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— Of, By, And For Kentucky Newspapers —

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Boat Trip Most Enjoyable - - Prizes Awarded

The following article from the Fal-mouth Outlook epitomizes the memorable boat trip of the summer meeting. Why look further?

The Kentucky Press Association met in sixty-sixth annual mid-summer session on board the Greene Line steamer Gordon C. Greene en route from Cincinnati to Ashland, Ky., and return on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 13, 14, 15. The meeting was one of the most unique ever held by the association. More than 112 persons were on board, including newspaper people, their families, and representative of various companies serving newspapers.

Following dinner at the Coney Island clubhouse on Thursday evening and a brief enjoyment of the resort concessions, the newspaper people boarded their boat and started up the beautiful Ohio in the direction of Ashland.

The first meeting of the association was held Friday morning with Augustus Robbins, of Hickman, Ky., presiding.

Lawrence W. Hager, of the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer, read the first paper on "What to Write and How to Write For the Editorial Page." This was followed by an address by Vance Armentrout, of the Courier-Journal. He spoke on "The Kentucky Columnists," or, as he added, "Columnysts." These two addresses were the thought-appetizers of the convention, in that they presented ideals, criticisms and some theory. Other addresses in the first meeting were more technical. They follow:

"Legislation Affecting Newspapers," by Keen Johnson, of the Richmond Daily Register; report on the golden jubilee meeting of the National Editorial Association at New Orleans by A. Robbins, president of the KPA. "Classified Advertising," by J. T. Norris and Mr. McCoy of the Ashland Independent; "Foreign and Local Advertising Rates and the Advertising Rate Structure," by George A. Joplin, Jr., of the Somerset Commonwealth.

The Ashland Business Men's Club met the steamer at the wharf Friday afternoon and took the newspaper men for a spin over the city, including a visit to the American Rolling Mills steel plant, the company which originated and patented the "continuous"

process.

Following the drive, a banquet was given by the Business Men's Club and the Ashland Independent at the Henry Clay Hotel. Colonel B. F. Forgy, publisher of the Independent, was toast master, and the City Manager, Mr. Webster, and the president of the club, Mr. Smith, delivered addresses of welcome, with responses coming from Mr. Robbins and other visiting editors.

Following the banquet, a floor show and dance was enjoyed, with Bill McKenney and his Kentuckians furnishing the music.

The Saturday morning session of the association began with a discussion led by J. L. Bradley of the Providence Enterprise on the subject, "The Place of Features in Producing a Newspaper." Then came reports of the newspaper contest committee by Prof. Victor R. Portmann, department of journalism, University of Kentucky, and presentation of the cups. Mrs. Thomas R. Underwood, wife of the editor of The Lexington Herald, spoke on "The Thoughts of an Editor's Wife." Wesley E. Carter of the Hardin County Enterprise, discussed "Schools of Journalism." Following this came "Experience of a Kentucky Newspaperwoman in Washington," by Miss Mildred Babbage of the Breckinridge News, Cloverport. J. P. Gozder, of the Campbellsville News-Journal, led a discussion on "The Curse of Free Publicity," and J. T. Lovett of the Murray Ledger and Times, spoke on "Circulation Building Methods."

Winners of the six prize contests, as announced on the boat trip by the contest committee, were closely pressed for high ratings and the editors deserve many compliments for their high standards as evidenced in the contests. The newspapers and their editors were:

The Somerset Journal, edited by Cecil Williams, was awarded a silver set. Other winners in the "best all-around newspaper group" were: Second place and certificate, The Shelby Sentinel, Shelbyville, M. O'Sullivan, editor; third place and certificate, The Hardin County Enterprise, Elizabethtown, Wesley E. Carter, editor; honorable mention, The Providence Enterprise, the Union County Advocate, and

the Lyon County News.

Winners and runners-up in the other contests were:

Best front page, first place and silver set, The Campbellsville News-Journal; second place and certificate, The Lyon County Herald, Eddyville; third place and certificate, The Providence Enterprise; honorable mention, The Shelby Sentinel, Shelbyville; The Somerset Journal, and The Hardin County Enterprise.

