, editor of the *Indianapolis News*, is a "ten year man" in terms of membership in the Society. During that time he has served on committees most annually, recently as Nominations chairman, this year as member of the Resolutions Committee.

Nathaniel R. Howard

Nathaniel R. Howard, editor of the *Cleveland News*, was ASNE secretary until he took leave of absence from his paper to serve with the Office of Censorship and resigned from the Board in accordance with the by-laws. Returning to the *News* and to active membership in the Society, he is again a candidate for election.

Michael A. Gorman

The name of Michael A. Gorman, editor of the *Flint Journal*, appears in the membership list as far back as 1933, always with a star, meaning "attended convention." He has served regularly on committees and this year is chairman of the Reception Committee.

L. D. Hotchkiss

Militant defender of press freedom, and equally concerned with the obligations of newspapers, L. D. Hotchkiss is the man who keeps the *Los Angeles Times* in the news. Managing editor of the *Times*, he has served on ASNE committees from time to time, now is nominated for director for the first time.

Frank Ahlgren

In line with a policy of maintaining the Society's vitality through the constant introduction of new members on the Board, the committee includes in its panel Frank Ahlgren, who joined the Society three years ago. A newspaperman whose career took him from Duluth, Milwaukee, and Cleveland to Texas, with the Texas Newspaper Publishers Association, he has been with the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* since 1936, first as executive editor and now as editor.

Ben Reese

Newest member named as a candidate is Ben Reese, managing editor of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, who was elected to ASNE a little more than a year ago. A crusading editor in the old Pulitzer tradition, he assumed the managing editorship after 25 years as *Post-Dispatch* city editor, shortly before the Munich crisis of 1938. In the critical years since, he has distinguished himself by his able handling of the news of World War II.



TOM WALLACE



ERWIN D. CANHAM



ALEXANDER JONES



L. D. HOTCHKISS



JULIAN MILLER



DAVID LAWRENCE



MICHAEL GORMAN



FRANK AHLGREN



BASIL L. WALTERS



NAT HOWARD



BEN REESE



STEPHEN NOLAND

Know Your Candidates—

Tom Wallace

Brought up in the tradition of Henry Watterson, Mr. Wallace reflects his ideals in the editorial pages of the *Louisville Times*. Among his varied interests are conservation and inter-American relations. He is renominated following his ex-officio term on the Board as past president.

David Lawrence

Founder and editor of the *United States News*, long-time Washington correspondent and syndicated columnist, David Lawrence has for many years been active in ASNE affairs, as director and serving on many committees. For two years he has been treasurer of the Society and he is also a member of the '44 Program Committee.

Basil L. Walters

Executive editor of the *Minneapolis Star Journal and Tribune*, Basil L. Walters still finds time for activity in the ASNE, the AP Managing Editors Association and other newspaper organizations. As secretary for the past two years, he has carried a large share of the Society's work, including direction of THE BULLETIN.

Julian S. Miller

Julian S. Miller, widely known in the north as well as the south as editor of the *Charlotte Observer*, was elected to the Society in 1940 and immediately took an active part in its affairs. He was elected in 1942 to fill a two-year term left vacant on the Board, now is re-nominated.

Austin McCollough Dies in Lancaster After Long Illness

AUSTIN E. MCCOLLOUGH, editor of the Lancaster *Intelligencer Journal*, and long-time ASNE member, died on March 27 in St. Joseph's Hospital, Lancaster, Penna.

Mr. McCollough, who had been ill for several years and died at the age of 64, had been a staunch Democratic party leader. He was a nominee for Congress in 1918, and Democratic state chairman from 1922 to 1924. Mr. McCollough's wife died in 1940 and a son, J. Huston McCollough, political writer for the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, died in 1942. Seven other children survive.

Program

(Continued from page one)

ducing general officers just back from the Italian and Pacific fronts.

The speakers and ASNE officers will be in the receiving line at the reception immediately preceding the banquet. The Society will be host to you and your guests at this affair.

For planning your stay in Washington, the time-table follows.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

8 A.M. to 10 A.M.—Register, or pick up badges and banquet tickets already paid for.

- 10 A.M.—Opening Session
- 12:30 P.M.—Luncheon
- 2 P.M.—Afternoon session
- 4 P.M.—White House
- 5 P.M.—State Department
- 8 P.M.—Congress

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

- 10 A.M.—Morning Session
- 12:30 P.M.—Luncheon
- 2 P.M.—Afternoon Session
- 7 P.M.—Reception and banquet

John James in Navy

JOHN F. JAMES, editor of the Johnstown *Democrat*, will miss the convention; by that time he will be in the Navy. He has passed his pre-induction physical examination and is awaiting call, probably the first week in April, as an apprentice seaman.

Why the Infantry Needs Better Press Notices

THE DOUGHBOY is getting his due, a little of it, in the news columns these days; but not yet what he deserves, according to Col. Wayne Archer, Special Information Officer of the Infantry. The foot soldiers, says Col. Archer, are doing a magnificent job on all the fronts but too often they appear in the paper only as "that little black line showing the front line on the map." Your help is requested in remedying this situation; suggestions will appear in a post-convention issue of THE BULLETIN.

Miller Ill; Son Missing

JULIAN S. MILLER, editor of the Charlotte *Observer* and a member of the ASNE Board of

Directors, is extremely ill in the Memorial Hospital in Charlotte where he has been for some time. Meanwhile he has received the tragic news that his son, Staff Sergeant Julian S. Miller Jr., 25, engineer and waist gunner on a Liberator bomber, has been missing in action in New Guinea since February 29.

One More Item:

If you have any banquet guests of such prominence that you think they might also be invited by the Society, will you please send me their names? We will then be able to dovetail official and personal guests properly.

Some of you already have sent me such names; in that case ignore this notice.

ALICE FOX PITTS

What to Do if You Haven't Done It Already

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Write or wire Mrs. Betty Moore Greater National Capital Committee, 207 Star Bldg., Washington 4 D. C.

BANQUET TICKETS: Send check, made out to ASNE, for as many tickets as you want at \$5 each for yourself and guests, to David Lawrence, United States News, 2201 M St., N.W., Washington 7, D. C.

REGISTRATION: Include \$5 additional in your check to Mr. Lawrence. (Members only; guests don't register)

BANQUET SEATING: Do nothing at all. A check sent to Mr. Lawrence means that you will automatically be seated with your own guests at the best table available when your reservation is received. (Only seating snarls—duplication of guests, overlapping of groups who have asked to sit together and similar problems—should be referred to Alice Fox Pitts, Box 1053, Wilmington 99, Del.)

TRANSPORTATION: Make your own arrangements for the trip to Washington and return. If you need help, write William E. Hall, 924 Transportation Bldg., Washington 6, D. C. (See page 1.)

If You Decide at the Last Minute to Attend

REGISTRATION and spot sale of banquet tickets will be conducted at the convention as usual. Your banquet seats won't be all good and there's no telling what hotel you'll have to stay at, but you definitely will be taken care of.

What to Do when You Get to the Hotel Statler

THURSDAY AFTERNOON: For members reaching Washington Thursday, registration desk will be open 4 to 8 P.M., an excellent opportunity to pick up your badges and tickets and to get together with other early birds.

FRIDAY MORNING: Desk opens at 8:30 A.M.; members who pick up badges and tickets early avoid the last-minute crush. (After 10 A.M., when first session opens, no initiative needed; just follow the mob.)

Toledo Blade Tells Its Readers Just How Radio 'Covers' News

THE SURVEY presented last month by L. D. Hotchkiss of the Los Angeles *Times*, in which 45% of those interviewed expressed the belief that radio is a more accurate source of news than newspapers, aroused a storm of indignation among ASNE members. One of them is Kenneth D. Tooill, managing editor of the Toledo *Blade*, who writes:

"I long have gnashed my teeth in impotent fury over what appeared to be a deliberate campaign by radio people to create the impression that radio news was something vastly superior to anything newspapers could provide. Mr. Hotchkiss' article led to a conference between myself and Grove Patterson, editor of the *Blade*. I found that Mr. Patterson shared my indignation. The result was the attached 'Way of the World Column.'"

ASNE members who wish to reprint the column in their own newspapers may obtain proofs by writing Mr. Tooill. It is undoubtedly one of the most lucid expositions of the subject ever presented for the consideration of thoughtful readers. Excerpts from Mr. Patterson's piece follow:

"Many people listen to the news of America and the world, broadcast by radio for five minutes or 15 minutes, at intervals throughout the day and night. I wonder if many of the listeners ever stop to consider where this news comes from. A recent survey in a large city reveals some astonishing results. It indicates that a large percentage of people are of the opinion that radio gets more direct news than newspapers and that radio broadcasters investigate news carefully.

"The fact is there are few radio reporters. The broadcast which you hear is merely being read by a man with a good voice from the dispatches taken from one or more of the three large news-gathering agencies. . . ."

"Broadcasters are merely 'readers,' giving you the news from

teletypes in their offices. Some read it over the air exactly as written; some revamp it. The revamping consists of changing the wording in some places or interpolating some comment of their own, still based on newspaper information.

"There is, of course, too little attention to crediting news sources over the air, while newspapers make clear where important dispatches come from, not only what news service but from what individual reporter. Compare your latest broadcast with the latest edition of your newspaper. You will learn that the radio is not furnishing exclusive service."

"The radio has a proper and a firm place in the home. . . . But

Collier Sets Readers Straight On Meaning of 'Free Press'

More people would understand what "free press" means if more editors took time to explain it to their readers as Member Bryan Collier did recently. Impressed by a survey in the March BULLETIN indicating widespread misconceptions of the constitutional guarantee, Mr. Collier wrote an enlightening editorial which he has abridged, by request.

By BRYAN COLLIER, Editor,

The Columbus Ledger, Columbus, Georgia

THE TROUBLE with all simple, pure and understandable ideas is that someone is always trying to make them complex, which must be why so many Americans seem to be confused as to just what is meant by "freedom of the press."

"SOMETHING must be done about this situation."

That's the consensus in letters provoked by L. D. Hotchkiss' article in the May BULLETIN.

What to do about it? To date, no one has offered a specific.

Your solution is invited.

To meet the demand for extra copies of Mr. Hotchkiss' article, which included survey figures on popular faith in radio as a reliable source of news, reprints have been made. A few are still available on application to the Office of the BULLETIN.

let's be clear about the facts. Its news service is a skeletonized report, based upon the three great news-gathering agencies and upon the ceaseless work of a trained army of newspaper reporters. To say that its coverage is of more range and accuracy than that of the newspaper is only to reveal an astonishing ignorance of the simple facts."

The American press—like religion in America—is simply free! And when you say that something is "free" you cannot say any better thing, or anything that is more complete.

Perhaps one approach to understanding would be to point out

a few things which "freedom of the press" isn't, and which it was never intended to cover.

It doesn't, for one thing, license a newspaper or magazine to infringe for its own purposes any law enacted for the common good, such as wage-hour regulations, or child labor rules. Newspapers have a perfectly legitimate right, in common with all other businesses, to oppose any law as being silly and unnecessary; they may argue (as THE LEDGER would argue) that for a small boy to carry newspapers after school is not quite like putting the same small boy in a factory. But if, after making their best arguments, the law is still enacted, then newspapers must abide by it, and they cannot cry with any sanction of morals or common sense that "freedom of the press" has been invaded, because the simple fact is that "freedom of the press" hasn't been invaded.

"Freedom of the press" does not confer upon lay citizens the right to demand that whatever they write be published; it is intended, rather, to confer upon the publisher or editor the right to choose what he cares to publish, and to make him solely responsible therefor.

Here, by the way, is a point upon which newspaper subscribers seem especially confused; most of them seem to feel, indeed, that the "free press" is honor bound (or something!) to print anything they offer, however badly written, or however antagonistic to newspaper policy.

But such, of course, is not the case.

"Freedom of the press" has nothing whatever to do with the opportunity to express a certain viewpoint; it deals solely with the right to express any viewpoint, if the writer can make his opportunity.

Thus, an editor may deny to some citizen the opportunity to express in print—and in a newspaper controlled by the editor—something which the citizen has written and which he naturally thinks important.

Such denial does not impair press freedom, because the same citizen can go to another editor—



BRYAN COLLIER

or a dozen other editors!—until he finds one who will print it, and if none will, then he has the right to take his thesis to a job printer and scatter pamphlets to the four winds, thus becoming his own editor!

Similarly with a reporter who doesn't like what his editor or his publisher will let him write.

"Press freedom" as it applies to that reporter means that he has an inalienable right to quit the service of that publisher or editor, and seek another who will permit him to write as he pleases. And if he can find none, the reporter has the right to establish his own newspaper, or rent a job press, or even hire a hall.

He has, mind you, the right to do so! Whether he can find the funds is another matter, which was not dealt with in any way by the framers of Article I of the Bill of Rights.

Perhaps this is a tough way of looking at it, but the tough fact is that freedom of the press—like all other freedoms—resides in those who have the skill or means to utilize it. Stated another way, it resides solely in ownership and it cannot reside any other place. Ownership alone is responsible for what newspapers

say or do or print, and ownership cannot in any way escape its responsibility.

Thus an editor or columnist or reporter who hires his talents to ownership has only one way of avoiding acts of commission or omission which to him would be dishonorable or unprofessional.

He can refuse to offer his talents to those with whom he knows he does not agree and with whom he knows he cannot work honorably.

And—if he finds by sad mischance that he has hired out by mistake—he can always quit.

In last analysis, any discussion of "the free press" has to come back to the simple, bed-rock definition that freedom means—freedom!

It is the right to print what we please, so long as it is not indecent and does not damage some innocent person.

It is the right to praise what we like, and to criticize what we do not like.

It is the right to be fair, or unfair, so long as we are willing to take the consequences for unfairness.

It is the right even to lie, if we are willing to pay a fine, or go to jail, or be forced out of business.

The honest editor, in short, can do no more than to try to reflect fairly the passing scene as he sees it.

If he is honest, he will do no less than that.

ASNE Officers Named To Pulitzer Board

JOHN S. KNIGHT, Knight Newspapers, and Roy A. Roberts, Knight Newspapers, have been elected to the Advisory Board to recommend Pulitzer prizes in journalism.

Other ASNE members elected to the Board are Sevelton Brown, Providence Journal and Evening Bulletin, and William Mathews, Arizona Daily Star.

Winners of this year's award already have been widely publicized in the daily press, among them H. J. Haskell, Kansas City Star, who received the award for editorial writing.

Knight Foresees New Techniques after War

Address Made in England Compares British And U. S. Press, Suggests Probable Trends

In an address before the English Speaking Union in Manchester, President John S. Knight drew some interesting comparisons between British and American newspapers, appraised the characteristics which contribute most to the strength of our own press and offered his prophecy on the trend of postwar newspapers. An abridgment of that address, made while he was with the Office of Censorship in London and hitherto unreported in this country, is presented here.

Difference in Size

WHILE OUR newspapers have undergone a newsprint reduction of some 25 per cent from the 1941 base period, British newspapers have been operating since March 15, 1942, at about one-fifth of normal. In other words, the British newspapers have been reduced 80 per cent in size, whereas we thus far have suffered less than 25 per cent. I think it is estimated that a total of some 4,750 tons of newsprint is used each week in the British Isles as compared with a prewar figure of 25,000 tons a week.

There is likewise a great difference in the manner of allocating the use of newsprint. In Great Britain, the government fixes ONLY the total tonnage available to the press as a whole. The Newspaper Supply Company, co-operatively set up by the newspaper proprietors, pools the supply of newsprint and a committee named by the newspapers themselves allocates the supplies.

This committee makes its allocations to individual newspapers based on their pre-war sizes and circulations but it is not concerned with the manner in which the individual newspaper elects to make the reduction. Thus, a newspaper may choose to cut its circulation by printing fewer copies of a slightly larger newspaper than the others, as in the case of the London Times, or it may, by cutting more drastically, even increase its circulation as has been illustrated by the London Daily Express.

All former circulation rules have gone by the boards. The papers which voluntarily have reduced their circulations have acquired a "scarcity" or good-will

value that is amazing. People even stand in queues to buy the popular dailies. This, in itself, would make a good first-page news picture in America and warm the hearts of our circulation managers who have been accustomed to using all sorts of ballyhoo methods to sell newspapers.

Advertising Space

Our advertising still comprises from 50 to 70 per cent of a day's issue whereas your newspapers assign from 25 to 30 per cent of the space to advertising. I believe the London Daily Express carries the smallest quota of advertising, about 12½ per cent. I know Lord Beaverbrook has considered eliminating all advertising but I seriously doubt whether he will be of the same mind after the war. I say this because advertising DOES have reader interest and a newspaper would be omitting a great deal of information interesting to many members of the family.

Government Advertising

Another great difference in the advertising field is that in wartime Britain, the government has become the largest individual advertiser. Your government pays for all advertising relating to food conservation, economy in travel and fuel, rationing notices, war bonds, notices to farmers, etc., whereas our government is hardly an advertiser at all.

Virtually all of the larger newspapers in America are opposed to government advertising. Their fears may be groundless but they envision a condition where the government might be able to place its favors in the hands of

those who approved administrative policies and penalize the newspapers which stand in opposition. Perhaps they are overly apprehensive but their opposition to government advertising is well rooted nevertheless.

Differences in Coverage

We have no really national newspapers in the sense that one regards the London Times or the Manchester Guardian, or in the popular field the London Daily Express or the Mail. On Sundays, the New York Times more nearly approaches a national newspaper than any other publication in America but there again, its total circulation outside New York state is limited to a few hundred thousands. Scattered throughout the country, you can see that it reaches but a fraction of our population.

It sometimes amuses me when I read the MOI American news-sheet. All the New York newspapers are carefully quoted and their editorial opinions given the closest attention. Some space is devoted to Washington and Chicago, but other than that, few other American newspapers are ever mentioned. I would not know of a better way to misinterpret American public opinion.

The above mentioned newspapers are excellent journalistic products and they have an undisputed editorial integrity but it must be remembered that there are equally creditable newspapers published in Detroit, St. Louis, Los Angeles and New Orleans, to mention but a few of our larger cities.

It is possible for a London newspaper to be circulated throughout the Isles within a relatively few hours and in great centers such as this (Manchester), many London newspapers maintain their own publishing plants so as to make publication simultaneous with their London editions.

In America no such practice is possible. Even if the New York Times or the Washington Star decided to publish an edition in Kansas City, it would be doomed to failure because the people of that city still prefer the Kansas

City Star. The Star could give them all the telegraphic services found in the New York Times plus a strong local coverage which an out-of-town publication could never hope to match. Kansas City wants to know what the Star thinks about the quality of its city government, not what the New York Times may think about it.

Chain Ownership

While we have a number of so-called newspaper chains in the United States, they do not begin to blanket the country in the way that several of your provincial groups of newspapers do.

Personally, I consider America to be fortunate in that newspaper opinion cannot be dictated by a few men writing and directing policies from Park Avenue, New York, or a ranch in California. How much better it is for the country to have a cross section of opinion on a burning national issue from every part of the United States than to have "leaders" manufactured wholesale at a central newspaper headquarters.

In Great Britain, it is far easier to reach a large percentage of British readers through the medium of a single great London newspaper or through the chains of provincial dailies and weeklies. There is no such possibility in America and frankly, I think we are better off for it. No one press lord can become so powerful that he can make a government tremble nor must the people look to one or two great journalistic sanctums for their editorial guidance.

Difference in Content

Normally, I would say, American newspapers are from five to ten times as large as yours. We are able to carry a much larger proportion of financial, sports, women's and social activities, comics and advertising.

The "leader" pages are not so dissimilar. I have been greatly impressed with the excellent use your newspapers make of special articles on that page. They contain a wealth of information and I have been particularly attracted by the ones which differ from time to time with the expressed

ANOTHER ASNE member went into government service last month when Charles P. Manship, editor of the Baton Rouge *State-Times* and *Morning Advocate*, was appointed to the Office of Censorship in London.

Like President Knight, who recently returned from that post, Mr. Manship will serve as liaison between the censorship offices of our own and other allied governments. Before leaving for England, Mr. Manship said: "Mr. Knight has pioneered in the job and I feel the task, as a result of his work, will be much simpler."

policies of the paper which prints them.

In the main, the temper of your papers impresses me as being exceedingly calm for a people that has been through four years of war. I have seen several newspaper campaigns started since I have been in England but none of them approaches the hysterical tempo achieved by sections of our own press.

True enough, I have not liked some of the criticism directed against the Americans by the *News-Chronicle* and the *Sunday Dispatch*, but certainly the editors of those newspapers are entitled to say what they think. Fortunately, we were not without newspaper defenders. One of the better London editors told me that from reading the *News-Chronicle*, one might get the idea that "the Americans had invented sex."

Probable Future Trends

I believe that progressive, liberal and popular newspapers will be in the ascendancy. The curtain is drawing for ultraconservative, stodgy newspapers everywhere. A paper must be Everybody's Newspaper—with articles and features for all classes and types of readers. At the same time, accurate and factual reporting must not be sacrificed for sensationalism or to promote a paper's policy....

In my estimation, radio will force the newspapers to develop specialized departments to a degree that cannot be matched by the radio. The newspaper of the future will, in addition to giving the news, furnish entertainment, specialized information through the medium of well edited departments which will attract the type of reader who looks each day to see what his favorite writer has to say.

Neither your newspapers nor ours can be content to fall back into their old ways after the war. New techniques and new methods will be constantly in the process of development and the editors who are attuned to the changing times and not wedded to outmoded journalistic practices will get the readers if they have the wit to devise new and more interesting ways of serving the public.

Not all newspapers are ideally conducted but in the main they are thoroughly honorable and attempt to portray the news without personal flavor and bias. They stand for the best in community development and are usually found at the forefront of every constructive movement. They are the leaders in nearly all civic undertakings and give unselfishly of their time and space to the promotion of any cause that is for the ultimate benefit of their town or the national government. They are a defense against corruptive "isms" of all kinds.

I am a passionate advocate of personal journalism. By that I mean the type of editor or proprietor who signs his name to leaders and articles that he contributes, a man who is quite willing to print all the bad things his enemies may say about him, either in Congress or in Commons, a man whose vital and distinct personality actually shines through the pages of his newspaper.

Your Ideas, Please

YOUR SUGGESTIONS are wanted on the following subjects: Practical ideas for newspaper-sponsored projects suitable to war times; and how to handle "Letters to the Editor" on political topics in an election year.

Gen. Eaker Asks Clips for Fliers In Mediterranean

WORD of the good work ASNE members are doing for our fliers in England has spread. The Mediterranean Allied Air Forces want clippings too!

