

WHY EDITORIALS?

Editorial writing is an interesting game. Sometimes it demands hours of preparation; sometimes the words roll out of the typewriter with little effort. Which editorial gets the results? It is difficult to say.

And here is the problem: How is an editor to evaluate what he has written, in terms of the reaction of his readers? When there is no response does this mean that the editorial is a failure?

Readers may be interested in what motivates an editor to write.

Editorials are not to satisfy the ego of the writer. Even though he may get a glow out of a compliment when someone agrees with him, he knows that there is someone else who is unhappy about his opinion.

Editorials are not to be agreed with. If everyone slaps you on the back you must have come up with a platitude which might as well have been left unsaid.

Editorials are not to preach. They are written to mature minds with the ability to think on their own. Who is the editor to set himself up as superior to his readers — to tell them what they should do and should not do? He is expressing only one man's opinion.

Then what are editorials for?

They are to stimulate thought.

They are to encourage people to crystalize their own ideas and ideals.

Many times the person who disagrees with an editorial is encouraged to think through his own beliefs and form an opinion he would not otherwise have bothered to arrive at. He is forced to defend his own convictions and thus gets on one side of the fence instead of riding the middle.

Editorials clarify opinion and inform. The editor may be wrong about an issue in most people's eyes, but most readers will grant him the right to his own opinion, and by understanding his, they can better understand their own.

So the editor doesn't expect to be slapped on the back for everything he writes; he can expect to make people think, he may persuade some. If he can only make people see the other side of the elephant, he has accomplished something.

If he gains the confidence of his readers to the point where he influences their thoughts and actions then his responsibility indeed is great. And woe be to the editor who uses his power for other than the greatest good to the greatest number.

A Few Grains of Economic Truth An Editorial

1. Nothing in our material world is FREE; nothing comes from nowhere or goes nowhere. Everything in modern economic life has a source, a destination and a cost. The cost may be cash, work, sweat, blood or tears.

2. Governments produce nothing. People produce everything. Everything that Government gives to the people, it first takes from the people.

3. The only sound money that Government can spend is money taxed or borrowed from the peoples' earnings. Other money spent is printing press money, savings and insurance.

A In our system of society all job security comes from customers. No customers, no sales commissions, no payrolls, no stores, no plants.

B. Plants must plan properly, employees must work properly, salesmen must sell properly — if one of the three fails the others all lose. Job security and profit security, then, are a mutual undertaking.

C. As costs rise, prices rise, unless productivity rise matches that of costs. If productivity doesn't rise we have the same situation that follows the Government printing of unsound money — INFLATION!

Thus if you are looking for "Something for Nothing", it just isn't there!

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50 YEARS AGO

May 31, 1918

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Miss Bessie Calhoun of Elm Valley and Leon C. Cannon of Elm, Ill., were married recently at Elm, Ill.

Patrick Casey of Elm is visiting his brother, John Casey of South Hill, whose condition remains the same.

Dr. L. N. Boston of Clarksville, N. J., is visiting E. R. Crandall of Independence.

Messrs. M. A. Crandall, E. R. Crandall, L. N. Boston, W. F. Clarke, Carl Chase and W. F. Clarke of Independence attended the Cabinet Sale at Pine Grove Farms at Elma, N. Y., this week.

Mrs. V. L. Egrieston has returned from several weeks stay in New York City.

Mrs. Sarah Burbank is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Burbank.

Mrs. Clara Crandall is on an extended visit with her nephew and friends at Denver, Colorado.

Attorney and Mrs. C. L. Earley returned Wednesday from a two days visit in Buffalo.

Mrs. F. W. Burrows went to Friendship Thursday, guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Donigan.

Miss Carolyn Hincer was in Elmira Saturday, called there by the illness of her niece, Miss Frances Freeland.

Mrs. Ralph Kemp has been called to Fort Wayne, Ind., on account of the serious illness of her mother and a sister of that place.