Best editorial: First place and silver set, J. P. Gozder, Campbellsville News-Journal, title "School Authorities to Be Commended"; second place and certificate, J. L. Bradley, The Providence Enterprise, title, "Public Works Projects;" third place and certificate, A. A. Daugherty, writer, Georgetown News, title, "Why Not a Four-Lane Highway From Georgetown to Lexington?" Honorable mention, Wesley E. Carter, Hardin County Enterprise; Albert Schumacher, Berea Citizen; Cecil Williams, Somerset Journal.

Best news story: First place and silver set, A. A. Daugherty, Georgetown News, title, "Jackson W. Showalter Dies After Long Illness;" second place and certificate, Lyon County Herald, Eddyville, editor, G. M. Pedley, title, "City's Long Fight Finally Won by Mayor's Efforts;" third place and certificate, Gus Robbins, editor Hickman Courier, title, "History Turns Up Under the Old Innoletum." Honorable mention, The Providence Enterprise, The Hardin County Enterprise, and The Berea Citizen.

Best advertisements: First prize, full page advertisement went to The Somerset Commonwealth, George A. Joplin, Jr., editor; honorable mention, The Lyon County Herald, Eddyville, and The Union County Advocate, Morganfield.

Half-page advertisement: First prize, \$5, The Union County Advocate, Morganfield, R. M. Munford, editor; honorable mention, The Somerset Journal and the Somerset Commonwealth.

Quarter-page advertisement: First prize, \$5, The Union County Advocate, Morganfield; honorable mention, The Berea Citizen and The Providence Enterprise.

In the new contest, for the best edit-
(Please turn to Page Three)

Kentucky Press

Official Publication of THE KENTUCKY
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VICTOR R. PORTMANN Editor
Jack Wild Assistant Editor

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REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE K. P. A., MID-SUMMER CONVENTION, JUNE 13-15, 1935

Whereas, The KPA is just completing one of its most enjoyable and companionable summer meetings in its long and illustrious history aboard the packet Gordon C. Greene, between Cincinnati and Ashland, and in the hospitable city of Ashland for the fourth time, therefore, be it resolved,

That all extend our thanks to all who have taken part in the arranging and carrying to such a happy conclusion, this unique meeting, brimful of inspiration, recreation and genuine pleasure; to the president and executive committee for their happy inspiration of the "floating convention" to the program committee for its thoroughness in covering the field of journalistic enterprise; to traffic manager, Mr. Kimbell, Captain White and the entire staff and crew of the steamer Gordon C. Greene, for their courtesy, graciousness and thoughtfulness beyond all anticipation in providing every comfort, convenience and service aboard their beautiful steamer.

That thanks be extended to Coney Island, Inc., and the Island Queen for the many courtesies extended to the KPA and for the service rendered, and that special thanks be tendered to the Louisville Paper Company for the handsome souvenirs distributed to the members of this party.

And, whereas, the hospitable citizens of Ashland, Ky., have extended to this association a most cordial welcome for the fourth time in its history, therefore, be it resolved:

That we proffer them, especially Col. B. F. Forgy, Dr. C. H. Parsons, and our former president, J. T. Norris, our eternal appreciation for their sustained hospitality that never wanes but waxes with the years, and that we especially record our gratitude to the Ashland Business Men's Association for the lovely banquet, dance and show given in our honor.

And, whereas, the Great Editor of the Universe has seen fit to call one of our pleasant, beloved and one of the most distinguished editors of our nation, Desha Breckinridge, since our last meeting, be it therefore, resolved that we bow our heads in reverent tribute to his memory as a true Ken-

tucky gentleman of the noblest character and achievement, and that the president appoint a committee to draft appropriate resolutions of respect to his memory and furthermore that we take solemn cognizance of the death of three of the outstanding editors of the weekly field, Jack Catlett of the Princeton Leader, John I. Brown of the Crittenden Press, Marion, and J. C. Purdon of the Maysville Independent, expressing to their families our deepest sympathies and sincerest condolences.

And, Whereas, the S. N. P. A. has honored a member of this association, Emanuel Levi, of the Courier-Journal, with its presidency, be it therefore resolved that the KPA express its appreciation of our fellow editors for their honor to Mr. Levi and that it congratulate him upon this distinctive recognition of his talents.