The request from Gen. Ira C. Eaker for this added service comes through Major Harold I. Leyshon, Executive Officer, Air Forces Group, who says the clippings which newspapers are sending overseas are considered a morale project of major importance. A system for circulating scrapbooks through the various groups and squadrons has already been set up in the hope that clippings to paste in them will soon be forthcoming.

Since the Society sponsors nothing, no matter how worthy, there is no obligation to cooperate. Whether Gen. Eaker's hope is fulfilled depends entirely upon the goodwill of individual members. It's a simple task. All any member need do is to appoint someone on his staff to clip daily, mail two or three times a week.

Col. Lester A. Lear, PRO, 8th Air Force Hq., recently made the following report on clips now being sent to England to Secretary Basil L. Walters, who started the project.

"Dear Stuffy:

"Thanks for the nice things you say about the Eighth Air Force. We have grown to be quite an organization since you were here and leisure time has become something quite definitely extinct.

"The American papers have been swell about sending clippings, and I feel somewhat embarrassed because I haven't had time to write thank-you letters to all the editors.

"I think we have worked out a good arrangement for handling the clippings and getting them down to the various squadrons in both fighter and bomber commands through photo offset reproduction."

Mr. Walters replied that a note in THE BULLETIN would take care of the Colonel's expression of

'Be Kind to Stuffy Week' Proclaimed As Walters Leaves Minneapolis



AT FAREWELL PARTY: Gideon Seymour presents a scroll to "Stuffy" Walters, also two pictures purporting to show him before and after seven years in Minneapolis.

IT WAS no ordinary party that eighty members of the editorial staff of the Minneapolis *Star Journal* and *Tribune* gave when Basil L. Walters left last month to become executive editor of Knight Newspapers. The honored guest of the evening was lampooned mercilessly and took it in his always jovial stride.

Features included a satirical biography of the life of the eminent editor; a burlesque of his speeches, typical to the last gesture and pungent phrase; and his appointment as honorary Chief of Police of Minnesota's northern-

most village. As a final filip, the Mayor of Minneapolis proclaimed "Be Kind to Stuffy Week."

By the time it was over, "Stuffy" was ready to leave Minneapolis!

The affection and esteem of his staff were expressed in a scroll presented by Gideon Seymour, who succeeds him as executive editor.

Before his departure for his new headquarters in Detroit, he was entertained at a dinner given by John Cowles and Gardner Cowles Jr., attended by executives of the company.

says his secretary, Mrs. Myrtle W. Gootee has joined the clippers.

Walter W. Krebs, *Johnstown Tribune*, has assigned his secretary, Miss Helen Meyers, to the job.

For complete coverage of the country, more volunteers are needed. Please write the Office of THE BULLETIN for simple instructions and the mailing addresses.

gratitude to all papers cooperating. He added: "Don't take time to write us all. Just keep doing the job you're doing over there."

Since last month, Harriet Carran, secretary to Stanley P. Baran, has volunteered to clip the net, has volunteered to clip the *Plain Dealer*. "I'll be very glad to do it," she says. "After reading Mr. Keller's letter in the May BULLETIN, who wouldn't be?"

Alfred G. Hill, *Chester Times*,

Convention Post-Mortems, and Notes On Members Garnered in Washington

THE PLAN of allotting banquet seats according to date of reservation apparently met with general approval. Credit for it goes to John L. Morrison, Greenville (Pa.) *Record-Argus* who has been plugging for such a system for years. For the first time he had a front-center table and, ironically, was unable to attend because of illness in the family.

Announcement that Past President Dwight Marvin, *Troy Record Newspapers*, was absent because of a bout with the flu told less than half the story. Mrs. Marvin had it too. At the same time their daughter went to the hospital with pneumonia, a few days after her husband was invalidated home from North Africa. Their other daughter fell downstairs while putting the dog out and had to have eight stitches taken in her ear. "We're all right now," Mr. Marvin reports.

Most perturbed member at the meeting was John D. Ewing, *Shreveport Times*. He had invited a cabinet member, two senators and a half dozen other important guests to the military luncheon before he discovered it was for members only!

Mrs. Talbot Patrick was on hand to relay notes on his fellow members to her husband, publisher of the *Goldsboro (N.C.) News-Argus*, now Major Patrick, U.S.A., stationed in England.

Lt. Col. Rex Smith, *Chicago Sun*, attended in a dual role—inactive ASNE member and also among our War Department guests. He is Chief, Office of Technical Information, Army Air Forces.

George Grimes is now in the Chicago office of the *Wall Street Journal*, moved there recently from New York headquarters.

Discovery: Ask about any person of importance and Eugene Meyer, *Washington Post*, can toss off his name complete with middle initial and his correct title no matter how complicated. Too bad he's not looking for a job; he'd raise the standard of accuracy of any copy desk.

Happiest father at the meeting was Louis A. Weil, *Port Huron Times-Herald*. Arriving in Washington, he learned his son, Granger, had reached San Francisco after two years in the South Pacific.

The son of Harold W. Sanford, *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* is home after 18 months in the same area, hopes to be out of a Texas hospital before long.

Day before the meeting, Lloyd M. Felmly, managing editor of the *Newark Evening News*, was made editor. Less happy news from Newark is that Arthur Sinnott is on indefinite sick leave.

Joe W. Seacrest, *Lincoln Journal*, wore a green badge—new member but didn't seem like one. He attended many meetings when his father, the late Joseph C. Seacrest, was a member.

Grove Patterson, *Toledo Blade*, has missed no meetings in 22 years. Runner-up is Donald J. Sterling, *Oregon Journal*, who has attended all but one—in Atlantic City way back when ASNE history began.

Note received from *Times-Herald* city desk: "One ticket for ANPA banquet please." Note to T-H city desk: "Ticket enclosed. Please find out who we are before you cover banquet.—A.F.P."

Vote of thanks to Michael A. Gorman, *Flint Journal*, for playing host to distinguished guests not at head table. Without him they'd still be wandering around, wondering where to sit. Volunteer assistant was Stephen C. Noland, *Indianapolis News*.

No complaints have been received on convention details, arrangements for hotel accommodations, registration, banquet, etc. "Tisn't natural. Must be some room for improvement; your suggestions for '45 will be welcomed."

Member who overheard me refer to another member as "one of my pets" wants to know how to get on the pet list. Write a good piece for THE BULLETIN, of course, preferably without waiting to be asked.

A.F.P.

Your Last Chance To Change Listing In the Proceedings

PROBLEMS OF JOURNALISM, the annual proceedings of the convention, is being rushed to publication as fast as wartime conditions permit.

Any member whose listing was incorrect in the 1943 volume or who has changed his title in the past year is asked to advise the Office of The Bulletin without delay so that the membership list in the book will be accurate.

The shop talks which provide a wealth of practical information, the banquet speeches, resolutions and other convention proceedings are carried in full, with the exception, of course, of off-the-record sessions.

Superstitious? No! Just Playing Safe

A PRE-CONVENTION note to Member Louis A. Weil provoked the following paragraph in the "Between You and Me" column in the *Port Huron Times Herald*.

"Dear Alice:
"You ask me whether I'm superstitious and whether I would care if you assign me to table number THIRTEEN at the ASNE banquet. I ain't a bit superstitious, Alice. Of course, I don't walk under no ladder, or nothin' like that. And as for lightin' three cigarettes on a match, well, matches are cheap. It's funny, but a black cat crossin' the road ahead of my car always reminds me that I need somethin' back in the other direction. Ain't that peculiar? Naw, I'm not superstitious, not a bit. Ha, ha, ha. Why should I be? I'm a newspaper editor and you know how smart we are! (P.S.) Confidentially, Alice, if you happen to have a table with some other number on it, I'll appreciate it. You see, I usually bring a congressman as my guest at that dinner and HE might be superstitious. But as for me being superstitious—Ha, Ha, Ha!"

Hence the table, between No. 11 and No. 15, was Table 11-A!



COL. OVETA CULP HOBBY, WAC, was a center of attention at the meeting in Washington. Left to right: Members Dwight Perrin, *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*, and W. S. Gilmore, *Detroit News*; Col. Hobby, *Houston Post*, ASNE member on inactive list; Senator Vandenberg and Member J. N. Heiskell, *Arkansas Gazette*.

Traditional Procedure re Resolutions Stirs Members to Practical and Flippant Comments

DURING the discussion of resolutions at the convention, Leon Stolz of the *Chicago Tribune* asked whether a certain one wouldn't be clearer if it were shorn of its "resolveds" and "whereases." Looking a bit puzzled by the ensuing laughter, Mr. Stolz said he wasn't being humorous; he meant it.

That goes for any resolution, any year at all, so far as Melville F. Ferguson, *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*, is concerned. Mr. Ferguson says:

"We get into the habit of writing in editorialese, which is a language apart from ordinary speech..." (as an editorial writer himself, he should know!) "...with more regard for sonorous quality than for meaning and sense..." The lads who prepare the resolutions ought always to be told to phrase them as if the authors were personally paying cable tolls on them from New Delhi. Then the contents would be forceful and to the point."

A practical way to save time on resolutions, which take up the better part of a session at every convention, is offered by Harry Boyd, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

Let the committee send mimeographed copies of proposed resolutions to members before the convention, he suggests, at the same time asking for objections, corrections and other changes. Taking cognizance of members' comments, the committee whips them into final form for presentation at the meeting. As everyone has already had their say, they can be disposed of, one way or the other, with a minimum of discussion. Sounds very efficient.

Dwight Young Now Becomes Secretary

MINUTES of the April meeting of the Board of Directors reveal these items:

The President has been in-

structed to name a member to represent the Society officially at the Inter-American Press Association Conference in October, this delegate to be chosen from among ASNE members who are attending.

An assistant secretary and assistant treasurer were elected for the first time, so that they could become acquainted with the work of these offices. The Board expressed the belief that in the future a retiring secretary should carry over until his work in connection with the annual meeting, including publication of the Proceedings, is completed.

Dwight Young, *Dayton Journal-Herald*, who was elected assistant secretary, on June 1 became acting secretary. All communications for the attention of the secretary now should be addressed to him. Pending appointment of the 1944-45 membership chairman, requests for application blanks for new members also should be addressed to Mr. Young.

The Treasury Department continues in the able hands of David Lawrence, *United States News*.

In Memoriam

Colonel Frank Knox

ALTHOUGH Col. Frank Knox will have a place in his country's history as Secretary of the Navy during the period of its greatest expansion and activity, this Society will remember him best as an editor and publisher. In both fields he rendered patriotic service of a high order at a time when it was badly needed.

Colonel Knox was associated with newspapers most of his life, rising from reporter to general manager of the Hearst enterprises, and finally, in 1931, becoming chief owner and publisher of the *Chicago Daily News*. His lifelong interest and experience in public affairs fitted him to head a great newspaper at one of the critical moments of his country's history. As a young man he was one of Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders, and at the age of 43 he enlisted in the World War, in which he went overseas with the 78th division, was under fire on several occasions, and was mustered out with the rank of lieutenant colonel. In his newspaper career he was always a crusader. His papers were notable for the reforms he carried on and for the campaigns he made for the causes in which he believed. Joining the Bull Moose movement in 1912, he traveled over the United States with Colonel Roosevelt. He was one of the leading supporters of Charles Evans Hughes for the presidency in 1916, and was himself a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of New Hampshire in 1924. His political activity continued after he went to Chicago, but he did not let it influence his conduct of the paper. There is a well known story that when he ran for the vice presidency with Alfred M. Landon in 1936, one of the best reporters on his paper nearly lost his job for asking Colonel Knox how he wanted him to write up a certain political meeting.

Under Melville E. Stone, Victor F. Lawson and Walter A. Strong the *Chicago Daily News* had long been one of the leading news-

papers in the United States. Colonel Knox set himself the task of enhancing its reputation. Raymond Gram Swing, who was a member of the staff at the time, wrote of him later that "When he gained control of that paper he determined to round out his career with a new achievement. He dreamed of making it the best newspaper in the English-speaking world, best in style, information, opinion and appearance." Mr. Swing added that the men on the *Daily News* who worked intimately with Colonel Knox "gave a glowing account of him as publisher. They have yet," he said, "to see him, in a major issue, come to what they consider a fundamentally wrong decision. Even when it cost something, they have seen him again and again, do the right thing."

Several trips abroad convinced Colonel Knox that Europe was headed for war and that the United States could not help becoming involved in it. When he purchased the *Daily News* he had also taken over its foreign service. Since before the turn of the century this had been one of the distinguished foreign services of this country; it was carefully administered by a board of trustees and one of the conditions when Colonel Knox acquired the paper was that he would develop and maintain it. He now put it on a war basis, engaging correspondents who were noted for their knowledge of European affairs and their fearlessness in reporting the troubles incident to the rise of the dictators. After the campaign of 1936, as he saw Europe moving closer to war, he began in speeches and front page editorials to warn Americans of the danger. He was one of the first to insist that totalitarianism and democracy could not exist together, and that the men who had set out to make themselves masters of Europe were actually embarking on a career of world conquest which would sooner or later spread to the United States. After the fall of France Colonel

Knox went up and down the land pointing out Hitler's strategy of encirclement, calling on Americans for all possible aid to Britain, and warning them of the risk they were running in not being prepared. President Roosevelt invited him to join his cabinet in 1939 and when he repeated his invitation in June of 1940, Colonel Knox accepted. From then on until Pearl Harbor he kept urging the country to get ready for whatever might come. He denounced its love of comfort and ignoble complacency,—"immoral and craven position," as he called it, "of asking others to make all the sacrifices for a victory which we recognize is essential to us." He advocated a navy capable of defending the United States in both oceans, fought for every measure of preparedness, and called for volunteers for the navy, marines and air corps. Others saw what was coming as clearly as he did, but few did so much to arouse the nation and to awaken it to the necessity of speed and action. The vision and driving energy for which he had been known all his life were now put to good use on behalf of his country and mankind.

Busy as Colonel Knox was as the chief spokesman of preparedness and in building up the greatest navy in history, he never lost his interest in his paper. Every night he went over it line by line, made suggestions as to its policy, and frequently wrote editorials on subjects which he felt required his attention. In the last week of his life, on a visit to Chicago, he himself typed out several front page editorials.

In tribute, therefore, to one of our members who served his profession and his country with confidence and his country with devotion, the spicuous ability and devotion, the American Society of Newspaper Editors inscribes upon its records this memorial to Colonel Frank Knox and directs that a copy thereof be sent to Mrs. Knox in order that she may know of our esteem for her husband and the sorrow we all feel that he could not have been spared to witness the victory his fighting spirit did so much to bring about.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Knight Calls Special Meeting Of Board; Convention Plans Laid

THE BOARD of Directors of the Society held a special meeting, called by President John S. Knight, in Chicago, June 26, and in addition to disposing of routine affairs drafted an outline of the 1945 convention.

Mr. Knight's selection of Erwin D. Canham, for the all-important post of Program Chairman was unanimously endorsed by the directors as were other committee appointments. It was suggested to Mr. Canham that more shop talks be included in the program, and the possibility of a return to a three-day meeting to allow more time for such round table discussion was considered. Inclusion of a session devoted to the editorial page was implemented by the appointment, by President Knight, of a special com-

mittee on the subject. Other new groups, as well as the standing committees appointed, are covered elsewhere in this issue.

The Board formally accepted the resignation as Secretary of Basil L. Walters, electing Dwight Young in his place. Mr. Walters remains a member of the Board.

The text of the statement relating to a free press and unrestricted communications urged by

the Board as a plank in the Republican and Democratic party platforms appeared in most members' newspapers and, for the record, appears on page 4.

Members attending the special meeting were: President John S. Knight; Wilbur Forrest, New York *Herald Tribune*; Roy A. Roberts, Kansas *City Star*; Dwight Marvin, *Troy Record*; Tom Wallace, *Louisville Times*; Erwin D. Canham, *Christian Science Monitor*; David Lawrence, *United States News*; Paul Scott Mowrer, *Chicago Daily News*; and Dwight Young, *Dayton Journal and Herald*.

Canham Is Program Chairman; Other Committees Announced

IN NAMING committees for 1944-45, President John S. Knight has drawn upon every section of the membership, geographically and otherwise. The directors, to whom Mr. Knight submitted the list before its announcement, endorsed his selections wholeheartedly and expressed particular satisfaction with his evident determination to bring new or hitherto silent members of the Society into active participation in its affairs. The list follows:

Program

ERWIN D. CANHAM, *Christian Science Monitor*, chairman
B. M. MCKELWAY, *Washington Star*, vice-chairman
WILBUR FORREST, New York *Herald Tribune*
DAVID LAWRENCE, *United States News*
J. LOY MALONEY, *Chicago Tribune*
HAMILTON OWENS, *Baltimore Sun*
EUGENE MEYER, *Washington Post*
GEORGE B. PARKER, *Scripps-Howard Newspapers*
ELEANOR M. PATTERSON, *Washington Times-Herald*

L. D. HOTCHKISS, Los Angeles *Times*
HULBERT TAFT, Cincinnati *Times-Star*
L. K. NICHOLSON, New Orleans *Times-Picayune*

Membership

JULIAN S. MILLER, Charlotte *Observer*, chairman
SAMUEL L. LATIMER, *The State*, Columbia
WALTER P. JONES, *McClatchy Newspapers*
DON MORRIS, *Palm Beach Post and Times*
WALTER W. KREBS, *Johnston Tribune*
B. P. LYNCH, *Phoenix Republican and Gazette*
E. ROBERT STEVENSON, *Waterbury Republican and American*
PHILIP L. JACKSON, *Portland Journal*
HAROLD A. FITZGERALD, *Pontiac Press*

Reception

MICHAEL A. GORMAN, *Flint Journal*

(Continued on next page)

J. F. FITZPATRICK, Salt Lake City Tribune-Telegram
WILLIAM E. SCRIPPS, Detroit News
WALKER STONE, Washington Daily News
JOSEPH K. VODREY, Canton Repository
BEN REESE, St. Louis Post-Dispatch
JOHN J. MEAD, Jr., Erie Daily Times

Resolutions

JOSEPH PULITZER, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, chairman
WILLIAM F. MAAG, Youngstown Vindicator, vice-chairman
JAMES E. MILLS, Birmingham Post
FRANK A. CLARVOE, San Francisco News
A. L. MILLER, Battle Creek Enquirer-News
JAMES M. NORTH, Jr., Fort Worth Star-Telegram
NORMAN CHANDLER, Los Angeles Times
ROBERT B. CHOATE, Boston Herald-Traveler

Memorial

STEPHEN C. NOLAND, Indianapolis News, chairman
RUSS STEWART, Chicago Times
WILLIAM P. STEVEN, Minneapolis Morning Tribune

Nominating

L. R. BLANCHARD, Gannett Newspapers, chairman
LOUIS I. JAFFEE, Norfolk Virginian-Pilot
OLIVER J. KELLER, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
MILES H. WOLFF, Baltimore Evening Sun
EDWARD T. LEECH, Pittsburgh Press

Education

RICHARD POWELL CARTER, Roanoke World-News, chairman
J. N. HEISKELL, Arkansas Gazette
RALPH BURKHOLDER, Columbus Citizen

Press Freedom

The special committee on Freedom of Press Dispatches is a new group, the outgrowth of discussions at the April convention

pointing to the need for increased vigilance against all elements encroaching upon freedom of communications. Its membership follows:

RALPH E. MCGILL, Atlanta Constitution, chairman
CARL W. ACKERMAN, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, vice-chairman
RAYMOND McCRAW, New York Times
RALPH COGHLAN, St. Louis Post-Dispatch
PAUL SCOTT MOWRER, Chicago Daily News
NELSON P. POYNTER, St. Petersburg Times
CARL D. GROAT, Cincinnati Post
SEVELLON BROWN, Providence Journal and Evening Bulletin
PALMER HOYT, Portland Oregonian
JAMES E. CHAPPELL, Birmingham News and Age-Herald
GARDNER COWLES, Jr., Des Moines Register and Tribune
JOHN H. SORRELLS, Memphis Commercial-Appeal
LAWRENCE WINSHIP, Boston Globe

The Bulletin

An editorial board to assist in providing ideas for the ASNE BULLETIN was approved by the Directors last fall. On it are:

LOUIS B. SELTZER, Cleveland Press, chairman
WALDO R. ARNOLD, Milwaukee Journal
E. Z. DIMITMAN, Chicago Sun
HARRY BOYD, Cedar Rapids Gazette

Editorial Page

A general feeling among the directors, and shared by a large percentage of the membership, that the editorial page has been neglected in recent sessions of the Society led to the appointment of an Editorial Page Committee. The present plan is to devote a major portion of one session of the next convention to the subject under the guidance of the following committee:

JOHN DONALD FERGUSON, Milwaukee Journal, chairman
JUDSON W. CHAPMAN, Greenville Piedmont

THE 1944 Proceedings will be mailed to all members before the next issue of THE BULLETIN. It contains the talks and discussions that were on the record, all of it worth reading, much of it suitable for reprinting in your own paper. The binding does not precisely match previous editions. This is not due to any desire to break tradition; just another war-time shortage!

WALTER LOCKE, Dayton Daily News
LEON STOLZ, Chicago Tribune
HENRY J. HASKELL, Kansas City Star
E. D. LAMBRIGHT, Tampa Tribune
VIRGINIUS DABNEY, Richmond Times-Dispatch
HARRY M. AYERS, Anniston Star
RUSSELL BRINEY, Louisville Courier-Journal
RICHARD J. FINNEGAN, Chicago Times

Syndicated Columns

An arch foe of the canned column that poses as an editorial, Tom Wallace, heads another new group, the Committee on Syndicated Columnists. Just what this committee will do will be determined by the following members:

TOM WALLACE, Louisville Times, chairman
JACK FOSTER, Rocky Mountain News, Denver
HARRY T. SAYLOR, Philadelphia Record
WILLIAM D. MAXWELL, Chicago Tribune

Press Relations

Reporters on ASNE conventions have been wont to complain that editors care less about press relations than any other convention they cover. But no longer. Mr. Knight has appointed a one-man committee, Nathaniel E. Howard, Cleveland News, to handle press relations at the annual meeting and when need arises throughout the year.

Easy Substitutes for Reading Menace Newspapers, Boyd Warns

A SUGGESTION of vital importance made in the September BULLETIN by J. Albert Dear, Jr., Jersey Journal, has awakened disappointingly small response in the opinion of Harry Boyd, Cedar Rapids Gazette. Mr. Dear's thesis: Our profession has—or should have—a keen interest in the ability of the rising generations not merely to read but to read with ease and rapidity.

These two members agree that, from both the public-service and the self-interest viewpoints, the newspapers of the country will be extremely short-sighted if they neglect much longer a thoroughgoing study of reading deficiency and an intelligent exercise of their influence to improve the reading ability of the public at large.