Leon I. Bloss and son, Lawrence of Sayre, Pa., were calling on Andover relatives and friends Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Bloss is doing a fine business at Sayre in the ice cream and confectionery line.

The teacher of Independence, Mrs. Bassett, and her students did themselves credit at the Tract Meet at Whitesville, Wednesday.

Rev. Paddock and John Crittendon of Whitesville, passed Saturday with V. G. Clarke of Independence.

Mrs. James Dean and children of South Hill were guests of her mother, Mrs. Garvin of Andover Saturday and Sunday.

Commissioner Howland is constructing this week, a new road on the badly washed out section of the Indian Creek Road.

40 YEARS AGO

June 1, 1928

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

P. J. Dougherty, 73, died Friday, May 25th. His widow, ten children and twin sisters survive. Interment was in St. John's Cemetery.

The 45th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Updyke was very happily celebrated Wednesday evening, May 30th when about sixty of their Grange friends family and neighbors gathered to congratulate them.

Thomas M. Lynch Post, American Legion, has just completed the laying out of their Legion Park and setting trees and shrubs therein, on the corner of West Greenwood and First Streets.

A. W. Robison and son, Alfred have purchased the Hunt Meat Market at Belmont. Alfred Robison will be in charge of the market and move his family from Andover to that village.

Clifford Howland, who has been attending Mechanics Institute at Rochester, has accepted a position in the signal department of the New York Central Railroad and leaves Saturday to begin his duties at Dumot, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis of Independence entertained at a variety shower in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Clark Thursday evening. About 175 were in attendance making the evening a very enjoyable one.

Miss Genevieve Clark closed a very successful year of school on Davis Hill with a picnic Friday. There were 57 present. A very nice dinner was served by the ladies of the district. John Mitchell of Springville,



...the State Capital has ... voting ... can ... but his ... genius ... of his few ... severe ... passed in ... be ...

A number of the Assembly ... which ... can be ... then out on the floor of the Assembly, where the ... was passed two years ago.

Travis was ... as well as ... at least ... it was before the Medicaid program was passed two years ago.

But, there is a price for bucking Travis. The collective price in this instance was \$115,000 a year. That is the price three Buffalo Assemblymen, Albert J. Hausbeck, Stephen J. Greco and John B. Lis paid.

Until recently, all three of these Democrats were chairmen of joint legislative committees. All three of these gentlemen also voted for the Medicaid cutbacks.

Lis was chairman of the JLC on Navigable Waters; Greco chairman of the JLC on Migrant Labor, and Hausbeck was chairman of the JLC on Conservation and Development of Equitable Use of Water Resources.

The past tense is used here because a week before the end of the 1968 Legislative Session, Travis abolished these three joint legislative committees.

The Lis committee had a budget of \$30,000; the Greco committee, \$35,000, and the Hausbeck committee, \$50,000.

Without denying that some of these committees actually do some work and even benefit the public, the fact is that they are patronage plums.

The accepted procedure is to appoint one or two acknowledged experts to the committee, then spend the rest of the money hiring people from the chairman's own district.

The secretaries hired by the JLC can also do work for the chairman. Thus is increased his ability to answer telephones, answer mail, send out newsletters and do all the other things legislators with big staffs do to keep voters in their district happy — and who in turn keep them (the legislators) in office.

Democratic Assemblyman Charles F. Stockmeister of Rochester did not vote for the Medicaid cutbacks.

Travis lumped the Lis and Hausbeck committees into a new committee, which he gave to Stockmeister — the fruit of loyalty in Albany.

Hausbeck, looking stunned when he heard what his Medicaid vote had cost him, was asked what he thought about it.

"What can you do?" he said. Not much of anything for a year or so, is the obvious answer.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Baker have moved from Pingrey Hill into the McCormick house on First Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stearns are the parents of a daughter born Friday, May 27th.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Riffle are the parents of a son, James, born Thursday, May 24th.