Whereas, the annual better newspaper contest has long been one of the outstanding features of four summer meetings, an incentive to better craftsmanship in each phase of our profession, therefore, be it resolved, that we express our thanks and appreciation to Prof. Victor R. Portmann, its guardian angel, and to the generous donors of the prizes, who have collaborated to make the contest such an enthusiastic success.

(Extract from Keen Johnson's address on "Legislation Affecting Newspapers")

Probably the most desirable additional state legislation which the Kentucky Press Association might sponsor would be a measure in accord with the resolution offered by Don E. Weaver, of the Covington Post, at the winter meeting.

That resolution, which was referred to the executive committee, is as follows:

Resolved, That the Kentucky Press Association go on record as favoring legislation permitting newspapers to report the subject matter of suits or allegations contained in suits filed in courts of the state, at the time they are filed and stamped by the clerk of the court.

And that the legislation shall include the privilege of reporting bona fide reports of public officials when filed with the proper authority."

Since Mr. Weaver called this matter to our attention there has arisen a circumstance which demonstrates desirability of an amendment to the libel law as suggested in his resolution.

The Lexington Herald has been made defendant in a libel suit filed by the county clerk in Harlan county, basis for the action being publication by that newspaper of a report of an audit by Nat B. Sewell, state inspector and examiner, submitted to the governor.

Suit Not to Be Pressed

The report was critical of the official acts of the official. He charges that accusations are untrue and that the newspaper is liable for damages because of injuries sustained. The story was filed on the night wire by the Associated Press.

If such a measure as is proposed by Mr. Weaver be enacted it will eliminate possibility of newspapers being annoyed, put to the expense of defending a damage suit for publication of such stories as that based on the Sewell report. The present governor has encouraged the state inspector and examiner to probe deeply in the annual inspections of all state officials and departments and counties with the thought that publicity would prove to be a corrective influence that would be helpful. The present state inspector has taken his task seriously and in many instances conditions which he has criticized in his reports have been corrected, or the practice assailed has been minimized as result of his reports. It is obvious that the newspaper publicity given these reports has been factors which has made the critical attitude of the inspector helpful. Not in the history of Kentucky has a state administration subjected itself, all officials and departments to the calcium glare of such critical publicity. Through reports of the state inspector the public has been given more detailed information about the status of state government than has hitherto been the practice.

But obviously this policy of correcting conditions through publicity can not be effective unless newspapers may publish such reports without fear of libel suits.

The last legislature enacted a measure which makes it mandatory that all counties install and adhere to a county budget. The act imposes on the state inspector and examiner the duty of making annual audit of each county to enforce adherence to the budget, promote the uniformity of budget practices and encourage economy. It is a law which it is estimated by the Kentucky Tax Reduction League will effect a total saving in the counties of three to four million dollars a year.

The inspector is releasing for publication these reports on these county audits almost daily. It was his report of an audit on Harlan county that resulted in the suit which was filed against the Lexington Herald. You gentlemen appreciate the fact that such a legislation as the county budget and audit act contain possibilities of great good in promoting more economical and prudent expenditures of county funds. You also realize that the effect of this act will be minimized unless it is vigorously enforced. And enforcement will be ineffective

unless newspapers may publish, without fear of libel suits, such findings as are disclosed in the report of the tate inspector as annual county audits are made. The recently enacted county budget and audit act makes it of increased importance that there be legislation which will make such findings as are contained in report of audits privileged for publication.

Press associations in a few states have successfully sponsored enactment of legislation which permits a newspaper man to lawfully refuse to divulge information given him in confidence. It has long been a tradition among newspaper men that they never violate a confidence when they have given their word not to divulge a news source.

In some states legislation giving legal sanction to this cardinal principle of newspaper ethics has granted reporters immunity from prosecution for failure to disclose identity of the individual from whom was obtained information on which was based newspaper stories. Such a law would have prevented sending to jail of newspaper men in two instances in Kentucky last year.

There exists the general impression that attorneys and physicians may not be required to disclose information given them in a confidential relationship with their client. I was surprised to find as I investigated that physicians are not granted this privilege as is generally believed. Carroll's Civil and Criminal Codes of practice contains the following on this point:

"No attorney shall testify concerning a communication made to him, in his professional character, by his client, or his advice thereon, without the client's consent; nor shall a clergyman or priest testify concerning any confession made to him, in his professional character, in the course of discipline enjoined by the church to which he belongs, without the consent of the person confessing."