Here is the situation, and the reason editors have a stake in the outcome, as set forth by Mr. Boyd:

"It is no secret in educational circles that altogether too many youngsters arrive at college age without the ability to read either as rapidly or as comprehendingly as they should. Little is done in most colleges to remedy this deficiency, and of course for the great majority of boys and girls who don't go on to college it remains an unremedied handicap throughout life.

"In a day when there are so many more things the average person would like to read than it is physically possible for him to read, this handicap limits sharply the depth and richness of the individual's enjoyment of life. It also limits his capacity to become well informed on complex issues on which he is expected to pass judgment as a citizen. And it limits the sphere of the newspaper's influence, which always will rest primarily on the reading ability of the people.

"The situation probably is growing worse rather than better. Radio, movies, comic strips and picture magazines are weakening reading incentives for many people by offering easy substitutes



BOYD

DEAR

tutes for reading. A significant straw in the wind is L. D. Hotchkiss' report on the Los Angeles survey in which 45 percent of the people questioned expressed the absurd opinion that the radio gives more accurate news than the newspaper.

"It has been demonstrated beyond question at Yale, Harvard, Dartmouth, Chicago and other universities that the average reading speed of college students can be increased substantially—often more than doubled—with-out loss in comprehension. The same thing can be done for adults, and for school children on the lower levels. It can be done in a relatively short time, by methods that are not too complicated. Scientific research also has evolved a good deal of information on how newspapers and other publications could be made easier to read.

"If any other group in America has a more important stake than the newspapers in seeing that all the newspapers in seeing that all the newspapers knowledge is put to the most widely effective practical use possible, you name it.

"Just how they should go about it is a matter for careful study. It has seemed to me that newspapers might well publish in their own columns series of articles designed to interest and instruct people in speeding up their reading. Certainly newspapers could do something to get public schools properly equipped for remedial reading instruction. There is no reason why public

libraries shouldn't maintain reading clinics. A number of other possible avenues of approach suggest themselves.

"It seems to me the ASNE might well set up a committee to look into this, and perhaps make it a continuing research and experimental activity of the Society. Certainly it would pay real dividends to all newspapers."

F. A. Miller Tells Why Politics Has No Lure

IN THE FACE of intense insistence from leading Indiana Republicans that he accept the nomination for the short term for United States senator from Indiana, Member F. A. Miller, president and editor of the South Bend Tribune has unequivocally declined the honor with this explanation:

"I never have held a public office and never expect to. I feel that if I can help my fellow citizens at all I can do it better by use of the Tribune for that purpose; and I try to do it that way. With a circulation most days exceeding 82,000, which probably means 250,000 readers, most of them in Indiana, I can talk to more persons daily than I could as a public official and, I hope, do some good.

"For a long time I have believed that the head of a newspaper should not hold public office. It is my theory that if he does, he interferes with the independence of his newspaper. It seems to me that independence is too valuable to be endangered by personal ambition. I desire the Tribune to be completely free to exercise its unfettered judgment on any matter that comes before it. I think that today the paper is as near to that position as it is possible to be and still be human."

To W. A. White

WALTER Lippman's new book, "U. S. War Aims" is dedicated to the memory of William Allen White. He has also been honored by a scroll from the Pulitzer Advisory Board.

Gen. Doolittle's Personal Thanks Are Extended to ASNE Members

This letter from the Commander of the Eighth Air Force is directed to the attention of ASNE members who have been sending clippings to England. Still more are wanted, for this unit and also for the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces. Instructions for sending them may be obtained from the Office of The Bulletin.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE

Office of the Commanding General

Mrs. Alice Fox Pitts
American Society of Newspaper Editors
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Mrs. Pitts:

Our Public Relations Officer, Lt. Col. Lester A. Lear, has informed me of your untiring efforts in obtaining newspaper clippings for the men at our Air Forces stations and of the splendid cooperation by members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

The clippings have contributed directly to the high morale prevailing in the Eighth Air Force. Our units on occasion have suffered high losses but, despite the losses, have always pressed on, sometimes through the fiercest kind of enemy opposition, to bomb their assigned targets. It is comforting to our fliers to know that their accomplishments are known and understood by their friends and relatives, and that their sacrifices are appreciated by the American public, as reflected in the clippings from American newspapers.

I should like to express my personal thanks and the appreciation of all our personnel to you and to the members of your association, for the splendid support we have been given.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) J. H. Doolittle
Lieut. General, U.S.A.
Commanding

News of Our Members In Military Service

Capt. John P. Harris, Hutchinson (Kansas) News, recently made a tour of Italian fronts, has returned to London with Strategic Services.

Present rating of John F. James, Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat, is Pharmacist's Mate 3/c. He is on the staff of the Naval Hospital, Great Lakes, Ill.

Our Member from the Nashville Banner has won another promotion. Now it's Captain James G. Stahlman, U.S.N.R.

James E. Dowd, Charlotte News, is a full lieutenant in the Navy.

Lieut. George R. Shoals, U.S.A., Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, is at Holabird Signal Depot, Baltimore.

A question as to the whereabouts of Capt. Coleman A. Harwell, U.S.A., brings this reply from the office of the Nashville Tennessean: "Somewhere in Italy. . . ."

J. R. Wiggins, St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press, is now Major, U.S.A.

A recently elected ASNE member, William J. Pape of the Waterbury Republican and American, is the father of a Brigadier General, Robin B. Pape. He is in Military Intelligence attached to the South East Asia Command. Another son is Lieut. Commander William B. Pape, now with the State Selective Service board in Hartford.

Elzey Roberts Jr., son of the publisher of the St. Louis Star-Times, is an ensign in the Navy.

Board Urges Planks On Free Press And Communications

The following is the text of a statement relating to a free press and unrestricted communications issued by the Board of Directors for release by press associations on Tuesday, June 27. Adoption of a plank bearing on this subject in the Republican platform followed.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, meeting in Chicago tonight, unanimously urged that the Resolutions Committees of both the Republican and the Democratic National conventions include a plank in their respective platforms on the vital issue of a free press and unrestricted communications for news throughout the world.

This plank, which had been prepared by a committee of editors named by John S. Knight, president of the Society, in cooperation with all the wire services, all the press associations and all the broadcasting organizations declares that an unrestricted interchange of news and equal opportunity on all world transmission facilities is essential to the building of a lasting world peace.

President Knight has named a special committee which will take up this subject with the state department at Washington and other governmental agencies with a view to its incorporation in any general international organization or any peace settlement that may be established.

Chambers Promoted; Other Changes Noted

Lenoir Chambers has been named editor of the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch. Since 1929 he had been associate editor of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

W. L. Ayers, Chicago Journal of Commerce, has resigned from that paper and the Society. He is moving to Mexico where he plans to do free lance writing.

Ralph B. Jordan has left the Deseret News to join INS.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

ASNE Objectives for This Year

By JOHN S. KNIGHT, President

I HAVE BEEN asked several times since the annual meeting in April to define the objectives of the ASNE this year.

While not presuming to speak either for the membership or the Board of Directors, I am quite willing to make a few personal recommendations with the knowledge that if they are unsound, I will shortly be hearing from my fellow editors. They are:

1. Reread and practice the Code of Ethics as outlined in the first part of the Proceedings of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

2. Reestablish the three-day meeting so that at least one day can be devoted to discussions of EDITORIAL problems.

3. Give the editorial page a prominent place on the program. The discussion could include content, make-up, use of pictures, cartoons, writing styles and policies.

4. Hold a round table discussion on the responsibility and integrity of syndicated columnists and their influence, good or bad, on modern journalism.

5. Discuss deficiencies in newspaper reading. Some members think our schools have failed to teach the rising generation to read with ease and rapidity. Others feel the newspapers are to blame because they are so difficult to read. This is a lively and important topic which I suggest has a place on our program.

6. See to it that the Society does not fall into the habit of renominating and reelecting the same members to the Board of Directors year after year. This observation applies also to committee assignments. We have some first-rate material among our newer members. Why not use them?

7. Welcome spirited and controversial resolutions, both from the committee and the floor but insist they be presented well in advance of the discussion period so that members may have an opportunity to study the proposal before voting.

8. Demonstrate to reporters and photographers at the annual meeting that editors really know something about public relations and provide them with proper facilities.

(Continued on Page 3)

Newspapers' Stake in Paper Salvage Campaign

By ARTHUR R. TREANOR

Director of Printing and Publishing Division
War Production Board

EVERY POUND OF NEWSPRINT has a dual function in today's American economy. It must serve to convey the free expression of the Press and it must be recovered for re-use in making boxes, cartons and other paper products which are a vital war necessity. If the paper salvage campaign continues to fall short of its goal—and, more specifically, if the summer months reflect their customary slump in paper salvage,—we are in danger of having pulp diverted from the newsprint level and siphoned directly to container production as a substitute for unrecovered waste paper.

Such diversion of pulp from one product to another is a constant threat since many pulps—whether made from wood or from waste fibrous materials—are interchangeable. If a shortage develops in one type of pulp and the product customarily made from that grade is essential to the prosecution of the war, the Pulp Allocation Office of the War Production Board is empowered to take pulp of some other grade

away from another product (for instance, newsprint) and re-allot it. Every additional ton of waste paper collected protects the supply of ground-wood pulp to just that extent.

Newspapers' Responsibility

Newspapers represent 58 pounds out of every 100 pounds of salvageable waste paper in the average American home. The magnitude of this figure is at once

a source of pride to our industry and a responsibility. We are proud that our product can fully serve its function of bringing the news to a free people and can then provide so large a share of the raw materials required to package war goods. But, we must also assume a large share of the responsibility for recovering this material if we are fully to protect our right to make prior use of the pulp.

Already, newspapers have demonstrated their patriotism in a highly effective measure by freely giving space in their columns to the paper salvage drive and to scores of other drives, campaigns and causes of a patriotic nature. Now there is added to this patriotic urge the need to do yet more for pure self-interest. Through active physical work, they must aid the 17,000 salvage committees throughout the nation

(Continued on Next Page)

at every level of their collection activities in order to assure the newspapers' continued right to the first use of this pulp.

Collections Fell Short

Newspaper editors know from the articles each of you has carried in your own paper that we aim at the collection of 8,000,000 tons of waste paper this year—667,000 tons each month. This minimum is needed in order that we may continue, on an average, to make box-board with about 90 percent waste fibre, container-board with about 50 percent waste fibre, and book papers with about 30 percent filler including waste fibre.

In the first 5 months of this year, we fell about 400,000 tons below the goal for this period, and we are now in the summer period when collections usually recede. Meanwhile, the demands of the Military for packaging materials have increased at an alarming pace and will continue to increase until well after one of the major fronts shall have become inactive. If these requirements are to be met without substituting pulp for waste paper, a great deal of extra effort must be made. The waste paper is in the homes, the office buildings, retail stores, hotels, industrial plants, and other business establishments—it must be salvaged and collected—and the newspapers must participate in the physical job of that salvaging and collecting.

Local Committees Assisting

The Salvage Division of the War Production Board is being assisted in its paper salvage campaign by 17,000 local volunteer committees. It also has the organized aid of an Advisory Committee on School Salvage Program of the United States Department of Education, the Committee on Waste Paper of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, and the Conservation Committee of the Waste Consuming Industries. Newspapers, movies, women's clubs, fraternal orders and clubs, Parent-Teachers Associations, Army Camps and a host of other organizations and individuals are cooperating in hundreds of localities.

These various organizations have developed a number of collection methods which have proved highly successful in different communities. Every newspaper editor in America has received detailed reports of these methods and is familiar with the type best adapted to his community.

The three outstanding collection methods as reported by the United States Victory Campaign Committee are: (1) collections by school children, Boy Scouts, churches and similar agencies; (2) the neighborhood pool method; and (3) the curbstone collection method.

Lancaster Method Works

J. Hale Steinman of the Lancaster Newspapers, Lancaster, Pa., and now serving as consultant to the Printing and Publishing Division of WPB, has described the incentive procedure followed in connection with the Lancaster school collections as follows:

"We have left it up to each school to determine what to do with the money received from the waste paper. . . . While we ask each child to bring five pounds of paper per week, we have found that an average per pupil of two pounds per week collected over a period of two months shows a 'consistent salvage effort,' and we consider it sufficient effort for a pennant award to the school. This amount of scrap, if the same plan is followed throughout the country, will produce many thousands of tons per week.

"As it is more complicated to get the WPB to award pennants, . . . we have arranged with the State Council of Defense to award pennants. . . .

"The superintendents of the City, County and Parochial Schools issued a bulletin to the principal of each school asking the principal to organize the drive for that school and have the children bring newspapers, magazines, and other waste papers to school on Monday of each week. Arrangement is made with the junk dealer to collect the scrap on Tuesdays so as to have it lie around as little as possible. The money from the sale may be put to any use as decided upon by the

principal of each school. Some schools collect the scrap every day, and this plan may induce more than by collecting once a week."

Camden Pool Effective

The "neighborhood pool" plan is used effectively in Camden, N. J., where each household is asked to deposit its waste paper at the nearest street corner on certain days. Volunteer trucks, loaned by the waste material dealers of Camden, are scheduled to cover the entire city on two consecutive days, Friday and Saturday, starting at 7:30 A.M. School children, Boy and Girl Scouts and Air Raid Wardens are assigned to canvass their neighborhood or city block to impress upon every housewife and storekeeper the need of paper salvage and to enlist cooperation. This personal, house-to-house canvass is a prime requisite to obtaining the total cooperation necessary to the fulfillment of our program.

The "curbstone collection" method is popular and productive in St. Paul, New York, Chicago and countless other cities.

Farm Collection Neglected

One important source, the farm household, has been neglected in our collection efforts to date. It is estimated that the average flow of all kinds of waste paper from farms should average 1.05 pounds per person per week as compared with 1.48 pounds per person per week in non-farm households. This means that something like 15 percent of the total available household waste paper, or 13,000 tons per week, is available from farm households, and effective methods should be devised to tap this important source.

The waste paper required to reach the 1944 goal of 8,000,000 tons is available. Attainment of that goal is of utmost importance in protecting the supply of ground-wood pulp for newsprint. If we fail to provide waste fibres for continuous board production, new fibres will have to be substituted. The war won't wait! I believe newspapers of America have the vision and brawn to get in waste paper in the amounts required to protect their own raw material.

Meet the Bulletin's New Editorial Board



AN EDITORIAL BOARD to help create ideas for THE BULLETIN was approved by the ASNE Directors at their fall meeting, appointed by President Knight last month. Its members, left to right: E. Z. Dimitman, Chicago Sun; Louis B. Seltzer, Cleveland Press, chairman; Waldo Arnold, Milwaukee Journal; and below, Harry Boyd, Cedar Rapids Gazette.

Leadership in Society Changes As Older Members Step Aside

RAPIDLY increasing growth of ASNE during the past three years has brought a large class of new members unfamiliar with the beginnings of the Society, who started it and why. For older members a refresher course in ASNE history is in order at any time, even without an anniversary or other news peg to hang it on.

Particularly interesting is the changing leadership over the years. This is not accounted for solely by deaths and departures from the profession in the last 22 years. It is a matter of policy. Members well-versed in ASNE affairs admittedly have much of value to offer; it was for this reason the by-laws were amended to make each past president an ex-officio member of the Board for three years after expiration of

his term. Yet charter members and other old-timers on the rolls have displayed a definite conviction that new members should be encouraged to active participation in the Society. The result has been new faces on important committees, on the Board of Directors and among the officers.

The idea of a society for editors of newspapers in the country's larger cities was inspired by the late Casper S. Yost of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Correspondence with other editors encouraged him to call a meeting at the old Waldorf on April 25, 1922. The formal objective, quoting Donald J. Sterling of the Oregon Journal who was among the charter members, was "to find some means of codifying sound practice and just aspirations of American journalism."

To the late E. S. Beck of the Chicago Tribune, one of the founders, such a society offered also a needed opportunity for fraternity of a group of men with common interests. "Until the Society was organized," Mr. Beck said shortly before his death, "we news and editorial men were all insulated. I don't think I knew more than a couple of managing editors in the whole country outside of Chicago. And it didn't seem to me it was good for us to be so completely cut off from others in our line of work."

Although only a handful were present at the organization meeting, 49 members were enrolled; these and 33 additional members elected in the following three months were designated charter

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members. Of the total of 82, only eight now are on the membership list: Paul Patterson, Baltimore Sun; J. M. North Jr., Fort Worth Star-Telegram; Marvin H. Creager, Milwaukee Journal; Donald J. Sterling, Oregon Journal; Hamilton Owens, Baltimore Sun, W. F. Wiley, Cincinnati Enquirer; Grove Patterson, Toledo Blade, and Frank E. Gannett, of Gannett Newspapers.

Mr. Yost was the first president and continued in that office through 1925. He would not permit his re-election in 1926 and the late Erie C. Hopwood of the Cleveland Plain Dealer became the second president.

Many of the early members are still active in the Society but they are outnumbered, in official capacities, by more recent accessions.

On the current board, only six of 15 names fall into the category of members for more than ten years: President John S. Knight, who joined back in the days when he was managing editor of the Akron Beacon Journal; Treasurer David Lawrence, United States News; Tom Wallace, Louisville Times; Dwight Marvin, Troy Record; Roy Roberts, Kansas City Star; and James M. North Jr., Fort Worth Star-Telegram. W. S. Gilmore, Detroit News, is next in seniority, having been elected just ten years ago. Other members of the Board, with the year their names first appear on the membership list in the Proceedings, are: N. R. Howard, Cleveland News, 1936; Dwight Young, Dayton Herald-Journal, Paul Scott Mowrer, Chicago Daily News, Basil L. Walters, Knight Newspapers, and Alexander F. Jones, Washington Post, all 1938; B. M. McKelway, Washington Star, and Wilbur Forrest, New York Herald Tribune, both 1939; and the baby of the Board, Erwin D. Canham, Christian Science Monitor, in 1940.

New members are welcome to speak out in meeting when the Society convenes, and are cordially invited to contribute to THE BULLETIN. Recent membership is no bar to appointment to committees; Mr. Knight has drawn widely on this group for 1944-45 appointments.

Hommage Américain à la Presse clandestine

Le Comité Exécutif du Syndicat des éditeurs de journaux américains a adopté la motion suivante:

"Le Syndicat des éditeurs de journaux américains, envoie ses vœux et son admiration respectueuse à ses collègues, les éditeurs de la presse clandestine des pays occupés et à leurs collaborateurs qui les aident dans la tâche de dire la vérité, malgré l'ennemi. Nous vous félicitons en tant que collègues, nous vous admirons comme des hommes qui font, au péril de leur vie, ce que nous faisons dans l'honneur, mais sans être menacés; nous vous admirons comme des hommes qui, en exposant chaque jour votre vie, maintenez les plus nobles traditions d'une presse libre, instrument nécessaire des hommes libres."

"Chaque jour, vous dites la vérité à des gens dont les corps sont prisonniers, mais dont les esprits sont libres; et la vérité les maintiendra libres jusqu'au jour où l'effort des Nations Unies restaurera, partout, les libertés des hommes."

A RESOLUTION adopted by the ASNE Board of Directors has reached its destination. The above appeared on the front page of the January issue of *Le Populaire*, a member of the "Fédération de la Presse Clandestine." A copy of the underground newspaper was sent recently to Member Robert U. Brown of *Editor & Publisher*.

ASNE Objectives for This Year

(Continued from Page 1)

9. Personalize THE BULLETIN. Supplement the excellent articles now appearing with news and pictures of members that will make them better known to other members. This in turn will promote a more friendly spirit at the annual meeting where there is too little time in which to get well acquainted.

10. Fight for the freedom of communications everywhere; the right of reporters to file uncensored dispatches from any part of the world and their proper access to the sources of news. The recent action of the French Committee in Algiers establishing a SINGLE news agency as OFFICIAL should make every editor roll up his sleeves and enlist as a voluntary member of Ralph McGill's committee.

Thus far, the Freedom of Communications Committee has been successful in having supporting resolutions adopted by both the Republican and the Democratic National Conventions. It has made a good start and public

interest is encouragingly high.

But this fight will have to be made every day of the year and in the months ahead when the peace treaties are being drawn. You can help by keeping the people and their elected representatives fully informed; by refusing to concede that our objectives are impractical or visionary; by making a vigorous and personal fight for TRUTH.

Late News Flashes

BY THE TIME this is published, Arthur R. Treanor expected to have retired from WPB and returned to *Booth Newspapers* in Michigan.

Frank D. Schroth, Brooklyn *Eagle*, recently visited his son, Capt. Frank D. Schroth Jr., AAF, on the West Coast.

Michael A. Gorman, Flint *Journal*, has bought a house as his bachelor abode. The staff presented him with a silver cocktail tray and has been promised an early opportunity to initiate it.

Some Papers Betray Trust; More Play Safe; Others Redeem Rest—Bradshaw

MICHAEL A. BRADSHAW, associate editor of the Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette*, used an ASNE BULLETIN survey on what free press means to average people as the lead for his article accepted for publication by the *Atlantic Monthly* in its recent contest. Referring to the confusion of thought revealed by that questionnaire, he wrote:

"But the confusion was only confounded when the American Society of Newspaper Editors met in Washington a few weeks later and the members themselves got to talking about a free press. David Lawrence, editor of the *United States News*, proposed a new constitutional amendment to protect the freedom of the press, because 'in almost every case in which the First Amendment was invoked as a protection in recent years against labor legislation, for example, the decision has invariably been against the validity of such a contention.' Erwin D. Canham of the *Christian Science Monitor*, on the other hand, asserted that whether the press remains free depends on the newspapers themselves. And when the Society voted on a resolution declaring that 'the enforced maintenance of membership' clause in labor union contracts applying to news and editorial employees is . . . repugnant to a basic principle of free American journalism,' it was sustained only by the very close vote of 48 to 47.

"This division would seem to indicate that the editors of our newspapers are as confused about what a free press means as their readers, but that is not necessarily the case. To understand that vote, one must review the controversy of recent years and see what all the tumult and the shouting is about."

Led by Elisha Hanson, Mr. Bradshaw continued, publishers "have been howling to high heaven that the country is going to the dogs, and the free press is going out the window, simply because they have to comply with the Wage Hour Law and bargain

collectively with their employees, the same as anybody else.

"There are some notable exceptions, to be sure—usually among publishers who spend as much time in the editorial room as they do in the business office. But just as it is hard for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, so it is difficult for a publisher to contemplate that free-press clause without trying to collect on it."

His summary of the situation: "Some newspapers have betrayed their trust. More have played it safe. Others have redeemed the lot of them by serving the public interest as a newspaper can do when it throws the spotlight of truth on the ways of the world."

Mr. Bradshaw agrees with Mr. Canham that "whether the press remains free, depends on the newspapers themselves." The greater part of his article recalls

TWO ASNE members received awards in the *Atlantic Monthly* free press contest. A digest of the article by Michael A. Bradshaw, associate editor of the Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette* who was elected to the Society in March, appears here. His contribution to the contest appears in the August issue of *Atlantic*. The other ASNE winner is Ralph McGill, executive editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*; his article is scheduled for the September issue of the magazine.

First prize of \$1000 went to Robert Lasch, Chicago *Sun* editorial writer.

his experiences with publishers who backed up his determination to print the truth—and some who didn't. His story in entirety is well worth the attention of every newspaperman.

Van der Veer Sees Weakness in Article By Lasch; Canham Calls It Able Criticism

THE ARTICLE on free press by Robert Lasch, selected by the *Atlantic Monthly* for its \$1000 prize, has aroused conflicting comments among ASNE members.

Erwin D. Canham, *Christian Science Monitor*, says: "Frankly, I think he has criticized the newspapers more ably than most of our meetings have done and I don't believe we have been nearly as clear as he has."

McClellan Van der Veer, chief editorial writer of the *Birmingham News* and the *Age-Herald*, said in an editorial:

"The real threat to the freedom of the press in this country comes from its ownership, Robert Lasch unqualifiedly contends in his prize-winning essay in the July *Atlantic*.

"Mr. Lasch, an editorial writer for the Chicago *Sun*, whose owner is Marshall Field, quite evidently is not hitting at his own publisher, who in many respects, we think, may be regarded as liberal and

public-spirited. Rather, one's impression is that Mr. Lasch regards the very wealthy and benevolent Mr. Field as the exception proving the rule, with virtually all the rest of the owners in the great group exemplifying it. And right there, it seems to us, is a very decided weakness in Mr. Lasch's case, which he presents with indiscriminate sweep and, apparently, never a doubt that his contention does full justice to all concerned.

"For, of course, owners of newspapers, like other people, differ widely. . . ."

"There are, we believe, a good many merits in the way in which America's press has functioned under its indicted ownership. And while we would not make a special case for the goodness and wisdom of newspaper owners, we do believe that it is increasingly clear to them that sound operation, in their own interest, imposes a high regard for the public interest as they see it."

♦ Purely Personal ♦

President Knight has suggested a page of personals in *The Bulletin* every month. Members are urged to submit notes on themselves and other members. The more intimate the better, and the source will be kept confidential!

WHEN D-Day finally arrived, Ralph Coghlan of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* was vacationing on a dude ranch in Arizona. While there he received the following note from an impudent member of the staff: "Remind me to tell you some time about the editor who spent the invasion in the desert."

Varied and vigorous are Frank Ahlgren's activities. The editor of the *Commercial Appeal* has been made chairman of the Memphis and Shelby County Veterans Advisory Committee, which has for its purpose a "one-stop" service for rehabilitation of returning veterans. He recently was elected chairman of the Memphis Chapter of the Red Cross. A talk on "America's Place in the Postwar World" which he made before



Frank Ahlgren

the district Rotary conference is being reprinted for distribution to all Rotary clubs in the area. . . . And, after not having held a baseball in his hand for eight years, he agreed to play third base on a team recruited at the *Commercial Appeal* to play the all-stars of an amateur league. He got two hits in two times up and a fine pair of charley horses for his trouble.

James Kerney Jr., Trenton *Times*, has been appointed by Gov. Edge to be a member of the State Development Council, a new department taking over all of New Jersey's planning and postwar activities.

On June 30th, A.O.H. Grier began his 60th year with the Wilmington, Del., newspapers. He started as a printer on the *Every Evening*, went into the news department and became city editor

and, following the merger, was made editor of the *Journal-Every Evening*. Celebration? No. Mr. Grier was too busy.

Col. Harry M. Ayers, Anniston *Star*, is on a two months trip to England under the auspices of the British Ministry of Information. And that's the reason he declined a place on the WPB newspaper panel.

Fishing enthusiasts will be interested in a report from Douglas D. Martin, Detroit *Free Press*, that "there are more big bass in a certain spot in Lake St. Clair than there are hopeful candidates for balcony seats at a national convention." He is back from a week's trip, got the limit every time he went out.

So many things can happen to tie an editor to his desk that Charles J. Lewin of the New Bedford *Standard-Times* crossed his fingers when he wrote, on July 12, that he was about to fly to Mexico City on a combination business and vacation trip.

Judson Chapman, Greenville *Piedmont*, welcomed July 1 because it brought him retirement from the presidency both of the South Carolina Press Association and of the Rotary Club of Greenville.

Louis A. Weil, publisher of the Port Huron *Times-Herald*, is still being twitted about this one. He was addressing a local club meeting when a new reporter on his paper whispered to the man next to him, "Who is that guy, anyway?"

Pfc. Ogden R. Reid, son of the president and editor of the New York *Herald Tribune*, has been graduated from Parachute School at Fort Benning.

Comforting note from Past President Roberts, re editing extemporaneous remarks in the Proceedings: "Anyway you fix it up will be okeh with me. I don't care if you leave a little bad grammar in it. As you know, I use it occasionally."

Robert U. Brown, formerly ex-

ecutive editor of *Editor & Publisher*, has been named editor.

Andrew Bernhard has left the Brooklyn *Eagle* to become managing editor of the Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette*.

Meyer Berger commenting on an ASNE member, in Democratic Convention sidelights in the New York *Times*: "Mr. Josephus Daniels seemed a little uneasy the other day when newspapermen interviewed him. 'I was a newspaperman myself once,' he told the reporters. 'I was managing editor of the United States Navy.' Mr. Daniels, incidentally, is the only man whom F.D.R. still calls 'Chief.' Mr. Roosevelt got into the habit when Mr. Daniels chose him as Under-Secretary of the Navy."

Vincent S. Jones, senior managing editor of the *Observer-Dispatch and Press*, Utica, N. Y., has recently completed a circuit



Vincent Jones

of luncheon clubs, expounding the value of newspapers to the community and giving members an ABC course in what's news. He speaks briefly, devotes most of his time to answering questions from the floor. Apparently his routine is good, for his first venture drew invitations from other organizations to repeat.

The Chester *Times* has announced a five-year extension of the lease of the paper by Alfred G. and Julia G. Hill from Charles R. Long. Mr. Hill, easily our most mobile member, in 1940 sent Christmas cards indicating he had reached "The N-d of the Trail," from papers in New Mexico, Nebraska and Nevada to the Jamestown *Journal* in New York. He maintained he had stopped roving, but two years ago he leased the Chester, Pa., paper until 1948, the new arrangement bringing the date to 1953. As proof that this time he really is ready to settle down, he recently bought a house in Wallingford, Delaware County, the first home he and Mrs. Hill have owned.

Wallace's Approach To Latin-American Problems Praised

A COPY of THE BULLETIN containing an article by Tom Wallace on how newspapers here can help improve inter-American relations has brought a grateful response from Hermann Herz, a Swedish engineer in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He writes in part:

"I was really touched when I received your so kind dispatch of Mr. Wallace's article. This means that not only did Mr. Wallace not forget our very interesting correspondence but—in spite of all the many troubles and work to be done—he is still fighting for the most essential item: A voluntary good collaboration of peoples."

"Men like Mr. Wallace, who take the trouble to study peoples not only from the hotel lobby of some fashionable resort but to go really within the people are essential. A good journalist may

be able to do much more than to 'career' diplomats."

The ASNE will be officially represented at the Inter-American Press Association Conference at Caracas, Venezuela, in October. In addition any editor or publisher who wishes to attend may constitute himself a delegate and will be sanctioned by Mr. Wallace as vice president from the United States. Details may be obtained by writing Tom Wallace, editor, Louisville *Times*.

To Editorial Writers

A MEMBER writes: "I've always wished I could talk to some of the topnotch editorial writers in the Society and find out how they just what their working routines are—how they get their ideas, how much they get around and talk to people, what they consider their best sources of background information." Answers to this question, from anyone who will volunteer, are invited for the next issue of THE BULLETIN.



MEMBER John M. O'Connell Jr. of the Bangor *Daily News* is now an accredited war correspondent. He arrived last month in England where he plans to write news of Maine men for the *News*.

Mr. O'Connell was a first lieutenant in World War I and saw action in the Meuse Argonne offensive. He spent six months in the Army of Occupation in Germany. He joined the *News* as city editor about 15 years ago and for the past ten years has been managing editor.

Collier's Views A Favorite ASNE Member



Daniel Alain in Collier's Weekly

"I bet Col. Hobby just lets them think they're running the war."

Proceedings in Print, Mailed to Members

A COPY of the Problems of Journalism, the annual Proceedings of the spring convention, has been mailed to each member of the Society. Besides the transcript of the addresses and discussion the book includes an up-to-date membership list, the Code of Ethics to which members pledged themselves anew in a resolution adopted at the convention, the by-laws and other reference material.

Additional copies may be obtained, at a nominal price, upon application to the Secretary, Dwight Young, Dayton *Journal-Herald*.

One credit line was omitted. William F. Maag of the Youngstown *Vindicator*, last year's Memorial Chairman, wrote the tribute to William Allen White.

General Eaker Extends Thanks to ASNE For Cooperation

A LETTER from Lieut. General Ira C. Eaker, Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, expresses appreciation for clippings from ASNE members' newspapers. Gen. Eaker says:

"You have no idea how valuable they are to the morale of the fliers in our squadrons. They really benefit from seeing tangible evidence that their work, their accomplishments and their tribulations are noted and properly recorded at home. Any such clippings you can send us will be promptly sent down the line to be pasted upon squadron bulletin boards. Thank you very much indeed."

The following list gives the names of members who have recently started sending clippings from their papers to the MAAF and also to the Eighth Air Corps in England, with the name of the staff member appointed to the task:

LEE ELLMAKER, Philadelphia Daily News. (June Carroll, local staff.)

HARRY T. SAYLOR, Philadelphia Record. (Jane Williams, secretary to Walter Lister, managing editor.)

W. S. GILMORE, Detroit News. (Wilda Allured, secretary.)

MICHAEL A. GORMAN, Flint Journal. (Bertha F. Knisely, secretary.)

WILLIAM J. PAPE, Waterbury Republican and American.

FRED C. CHRISTOPHERSON, Sioux Falls Daily Argus-Leader. (Jean Alexander, secretarial staff.)

GEORGE A. CORNISH, New York Herald Tribune. (John Mearns, copy reader.)

JOHN M. O'CONNELL, Jr., Bangor Daily News. (Ruth S. Perry, editorial department.)

HUGH KANE, Cleveland News. (Louise Rauffer, secretary.)

PAUL SCOTT MOWRER, Chicago Daily News.

L. D. HOTCHKISS, Los An-

geles Times. (Hazel Lewis, secretary.)

WALTER P. JONES, McClatchy Newspapers. (Tom Arden, editorial staff, Sacramento Bee.)

ARTHUR L. HODGES, Nassau Review-Star.

Counting AM's and PM's, about 75 newspapers now are being clipped and sent overseas, all but two of them through ASNE members' cooperation. The project was started by Basil L. Walters, Knight Newspapers; Oliver J. Keller, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette; Paul Patterson, Baltimore Sun; and other editors who made a tour of air stations in England last fall. Any other member wishing to contribute may have the addresses of the PRO's to whom the clips should be sent, and the brief instructions, on application to the Office of THE BULLETIN.

Bulletin and Record Start "G. I." Editions

TWO Philadelphia newspapers recently have started miniature editions for our armed forces. The Evening Bulletin came first with its "Special Overseas Edition." Early last month the Record got out its first "G.I. Extra."

How many other members have overseas editions? There's a thought for a story. If you have such a project under way or in prospect, please report it to THE BULLETIN.

Many newspapers, of course, have special columns for readers to clip for friends in the services. Along this line came a suggestion from a reader of the Wilmington Journal-Every Evening who said she sends her son the comic page but finds that often the casualty list, which she dislikes to send, appears on the back. She asked if it would be possible to put the sports page there instead! The make-up man answered obligingly, "Most of the time, yes." Sports plus comics from the local paper would be welcomed by any man away from home, so there's a suggestion that newspapers could put into effect with no extra effort but a promotion box to call attention to this added service.

Are War Measures Making Newspapers Too Hard to Read?

FROM Member Fred C. Christopherson, Sioux Falls Daily Argus-Leader:

"Here is a thought inspired by the comment of Harry Boyd in the July BULLETIN on ease of reading. Before the war, newspapers were doing much to make their columns more attractive to subscribers by the use of wider margins, expanded white space between lines, etc. Now the trend, in my opinion, is altogether too much in the opposite direction. I wonder if some of us are not unnecessarily prejudicing the people against the newspapers by making them too difficult to read."

Your ideas are solicited.

Miss Amy Comstock Tulsa Editor, Dies

AMY COMSTOCK, associate editor of the Tulsa Tribune, died July 21 in Tulsa. She had been an ASNE member until her resignation a year ago, due to ill health.

On graduation from the University of Wisconsin, Miss Comstock taught for a while, then began her newspaper career as a proofreader on the Wisconsin State Journal and by 1915 had risen to secretary and director of the company. She became associate editor of the Tribune in 1919.

While she took an active part in women's affairs, Miss Comstock believed women's rights should be earned, not demanded. When she was asked why there are so few women executives on newspapers, she replied:

"Maybe we are not ready for it. A woman can write or stunt herself into almost any reporting job. But the editorships are still for the men." Men who have had to deal with leading women editors claim they are very difficult, she said, and added, "Maybe we are. Maybe men just don't like to have their points of view challenged by women."

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

'Editorial Writer Must Project Self Under Skin of Bum or Millionaire'

By J. D. FERGUSON

President and Editor, The Milwaukee Journal

THE Milwaukee Journal has an editorial writing staff of six men, including a chief editorial writer who supervises the department. The answers to the questions submitted apply generally to each of the editorial writers.

1. When and where do you write?

I do the writing at the office. But I do my thinking anywhere—and the thinking is much more important than the writing.

2. How much revising or polishing do you do?

At least one thorough revision. First drafts usually are not fully effective. But "polishing" is not the word. What one has to strive for is the completion and rounding out of the expression.

3. What sources do you count on most regularly for background information?

Twenty or thirty years of reading and watching news. This varies with individuals on the staff, but each is an experienced newspaperman.

4. Where do you get most of your ideas?

From every source—reading, thinking, mingling with people. But I use mingling with others mainly as a corrective. If you use other people for inspiration, they are as apt to get you off the right track as onto it.

5. What is the approximate proportion of local subjects to national and world affairs covered?

It depends on the period. Right now more than half are discussions of national and world affairs. If there are no burning world affairs, you'll discuss more local problems.

6. How many writers? How do you apportion work? Is each a specialist?

Each is a specialist on certain subjects. If a field is especially active, the writer in that field is going to have to work harder, but we try to equalize as much as possible.

7. To what extent do you use the conference system?

A conference each morning—sometimes special conferences (for extended reports, etc.) in the afternoon. Each editorial usually reflects the opinion of at least a majority of the staff. But under the Journal system, the chief editorial writer is responsible to the editor-in-chief and he to the Chairman of the Journal Board of Directors for policy. He can, therefore, and sometimes does, reverse his conference if he thinks that necessary. The conference is advisory.

8. What do you think of signed editorials?

In our system, the editorial is the expression of the institution, not of one man. Signatures would be out of place.

9. Do syndicated columns which

SPECIFIC questions asked by a member who last month sought guidance on improving his editorial page were submitted to half a dozen members. The questionnaire was painstakingly answered in entirety by J. D. Ferguson, chairman of the ASNE Editorial Page committee. Particulars cited by other members queried also are presented here.

disagree with the editorials on the page confuse readers as to the policy of the paper?

We do not have this problem. We do not believe a newspaper can escape responsibility for editorial opinion by labeling a column with the usual disclaimer that the newspaper does not stand behind the column opinions expressed. We use none. We have a column for letters from readers in which they may express their opinions. We also, at the bottom of our editorial column, under a caption "All Sides of the Question", reprint opinions from other publications that may not agree with our own. We believe it to be good journalism to do so.

10. Can you cite any technique (Continued on next page)

Specialists throughout New York Times Staff Are Encouraged to Contribute Editorials

By CHARLES MERZ
Editor,
The New York Times

THE editorial staff of the New York Times consists of about six people who write editorials regularly, but most of these members also write frequently for our Book Review and other departments of the paper.

In addition to this group we publish many editorials from other members of the organization who are specialists in dif-

ferent fields. We do our best to encourage contributions of this kind and now publish, in the course of the year, editorials from as many as 80 different members of our staff. This seems to us to be a good method of making our editorial page a genuinely co-operative institution.

None of our editorials are signed, since many of them are written in collaboration and since all of them speak for the New York Times as a whole.

Monitor Maintains Editorial Writer In Capital Bureau

By ERWIN D. CANHAM
Managing Editor
Christian Science Monitor

A QUESTION in the August BULLETIN, about how editorial writers operate, reminds me of something we do which nowadays is relatively unique. We almost continuously maintain an editorial writer as a member of our Washington Bureau.

During the 30's when the New Deal was the center of such tremendous domestic controversy, we kept an editorial writer without interruption in Washington. Nowadays we send different members of the Editorial Page staff down to Washington for months on end. It is little more expensive to keep an editorial writer in Washington, if he stays there for a period of years, than it is for him to reside in the home city. The somewhat more expensive arrangement of having men adjust their affairs so as to be in Washington for months at a time is really preferable. Thus the editorial writer keeps in contact with affairs and with home office policy pretty continuously.

Despite the excellence of the staff of our Washington News Bureau we have found that the presence of an editorial writer was a distinct additional asset. He kept the Chief Editorial Writer in Boston fully informed of changing developments and his own writing was superior. Especially in these days when there are so many background and off-the-record conferences and sources of information in Washington, the Editorial Page is all too frequently writing in the dark.

We believe it is vitally important to get editorial writers out of their cloisters and in close contact with the world of affairs. Currently our sources of information in Washington bearing on editorial policy concern not only domestic affairs but many, many aspects of the conduct of the war and of world developments.

I am confident that any newspaper which maintains a staff of three or four editorial writers

SO SHORT was Hilary St. George Saunders' stay in St. Louis that a brief paragraph in "Pioneers! O Pioneers!" covers his memories but among them is his impression of an ASNE member's editorial conference.

"... the earnest faces of the foremen and women of an aircraft works, and the conference of the editorial staff of that famous newspaper, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, into which I incontinently blundered. In the middle of my conversation with the editor, one of his staff entered and said, 'It's O. K., chief, the murderer has confessed'."

could readily place the No. 2 man in Washington and derive substantial benefit thereby. I understand that many great newspapers years ago used to follow this practice.

J. D. Ferguson

(Continued from previous page)

you have developed to make editorials more effective?

The fundamental difficulty is to find editorial writers who can think in terms of all classes. Most editorialists belong to the upper middle class. They are fine on editorials that pertain to this class but may be a total loss in dealing with the problem of some other class. You may not accept the point of view of that class or group but at least you've got to understand its point of view. This is why editorials fail, and the thing is not easily cured. The editorial writer who can project himself into the skin of a Negro, or a working man, or a bum, or a millionaire—long enough to get the other man's point of view—is rare. This is the essential, and in comparison to it, any device or routine or technic for cajoling readers is of little value.

Sponsored Features?

A MEMBER who has heard quite a few people talking about the possibility of "sponsored features" (Lippmann, courtesy Zilch's Dry Goods, etc.) asks what other editors think of such a plan. Your opinions are invited.

Staff Debate Plays Large Part in Forming Post-Dispatch Policy

RALPH COGHLAN, editor of the editorial page of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, offers these notes on his working methods.

He much prefers to write at the office, works at home or on tour only when necessary. He believes thoroughly in rewriting and polishing as almost invariably improving the finished product.

Most of his ideas come from reading, many from people. "My leading editorial for tomorrow arises from a telephone call, in which a reader told of race tension in St. Louis. This of course was borne out by many other pieces of information."

Work is apportioned among five editorial writers "by giving the men the subjects they are interested in and enjoy writing about. No one need write a syllable in which he does not believe. Yes, our editorial writers are specialists. One on economics, one on foreign affairs, one on freight rates, one on medicine, etc. etc. Some writers have two or more specialties and they are encouraged to cultivate them."

Mr. Coghlan thinks the conference system indispensable. "Nobody is too smart to hear what someone else has to say. We have set conference at 1:30 every afternoon, but through the day, when occasion calls for it, we debate public questions—sometimes far into the night. Most policies have the unanimous support of the staff. The opinion of the editorial page editor prevails only when it seems impossible to come to agreement among all staff members. This is seldom."

On syndicated columns: "I think often a reader who finds a syndicated column not in agreement with a paper's editorial policy concludes that the editor is working both sides of the street—as editors and publishers frequently do. A Republican paper will print a Democratic column to appease its Democratic readers, and vice versa. This makes some papers department stores of opinion. You pay your money and you take your choice."

Jenkins Says When Papers Improve More Readers Will Trust Them

By FRANK JENKINS, President
Klamath Falls (Ore.) Herald and News

I AM NOT greatly shaken by Fred Christopherson's fear, expressed in the August BULLETIN, that in packing our abbreviated wartime papers more tightly with something to read we're making them more difficult for the reader to read. My feeling is that if we pack them with something that commands the reader's confidence, respect and interest he'll manage to read them—even if the type is set solid and surplus white space taken out of the heads.

My sole present personal contribution to the writing end of newspapers is a column in which, after sifting the offerings of the best news services in the world, I try to tell the readers of our newspapers in simple Anglo-Saxon words what probably happened during the day. I'm literally terrified by the growing numbers of those who tell me they read nothing else in the paper (excepting always, of course, the local news and the scandals) because the general run of the news is too complicated for them to take the time to understand and too controversial and contradictory to believe, anyway.

I'm constantly upset by what seems to me to be the growing numbers of people who insist that they don't believe what they read in the papers. But, after all, in the case of the vast and swiftly mounting body of controversial news, why should they believe what they read?

We newspapers, taking the easy way out of a difficult situation, handle controversial news—labor, politics, war, business, etc.—by the simple expedient of printing what one side says, then what the other side says, and leaving the reader to figure it all out for himself. The reader, I'm increasingly but nervously coming to believe, ends up by the equally simple expedient of not believing what he reads in the paper.

What are we going to do to gain and retain reader confidence? I don't know, but I THINK that in the mushrooming field of contro-

versial news we're going to have to reach the point where we will be good enough to say: "One side says thus and so and the other says this and that, but the TRUTH is about as follows."

To do that, we will have to be awfully good. Our reporters will have to be trained specialists. To command the services of men (and women) of that caliber, we'll have to pay a lot more than we've been paying. But the penalty for not being good enough will be ultimate complete loss of reader confidence. With that gone, there wouldn't be much left. The cost of such excellence will be great, but if we can command and hold complete reader confidence the rewards will be correspondingly large.

