

WHAT DOES CENSORSHIP LEAD TO?

An Editorial

In this week's issue of the Andover News we printed an Editorial in the "Hi Herald" that was brought in to us as part of the "Hi-Herald" news and signed by the Editor with the closing statement that: "It is my belief that we should support censorship".

This is in such direct contrast with our beliefs in our Democratic form of government which guarantees "Freedom of Speech", and "Freedom of the Press" in its Constitution that we felt compelled to answer her initial question: "What Do You Think of Censorship?"

First we would like to point out that if we followed her line of reasoning — and apparent belief, we would censor her Editorial — since it violently opposes our beliefs. And, we feel that we are the "authorized officials" of our own Newspaper.

However, since we DO BELIEVE in "Freedom of Speech", we printed her Editorial exactly as written since we feel she is entitled to express her own beliefs.

But, in reading, and re-reading, her Editorial, many questions popped into our minds why she would make such a broad statement and where her beliefs came from. Did she learn them at home? At school? From her environment? Or possibly from her friends? Does she know what censorship means — and what it could lead to?

What is censorship? According to the World Book Encyclopedia, Copyright 1964, U.S.A., in Volume 3, Page 259, it states: "Censorship is an effort by a government, or private organization to keep people from reading, hearing, or seeing whatever they please". It also goes on to say: "Some form of censorship over news always exists in a dictatorship, and in any country during war."

And the next question that arises is, if censorship who could be selected as a censor that would be impartial, unbiased, and intelligently qualified? And the only answer that we can think of is God!

What could — or would — total censorship lead to? Let's turn to the World Book Encyclopedia and see what they say about Communism.

In Volume 4 on page 724b it states: "We call Communism totalitarian because it is total in 2 ways."

(1) It controls and dominates all human thoughts and actions

(2) It uses any means to regulate every part of a person's daily life

IT HAS NO RESPECT FOR FAMILY OR FOR RELIGION!

Communism believes that a person must belong to his family, or to a religion and also be a good nationalist

Communism encourages any crime and any violation of human rights if the communist cause is aided

Then on Page 726a under the heading: "Communism and Freedom" it states: "Under communism, the government disregards the rights and freedoms of individuals."

Control of Speech Any person who speaks against a communist government may be imprisoned. Often, a person must actively praise the government if he wishes to avoid punishment.

Control of the Press, in a communist country extends to radio, television and all other means of public information. Communist governments control what writers say in books, magazines, and newspapers. Writers must distort or deny facts if these facts disagree with official policy.

Now, we ask YOU — as Americans — do you want a government, private organization, elected official, or public servant to keep YOU from reading, hearing or seeing whatever you please?

FROM OUR FILES

50 YEARS AGO

April 6, 1917

J. H. Backus, Publisher

About thirty friends of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Vars gathered at their home Tuesday evening for a surprise. A very pleasant evening was passed with music and a bountiful luncheon.

Jason A. Hunt, 87, died at his home Monday, April 2nd. Two sons and a daughter survive. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

As workmen were taking down the Miller Tabernacle on Greenwood Street Saturday, the frame of the building collapsed and fell, the timbers hit and injured R. A. Pease and W. Talbot.

Miss Esther Volke of Canistota is the new bookkeeper at Burrows National Bank.

Earl Rowland of Lima, has engaged work in Baker Bros. Hardware and has moved his family to Andover and are occupying the John Deming house on Pleasant Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nye of Independence are the parents of a son, born Saturday, March 31st.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Horan of South Hill, have moved to Andover and are residing on Greenwood Street.

Slocum Bros. of Andover have begun work on the new barn to be erected on the P. A. Dean farm on South Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dodge were weekend guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dodge of Tip Top.

Ed Carpenter left for Coffeeville, Tenn. last Wednesday, where he expects to engage in business.

Clyde Slocum visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Spencer of Alfred Station Sunday and Monday.

Ray Snyder returned home Wednesday after spending the week-end at friends in Washington, D. C.

Miss Lillian Warfield was Hornell visitors Friday. Miss Lillian remained in the city until Sunday night.

40 YEARS AGO

April 8, 1927

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Mr. George S. H. Smith has been elected by Secretary Hoover to be Chairman of a committee to conduct a Better Homes Campaign in Andover.

Prof. O. H. Simpson, who has been principal of Andover High School for the past two years, has tendered his resignation effective in June. The Board of Education has signed a contract with Prof. Alvin H. Dunbar of Whitesville to become principal of Andover High School.

W. F. O'Connell was elected President, B. B. Hann, Secretary and Archie O. Kemp, Chief of the Andover Fire Department for the coming year at their Annual Meeting Friday night.

Miss Dorothy Steenworth of Wellsville and Frederick Mulholland of Andover, were united in marriage Sunday, April 2nd.

A daughter, Betty Louise, was born, Monday, April 4th to Mrs. Gladys Rogers.

Miss Leola Baker, professor of French and English in Andover High School, has accepted a similar position with the High School at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McDonough, observed their 55th wedding anniversary Sunday. A company of friends came to enjoy the day. The Rogers Cheese Factory burned Monday night. The origin of the fire is unknown.

P. S. Clark arrived in Andover Friday from Florida, where, with his wife, he has been spending the winter at Bradenton.

Mrs. Carl Clarke of Independence is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howe of North Pougham.

R. Bailey of New York City is visiting his sister, Mrs. Frank Williams of Tip Top.

Mr. and Mrs. Flay Pease and Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Rogers were in Whitesville furnishing music for a dance, Tuesday evening.

Albany Insight

by Johannes Laursen



Sharing of Taxes

As states and localities have become increasingly hard-pressed for tax revenue, they have cast long eyes to the Federal treasury as a logical source of relief, partly because the Federal government has pre-empted the better revenue sources.

Both legislators and governor have turned to tax-sharing as an important remedy. Last month Governor Nelson Rockefeller said adoption of a Federal revenue-sharing plan "is, in my opinion, urgently needed and in the interests of national policy." He noted that it has won the hearty endorsement of the National Governors' Conference.

A Washington Matter

Most of the work to obtain a Federal tax-sharing system will have to be done in Washington, rather than in Albany or other state capitals, and it can safely be said that New York's Congressional delegation has been in the forefront of efforts to get support for enabling legislation.

A recent "Government Relations Workshop," sponsored by the National Newspaper Association gave ample opportunity to check on the prospects for new legislation in this field. In fact, revenue sharing was probably the most discussed domestic issue at the workshop, perhaps partly because of its newness.

In a sense, Federal revenue sharing has been practiced for a long time in the form of Federal grants for a multitude of purposes. However, this is "categorical" aid to be spent for an express purpose, approved by a Federal agency in Washington. The new proposals are for outright allotment of Federal money to states.

The Heller Plan

There has been sporadic talk about this for many years, and there may, now that the plan has achieved prominence, be some dispute about just who thought of it first. It did not, however, get serious consideration until it was boosted by Dr. Walter Heller shortly before he left the post of Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors in 1964. The proposal became widely known as the "Heller Plan" and a rash of bills have been introduced in both houses of Congress.

Dr. Heller's initiative lent a certain measure of bi-partisanship to the proposal. A few Democrats such as Senators Vance Hartke and Joseph Tydings, have been among the sponsors or co-sponsors but most of the push has come from Republicans, the Democrats perhaps holding back out of deference to the Democratic administration, which has been non-committal.

A luncheon speaker at the NNA Workshop, Representative Melvyn Laird of Wisconsin, one of the top House leaders, is a vigorous champion of tax-sharing, and wants to phase out the present grant-in-aid. Other proponents will keep a substantial part of the present setup and set the per capita revenue-sharing as an additional feedback to the states.

New York Sponsors

Senator Jacob Javits has been among those most interested in the subject, introducing bills both last year and this year. In the House of Representatives, Charles Goodell of Jamestown, chairman of the House Republican Committee on Planning and Research, introduced a comprehensive bill, which has caused considerable interest. Several members introduced the same or somewhat similar bills last year and this year among them, the following from New York: Seymour Halpern, Ogden Reid, Daniel Button, John Wydle, Paul Fino, Howard Robinson, Abraham Multer, Alexander Pirnie and Barber Conable.

Congressman Wydle, in introducing his bill last month, said, "It would end once and for all the unfair treatment of New York State in obtaining Federal funds. Our State often leads the country in new ideas. By the time the Federal programs granting aid to states are available, we have often finished the job without sharing Federal funds. Other states get help to do what we must pay for ourselves."

Governor and Mayor

There are really two considerations. One is to channel more Federal revenue back to the states. The other is to replace some or all of the grants-in-aid with Federal grants with no strings attached. The latter course has more of its sympathizers in the Republican party, where as the administration feels that most of the present programs should be maintained.

Admittedly there are many pitfalls, such as how to regulate the further flow from the states to local governments. Mayors from big cities have made it amply clear that they will often prefer to deal directly with Washington rather than go through the state capital. And under current budgetary conditions, strained because of Vietnam, prospects of more Federal money for the states are not good. Congressman Sam Stratton, for one, told members of the New York Press Association at the workshop that while he had an open mind on the subject, he did not see the practical possibilities this session. But, it is an issue that will be kept alive and will probably play a role in the next political campaign.

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