That principle I found was a common law practice ages old. There is no state statute to that effect but it is a principle recognized as result of cen-

turies of usage in courts of the world. A legislative enactment would be necessary to include newspaper men in the same category. The opposition thart will be encountered will be based on the assertion that newspaper men are required to divulge the source of information only in instances where refusal to reveal such facts interferes with the administration of justice.

Perry Meloan, publisher of the Edmondson News, recently had an unusual experience. Sheriff in his county refused to comply with the mandatory provision of the statute that property may not be sold for delinquent taxes until the property has been advertised once a week for four consecutive weeks. I sought to aid him, securing an opinion from the attorney general to effect that the advertising is mandatory. The sheriff seeks to justify his refusal to advertise on the grounds that owners of the property to be sold for taxes have waived the publication provision. Whether such may be done is a matter for the courts to decide. I am of the opinion waiver does not abrogate provision of the law. It is a case that should be watched and effort made to prevent setting of a precedent in which those involved may waive publication. Delinquent tax payers would be delighted to prevent publication of their names as delinquents. If the principle be approved it will mean the end of this phase of legal advertising.

(Continued From First Page)

torial page, offered for the first time this year by the Shelby News, Shelbyville, Wade McCoy, editor, in memory of Ben B. Cozine, former prominent newspaper man, the first name to be engraved on the cup will be that of the Carlisle Mercury, Warren Fisher, editor. Honorable mention went to The Hickman Courier and The Somerset Journal.

Silver prizes in the contests were offered by The Lexington Herald, The Lexington Leader, The Louisville Courier-Journal and the KPA. The past president's cup was offered by George A. Joplin, Jr., Somerset.



Printers of Kentucky:

We appreciate greatly the courtesy you have shown our Mr. Weeks as he calls on you.

It is gratifying to learn that Ed must have gained your friendship, evidenced by the nice orders you have been giving him.

We in the house will do our best to back him up with good service.

Sincerely,
BUSH KREBS CO. INC.

By *[Signature]*
Pres.

The whole story of advertising has not been told successfully, it would seem, when the necessity for telling it in fundamental terms continues. That modern business men, apace with so many of the important factors of up-to-date business, should have to be told that they should make their advertising investment just as definitely as they budget their rent

TRADE LINOTYPE MARK

Editors Organize SPCRE

Another alphabetical combination has been brought into being by a large group of kind-hearted newspaper editors who have organized the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Readers' Eyes. Charter members consist of those papers that are set in one of Linotype's legible newspaper body faces—Ionic No. 5 or Excelsior.

These faces are designed to make newspaper reading as easy and comfortable as possible, and to reduce to a minimum the resulting wear and tear on the reader's eyesight. Membership is still open to all newspapers that can qualify by adopting one or the other of these readable body faces.

The movement has the hearty endorsement of oculists, optometrists, and others who are aware of the damage that can be done by continued reading of small, illegible type-matter—and who are keenly interested in anything that will make life easier for tired eyes.

Further information and full specimens of these more legible faces may be secured from the nearest Linotype Agency or from the representative in your territory.

8 point Linotype Excelsior No. 1

MERGENTHALER LINOTYPE COMPANY

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

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Canadian Linotype, Limited, Toronto

Representatives in the
Principal Cities of the World

TRADE LINOTYPE MARK

OBLIGATION

A FEW DAYS AGO the newspapers correctly reported that we are beginning a work program to improve and extend our service facilities at a cost of more than \$364,000.

Last month the papers correctly reported that we had, on May 1st, lowered electric service rates an average of 11.4 per cent in 134 communities.

We constantly strive to fulfill our obligation to pay a fair return to those citizens who have invested their savings in the business; to treat employes decently in the matter of wages and hours of work; to give customers satisfactory service at the lowest rates possible.

While none of our tax burden has been lifted and economic conditions remain uncertain, we have a stout faith in the future and we aim to do our full share to make Kentucky a more prosperous commonwealth.

On this basis we believe we merit your confidence and co-operation. Measure with the yardstick of common sense the economic fairy tales you hear these days. Remember they cannot come true in this hard world where in the long run every one must pay in full for what he gets.

Kentucky Utilities Company

Incorporated

AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES