

YOU KNOW ME
BY
Al, Himself

Editor of the Dallas Post,
Dear Sir:

We see that two persons disagreed with our column of January 27 sufficiently to cause them to write you about it. It was the column, probably, that we wrote in answer to the questions submitted by the American Press Association. There is no doubt in our mind that a whole lot more than two of the Post's readers disagreed with the answers we had to those questions. In fact, we mentioned, when we stated that we were in favor of "A federal system of compulsory health insurance", that we felt that we were quite alone on this opinion.

We also knew, or thought we knew, Mr. editor, that you did not coincide with our opinions entirely, particularly the side we took on the Taft-Hartley law, but that did not stop you from publishing our column, a fact that we appreciate.

We understand, of course, that the questions submitted by the American Press Association were sent only to editors of papers throughout the country and editors were the only ones who were supposed to answer the questions, but you, sir, in your column, printed those questions and invited your readers to answer them. We answered them as to how we thought, we did not answer them as to how we thought our readers were thinking. We are entitled to our opinion, and others are entitled to theirs, and as long as that continues in this country, we are satisfied with America and being an American.

We would be interested in knowing how many persons took advantage of your offer to answer the questions submitted by the American Press Association, as those questions are important, in our opinion, to the future conduct of the lawmakers of our country.

We realize, Mr. editor, that you have to be careful what you print. We know that, because once we were an editor of a weekly paper. We would print an item that we knew to be a fact; we would print a story sent in by one of our correspondents that we presumed was fact; the next week one of our readers would write that if we ever printed anything like that again he would cancel his subscription. We hope that no one goes as far as that in criticizing our column. Just let us know if they do, and we'll stop writing it as we don't want you to lose any business.

We enjoyed the writings of the two who did not agree with us about our column. We particularly got a kick out of our first critic when he mildly called your attention to those pasters on your editorials (something we have been talking to you about for two years) and when he said in a letter to last week's Post, "I never did like Al's column and this week disagree with all of it."

Now, there is a citizen we like. "He never did like our column," but yet he reads it, so Mr. editor that is all we want, just readers.

As to our second critic in which he states: "In reference to 'Al, Himself' in last week's issue. I do not think this gent represents the opinion of most of the back country folk . . ." Well, it wouldn't surprise us if we didn't represent anyone. In fact we never figured in writing these columns that we would have to represent anyone. We like the back mountain people . . . when the need is there . . . there are the back mountain people . . . but as far as representing them, gosh, no . . . they are fully able to represent themselves . . . the only one we represent is Al, Himself.

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