Largest General Weekly Newspaper Circulation in the Area THE UNION PRESS-COURIER

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Thomas A. Owens, Editor FRANK P. CAMMARATA THOS. A. OWENS JR.

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL

ASSOCIATION

Sustaining Member

The endeaver of the Union Press-Courier is to sincerely represent Org-nized tabor in all efforts to obtain economic freedom. Material for pub-lection must be signed by the write conomic freedom, Material for pub-ration in the press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of combined treulations of two largely-circulated weeklies and has a reader coverage and blankets Patton and the major mining towns in Northern Cambria

Some Matters In Retrospect

There may be some of our readers who agree with some of the things we write about in this column weekly, and there may be some who disagree. Anyhow, matter written here is only the editor's opinion, and we are just a single individual. In the recent election there were a lot of folks who took opinions of editors and columnists too much to heart and now are pretty well disillusioned.

Be that as it may. Early next month we will have rounded out 29 years on this newspaper. While our comment may have been mediocre at times, nevertheless we are proud of the fact that we have always maintained an editorial column, large or small, and that what has appeared in it was written by the editor. We never have believed in publishing "canned" editorials, meaning by that syndicated matter written by some self-styled expert and worded to suit the local theme.

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From time to time we have engaged in wordy battles with other amostly without a bit. Politing generally engendered such tiffs, and mostly without a bit. Politing generally engendered such tiffs, and an experiment of the weekly nempaper profession all wanted to see another prime with the death of the principle of the seed of the see

Perhaps one of the most publicized errors our editorial column has ever put forth was a story we wrote some years ago criticizing the "evils of reckless automobile drivers." While the story was written in the best of faith, you can imagine our chagrin when it appeared in type as "wreckless" driving. The late Walter Thompson was editor of the Ebensburg Mountaineer-Herald at the time and he took us for a good-natured "ride," and the line hit one of the national magazines.

There have been other typographical errors that have cause There have been other typographical errors that have caused the editor to be "kidded" quite a bit. One we particularly remember was on the occasion of a fire in a local church, and our own dear newspaper flashed the news on a first page headline that "The Church Had Beer On Fire"—the word "beer" having an "r" instead of an "n." This is one that our good friend Jack Simpson still reminds us about from time to time.

Then, too, our advertising columns have from time to time placed us on the well-known spot. Mostly it has been legal advertising that has been most troublesome. Back some years ago, and even to a lesser degree today, there has been a habit for husbands to publish notices telling the public that they would not be responsible for debts incurred by their estranged wives. On a couple of occasions we have been threatened with bodily harm by some male relatives of the wives, and once we had to get out of our shop to eliminate a big fellow slapping us.

We have had readers fail to understand that a newspaper must accept legal advertising, and once, when we published a Sheriff Sales list an irate subscriber dropped in the office and told us that there was no reason why we should tell of his financial difficulties. We have had many cases where folks wanted us to publish libelous stories about some neighbor, but didn't want any publicity themselves; we have had all kinds of suggestions from all types of people to publish this and that, and criticise the town council, or the school board, or some local official, but have found none of these who wanted to sign their names to written articles of criticism. It has always seemed strange to us of how hot and bothered some folks can be about their neighbors and expect the editor to be the goat. Twenty-nine years of being a country newspaper editor brings a lot of experiences, indeed.

Another constant battle of the local newspaperman is to stave off the many folks who want advertising for nothing, and that particular attempt is just as virile today as it has been all through the years. There are some folks who simply can't see that advertising is the source of revenue that keeps the wheels of our machinery moving. This is just as great a nuisance on a national scale as it is from the local standpoint. Daily our mail brings us all kinds of printed matter, with all the innocent appearance of "news matter," but which cleverly is nothing more than advertising. In fact there are some days that we could well toss a great portion of our mail into the wastepaper basket at the post office, and save the time and trouble of carrying it back to our business office.

In retrospect our business experience has been no different than that of other country editors. We have been engaged in most everything from giving advice to being a sort of recognized authority on matters pro and con. Some years back, there were groups who got into arguments over the town (we suspicion perhaps sometimes they were imbibling in liquid refreshments) who made a habit of calling us on the phone to settle some argument or other. Maybe it was some historical date, or the name of some official, or what year Patton had its best ball team, and without research of any kind on our part, we gave them some inaccurate answer and it usually was accepted as final. In late years we haven't been getting such calls.

We have had pleasures and embarrassments, tough assignments and gratifying recognition. In fact we have had so many different kinds of reaction that memory fails in all but outstanding events. In our reporter trips we have been in all kinds of situations, and we believe the most embarrassing of these was once, at an early hour on press morning, when we learned of the death of a man in an accident, rushed off to his home to get details for his obtitive, and earlied they have before his chiteral and the state of the contract of details for his obituary, and arrived there before his family had learned of the tragedy. We have been called upon help our friends in the execution of various legal instruments, even have witnessed some wills, and have been a sort of permanent person for "references" by folks seeking jobs, or perchance credit.

Through the years, too, particularly through the depre have accepted merchandise, farm produce, even a substantial payment on a motor vehicle, in lieu of a much more needed cash payment. We've probably been cussed and discussed at times. We've been praised and upraided. We've hurt folks feelings, too, no doubt, but we never really wanted to do that. We've given many favors of some magnitude for which we received no thanks. We've been encouraged by others for something we've written, or for some stand we've taken. The country newspaper editor has a lifetime of upen and we've taken. The country newspaper editor has a lifetime of ups and downs. But the most of us remain in our billowy profession—and



State Legislature **Potato Queen to**

Faces Numerous
Problems in 1949

"Tax-Anything' Law
Sure-Fire Argument
There will be plenty of problems—many of them financial before the 1949 session of Pennsylvania's Legislature. Gov. Duff has termed it the most important in recent Commonwealth history.

An area of agreement has been reached on one hot issue—work ers benefits. And a state building the reached on one hot issue—work ers benefits. And a state building the reached on one hot issue—work ers benefits. And a state building the reached on one hot issue—work ers benefits. And a state building will pay a visit three on Monds of Detroit.

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But a host of other pressing questions will go before the General Assembly, convening in Janu ary, without a solution in sight the restriction of Ponts of Commerce is assisting the real construction program, could be re-established without to much copposition.

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THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH ALL ITS RUSH BRINGS MANY DRIVING EMERGENCIES

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GIVE YOURSELF A GIFT OF "DRIVING PEACE OF MIND"



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Automatic Coffee Maker Makes coffee, brewed to your taste. Keeps it hot indefinitely while you prepare while you prepare meals or dine at leisure. 26.95



Safe for any damp application, New Brailway switch can be "read" in the dark. Washable cloth cover. 7.95



Cozy Glow Heater

Takes the chill from any small

Adjust-O-Matic Iron Lightweight...easy to use, 1000-watt unit for quick heat. Cool plastic handle. Available in 3 or 4-lb.weight. 11.95



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