

The Mount Joy BULLETIN

MOUNT JOY, PENNA.
17552

Published Weekly on Wednesdays
Except Fourth of July Week and Christmas Week
(50 Issues Per Year)

11 EAST MAIN STREET, MOUNT JOY, PENNA., 17552
In the heart of fabulous Lancaster County

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Editor
and
Publisher



Subscription Rate—\$3.00 per year by mail
\$3.50 Outside Lancaster County

Advertising Rates upon request.

Entered at the post office at Mount Joy, Penna., as second class mail under the Act of March 3, 1879.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1969

WASHINGTON REPORT

Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman

16th District—Pennsylvania



Nearly everyone is aware of the tremendous power held by the news media. All elements of the media — newspapers, radio, television and magazines — play a big role in the shaping of public opinion. The business of passing along information to the public necessarily carries with it some ability to influence public thinking. In a republic, that ability is power because our national policy grows out of what the people think.

Most of the media are not abusing their power. Most try to do an honest job of presenting the facts.

In recent years, a concern has emerged about the use of this power of the press in the United States. Time and again, it has been proven that most people accept as true that which they read in newspapers and magazines, see on television or hear on the radio. But, what if the "truth" is slanted? What if some particular view point is elicited by the way in which the news is presented? What if, as in advertising, the media are used to sell a select group of ideals out of the many which are available? Such a condition certainly would seem to be an abuse of power.

Since I readily admit that the majority of newsmen are reputable, you might be tempted to ask why there is concern about the power of the press. The answer can be found in some disturbing signs which daily become more noticeable. One sign is the expanded use of the technique that I applied above — ask questions, imply wrongdoing, but never really prove anything one way or the other. Another sign is the increased preoccupation with the idea that the only big news is bad news. Still another sign, and perhaps the most disturbing one, is the willingness of the media to simplify every issue by dividing it into two unalterably opposed camps.

Just by raising questions, I may have implied that the news is not as honest as it might be. While that is a technique which has been used with some success by some national reporters lately, I don't mean to say that all the news is distorted.

I would like to pursue that third point a little because it's an important one. As you follow the news, you soon could become convinced that everyone has two sides and only two sides. The war debate has the hawks against the doves. The generation gap pits adults against youth. Each national issue seems to have only two extremes.

The trouble with that kind of news coverage is that it ignores two basic facts. First, decisions are most often

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EDITORIALS ---

Mount Joy has two parades each year—one for Memorial Day and one for Halloween!

And, it's hard to say which is the most interesting!

Each in its own way is a big event.

But Thursday night's event proved to be one of the best — either in daylight or dark.

The weatherman was as cooperative as it is possible at this time of year and the marchers and the crowds all were in fine form to parade and to enjoy.

Kids of all ages — big ones and little ones — entered into the spirit of the non-patriotic, non-religious event and with true pagan enthusiasm helped to usher out the summer and fall season and to set the stage for old man winter.

But, the idea here is to point out that parades do not 'just happen.'

Conceiving, organizing and stag-

ing a parade is a big big job and people with big big hearts must tackle the undertaking.

Actually, neither few people nor a small group can be responsible for a parade. It takes a big, enthusiastic and willing-to-work group such as the Mount Joy Lions to dream of a parade and to finally see it through until the last prize is awarded and the last band paid.

In fact, staging a parade is such a big job that it actually is necessary that the community become involved. From financing, to policing, to judging, even cleaning up the litter, a parade is for everyone in the community.

But, to the Lions, for their promotion of the parade and actually getting it on stage, we say thank you and we believe that the community as a whole believes that the Halloween activity is worth the effort.



If You Would Write --

Would you like to write to your state or federal representatives in Harrisburg or Washington? Here are their addresses:

FEDERAL

Sen. Hugh D. Scott, Room 260, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515.

Sen. Richard S. Schweiker, Room 4317, Senate Office Building, Washington D. C. 20515.

Rep. Edwin D. Eshleman, 416 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515..

STATE

Senator Richard A. Snyder, Box 21, State Senate, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.

Sen. Clarence F. Manbeck, Fredericksburg RI, Pa. 17026.

Rep. Harry H. Gring, Reinholds, Pa. 17569.

Rep. Sherman L. Hill, 201 Manor Av., Millersville 17551.

Rep. Jack B. Horner, 23-A S. Market St., Elizabethtown 17022.

Rep. Marvin E. Miller, 501 Valley Rd., Lancaster 17601.

Rep. Harvey C. Nitrauer, 125 South Street, Myerstown, Pa., 17067.

Rep. John C. Pittenger, N. West End Ave., Lancaster 17603.

Thought of the Week --

What is a home? It is a roof to keep out the rain. Four walls to keep out the wind. Floors to keep out the cold. Yes, but home is more than that. It is the laugh of a baby, the song of mother, the strength of a father. Warmth of loving hearts, light from happy eyes, kindness, loyalty, comradeship. Home is first school and first church for young ones, where they learn what is right, what is good, and what is kind. Where they go for comfort when they are hurt or sick. Where joy is shared and sorrow eased. Where fathers and mothers are loved & respected. Where children are wanted. Where the simplest food is good enough for kings because it is earned. Where money is not so important as loving - kindness. Where even the teakettle sings from happiness. That is home. God bless it.

—Ernestine Schuman-Heink

Last Line This Week ...

A young lady stepped into a drug-store and asked how to take a dose of castor oil without tasting it. The druggist said he'd look up some suggestions, but meanwhile, would the young lady like a refreshing lemonade

SWEETIE PIE



"There was a phone call—something about a sweepstakes ticket you had! I told him our tickets were for the basketball game and he hung up!"