I'm not worried at all by the condensation that has been forced upon us as a wartime necessity. I've been reading the British newspapers, which have had to condense much more than we have ever dreamed of, and I think they are better and more interesting as a result of it. We're going to retain a lot of the brevity and crispness that paper shortages have forced upon us, and we'll be better off for it.

But I am becoming bothered by the slipshod way in which we handle complicated and controversial news and by the public's response—which is a growingly cynical lack of belief in what the newspaper prints.

W. F. Wiley Dies

MEMBER William F. Wiley, 70, publisher of the Cincinnati Enquirer died suddenly on Aug. 24. Returning home from a vacation at Swampscott, Mass., he became critically ill on the train. He was taken to a hospital in Buffalo where he died of a cerebral hemorrhage.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Florence Arnold Wiley, three sons and a daughter.

It's Time to Consider What War Measures To Discard or Retain

A LETTER last month from Fred C. Christopherson, Sioux Falls Argus-Leader, brought out the adverse effects of wartime economies on readability. Commenting on that opinion Erwin D. Canham of The Christian Science Monitor writes:

"I think we should keep in mind that a considerable number of the newsprint economies we have made are not desirable. There may be some tendency to hang on to all of them and undoubtedly a number of these economies are perfectly sound for normal operation. But many of them, as we all know, are serious steps backward. We ought to pin a pledge in our hats to go back to better ways when we can. I don't seriously think we won't, but it is a very good thing to keep in mind."

Mr. Canham brings up the question of what wartime expedients are sufficiently sound for retention after the war. Surely the war has taught us something. What measures have you adopted in the past two years that you intend to continue? If every member will contribute a single thought on this subject the result will be a valuable symposium.

Exchange of Opinion On Features Proposed

SEVERAL years ago Dwight Marvin, Troy Record, suggested a confidential exchange of opinion on features among ASNE editors. He felt some such plan might be generally beneficial if other editors are as much at sea as he is when syndicate salesmen offer him "the greatest circulation builder of all time."

Now if ever is the time to consider the feasibility of Mr. Marvin's idea, for two reasons. The syndicate gentlemen will be high-pressure editors to buy their wares, when space opens up after the war. And with current curtailments, most newspapers will be able to start almost from scratch in building up their feature pages again.

Members Request Three Day Meeting, More Shop Talks

OF THE dozen members who answered President Knight's question in the July BULLETIN, all but one favor a three day convention next April.

The dissenter is George E. Stansfield, the Hartford *Courant*, who says:

"I presume the majority of the membership may vote for a three day session. I am inclined to feel, however, that unless there is some extraordinary occasion calling for it, a two day session is preferable. It does streamline the convention a bit but it also seems to me that a program can be so arranged that all necessary and desirable proceedings can be accomplished in a two day session."

The length of the meeting probably will be decided at the autumn meeting of the Board of Directors. Members wishing to register their opinions should write President Knight.

Several members indicate a desire for more discussions or shop talks. Excerpts from some of the letters received follow:

ARTHUR V. BURROWES, St. Joseph *News-Press and Gazette*: "The best thing we could do is go back to three days. We get a lot of contact with big names in a two day session but not enough honest to God workout."

FRITZ S. UPDIKE, *Rome Sentinel*: "It makes sense that meeting only once in 12 months and with so much to discuss, all of us would benefit by the addition of another day."

VINCENT S. JONES, *Utica Observer-Dispatch*: "The meetings are so valuable it seems too bad to restrict them arbitrarily. And there is every hope that some of the wartime pressure will be eased by April 1945."

J. N. HEISKELL, *Arkansas Gazette*: "We should have a three-day convention and seek to justify three days by making every effort to show that every hour of the convention was worthwhile."

DONALD J. STERLING, *Oregon Journal*: "The Society has acquired a stature that warrants

In Memoriam

Arthur J. Sinnott

THE DEATH of Arthur J. Sinnott left with every member of the Society a deep sense of personal loss. The Society was the richer for his contributions to its deliberation and for his genial personal qualities.

Although his retirement in April as editor of the *Newark News* was known to many members of the Society to have been caused by illness, recent reports were that he had been encouraged in the expectation of recovery. Since he was only fifty-eight, his career was cut short during his years of great usefulness.

Early in his forty years of newspaper work he was attracted to the law. He permitted this attraction to lure him away from journalism. But it was not to be. In a short time he was back at his job, which was then Washington correspondent for the *News*. He was a "born newspaperman".

His long service as a reporter, executive and editor, his wide reading and his travels equipped his naturally keen and searching mind to make the most of the many and varied professional opportunities that came to him. He distinguished himself as a force in American journalism. The Society counted him among its ablest members.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE,
Stephen C. Noland, Chairman

a three day meeting, and a longer period would give opportunity for more 'shop talk' and discussions which many members want and seldom get."

W. S. VORPE, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*: "If there is no longer an emergency existing, we should return to the three day session. The organization is important and with a scope as wide as that of ASNE we can well use that period of time in discussion."

L. R. BLANCHARD, *The Gannett Newspapers*: "Here is my vote for a three-day session and for a program devoted largely to shop talks. In the old days it struck me that we tried to pack too much activity into three days. There was too little time for digestion. A more leisurely pace could be taken in a three day session and still cover more ground than is possible in two."

J. M. NORTH JR., *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*: "Our last convention was pretty strenuous, though highly interesting and profitable. I don't think any of the features that made it so should be eliminated; but, if we are to have discussions of our own problems, which was the primary purpose of our organization, I think another day will have to be added."

To Propose Candidate For Membership, Write Julian Miller

INQUIRIES as to how to propose new members for the Society prompt the following outline of procedure.

If you have an applicant in mind, first read the membership qualifications in Article II of the Constitution, on page 169 of the 1944 Proceedings.

If your candidate seems to meet the requirements, write the Membership Chairman, Julian S. Miller, *Charlotte Observer*, Charlotte, N. C., for an application blank and complete information.

Election to membership is by vote of the Directors, but the Board acts only on applicants first investigated and recommended by the Membership Committee. Therefore, if you want a new member considered by the Board at its semi-annual meeting, it is important to consult Mr. Miller without delay.

Suggestions for action by the Board on other matters should be addressed to President Knight now so that he will have them in time for the meeting, the date of which is still to be set.

Bataille Charges Eastern Members Are Slighted In ASNE Offices

By EDWARD F. BATAILLE
Editor, *Newark Sunday Call*

MR. KNIGHT'S statement of objectives in the August BULLETIN is admirable, particularly paragraph 6, which expresses the resolution that the Society "shall not fall into the habit of renominating and reelecting the same members of the Board of Directors year after year." The president applies this observation also to committee assignments and adds that "We have some first-rate material among our newer members. Why not use them?" Well, why don't we? And whose society is this?

On the membership list in the 1944 Proceedings appear 387 names; I am taking 380 as the total for ease in calculating percentages.

On this basis, 11 mid-western states have 33 per cent of the membership. Mid-westerners at the 1944 convention represented 20 per cent of the membership.

Eleven mid-Atlantic and New England states have 30 per cent of the membership. Easterners at the convention represented 21 per cent of the membership.

Fourteen southern states and the District of Columbia have 25 per cent of the membership. Southerners at the convention represented 17 per cent.

The middle-west with 33 per cent of the membership has 46.6 per cent of the officers and directors and the south with 25 per cent of the membership has 33 per cent of the officers and directors. The east, however, with 30 per cent of the membership has only 20 per cent of the officers and directors.

Of the fourteen past presidents, eight, or more than 50 per cent have been from the middle west, while only three, or 20 per cent have been from the east.

In still other respects the east has not been given a voice in the management of the Society commensurate with the number of eastern members and the easterners attending conventions.

On the last nominating committee were four from the middle

west, four from the south, two from the east. On the resolutions committee were five from the middle west, two from the south and three from the east. The new editorial board for THE BULLETIN contains not a single eastern representative; all four members are from the middle-west. Of the 15 members of the Board, only three are easterners.

I am not a trouble-maker. Still less am I a job-seeker. I am a lazy fellow who shuns boards and committees because they mean work. I hope, therefore, that what I am saying will not be interpreted as a bid for personal recognition.

But I am proud of my Society and I am proud of the newspaper editors in my section of the coun-

try. I would like to see more of them get the recognition in the Society which they deserve because of their numbers in the membership and their skill and prestige in the profession.

The boys from the mid-west are all good fellows; I admire and respect them. But hell, comrades, some of our fellows in the east have brains too.

What Is 'South'?

MR. BATAILLE'S statement, "Of the 15 members of the Board, only three are easterners" was challenged by the Office of the Bulletin,—"What about Jones and McKelway?" Mr. Bataille replied that Washingtonians are southerners. Public library upholds the Newark editor, reporting that years ago Virginia and Maryland were considered mid-Atlantic states but that in current listings the South begins where New Jersey and Pennsylvania end.

ASNE Members in Role of Pamphleteers

SEVERAL brochures written or edited by members in the past few months are worth attention for the information they contain not readily available elsewhere.

Frank Gannett

Response to the original booklet "Editorially Speaking" encouraged publication of Volume II. Frank Gannett dedicates it "with pride in my profession and in the men of the organization over which I preside". Two ASNE members have articles in the booklet: "High, Deep and Broad" by Harold W. Sanford, *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, on the editorial page; and "One Post-War Assignment", by Harry G. Stutz, *Ithaca Journal*, to produce papers grounded in enterprise and character.

Arthur L. Hodges

Many schools of journalism are using as supplementary reading "The Newspaper after V Day", prepared by Arthur L. Hodges, *Nassau Daily Review-Star*.

The project began as a private survey when the paper was laying out its own post-war program. James E. Stiles, publisher, suggested that Mr. Hodges write leaders of industry asking their

views on pertinent questions. The questionnaire attracted interest, led to invitations to both the editor and the publisher to speak at the N. Y. State Publishers meeting.

So the idea grew into a handsome, illustrated booklet in which the views of many ASNE members appear.

Carl W. Ackerman

The Report of the Dean of the Graduate School of Journalism is devoted to freedom of communications.

Dean Ackerman points out that ASNE took the first public initiative in the direction of freedom of international news and communications ten years ago when it adopted a report submitted by Grove Patterson for the Committee on Press and Public Relations. He quotes hitherto unpublished documents relating to communications at the Versailles conference released by Walter S. Rogers, in the last war Director, Division of Foreign Press-Cable, Committee on Public Information. Dean Ackerman also sets forth his own plans for unfettering communications.

Ralph McGill Says Press Freedom Must Have Living Meaning

"THERE Is Time Yet" by Ralph McGill, Atlanta Constitution, appears in the September Atlantic, one of the prize-winning articles in its Freedom of Press Contest.

Several years ago Mr. McGill had a conversation with an aging friend, Col. Jack Spalding, who recalled early efforts to abolish slavery, with reimbursement to the owners, and said: "Every time it was attempted, they went to Washington, figuratively clasp their property to their chests and saying 'It's my property. The Constitution and the Supreme Court guarantee it to me and you can't take it away from me'". The Colonel added: "Nothing is guaranteed except to an enlightened people who are informed and who know how to rationalize their lives with what is happening to them. Nothing is so blind and so insecure as the status quo."

Mr. McGill grows fearful and resentful, he says, when he sees some editors and publishers taking precisely the same attitude as the slave owners . . . Fearful because he was in Austria when the Germans marched in, and, "Suddenly I knew that the disappearance of books and newspapers was not just foolishness by a lot of boy bullies. I had been seeing the rights and privileges which we wrote down in the first ten amendments to our Constitution taken away in tangible form."

Examination of hundreds of speeches about press freedom convinces Mr. McGill that "the mouse of fear gnaws at the minds of many persons whose daily job is newspapering". But none of them tell how press freedom can be protected, maintained and strengthened.

To shout and harangue is not enough. "Newspapers," Mr. McGill says, "must come down and live with the people; walk the streets with them; sit in their homes with them; fight with them and for them and make freedom of the press have a living meaning—something the people can see and appreciate, something they want for their very own."

"There is time yet," Mr. McGill

concludes. "But the beginning must be in the right place. That is not the courts, the legislatures, or in public addresses. The beginning must be in the columns of the newspapers themselves and in the hearts and minds of the people where it still exists in one degree or another."

"Freedom of the press must no longer have reason to be afraid of those who guarantee it."

Vignettes of Members By V. Y. Dallman

V. Y. DALLMAN, Illinois State Register, will read a paper on "Reporting National Political Conventions", based on his experiences in the press sections of five Republican and nine Democratic national conventions, at the annual conference of executives of the Copley Press in San Diego this month. A newer ASNE member who also will attend that meeting is Edward T. Austin, San Diego Union, executive editor of the Copley chain.

The following impressions of ASNE members at the Democratic convention are from the column the Admiral of the Sange-mon (nee Dallman) writes in the Register:

"Roy Roberts, rotund, rosy-cheeked managing editor of the Kansas City Star, would have been more comfortable had the narrow press seats been built for newspapermen and not for boys."

"Frank M. Sparks, wearing the ubiquitous big smile, Ascot tie—plus—appeared very happy while pulverizing the New Deal for his Grand Rapids Herald."

"Paul Patterson, mentor of the Baltimore Sun, added dignity to the press section."

"Grove Patterson, wise and witty, who makes an editorial two-edged sword of the Toledo Blade, slashed at me with his wit and wisdom after we had exchanged toasts at Mayor Kelly's midnight banquet to 1,000 thirsty newspaper persons."

"And I mustn't forget the always smiling Beau Brummel of every great newspaper gathering, Joseph K. Vodrey of the Canton Repository who said the only reason he went to that banquet was because his middle name is Kelly."

Sound News Editing Helped Avert Riots In Philadelphia Strike

THE START of the transportation strike in Philadelphia threatened a race riot of disastrous proportions. Inquiry among Philadelphia members indicates that three factors helped avert such a situation.

Philadelphia has no centralized Negro section. This was fortunate in that such disorder as there was was in widely separated sections of the town.

Negro leaders did an admirable job of keeping their people in check during the strike period.

Newspapers cooperated by an exercise of common editorial sense in playing the news. One ASNE member says: "There was widespread disorder on the first night of the strike but to a desk man with any previous acquaintance with such manifestations it obviously was not much more than might be expected of the big city hoodlums, black or white, under similar circumstances."

The Philadelphia Bulletin paid tribute to Negro leadership during the strike in a detailed story naming Negro leaders, and organizations, who had done fine work in keeping the situation in hand—how they distributed "Keep Cool" handbills; about the Negroes who volunteered to help police curb vandalism; and the aid given by Negro ministers.

No Let-up Says Ahlgren

FRANK AHLGREN, Memphis Commercial Appeal, recently told a Rotary conference where he believes we must move in international relations, and did it so well that his speech was printed for distribution to Rotary clubs throughout the district.

In general, he approves Lippmann's "neighborhoods of nations" plan. He concluded with this ringing admonition: "We must not let war weariness overtake us as it did the last time. We must steel ourselves against the natural inclination to relax after a hard fight. We must stay in there punching until our objectives for the peace are won."

TO personalize THE BULLETIN with news and pictures of members that will make them better known to other members was among the ASNE goals cited by President Knight in the last issue. Committee chairmen, who shoulder a good deal of the Society's work during the year and whom you will want to know at the spring meeting, offer an excellent starting point in line with this suggestion. More sketches next month.

Meet Fay Blanchard, Nominations Chairman

THUS FAR the city of Chadron, Neb., has neglected the opportunity of posting its highway approaches with signs stating that "L. R. Blanchard, newspaperman, was born here".

But it can't escape responsibility for rearing a youngster who has been obsessed with newspapering most of his life.

Lincoln's State Journal gave him a start and licked him through cubhood. Then United Press

gave him a stiff workout, branding him with UP's panting news style, teaching him the advantages of piling into a big story quickly. Eight years as news editor of the Syracuse Journal, four more as managing editor of Mr. Hearst's Rochester Journal led him to a congenial berth in the Gannett Group. He was managing editor of the Democrat and the Times-Union before succeeding to the desk of the late M. V. Atwood, well loved in ASNE.

As with most other newspapermen, his trail across country is marked by the smoldering ruins of papers on which he once worked. He denies responsibility, admitting only that his various departures may have been contributing causes.

As Director of the News and Editorial Office of the Group, he keeps in intimate touch with the newsrooms of 21 papers.

He was named LaFayette but associates and especially superiors found the contracted "Fay" as convenient and nerve jolting as the commanding "Hey!"

And McGill, Freedom Of Press Dispatches

CHAIRMAN of a special committee on Freedom Of Press Dispatches is Ralph McGill, editor of the Atlanta Constitution since 1942. Long before that he was widely known as a sports writer, and was listed among the top-notchers of that clan in Paul Gallico's book "Farewell to Sport".

Born on a farm near Chattanooga, Mr. McGill entered Vanderbilt in 1917; the same year he enlisted in the USMC, saw active duty in transport service. Returning to Vanderbilt, he earned fame on the football field and as editor of the college paper. Restless for more active newspaper work he left college.

On his first job, on the Nashville Banner, he covered politics for three years. When the sports editor became ill, he was handed an important sports assignment, covering it so brilliantly that it later won him the post of sports editor. He went to the Constitution as assistant sports editor, and was named head of the department in 1931. That year he began his widely read column "Break o' Day".

In 1938 Mr. McGill spent six months in Europe and Scandinavia under a Rosenwald Fellowship and on his return was appointed executive editor of the Constitution.

Now editor, he still writes a daily column for the editorial page, as well as special articles for the news columns.

Ferguson, Milwaukee, On Editorial Page

THE Editorial page committee, headed by J. D. Ferguson of the Milwaukee Journal, is new.

Its chairman was graduated from the University of Missouri School of Journalism in 1915 and immediately became part owner of the Boonville (Mo.) Weekly Republican. A year later Mr. Ferguson went to work as reporter and copy reader on the Kansas City Star. After five years on the Sioux City Tribune, he became an editorial writer on the Milwaukee Journal in 1923 and last year was named president and editor.



Nat Howard Betters Our Press Relations

EVEN an editorial society needs a public relations expert. N. R. Howard, editor of the Cleveland News has been named to the job. Biographical data: Age 46; schooled at Oberlin; 18 years on

the Plain Dealer, eight on the News; writes a personal column on the editorial page. He once dug up three original letters of Lincoln as congressman from an aunt's friend in Illinois, one by Mrs. Lincoln,

which made a good story and went into the Barrett collection. Married, with two daughters. Has a reputation as a first-class pianist, which he modestly denies.

Joined Office of Censorship less than two months after Pearl Harbor, relinquishing a place on ASNE Board of Directors. Elected again last year for three year term and named second vice president.



News of ASNE Members

AUTHOR of "Riders of the Gabilans", to be published by Viking Press in October, is Graham M. Dean, *Reno Gazette*. A story of the west today, largely with a California background, it is Mr. Dean's 29th juvenile book, and has been chosen as the Junior Literary Guild intermediate selection for October.

Two ASNE members traded government jobs last month. Col. J. Hale Steinman, president of the Lancaster (Pa.) *Newspapers, Inc.*, who had been a consultant to the Printing and Publishing Division of WPB, was named director of the division. He succeeded Arthur R. Treanor, vice president of *Booth Newspapers*, who retired as director and is back home in Michigan. Mr. Treanor is continuing as part time consultant to the WPB division.

Former Ambassador to Mexico and ex-Secretary of Navy, as well as editor of the *Raleigh News and Observer*, Josephus Daniels is one of the most widely known members of the Society. And if recollection is correct, he is the only ASNE member ever to appear as a character in a motion picture. Here he is as Sidney Blackmer portrays the role of Daniels in *Darby F. Zanuck's* production of *WILSON*.



Several editors, of course, have appeared in newsreels. Virginius Dabney, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, makes his screen debut in the current *March of Time's AMERICANS ALL*. His comment: "I appear in shirtsleeves, which is as it should be, but there is no quart of whiskey on my desk, and the impresario didn't suggest one, which shows that the movie people may be learning."

Horace Hall, *Dothan Eagle*, has received word that his son, Lt. William H. Hall, AAF, has ar-

rived in England. An *Eagle* reporter before he enlisted, Bill won his wings at Marfa, Texas; took B-24 transition at Albuquerque, Texas, and completed combat training at Tonopah, Nev. His father reports: "He didn't follow my footsteps to the dinner table, therefore lacks my left and wing-spread. But even though he has to stretch to make 5' 5" and slips a pig into his pocket to weigh in at 130 pounds, he's first pilot on a ship that weighs 30 tons fully loaded."

B. M. McKelway, *Washington Star*, has joined the ranks of three star fathers. One son is at Ft. Benning, about to enter Infantry OCS, another is in England with the Navy, and the third enters the Air Corps this month.

Santford Martin, *Winston-Salem Journal* and *Twin City Sentinel*, has been appointed to the Educational Planning Committee of the State Planning Board of North Carolina, created to take charge of the state's planning and postwar activities. He is already a member of the State Board of Education.

There has been no fishing, mountain climbing or other vacation for George E. Stansfield this summer. He sticks to the job, managing editor of the *Hartford Courant*, and waits for letters from his son, Robert E., a Seabee in Pacific combat areas, formerly assistant news editor of the *Courant*.

George A. Smallsreed, Jr., Signalman Petty Officer, 2/c, Navy Armed Guard, has traveled 70,000 miles in 22 months, seen plenty of action, craves more. Meanwhile George, Sr., who thought he'd have to get out the *Columbus Dispatch* single-handed when the manpower shortage began, finds the ladies a satisfactory solution. He reports: "Feminine side of news family has grown from seven in 1940 to 14 and doing fine."

Complete report on Westchester County (N.Y.) members: Hugh Robertson was afraid to take a vacation—last year's, at Nan-



NO armchair commentator is Member Wright Bryan of the *Atlanta Journal*. His account of the invasion as he saw it when he flew over France with the first paratroopers was heard in this country and widely reported in the newspapers on D-Day. This picture of him (right) with a crew member of the C-47 transport, "The Snooty", was taken when the plane returned to its base after that flight.

Mr. Bryan originally went overseas for his own newspaper. At home he frequently had broadcast on the *Journal* station, WSB, and an NBC network and in England he soon became affiliated with NBC and BBC. He still writes for the *Journal*, thus acquiring a commissioned status of War Correspondent and Radio Correspondent.

tucket, ran him into a \$1,000-buck hospital and doctor bill. Col. J. Noel Macy is still with Public Relations, War Dept., specializing in WAC recruiting. Oxie Reichler took a vacation but nothing happened. Wallace Odell had a cyst removed from his neck, is recuperating at his summer home in Candlewood Lake, Conn.

Edward F. Crane, *Burlington Free Press*, has been named to the *Burlington Postwar Planning Board*.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Lessons the Newsprint Shortage Has Taught Us

Williams Will Retain Standard Depth Cuts, Restrict Social Notices

By M. H. WILLIAMS
Managing Editor,
Worcester Telegram
and The Evening Gazette

SOME of the things we have done in our morning and evening newspapers, to meet the newsprint shortage, will undoubtedly be retained long after that emergency is ended. For instance, we reduced the size of our standard one-column cuts from 3 inches to 2½ inches. Our readers never noticed the difference.

We have established a few standard depths for two-column and three-column cuts, which made it possible to use the same type-metal bases over and over again. This also tended to keep the sizes of these cuts within bounds and taught us to be more careful about cropping.

Of course, we have learned to edit copy, both wire and local, much more closely than we did before the war and the effects of that experience will probably last long after the war is over.

Space limitations have made it necessary to sharply reduce the amount of publicity, especially advance publicity, given in our news columns to local, social enterprises. By the time the war emergency ends, local people will have become educated to this restriction and we probably will never go back to the pre-war volume of such publicity.

In departmental columns, such as coming events, we have worked out space-saving, short forms, including abbreviations and all-out elimination of unnecessary wordage and this practise will be so firmly established as to continue after the war.

Elimination of multiple decks and long decks in heads and

SPORTS, markets, business, pictures—all to some extent wartime casualties—will come into their own when space opens up again.

Multiple decks have probably gone forever. The curb on publicity will continue. Improvements in the handling of pictures, standardizing depths of cuts, better selection and cropping, will be retained.

This is the postwar picture as revealed by answers to the question, "What space-saving procedures will you discard or retain when the war ends?"

elimination of all head dashes have saved both space and mechanical operations and will continue, with us, indefinitely.

Christian Says Sports, Markets Will Increase

By W. T. CHRISTIAN
Managing Editor,
Richmond News Leader

WE HAVE quit using a lot of undesirable features and reduced the size of others as a result of the newsprint shortage. We certainly propose to let these eliminations and reductions stand. The same thing will be true of our reduction of page folios from eight to two columns, four column comics, and eliminations of banks on inside heads.

Our sports and market coverage no doubt will be increased. I imagine our editorial page will continue to carry the commentators' columns we now run. Pictures will come back with a bang, and the coverage of local news will be intensified when we get our postwar staff at work.

Withers Now Produces More Readable Paper In a Lot Less Space

By HARRY C. WITHERS
Managing Editor,
Dallas Morning News

I THINK the most valuable lesson newspapers have learned from the newsprint shortage is the realization that a more satisfactory newspaper can be produced in a lot less space than was thought possible before this emergency came upon us.

We have reduced our reading matter content more than 50 per cent, but are convinced that we are getting out a more readable newspaper than we did when we were using twice as much space.

The reduction has imposed upon us the necessity of a more careful selection, better written stories and a more expert evaluation of the relative importance of available material.

This result has been attained despite loss to the armed services of 40 or more of our most competent staff members, requiring replacements that in ordinary times would not have been regarded as acceptable.

Public response is gratifying, but we attribute that largely to intense interest in world events and do not accept it as permanent approval that will continue after the war unless we build a better newspaper than we had before the war.

We believe we can do that by intelligent, expert coverage of important phases of the news growing out of post-war activities affecting our national and regional economy.

The fact of actual newsprint scarcity has provided us with an ironclad excuse for cutting off excess baggage—publicity that

(Continued on next page)

Tooill Most Resented Curtailing Sports And Markets—First to be Restored

By KENNETH D. TOOILL
Managing Editor,
Toledo Blade

HERE at the *Blade* we determined, when newsprint rationing became a reality, to make no reduction in reader content and take it on the chin in advertising revenue. The *Blade*, always one of the most generous (if not the most generous) in the country respecting the ratio of advertising lineage to editorial matter has given its readers a daily average of 126 columns, come hell or high water. For the summer months we dropped to 124, but that is temporary.

Something naturally had to give. All departments contributed a little space. That which I begrudged most was the space taken off sports and markets.

Picture Treatment Improved, Jones Says

By VINCENT S. JONES
Executive Editor
Utica Observer-Dispatch
and Daily Press

THE request for information about the things we will stop doing when the war ends set me to work making a little list. I must say, with some pride, that we are engaged in no reprehensible typographical practises. We have not sacrificed a single one of the hard-won gains in legibility so that in the happy days to come there will be no marked change in the appearance of *The Observer-Dispatch and the Utica Daily Press*. There will be more pages, fewer ads on each page, and we hope to sell a lot more papers.

We will continue to use most of the comics in four-column size and most of the panels in two-column format. Even now we run "Terry and the Pirates" and "Li'l Abner" in five-column form because we feel that these two strips have considerable artistic

However, the manpower shortage has made sports less important, to some extent, and the markets were pretty well frozen, as was all industrial and financial news not of page calibre.

As soon as the war is over and newsprint again is available, sports and markets will again become extremely important in reader interest. These pages will be the first to be restored to their former space, and most likely will be given even more.

Industrial and financial news will, of course, be of paramount importance because the American economic structure is due for an overhauling... and how! Nearly everyone will have a stake in events in the industrial world. The editor who does not prepare to cover this big show thoroughly will miss the boat.

merit which suffers when reduced too far.

We have learned a lot about picture selection and cropping and the gains in this department will be permanent. I wish we could say as much for the trimming of news stories and features.

Harry Withers

(Continued from page one)

had no value but was carried as a goodwill gesture.

When the excuse no longer exists we purpose to still keep such stuff out of the paper, even if we lose some friends and regardless of what competitors may do.

Some of the things we will not do again - use oversize cuts, multiple headlines, tiresome, laborious texts, long lists of names of those at social functions, etc. etc.

I do not think we will overplay crime as we once did. Our readers ought to be ready for a holiday from blood.

Mechanical economies such as narrow margins, small dashes, fewer decks, smaller cuts will be retained.

Stuart Sees Need For Constant Surveys Of Reader Interest

By JAMES A. STUART
Managing Editor,
Indianapolis Star

SHORTAGE of newsprint has been a hard task-master but out of the sweat and worry and toil have come valuable lessons to every newspaper editor. Aside from the routine of technical measures adopted, to be counted by the scores on most papers, all will agree that the enforced pruning of the news columns has produced a more readable news report.

Editors have discovered to their surprise that certain types of news matter and features, once sacred MUSTS, could be discarded. And that brings me to what we may discern in time to be the one most significant and lasting benefit from the present experience.

The editor has moved over closer to his readers. He has had to take on the job, as never before, of finding out what was vital to his readers so he could produce the best paper under space limitations. No sir, he hasn't quit editing, and he hasn't lowered his intellectual level, but he has had to become more understanding of the public which reads his paper.

Attempts to ascertain reader preferences, no matter whether elaborate surveys or a simple plan are used, should become an increasing factor in the publishing field. A recent survey of reader interest in the three Indianapolis papers upset many ideas of what was important and what non-essential.

Now these interests and preferences change in any community and the periods between any surveys and polls should not be too long. We all know that big advertisers have long profited by such research of public needs and tastes. After all, who buys your paper, and is he a booster for it? And why doesn't the other fellow buy it? Maybe you can get a majority of the answers on editorial content by the hit-and-miss trial method, but misses will be costly at war's end.

Editors Serve Notice the Time to Drop Idea of "Sponsored Features" Is Right Now

E. Z. Dimitman has heard enough talk about the possibility of sponsored features to make him wonder what other editors think of such a plan. "Give us your views," the Office of the BULLETIN bargained, "and we'll solicit some others." Replies received follow.

By E. Z. DIMITMAN,
Editor, *The Chicago Sun*

IN THE last few months I have heard quite a few people discussing a new thought for newspapers, "sponsored features." They have been studying the radio, apparently, and since everything on the radio is sponsored, some of them feel newspapers should copy this money-making scheme.

Actually, the newspapers today sponsor all advertising by putting reading material about it. But to sell the Mauldin panel, for instance, to Bromo-Seltzer so they could get a very nice caption on it saying that right after you read this you had better take a shot of Bromo-Seltzer would tend to make us ridiculous.

There has been some talk of sponsoring the columns. Wouldn't this sound nice: "The Bazooka Beagle is happy to present the views of Walter Lippman through the courtesy of Zilch's Dry Goods store. As soon as you have digested Mr. Lippman's little essay, hop right down to our store and get yourself a new pair of socks, red or green, three for a dollar."

Eventually, we might get around to sponsoring our editorials and it would be very convenient to have an editorial attacking the railroads and sponsored by the airlines.

We could even do it to our front page news: "The text of tonight's address by the President

of the United States, presented through the courtesy of Jones Credit Jewelry Store. You supply the girl, we supply the ring—\$10 down, \$1 a week."

I know it sounds ridiculous, but I do know that certain syndicate people are giving some thought to this idea. Maybe I am wrong and some editors may feel that certain types of features could well be sponsored.

Not the Time to Think Of the Cash Register

By FRED W. STEIN
Editor,
The Binghamton Press

NEWSPAPERS would lose their souls if they permitted advertisers to control their columnists. Radio has no soul to lose.

I suppose the originators of this idea have two possibilities in mind: having the advertiser sponsor a columnist under the control of the newspaper or having a group of department stores in various cities band together and employ a columnist. The former would not be quite so bad because if the writer did get out of bounds, he could be discharged, as CBS discharged Cecil Brown.

I fear, however, if the owners of the department stores were sold on a columnist, the editor would have difficulty in unloading him.

Wouldn't it cause confusion in the mind of the readers as to where news ends and advertising begins?

If preceded and ended by a "commercial" the irritation of the reader might be pinned on the newspaper as well as the advertiser.

We are soon going to enter an era in which some of us had better be more concerned with what our readers think about us than with the tinkle of the cash register.

A. H. Kirchhofer Says Plan Is Destructive Of Good Practice

By A. H. Kirchhofer
Managing Editor,
Buffalo Evening News

"SPONSORED features" require very little discussion because the principle they embody is destructive of good newspaper practice.

Their use would establish the proposition that anyone with enough money could buy and determine the editorial content of a newspaper. It's a short step from there to determining, at least in the reader's mind, everything that appears in a newspaper can be bought.

Radio advertisers generally do determine the content of their programs and it has been debated whether this is good practise. Whether it is or not, it would spell the doom of American newspapers as we have known them to sell editorial content at space rates or to the highest bidder.

Syndicates that propose to lead in this would do better to concentrate their thoughts upon the improvement of their product. There is a good field there for mental ingenuity and richer rewards.

The proposition is far more vicious than the money-hungry effort to dilute, and thus eventually kill, the value of editorial features and material by making them available to direct and indirect competitors for the reader's time and interest.

Like Burning House To Keep You Warm

OTTO C. Pressprich, editor of the *Saginaw News*, writes: "It seems to me the chief argument in favor of the sponsored feature idea is that it would produce revenue. But I suspect the venture would in the end prove to be the equivalent of burning the house down to keep oneself warm. From sponsored features it is not a long step to sponsored news, sponsored editorials."

And That's That!

LLOYD M. FELMLY,
editor, *Newark Evening News*:

"I say t'hell with sponsored features."

JAMES S. POPE, managing editor, *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

"I never heard of them."

Felmly Not Disturbed by Bataille's Charges; Mid-westerners Are Just Better Joiners

By LLOYD M. FELMLY
Editor, Newark News

I READ Mr. Bataille's article in the September BULLETIN with more than ordinary interest. I would say that in the main he is correct.

I have often noticed that New York editors generally seem to take an inactive part in the ASNE. I have assumed it was because they were too busy with many other things, not only their jobs but the demands that are made on one in the metropolitan sections that are probably without precise counterpart in other parts of the country. I would say that these are legitimate reasons for their attitude. Sometimes I have felt that editors from the Midwest and South were more apt to be "joiners" than we fellows in the East. Our mores may have something to do with that. I know that there is not nearly the urge in our section to belong to everything under the sun that there was, say, 25 years ago. There are a number of obvious reasons for this, the most important of which are probably the increased tempo of life and the increased mobility of the population. Before the gas drought we could hop in our cars and get almost anywhere in no time. I suspect, too, both from my contacts with the AP Managing Editors Association and my rather short experience with the ASNE, that editors, like all other people, are apt to be clique-y, if that's a good word. Our brothers from the Midwest, of course, see each other oftener than they see us. Shall we say that promotes a tendency to form mutual admiration societies? Of course, we know all editors are objective, but—

While we are about it perhaps we could have more debate and more fun with this issue, if it is an issue. Personally I am not disturbed. Like Mr. Bataille, I like to loaf whenever I can. I am afraid, so far as most societies are concerned, I like to let the other fellow do the work, so I really have no complaint.

FOR the beginning of this argument, see the September BULLETIN, in which Edward F. Bataille of the Newark Sunday Call said that eastern members are not represented in ASNE offices, including committees, in proportion to their numbers and their interest in the Society as evidenced by their attendance at conventions.

Six More Members Clip for Air Forces

SHORT-HANDED at the office but eager to do something for the boys over there, Dr. C. Sylvester Green himself is clipping the Durham Morning Herald for the Air Forces.

All anyone is asked to do is have someone clip his own paper, no other. Current goal is 100 newspapers sending clippings before the German war is over;—volunteers are still needed. Members who have recently joined the project, with the staff member who is doing the clipping are:

JOE W. SEACREST, Nebraska State Journal; Miss Gladys Callender, secretary.

E. M. BOYD, Cincinnati Enquirer; Miss Dorothy Pence Royer, assistant to librarian.

ARTHUR V. BURROWES, St. Joseph News-Press and Gazette; M. Chilcote, news editor.

JAMES R. BENHAM, Terre Haute Star; Miss Sarah Bence, secretary-reporter.

I. Z. BUCKWALTER, Lancaster Newspapers Inc.; Mrs. B. Frank Buller.

Prefers Shorter Meeting

A. M. Piper, editor, Council Bluffs Nonpareil, writes:

"I note that the Society is talking about a three day session next year. I question whether this would be advisable. The two day sessions during the war seem to me a great deal better than the three day sessions we used to have."

Lewin Says Members In Cities of 50,000 Not Given Their Due

By CHARLES J. LEWIN, Editor
New Bedford Standard-Times
and Mercury

AS A NATIVE of the Middle-west, who has earned his living in the East for the last 20 years, record me as "amen-ing" the recent letter from Editor Edward F. Bataille.

Mr. Bataille not only puts his finger on the fact that potential willing workers who are editors of eastern newspapers have been by-passed in committee appointments, but he emboldens me to offer an additional point of criticism. This is that a disproportionate number of committeemen are chosen from the larger newspapers represented in the ASNE.

As I analyze it, of 78 appointments made by President Knight for 1944-45 committees, only 12 came from newspapers of 50,000 circulation or under. I do not know the membership list of the Society, but I would wager that there are more newspapers of the 50,000 circulation class, than of the 100,000 or more class, whose editors have membership in ASNE.

As I recall it, some of the better known members of the Society have come from the smaller newspapers.

Board Meets Nov. 27

STILL TIME to submit ideas for the consideration of the Board of Directors. President Knight announces the semi-annual meeting of the Board will be held on Nov. 27, in the Statler Hotel, Washington.

Mr. Knight has appointed Tom Wallace, Louisville Times, as the Society's representative at the Inter-American Press Association conference in Caracas, Venezuela, this month. There is a possibility the ASNE president also may attend.

AS CHAIRMAN of the Editorial Board, Louis B. Seltzer was asked to submit a critique of the BULLETIN, with suggestions for discussions. Part of his report is printed here because it constitutes a vigorous challenge to members—to think through the problem of how newspapers can bring themselves closer to the people; and to set them down on paper for the BULLETIN. What is your suggestion for meeting this problem?

Relation of Newspapers to Own Readers Cited As Achilles Heel of Modern Journalism

By LOUIS B. SELTZER
Editor, The Cleveland Press

THE NEWSPAPER business is today confronted with more profound problems than ever before in its history. On the one hand it has more competition for the time and interests of people—radio, movies, magazines, with "f.m." and television on the way. On the other hand, its own size, for the most part, with great distribution, advertising and economic problems, tends to occupy the time and energy of editorial executives with organizational detail which their predecessors, some years back, did not experience.

In common with all other editors, I am interested in current threats to a free press in America, the creation and development of a world-wide free press for the eventual enlightenment and good of mankind, and other equally as fundamental and important issues which are before American journalism.

And yet, as a practical everyday operation, to make newspapers better, to strengthen their hold upon the people, to improve their relative position in the country, to develop new and better techniques of meeting the competition which science and technology have already set in motion and those which are on the way—these I believe are subjects which all of us would like to exchange views and experiences and ideas about through the medium of the BULLETIN.

There never has been a greater need for the average American newspaper to get closer to its own respective group of readers. This is the one place at which the weakness of the average Ameri-

can newspaper is most pronounced. It is here that the Achilles heel of modern journalism is upturned for anyone's arrow to pierce it.

In my opinion, two primary reasons account for the fact that the margin between readers and newspapers has widened in recent years. One, because the average newspaper is something less a newspaper and more an assembling plant for syndicated materials, i.e., wire services, features, comics, columnists, etc., and less the newspaper created for, developed for and built for the community in which it is actually published. The other is the alarming and enervating growth of the so-called public relations counsel and the concomitant thereof, the large advertising agency.

The perfectly legitimate and understandable mission of these, the public relations counsel and the big advertising agency, is to get into the papers those things which are intended to benefit their clients, and to keep out of them those things which are presumed to be harmful to them.

The growth of these two in recent years, in this generation, has been fast and wide. Their presence has been an inevitable consequence of the growth of American business and industry, and the preoccupation of top executives with the multiplicity of problems that these pressure days bring. But, their presence also has had a distinctly enervating effect upon the gathering of news in many places—has injected into the newspaper business a new element, a new necessity for look-

ing at traffic lights to determine whether the movement of matter into the columns paper bears the green, red or caution light.

There is no question but public relations counsel and advertising agencies are performing a rightful and useful function in the American scene today. It is, in fact, a need for more rather than less of them, and, I would add, better ones.

But the problem we are discussing here is the American newspaper, its position, its opportunity for growth and increased strength, the need for bringing itself closer to the people, which concerns me.

This, it would seem to me, might start a discussion in the BULLETIN that might turn out to be provocative, interesting and useful.

There's No Synthetic For Guts, Says Knight

PRESIDENT Knight set his views on some of the things newspapers must do, and how they are to meet changing conditions in an address, "Will Newspapers Meet the Challenge 'V' Day?", at the meeting of the New York State Publishers Association in Syracuse last month.

Mr. Knight warned that newspapers must display determination, imagination and courage to face a new and rapidly changing set of conditions.

He concluded: "Your first duty is to the citizen who buys your newspaper in belief that it has character and stability, that it is at all times a defender and protector of rights and liberties of our people that it does not yield to the pressure of merchant or banker, politician or labor union."

"There is no known substitute on the market for integrity character."

"And no synthetic has been discovered for guts." An ASNE member who attended the meeting reports: Knight stole the show."

For anyone who missed the speech, it is covered in *E. & P.* of Sept. 16.

Julian Miller Knows Membership Work, Now Heads Committee

ONE of the most diligent members of last year's Membership Committee, Julian S. Miller of the Charlotte Observer was responsible for a large number of the members elected last year. His reward for enthusiastic effort in behalf of the Society is still more work, as Membership Chairman this year.

Ill health and personal tragedy have not diminished his zeal. An attack of pneumonia last March sent Mr. Miller to the hospital. While there he received word that his son, Julian Jr., engineer and waist gunner on a Liberator bomber had been killed in action over New Guinea. Another son, Robert B., also in the Air Corps, is



stationed at Yuma and expects to leave soon for some combat area.

Charlotte has always been home to Mr. Miller. He was reared there, then studied at Erskine College, in South Carolina, and at the University of North Carolina, returning to Charlotte to join the staff of The Observer. After ten years, he became editor of the Charlotte News, at the age of 28. Sixteen years later he returned to The Observer as its editor.

In addition to his journalistic duties, he is in wide demand as a speaker throughout the South. He has long been associated with social, economic and educational movements in his own and other states. Among the organizations with which he has served are the Southern Conference of Human Relations in Industry, on the executive committee; North Carolina Conference of Social Service, president two years; and a commission established eight years ago to make an intensive study of educational needs in North Carolina, which he headed.

He is chairman of the North Carolina State Board of Education, and president of the North Carolina Press Association.

In Memoriam William Foust Wiley

THE SOCIETY notes with regret the passing of Member William Foust Wiley, publisher of the Cincinnati Enquirer, who was taken in death at Buffalo, August 24, while en route to Cincinnati from Boston.

Mr. Wiley had the rare, if not unique, distinction of having begun his newspaper career as a Washington correspondent. His first job was Washington reporter for the Enquirer. That he was successful is attested by the fact that two years later, at the age of twenty-six, he was called back to Cincinnati to take the managing editorship of the paper. That was in 1901.

Throughout his career, Mr. Wiley was a staunch defender of the freedom of the press. As Chairman of the Committee on Federal Laws of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, he waged an unrelenting battle against all legislation which he interpreted as an assault upon the First and Fourth Amendments to the Constitution. He opposed proposals to alter second-class mailing privileges as "attempts to control the press."

His personal qualities won and held a large circle of friends. The people of Cincinnati honored him as their champion in their struggles for better government, flood protection and cultural advantages. In all respects he met the highest professional and community obligations of a conscientious and able newspaper publisher.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Why Wallace Ranks Conservation above Political Influence

TOM WALLACE heads a new committee which will conduct a session on syndicated columns at the '45 convention. Editor of the Louisville Times, he is perhaps as widely known as a conservationist which is not surprising. Ask him, as we did,



about his editorial convictions and you learn that:

He is more interested in the problem of making best use of the country's natural resources than in party politics because, he says, the wealth, the

military strength of the United States depends finally on wise use of its lands and waters; upon conservation of soil fertility, perpetuation of timber supply, protection of water from pollution or abatement of pollution. Right-land-use, he believes, will originate, always, in education of the people rather than as a result of office-holders leading the people.

He gives freely of his time to all organizations promoting right-land-use.

Mr. Wallace is unimpressed by many editors' belief in the importance of electing the right candidate. As he sees it, editorial exhortation rarely elects or defeats anyone and a newspaper is often disillusioned by its hero if he is elected. To him, anyone who promotes legislation conducive to better handling of the nation's natural endowment has a satisfying part in increasing human welfare.

Reader reaction? The three most widely read features in The Times, exclusive of pictures, are the leading first page news story, letters to the editor and editorials, in that order, the editorials running above 42 per cent.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Hochstein Disputes Views Expressed on Sponsored Features

By PHILIP HOCHSTEIN
Editor,
Newark Star-Ledger

THE DISCUSSION, last month, of the idea of "sponsored features" for newspapers interests me.

Sponsorship is a logical development from radio. I can't, for the life of me, see why it is right for radio and wrong for newspapers. It is either right for both, or wrong for both.

The sponsoring of news and news comment is, in my opinion, a far greater menace to freedom of press and to all our civil rights than any of the other threats that have so frequently aroused publishers and editors. Strangely, the press is actively a party to this undermining process through the sale of Associated Press news and other news to radio sponsors.

Would some member of the Association undertake to show a difference, morally, between radio-sponsored news and news-comment, and newspaper-sponsored news and news-comment?

Why haven't newspapers fought this thing, which is a spreading evil? Some newspapers own radio stations. Will they permit this involvement to lull them forever into acceptance of this practice, or will they exert their influence on two fronts to rescue the integrity of the radio as an institution and protect the integrity of the newspaper as an institution?

Publishers and editors would have an obligation to fight sponsorship of news and news-comment under any circumstances, but the participation of the Associated Press in the practice makes it a burning issue.

Is Mr. Hochstein right, and if so, what can be done about it? Your comments are invited.



ERWIN D. CANHAM

Program Chairman Calls for Suggestions

THE GENERAL plan for the 1945 convention of the Society will be laid at the meeting of the Board of Directors, Nov. 27 and 28, in Hotel Statler, Washington. Erwin D. Canham, program chairman, is asking for basic suggestions from the membership now, so they can be included in the discussion by the Board. Timely, pertinent ideas naturally will come along later.

Mr. Canham was a natural from every angle for appointment to the all-important post of program chairman. One of the country's leading editors, he has a wide acquaintance among editors and leaders in public life. Formerly head of the Christian Science Monitor Washington News Bureau, he joined ASNE as soon as he became eligible, when he was made managing editor. One of the younger members of the Society, both in years and length of membership, he took an immediate interest in its affairs, was elected a director four years ago, re-elected last year. At that meeting he made one of the most vigorous

(Continued on next page)

Christopherson Cites Conflicting Reports On Conditions in Paris

By FRED C. CHRISTOPHERSON
Executive Editor,
Sioux Falls Argus-Leader

HERE is a matter which I feel should receive some attention from the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

I was in Paris a few days after its liberation and, in common with all other newspapermen who were there, sent stories back home explaining that central Paris was intact with virtually no marks of destruction, that the hotels had not been damaged, that the people seemed properly clothed and apparently had been adequately fed.

Earlier I had sent home dispatches from Cherbourg and the Normandy area generally showing a situation quite contrary to that which had been depicted in the newspapers before our armies entered France.

Now that I am back home, I have been compelled to do some explaining.

How come, readers ask, that your paper earlier had informed us so inaccurately about conditions in France? We had been led to believe, they say, that Paris was badly damaged, that the people were being starved to death, that the art treasures were being carted out etc. And now you tell us, they continue, that this wasn't so.

Well, this embarrasses me as, no doubt, it has embarrassed other editors.

Just where the responsibility lies is a question. Our propaganda agencies, obviously, are to blame in part. But perhaps we as editors should share some of the blame for accepting such reports so freely. In any event, I feel that the subject should be explored.

Stephen C. Noland Heads This Year's Memorial Committee

CHAIRMAN of this year's Memorial Committee is a member of long standing, Stephen C. Noland, editor of the Indianapolis News.

Mr. Noland celebrated the 30th anniversary of his initiation as a member of *The News* staff in July. The accompanying picture of him was taken as he examined entries in that newspaper's contest on postwar plans for the city of Indianapolis. As chairman since June, 1943, of the Indiana Economic Council, Indiana's official postwar planning body, he has devoted about as much time to the world to come as to the world today.

It will be recalled that at the last meeting of the Society, he questioned several members as to their extra-curricular activities, and seemed to agree with those who acted on the principle that a newspaperman's job leaves little time for public service.

In the campaign just concluded, Mr. Noland, an appointee of Indiana's Governor Schriker, a Democrat, has been in the delicate position of heaving editorial brickbats at his patron. Gov. Schriker was the Democratic nominee for the United States Senate. *The News* supported Homer



STEPHEN C. NOLAND

Meet Michael Gorman, Our Official Greeter

AS Reception Chairman, Michael A. Gorman has charge of official guests at the annual banquet, a task more onerous than it sounds. Just finding them in the mob requires FBI training.

Determined to be a civil engineer, Mr. Gorman nevertheless



grabbed the first newspaper job offered him—sports, general reporting, society, on the *Saginaw Courier-Herald* in 1910. He went to the *Saginaw News* as telegraph editor, then was city editor, and was managing editor, 1916 to 1938, when he left to become editor of the *Flint Journal*.

The rapid rise of Flint with the automotive industry aroused in him a deep interest in the community's civic and social planning. He is a trustee of a maternal health fund founded by William S. Knudsen; on the Board of Governors, Rackham Research Endowment, Michigan State College; a founder of the Gabriel Richard Foundation, University of Michigan; and holds a Silver Beaver Award from the National Council of Boy Scouts. Among the other organizations of which he is a director are the Michigan War Chest, Flint Institute of Arts, Genesee War Fund and Red Cross. He is a trustee of Cranbrook Academy of Arts; past president, University Press Club of Michigan; past chairman, AP Association of Michigan; and vice chairman, St. Joseph hospital.

Capehart, the Republican nominee.

"The News allows no one on its staff to accept pay, or even expense money, for public service, so I am under no obligation," Mr. Noland wrote, just prior to the election. "Since the governor can fire me, but hasn't, and I can quit, but haven't; I guess we'll get through the campaign without any major casualties."

Likes Time to Breathe

CONTINUING the discussion of the length of the 1945 ASNE convention, W. C. Stouffer of the *Roanoke World-News* suggests a two-day program spread out over a three day meeting, with shorter sessions.

"Conventions under the guise of war clinics are too condensed to suit me," he says. "They are packed with so much that they become dull."

"After a morning of speeches and hearing papers read, I like to take a walk instead of going to a luncheon to hear more speeches and more papers read."

The question is still open. Your views are invited.

Program Chairman

(Continued from page 1)

and challenging addresses on the program, on the responsibilities of a free press.

Mr. Canham is a former Rhodes scholar, with degrees from Bates College and Oxford University. He has traveled widely, covering political conventions, transcontinental tours of presidential candidates and other affairs at home. International conferences have taken him over Europe and to the Orient. He was in Geneva during the years when it was the political center of the world.

Mr. Canham is a trustee of Bates College, a member of the Gridiron Club, was president for two terms of the Overseas Writers' club and writes for several magazines and reviews.

Why Read Anything Else?

When applicants for the Graduate School of Journalism are interviewed, they are asked what newspapers they read. To this question, Dean Carl W. Ackerman reports, a Georgia girl answered tersely and finally, "I read Ralph McGill."

Dimitman Asks Action on 'Phoney Yells Of Those Who Cry Press Freedom Selfishly'

A LETTER from the Committee for Constitutional Government has aroused the ire of E. Z. Dimitman, editor of the *Chicago Sun*, who submits his reaction to it for the consideration of his fellow members.

While no copy of the letter and the accompanying literature are at hand, they have been sent to all editors; and their content is evident from the carbon of Mr. Dimitman's reply, part of which follows:

"The press of America has been free, is free and, as carefully as I have been able to observe in more than twenty years as a newspaperman, there has been no attempt by our government to suppress or limit such freedom," Mr. Dimitman wrote the Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, D.D., chairman of the committee.

"Unfortunately, too many individuals and too many groups have chosen, when in difficulty, to take a pick-a-back ride on the freedom of the press issue. . .

"I can see no connection, whatever, in the dispute between you and the Congressional Committee and the subject of freedom of the press."

"As a newspaperman, and therefore vitally concerned with freedom of the press, I most vigorously object to such groups who, for selfish reasons, cloak themselves in this false issue."

"You state flatly that your committee is a non-political group within the meaning of the law. Apparently the House Campaign Expenditure Committee thinks otherwise. While your letter and your literature do not name any candidate or party, it would have to be a pretty dense sort of person who did not at once perceive the political objectives of the Committee for Constitutional Government—the defeat of President Roosevelt."

Continuing his views in a letter sent to President Knight and to Louis B. Seltzer, chairman of the Bulletin Editorial Board, Mr. Dimitman says:

"I have been a newspaperman since 1920 and I'll be damned if

I can recall any single instance where the federal government attempted, in any way, to interfere with the freedom of the press."

"True, there have been attempts by individuals in local communities, or even in states, to hush the press but that was through illegal action or through threats. Others, also, have attempted to silence the press—pressure groups, advertisers through threats of withholding lineage, labor unions by threats of circulation boycotts,

PRO in South Pacific Commends ASNE Effort

NEWS of the good work ASNE members are doing in sending clippings from their papers to our air forces in England and Italy has spread to the Southwest Pacific. The Thirteenth Air Force wants clippings too.

Capt. James H. Lewis, Ass't PRO, writes:

"The boost in morale that results from clippings convinces us that your program is one civilian war effort that really supports the fighting men and is of practical value."

For addresses to which clips should be sent, write THE BULLETIN.

Joy Reports Activities

MOST IMPORTANT events in his personal life as reported by Verne Joy, *Centralia Sentinel*:

"I shot a 44 with three out-of-bounds, and got nine 'big ones' the first day this tyro went deep after Western Ontario lake trout."

In National Newspaper Week he addressed three local clubs on "A World Free Press Essential to Prevent World War." He adds:

"President Knight IS getting somewhere with that world free press dream of his. With Kent Cooper catching, it's a damn good battery. And the dumfounded bleachers are sitting up to take notice."

publishers and editors have suppressed news for venal reasons, but our government in Washington has not.

"I think it is time that the editors and the publishers of this country cry out when these phoney yells for aid come from those who seek to use freedom of the press in their own interests, and I would like to see the Editors take the lead in such action."

Mr. Dimitman appends a request for other editors' views on this subject. Please address letters to the Office of the Bulletin and send a carbon to Mr. Dimitman at the *Chicago Sun*.

Harper in New Guinea, Admiralty Islands

ROBERT S. HARPER, Ohio *State Journal*, is a managing editor who believes in seeing things first hand. He has just returned from the Southwest Pacific where he served as war correspondent for three and a half months. He visited Australia, went all over New Guinea, was in Dutch Guinea also and in the Admiralty Islands and touched on other spots in that general vicinity. While several ASNE members have gone overseas on temporary assignments, so far as we know no one else has gone so far, covered so much territory.

Lynch Justly Proud

IN THE OPINION of B. P. Lynch, *Phoenix Republic and Gazette*, "Jeeps and Peeps" is "far and away the best servicemen's publication in the United States." Until someone sends us a better one, we're not inclined to dispute that title.

Ten pages, slightly larger than this BULLETIN, it tells the boys in greater detail than most such publications what goes on in the office they left behind them. Written in a lively style, well bedecked with illustrations, it reads very much as if someone—or several persons—had really put their heart into the job.

News of ASNE Members

MRS. Adelaide Jewell Ferdinand of South Hampton, N. H., and Lewis R. Hovey, editor of the Haverhill (Mass.) *Sunday Record* and the *Beverly Evening Times*, have announced their marriage, on Oct. 2. The ceremony took place in the parsonage of the First Church of Christ, Congregational, in Bradford, Mass. Mr. Hovey's two sons by a previous marriage and their wives were the attendants. The bride, widow of Arthur G. Ferdinand of Boston, is a lifelong friend of the Hovey family. Mr. and Mrs. Hovey are making their home in Bradford.

Publication of the third volume of "Lee's Lieutenants" aroused our curiosity as to how long it takes to write a trilogy of such immense scope and importance, research included. Dr. Douglas Southall Freeman, editor of the *Richmond News Leader*, obligingly checked his diary and reported, "A total of 7,121 hours."

George R. Shoals, who was managing editor of the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* when he received his commission as a first lieutenant last year, has been advanced to captain. He is now overseas.

Capt. Coleman Harwell, Nashville Tennessean, is in Italy with AMG and reports indicate he is doing valuable service in what is generally conceded to be a tough spot. Since entering the service, he has suffered two deaths in his family, his father, Sam K. Harwell, Sr., and his brother, Sam K. Harwell, Jr.

John F. James, Pharmacist's Mate 3/c, on leave from the *Johnstown Democrat*, is at the U.S. Naval Hospital, San Diego. Now working on the hospital weekly, *The Drydock*, he has applied for active sea duty.

A veteran of the Philippine insurrection, and overseas in World War I, Col. Ernest G. Smith of the *Wilkes-Barre Times Leader and Record*, is confining his war activities to the home front this time. He is vice chairman of Luzerne County Council of Civilian Defense; county chairman of Red Cross Blood Bank and of

Victory Gardens; president of the local Playground and Recreation association; and a member of the U.S. Treasury Victory Fund Committee of the Third Federal Reserve District.

In bed with pneumonia, Philip H. Parrish, *Portland Oregonian*, writes cheerfully that it has given him leisure to do a little thinking!

T. T. Hunt, *Beaumont Enterprise*, viewed firsthand the struggle for control at the second 1944 convention of Texas Democrats, came away with the expressed conviction that the party breach will not be healed for a long time.

Raymond H. McCaw was laid up for six weeks with a strep throat, took a month's vacation, now is back at his desk at the *New York Times*.

Col. Harry M. Ayers, *Anniston Star*, is home after two months in England where he experienced the worst period of flying bombs. He had two close calls, one in Hyde Park, the other when a bomb hit the back of the hotel in which he was staying.

Plenty of editors started their newspaper careers as carriers. Vincent Y. Dallman, editor-in-chief of the *Illinois State Register*, is the only one we know who started that way, worked up to district man and finally to circulation manager, then gave it all up to start over at the bottom on the editorial side as a cub reporter. This is revealed in a story about him in the *Monrovia, Calif., News-Post*, which added: "At a time of life when many men have retired, Vin is still in full stride." That stride amazed a *News-Post* reporter at a Rotary meeting at which Mr. Dallman spoke in observance of Newspaper Week. There was nothing for her to do, she wrote in a lead, but relax when she discovered that the speaker had covered the story for the local paper and his own!

The Democratic National Convention last summer was the seventh that E. D. Lambright, *Tampa Tribune*, has covered as

commentator. He began in Baltimore in 1912 and was chairman of the Florida delegation at the record-breaking 1924 affair in Madison Square Garden. His comment: "That should have cured me, but didn't."

Clement B. Hallam, *Wilmington News and Journal Every-Evening*, is a football fan, attends games, as far as time and transportation difficulties permit, with all the enthusiasm of a college senior.

Vacationing in the Mackinac Islands, Kenneth D. Tooill, *Toledo Blade*, grew a beard which so impressed Paul D. Block Jr. that he snapped several pictures of it, one of them appearing on the front page of *The Blade* house organ blown up to produce a horrifyingly piratical effect. We chose this pose because, after all, it isn't often editors provide leg art for THE BULLETIN.



KEN TOOILL

Our Correspondent In Paris Reports On Members There

QUITE the most startling letter-head in the month's mail was one headed, "DER KOMMANDANT VON GROSS-PARIS, Kommandostab, Der Quartiermeister."

The paper, left behind when Paris was liberated, came in handy until our own supplies arrived. Major Talbot Patrick of the *Goldsboro News-Argus* explains. Yes, he's there.

"Not so gay, but definitely Paree," he writes, "in spite of lack of heat, little electricity, none of the famous taxis-with honking-horns, military forbidden to eat anywhere except in Army messes, wooden soles on many shoes, faces of elderly people as pallid as those I have seen on deathbeds. But the women are bright with colors, they make fanciful patterns with their clog-high, wooden-soled shoes, people are animated, buildings show bright fresh paint, and the all-over pattern is — Paris.

"I've seen comparatively little of it, thanks to a job which has been keeping me indoors all day long, seven days a week. But one evening I went over to the hotel which is correspondents' headquarters and there spotted Burrows Matthews (*Buffalo Courier-Express*). He had had a grand six weeks in the field, but then was shoved into Paris to straighten out this and that and make the correspondents happy. (As if anyone could make them all happy at once!)

"I heard Jack Harris (*Hutchinson News*) now a major, is over here with OSS. Have not yet had a chance to get in touch with him.

"I won't bear down on any recitals of what people are short of and have been short of and will begin to get more of only gradually.

"I'm billeted in a hotel which before the war was the place in which the world's upper 200 were found. We have an Army mess there; but what the French cooks do with the Army chow is tickling to the palate. White and red wines and champagne and cognac,



AN ITEM, months ago, about Manchester Boddy dictating editorials outdoors with a gun beside him, ready to pop off ground squirrels, was greeted with skepticism in some quarters. A *Daily News* photographer offers this evidence, and our Los Angeles correspondent adds that on occasion he actually does get an unsuspecting squirrel.

but at about the prices which obtain in New York since the last boost in taxes.

"Receive copies of various 'news' letters. Interesting to see what a flood of optimism there was about early end of fighting in Europe; but now I suppose the tide has gone out with equal abandon. We don't get much news, did not in Britain. There've been times when I greatly regretted missing the details of fact and the mass of pictures that bigger U.S. papers carry."

In Father's Footsteps

THE NEXT issue will introduce one of the few father and son couples in ASNE — Walter Locke, editor of the *Dayton Daily News*, a member these many years, and a more recent accession to the membership, Francis P. Locke, editor of the Editorial Page of the *Miami Herald*.

And Have You Met Our New Member From Omaha, Neb.?

MEET Frederick Ware, who joined ASNE when he was appointed managing editor of the *Omaha World-Herald* a year ago last February. Previously he had served successively as reporter, state editor, night editor, sports and city editor, over a 23 year period.

Sports editor for 15 years, covering most of the big events all over the country. Mr. Ware became widely known in that field. He also wrote a daily column, labeled "F.W.," which was avidly followed by sports fans throughout the *World-Herald* territory. F.W.'s followers knew they could count on what he said.

A graphic writer himself, Mr. Ware is zealous in his efforts to elicit a superior grade of news-writing and editing from his staff.

Stylebooks have received scant attention in most offices in recent years, according to information received when the ASNE and SNPA BULLETINS both delved into the subject, but *The World-Herald* stylebook is practically Mr. Ware's avocation. He compiled one several years ago, since outmoded. More recently he has been revising it, working on it in spare time at home. The new book, containing a wealth of handy information in addition to the answers to routine puzzlers, has just been published.

Mr. Ware is all-Nebraskan, born in David City, attended Nebraska grade and high schools and the University of Nebraska. Before joining *The World-Herald*, he worked on the *Lincoln Journal*, reporter and night editor, on the *Omaha News*, as reporter, and for the AP and the UP.

He has a son 16 years old and a daughter 17 months.

REMINDER: Names of candidates for election to ASNE should be sent to Julian Miller, *Charlotte Observer*.

Pictures of 23,000 Overseas Men Printed In Cleveland Press

N. R. Howard, *Cleveland News*, offered this tip: "Ask Louis Seltzer to tell you about a great early-war job The Press did in rounding up pictures of Cleveland soldiers and sailors, which is paying out now." Charles Schneider, promotion editor, complies with that request in the following story.

ON DECEMBER 7, 1941, only a few hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the *Cleveland Press* established a war service to its readers which has grown until today it surpasses in size and longevity any project ever undertaken by the newspaper.

The service was born out of a reporter's attempt at this historic moment to be courteous and sympathetic to a worried mother's telephone query: "My son was on the Arizona. Is he listed among the casualties?"

The reporter's answer that the boy was not listed, but that *The Press* would notify the mother if any word should be received, started it all.

There were scores of similar calls during the next few hours. *The Press* made a quick decision. It would organize to handle these calls, would set up a bureau for filing the names of Cleveland boys serving overseas, and would offer a casualty notification service to its readers.

This was the beginning of a War Zone Department which today occupies the full-time attention of five *Press* staff members, and which has a card index file of approximately 25,000 Greater Cleveland men serving overseas, the most complete record in the city.

To this War Zone Department may be attributed the credit for: "HEROES ALL"—a daily picture feature in which *The Press* has published the staggering total of 23,000 individual photographs of men serving overseas.

CLEVELAND WAR CASUALTIES—a complete list of area casualties, now accepted as the city's official roster. New names added to the list are given a place

In Memoriam John Stewart Bryan

THE SOCIETY records with deep regret the passing of Member John Stewart Bryan, publisher of the *Richmond News-Leader* and the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, who was taken in death at Richmond, Va., Oct. 16, 1944.

He was also the chancellor and president emeritus of the College of William and Mary—distinctions that measure his intellectual equipment and executive ability.

Few men of his generation have been equipped with a wider range of knowledge combined with personal graces than John Stewart Bryan.

His family for several generations had been identified with the important affairs of the Old Dominion. He himself, aside from the achievements of his forebears, was a notable figure in the educational and publishing forces of his time.

The American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Associated Press and the American Newspaper Publishers Association had long felt his guiding influence. Scholar and Christian gentleman, he stood with those American leaders that were ready to bury the dead past and join in a search for a new and better way of living. The country and notably the South will miss his help in advancing human welfare.

The Society extends to his widow, daughter and sons its deep sympathy.

William Adolphe Gracey

THE SOCIETY has learned with deep regret the death of one of its oldest members, both in years and in term of membership—William Adolphe Gracey, one of the publishers and editor of the *Geneva (N.Y.) Daily Times*. He died in Geneva, Oct. 16, 1944.

He was born in India, Aug. 6, 1866, while his parents were serving as missionaries. But he was returned to the United States for his education. After serving ten years as a reporter on the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, he went to the *Daily Times* in 1898.

He was faithful to all his commitments as a member of the Society and was esteemed by its members as an able editor. He found time to take part in the civic leadership of Geneva and contributed substantially to the high repute of the Geneva Historical Society and to the affairs of the Presbyterian church. The sympathy of the Society is extended to his children and his associates.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

of honor in the paper every two or three months.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT—a weekly feature using excerpts from letters written home by boys overseas.

These projects are typical of the public service offered by the *Cleveland Press* in lieu of the contests and stunts that used to pass for good-will promotion. They are only a few items in the over-all plan. There are V-Mail Baby Pictures; approximately 1100 Greater Clevelanders overseas have seen pictures of their babies for the first time through this original *Press* plan. There is a Victory Garden campaign, climaxing in a Harvest Festival.

A color movie, "Here's Your Home Town," will give the large contingent of Cleveland boys with Ohio's 37th Division in the South Pacific, their first sight of their home town in three years.

The Heroes' Homecoming Fund campaign was the most successful money-raising project in *Press* history. The goal was \$100,000 to buy a bedside radio-and-phonograph system for the Army's big new hospital in Cleveland. The drive raised \$175,000 and the surplus is being used to equip another Army hospital at Cambridge, O., with a less expensive radio system.

Bulletin Board Asks More Hair-down Expressions On How Working Editors Can Do a Better Job

AMONG the suggestions made by the Bulletin Editorial Board, at the request of the editor, was this from Waldo Arnold, *Milwaukee Journal*:

"Would it be possible to have more complete reports on the meetings of the Board of Directors, and the activities of committees? I think the membership is interested in the discussions and decisions."

Assuming that Mr. Arnold is right, we begin with the Editorial Board because its first report is at hand. Others will follow.

All four members have gone to work! Each has responded thoughtfully to the questions, "In general, what kind of publication should THE BULLETIN be, what are we shooting for? And what are your specific suggestions for reaching that objective?"

An attempt to correlate the replies to set a definite course runs into the usual difficulty, conflict of views. Mr. Arnold thinks, and E. Z. Dimitman of the *Chicago Sun* concurs, that short personals are always interesting. Harry Boyd, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, admits names make news but adds, "I'd rather see every name attached to an idea or a suggestion adaptable to situations in which other members may find themselves."

Opinions split also on whether space given "practical" ideas is worth while, since *Editor & Publisher* gets them all, and first. Again: Shall we give more attention to the accomplishments of an organization in which we take warranted pride, or is there too much back-patting already? So it goes.

This poses no real problem. The course indicated is to continue to offer a varied fare, to cater to the diversified tastes of the membership.

As for the general tenor of THE BULLETIN, Board members are in accord. What we need, they say in effect, is more red meat, less pap; more, and more vigorous, discussions on subjects actually vital to newspapers. Louis B. Seltzer, *Cleveland Press*, chairman, expressed this opinion in

the October issue and set forth his views on one subject that qualified in this category.

Whether we can have utterly frank discussions, that may or may not arrive at any conclusions but serve the good purpose of bringing to light faulty thinking or sound differences of opinion, depends entirely on members at large, our only contributors. In other words, if you agree on the necessity for earnest, hair-down expressions of what working editors are thinking about the way they do their job and how they could do it better, it's up to you to provide them.

In recent issues, there has been a good deal of material either by Board members or suggested by them. And as Edward F. Bataille pointed out, they are all mid-westerners. The point is, they went to work in the interest of a better BULLETIN; as in any other organization, theirs is the glory, if so it be. They will be crowded from these columns when members from other sections present their views with equal zeal.

Come to think of it, that piece in which Mr. Bataille of the *Newark Sunday Call* complained that easterners are not properly represented in ASNE offices appeared in September; Lloyd Felmy, *Newark Evening News*, contributed in October; Philip Hochstein, *Newark Star-Ledger*, appears on page one of this issue. Our Newark members had better watch out; if they keep up that rate of cooperation, first thing they know they'll be appointed something too.

Our Fame Spreads

INTEREST in the Society crops up in far places. From South Africa comes a request for the ASNE Constitution and Code of Ethics. And from Merioneth, North Wales, a letter (which crossed the Atlantic three times before reaching its destination, due to a vague address) asking for a copy of Walter Lippman's address at the April convention, inspired by brief mention of it in the *London Times*.

New Plan Studied For Accrediting Journalism Schools

RECOMMENDATIONS of the Committee on Education will be submitted to the Board of Directors this month by Richard Powell Carter, editor of the *Ronoke World-News*, who is chairman of the ASNE committee and also of the National Council on Professional Education for Journalism.

Meanwhile, here's a progress report.

Exploration has been begun of the possibility of establishing the National Council as an accrediting agency for schools of journalism. If the program can be developed, such factors as teaching personnel, objectives, courses of instruction, etc., would be examined, with a view to eliminating instruction in journalism which isn't journalism at all. A comprehensive survey of ways and means has been going on since June. This includes a study of the procedures used in other fields where schools and the profession they are training for have been closely and successfully allied. It also brings up for consideration the question of where the leadership should arise if such a course is followed. (Educator members of the Council are selected by the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism, which now accredits the schools without active help from newspapers; the newspaper members represent ASNE, ANPA, NEA, SNPA and Inland.)

Mr. Carter will submit a complete report to the ASNE Board which will deliberate the part the Society should play.

Freedom of Dispatches

THE COMMITTEE on Freedom of Press Dispatches has been quiescent since its effective work in getting free press planks in both party platforms last June. Present plans call for a meeting in Washington in conjunction with the meeting of the Directors.

Ralph McGill, *Atlanta Constitution*, is chairman.

When a Newspaper Uses Shoddy, No Tricks Can Restore Reader Confidence, Creager Says

Louis B. Seltzer, Cleveland Press, last month asked for a discussion of how newspapers can combat their most pronounced weakness, a lack of close relationship to readers. Marvin H. Creager, Milwaukee Journal, gave the answer in part in a recent address at Marquette University.

"CONCEDING that reader confidence is a gem of purest ray serene," Mr. Creager said, "how does one go about getting it? Just by being nice and waiting for it to come? No, of course it isn't that simple, and it is not for me to say that I have all the answers. But I believe I can tell you that you can't get it by kidding or outsmarting your public. The collective public is smarter than any editor or publisher, as many have found out to their surprise. The readers may not catch on right away, but in time they will nose out the spurious — and when they do, the clever publisher has the second, third or fourth paper in his town."

Given honesty and courage, it still is necessary to get the readers' attention and interest in order to win his confidence, Mr. Creager went on, and gave these pointers on *The Journal's* way of doing it:

"We must be not only the informant of the reader, but also his representative and, to some extent, his confidant and counselor. He pays for that service, and he is entitled to it. We think it is our duty to look out for the interests of the people of Milwaukee — to be their attorney. Private interests have able legal and public relations counsel, but the public's interest must depend very greatly on an alert and conscientious press for representation in the supreme court of public opinion. We try not to fail the public."

"That may sound patronizing. It need not be. The readers do not want to be admonished, exhorted, cajoled or told what they must do. They want the facts laid before them by someone they can trust, and they will form their opinions — and they don't need to be spoonfed. Tell them the facts — whether you like them or not — and the readers will know what to do with them."

In concluding, Mr. Creager said:

"The honest producer is jealous of his product — he builds up and stakes his reputation on it, and he cannot afford to use shoddy unless he is ready to sell out. That applies to newspapers as well as to cloth makers. It may take a little longer to detect the shoddy in a newspaper than in a pair of pants, but it will out just as surely as the seat of the shoddy pants. Because it can be done insidiously, there is always strong temptation to work a little shoddy into newspapers — to reward a friend or to get even with an enemy, or to give a little twist here or there that will please some advertiser. Smith has always been a good sort, why not just forget to report that he has been found guilty of drunken driving? That's playing with fire. For the safety of our streets, make an example of Smith and every drunken driver — even if he does take his advertising copy out. He'll be back next month."

"In brief, get out your paper for the reader and for him alone. He is the man who buys it, and he is the man whose patronage supports the merchants who advertise in it. He is the only person that counts. It need make no difference what anyone else thinks of your paper if the reader is satisfied with it and has confidence in it."

Parrish Sees One Flaw in Conference System

MEMBER Philip H. Parrish, editor of the editorial page of *The Oregonian*, adds this comment to a discussion of how to write editorials, in the September BULLETIN:

"After careful reading of the reports, I am moved to express the fear that our editorial departments may be concentrating too hard on avoidance of mistakes. My own experience is that an idea chewed over too long in conference, and by too many people, is never the same again."

Lee Hills Favors Five-Column Comics When Space Permits

FROM Member Lee Hills, managing editor, the *Miami Herald*, comes a postscript to last month's notes on what policies newspapers will or will not continue when space opens up again. Mr. Hills says:

"We'll keep and try to increase: Sharper editing of all news and features; the better selectivity which has eliminated a great many space-eaters. . . Simplified typography, elimination of needless decks, increased use of white space in heads and type. . . A hard-boiled policy of ruling out features and stories that interest only small groups and individuals."

"I think we'll go back to: Five column comic strips. . . More complete financial and business news, although we'll be more selective in the market tables than we were before the war. . . Better backgrounding of the news. (Our Sunday Editorial Magazine took one of the heaviest cuts). . . Regular use of a few top features which we are now forced to use only once or twice a week."

Proceedings Wanted

TREASURER David Lawrence is in search of copies of the problems of Journalism for 1923, 1924 and 1925 to fill out a set. None are in the archives. Can any early member of the Society recall when the printed Proceedings began? If the book did appear in those years, has anyone copies they are willing to relinquish to Mr. Lawrence? If so, please write him at the United States News, 2201 M Street, N.W., Washington 7, D. C.

THE BULLETIN

Of the American Society of Newspaper Editors

Knight Sets Lively Pace for Spring Convention At Board Meeting That Breaks Record for Activity



General Marshall was guest of honor and President Knight the host at a luncheon meeting of the Board in the Statler Hotel.

THE ANNUAL meeting of the Society in Washington next April will be three full days.

The decision was made by your Board of Directors in semi-annual session last month. And if the pace of that Board meeting arranged and directed by President Knight is any criterion, the spring event will move along at a brisk clip which will leave no time for the breath of air one member has requested. The Board, augmented at some sessions by guests and committees, met for two full days, through luncheons and including nine o'clock breakfast.

First place on the agenda was accorded convention plans. The traditional announcement at this time, that work has begun but the program is still in a nebulous state, is out of order this year. Erwin D. Canham has it on paper already, even to the time allotted for various discussions.

There will be an Army and a Navy luncheon, with outstanding

leaders. One round table will be devoted to the Editorial Page as such, and to a special problem of that department—syndicated columnists. Newspapers' share in hemispherical solidarity will have a spot on the program for the first time. The ASNE committee now working on world freedom of information will hold the spotlight at one session. Technical problems, anything from facsimile printing to reading difficulties will be considered under the heading of how newspapers can meet various challenges to their survival.

The banquet, of course, will hinge on the war. A feature will be the presentation of medals to the kin of war correspondents who have been killed and scrolls to the papers they represented.

This is only a summary. There is more, much more, on the tentative program, but Mr. Canham says he is still open to suggestions. His efforts from now on will be concentrated largely on

finding the speakers or discussion leaders, within or without the organization, who will do the most thorough and the liveliest job in any particular spot.

The date of the meeting will be announced next month.

Overseas Conferences Are Next Step in Work Begun by McGill Group

THE MAJOR decision made by the Board was to authorize President Knight to appoint a committee "to visit various world capitals to confer with the appropriate governmental bodies, press associations and radio executives, in order that the committee may acquaint these individuals and agencies with the aims of the Society and learn their views on the post-war freedom of information."

President Knight has since appointed the following to make the tour: Wilbur Forrester, New York *Herald Tribune*, as chairman; Ralph McGill, Atlanta *Constitution*; and Dean Carl W. Ackerman, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University.

A progress report on their plans is expected next month.

This project is the outcome of the work of the committee on world freedom of information headed by Ralph E. McGill, Atlanta *Constitution*. Seven members of that committee met with the Board in Washington, listened to Hugh Baillie, president of the United Press, who said that in his contacts with the heads of various governments abroad he found them receptive to the idea that there should be unhindered interchange of news among all nations after the war. Paul Miller, assistant general manager of the Associated Press, spoke in the absence of Kent Cooper, and gave an optimistic report on cooperation that might be expected from the United States government.

Society Represented In Move to Accredited Journalism Schools

A NEW member of the Society, a gentleman with a deceptively diffident manner, a Virginia accent and a penchant for distinctive neckties, aroused one of the liveliest discussions at the Board meeting. He is Richard Powell Carter, editor of the *Roanoke World-News*, chairman of the American Council on Education for Journalism and, as chairman of the ASNE Education Committee, our representative on the Council.

Mr. Carter was there to enlist the aid of the Society in setting up some system of accrediting schools of journalism with a view to raising their standards. While some schools are doing outstanding work, Mr. Carter said, a recent study revealed a deplorable overall picture which shows signs of getting worse unless some action is taken. The war, he said, promised for a time to eliminate "what we must call non-professional instruction" but, he added, there are signs the mushrooming process is beginning again.

His reference to a decision of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals last January that reporters and editors are not professional workers started the usual "Then what are we?" argument. Looking at the matter, as always, with undiluted realism, Tom Wallace said flatly "I am not a professional man." Dwight Marvin snapped back with vehement personal conviction, "Well I am." President Knight brought the discussion down to earth with the comment that leaving professional status aside entirely, there is still ample opportunity for the Society to take a worthwhile part in this movement purely as a means of improving academic standards.

The Board authorized Mr. Carter to collaborate in the possible establishment of the new program with J. N. Heiskell, *Arkansas Gazette*, as alternate.



Two Southern members who had never met became acquainted in Washington: Julian Miller, *Charlotte Observer*, membership chairman, left; and Richard Powell Carter, *Roanoke World-News*, Education Chairman.

Banquet Tickets Up To Meet Rising Costs

TREASURER David Lawrence reported to the Board that the Society has ample funds but that last year's convention did not pay for itself.

This was due only in part to the lavish tendencies of a past president from Kansas City. The Society now pays for the luncheons; the price to us of the banquet has increased; costs generally have risen. Consensus of the directors was that innovations inaugurated by Mr. Roberts, including the reception, are commendable and well worth repeating. The solution is to raise the price of banquet tickets to \$7.50.

Howard on the Job

NAT HOWARD took his new job, as press relations chairman, seriously. He held conferences, made himself available to correspondents wanting special information and was accountable for all the news that went on the wire, more than has emanated from any other Board meeting. He will continue in this newly created post, insuring a good press for the spring convention.

Fourteen New Members Approved by Committee Are Elected by Board

JULIAN MILLER, of the *Charlotte Observer*, appeared at the meeting briefly and submitted the names of candidates approved by the Membership Committee which he heads. By vote of the Board, the following were elected to the Society:

GEORGE W. POTTER, chief editorial writer, *Providence Journal and Bulletin*

WILLIAM J. MAHONEY Jr., managing editor, *Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser and Journal*

ERNEST B. HUNTER, managing editor, *Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*

W. D. MANSFIELD, editor, *McKeesport (Pa.) Daily News*

FRED W. BURGNER, managing editor, *Trenton (N.J.) Times Newspapers*

CLAYTON FRITCHEY, executive editor, *New Orleans Item*

GEORGE M. COX, executive editor, *Mobile Press and Register*

A. D. JONES, editor, *Greensboro (N.C.) Record*

CALEB J. KING, Sr., Editor, *Jacksonville (Fla.) Times Union*

ERNEST KIRSCHTEN, editorial page editor, *St. Louis Star-Times*

KENNETH S. CONN, editor, *San Jose (Calif.) Mercury Herald and Evening News*

JACK B. THOMPSON, chief editorial writer, *Chester (Pa.) Times*

C. J. HARKRADER, editor, *Herald-Courier and News-Bulletin*, Bristol, Va.-Tenn.

RAYMOND D. SILL, editor, *Bradford (Pa.) Publications Inc.*

Mr. Harkrader and Mr. Sill were elected under the provision permitting a limited number of new members each year from cities of less than 50,000 population.

Space Shortage

Text of resolutions adopted by the Board and other news of the meeting are held over for January. Contributions crowded out this month also will appear in that issue.

Columbus Member Says Correspondent Following MacArthur Really Goes to War

By ROBERT S. HARPER

AFTER a tour of the Southwest Pacific Theater of War, I have returned to my desk as managing editor of the *Ohio State Journal* at Columbus with greater admiration than ever for our sons and brothers who are facing the Japanese, but with a profound realization of the tremendous task that has been cut out for them.

It is with deepest humility, not in any sense trying to appear wise, that I say the average editor has not the slightest idea of what is going on "out there" until he sees it with his own eyes. I had watched the Japanese war closely, had read every word available on it, devoured books written by returned correspondents and the fighting men themselves and thought I had a fair picture of the war in mind.

But I was wrong; my ideas of the war before I actually saw it were indeed childish, I must confess. All I can say is—it must be seen to be appreciated.

However, I would not suggest for a minute that editors rush to Washington for war correspondent credentials to qualify for the trip. It is very rugged business, this coverage of the Japanese war, and unless you are about 25 or 30—and in top physical condition, ready to face anything in the way of hardships—just stay at your desk and let the younger fellows do the job.

Negotiations for credentials began months before I sailed. And don't try to take five shots at a time like I did—you may fall flat on your face after the last needle has been driven home.

You must remember, first of all, that the Japanese war and the European conflict are two separate and distinct affairs. They are being fought in worlds apart, under conditions as different as can be imagined. You cannot sit in a comfortable hotel in London or Paris and "cover" the Japanese war. The correspondent in the Southwest Pacific lives like a soldier; he eats and sleeps with

troops; that means chow lines and a bed on the ground at times. Of course, everything possible is done by General MacArthur's public relations staff to soften the path for the correspondent, but he is going to find it pretty tough.

Equally as dangerous as the ever-present peril from enemy action is the constant threat of tropical diseases, none of which is pleasant. There are hardships in travel, due to the almost fantastic distances. After 26 days aboard a freighter, I was put ashore in northwest New Guinea, the "end of the line." Inasmuch



A PORTABLE typewriter, a box of writing paper and a cigar are Robert Harper's equipment as he trudges over rough terrain near Lake Sentana in Netherlands New Guinea.

as my destination at that time was Brisbane, I still was almost as far from my goal as it is between New York and Panama. And that is looked upon as just a short hop in the SWPA.

In the 14 weeks I spent in the Southwest Pacific (San Francisco to San Francisco), I was able to cover Australia, all the main bases in New Guinea, including Netherlands New Guinea, and the Admiralty Island group and various other "stop over" places. But I was on the go most of the time and the mileage was phenomenal.

Correspondents in the SWPA have as their champion Col. Le-Grande E. Diller, chief of Public Relations for General MacArthur. He is a soldier, but my contact with him lent the belief that he is a war correspondent at heart; he heads a staff of public relations officers that works very closely with the correspondents. Never too busy to discuss any problem with a correspondent, he is a director as well as a mine of information. I have heard it said that General MacArthur regards the war correspondents of the SWPA as actual members of his staff.

There are all too few "big names" on the list of war correspondents in the SWPA. I would like to think that this is because the average reporter believes there is a bigger story for him in Europe. But, confidentially, I believe the European theater is just a little easier to cover and civilization with its comforts is never more distant than a couple or three hours by air. You really go to war when you follow General MacArthur.

Some of these days, publishers will awaken to the fact that there never was a more bizarre war fought than the one going on in the far reaches of the Pacific. When that day comes, the American people will stand dumbfounded at the accomplishments of our forces, for they will have a sense of appreciation that can come only with big scale publicity.

And to these same publishers and editors I say: Assign a young man to do this if you can find one.

McCrea Answers Dimitman's Charges Against Constitutional Government Group

By ARCHIE E. MCCREA
Editor,
The Muskegon Chronicle

THE PROTEST of Editor Dimitman regarding the "freedom of the press" reference in the communication of the Committee for Constitutional Government emits more heat than light. Also it seems inspired considerably more by partisan ardor than by any fear that the press is crying "Wolf!" when there is no occasion.

Even if the crusade of the Committee for Constitutional Government had been less objective and uninspired by partisan motives than it claims, even had it been inspired by a desire for the defeat of President Roosevelt, to whom or to whose candidacy it had made not the slightest reference, its challenge to the course of the House Committee on Campaign Expenditures as possibly involving "a question of great importance to the freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of petition," etc., was nowhere near as far-fetched as the House Committee's insistence that the Committee's redistribution of a Hearst editorial on the Supreme Court's insurance case decision was political activity, warranting insistence upon the disclosure of the source of its funds.

The Committee for Constitutional Government was organized eight years ago, before third or fourth terms were dreamed of. It has pursued a course of warning the nation against persistent encroachment by the administrative branch of our government upon the constitutional rights of its citizens. It has called attention only to what has been taking place. It was entitled to its interpretation of these events, even as are those who see in them no occasion for alarm.

If the fact that, after eight years, its course seems to lead athwart the fourth term candidacy of the President of the United States makes it a "political" organization and subject to

the disclosure of the source of its funds, then any educational organization dealing with the public affairs of the nation is subject to similar attack.

Subversion of the freedom of the press is the first step of totalitarianism, when it has overthrown constitutional government. It would be too late, then, for the press to raise a cry of alarm. It must be vigilant for the maintenance of constitutional freedom, or it and liberty both are lost, and eternal vigilance still is the price.

David Lawrence, our treasurer, in a thoughtful paper last spring,

demonstrated that, as a matter of legal fact, freedom of the press today in this nation hangs by a slender hair. If we lose it, it will be because of our own criminal negligence in not keeping the people informed. I am not insensitive to the danger of crying "Wolf!" when there is no wolf, but if we are to wait, as Mr. Dimitman seems to suggest, until there has been a direct attack, we shall be sunk. When that time comes constitutional safeguards will have been so far broken down it will be a sure bet.

Our first line of defense, the only one that counts, is the Constitution, and especially the Bill of Rights.

Pape Says Question Involves Invasion of Privacy

WILLIAM J. PAPE, editor-publisher of the Waterbury Republican and American, did not see the letter from the Committee for Constitutional Government which E. Z. Dimitman referred to last month but is familiar with printed matter which the committee has been sending out.

"The impression I have had right along," he writes, "is that the Committee for Constitutional Government is charging that the special committee to investigate campaign expenditures for the House of Representatives, of which Hon. Clifton P. Anderson of New Mexico is chairman, is invading the right of privacy. This is borne out by a copy of a subpoena served on Dr. Rumely on Oct. 19 last signed by Rep. Anderson. It calls on Dr. Rumely to appear before the committee and bring with him 'copy of a legal opinion rendered by the firm of Bromberg, Leftwich, Gowan and Schmucker, Dallas, Texas, delivered about June 1, 1944 to the Committee for Constitutional Government.' The Committee has apparently declined to comply with the subpoena and so would I.

"Has Representative Anderson ever read the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution? Does he think his committee can by sub-

poena ascertain what advice a citizen or a group of citizens has received from counsel?

"I do not know what mention Dr. Peale may have made of freedom of the press, but the committee is apparently fully warranted in protecting its files from unwarranted invasion.

"Mr. Dimitman regards the Committee as a political group having as its objective 'the defeat of President Roosevelt' . . . I have failed to find that the Committee is doing anything more sinful than trying to build up public opinion against certain administration policies and methods to which the Committee objects. This is still permissible under the U. S. Constitution unless this has been amended by administrative order."

Mr. Pape says he is considering investing 60 cents in a copy of the Bill of Rights, calendar size, printed in twelve languages in color with illustrations which the Committee offers to send postpaid anywhere. "I am thinking," he says, "of ordering a copy mailed to Rep. Clinton P. Anderson, Chairman, House Committee on Campaign Expenditures, to see if he can discover any justifiable offense therein."