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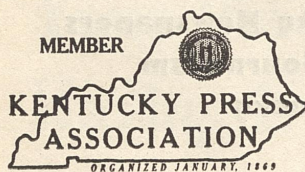
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PRESS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

JOE T. LOVETT, Murray Ledger-Times, President
JAMES T. NORRIS, Ashland Independent, Vice-President
LAWRENCE HAGER, Owensboro Messenger, Chm. Exec. Committee
J. CURTIS ALCOCK, Danville Messenger, Secretary-Treasurer



IN APPRECIATION

The members of the P. K. A. are grateful and appreciative to the citizens of Paducah for the splendid meeting that was held in their fair city. Every effort was made to extend all hospitalities to the visitors, and nothing was left undone to make their stay a pleasant one. Elliott Mitchell, the members of his staff, and the citizens committee indeed merits the thanks of all who were in attendance and the memories of that all-too-short visit will linger long in the minds of their guests. Paducah did itself proud!

SERVICE PLUS

All thanks are due Division Superintendent McBride and the Illinois Central railroad for the many courtesies extended to the Kentucky editors en route to and from Louisville and Paducah. The special cars furnished and the service that went with the cars, made the long trip pleasant and enjoyable. Especially are the editors grateful for the appetizing and toothsome complimentary luncheon given en route to Paducah. Mr. McBride gave his personal attention to attending to the comforts of his guests and it was to his untiring efforts that the trip was made a success. It was service plus and speaks for the years of success of that railroad.

News!! Let the Press have it if it concerns you and your fellow editors.

THE IRVIN COBB

Big in service as its namesake is in stature, the Irvin Cobb Hotel at Paducah stands as one of the leading institutions of its kind in Western Kentucky. Indeed, it would be a credit to a city many times the size of Paducah, and that city is justly proud of its hostelry, already becoming famous for service plus. Manager Quinn and his associates have found the happy faculty of making their building a home rather than a mere stopping place, and the success of mid-summer meeting was due, to a great extent, to the entertainment furnished its guests every minute of their stay.

JUST IN FUN

As punishment to Irvin Cobb for failing to attend the 62nd session of the Kentucky Press Association last week at Paducah, Cobb's home town, the printer who set the program for one of the luncheons typed his name as "Ervin Tobb" much to the delight of the newspaper workers. Then for having to work on such a hot day the compositor fixed up Joe Lovett's singers into the national pastime by making them "first base," "second base." They did not need the remainder of the team as they all made home runs while the meeting fanned.—Cynthiana-Democrat.

The history of your paper should appear in the Press. Your cooperation is requested and solicited. No limit as to words!

DELEGATES ENROLLED AT STATE PRESS CONVENTION

Following were the officially registered delegates at the 1931 meeting of the Kentucky Press Association.

A. J. Forrest, Lexington; Dorothy Leigh Harris, Henderson; O. W. Wagner, Louisville; S. M. Saufley, Richmond; Brainard Platt, Louisville; Young E. Allison, Louisville; W. J. McBride, Louisville; F. B. Wachs, Lexington; Prof. Victor Portmann, University of Kentucky; J. Guy Cook, Morgantown; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Rives, Morgantown; D. E. Creal, Hodgenville; L. G. Barrett, Hartford.

Joe Costello, Cynthiana; Martin Dyche, London; Mr. and Mrs. Herndon J. Evans, Pineville; Mr. and Mrs. J. Curtis Alcock, Danville; Miss Korean Alcock, Danville; Miss Jane Hutton, Harrodsburg; Miss Mary Hutton, Harrodsburg; S. V. Stiles, Louisville; Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Elkin, Lancaster; Urey Woodson, Owensboro; L. W. Hager, Owensboro; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Towles, Danville; Cecil T. Williams, Somerset; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hubley, Elizabethtown.

Col. Harry A. Sommers, Elizabethtown; Miss Virginia Marriott, Elizabethtown; Charles M. Meacham, Hopkinsville; J. T. Norris, Ashland; Mr. and Mrs. A. Robbins, Hickman; Joe Richardson, Glasgow; Miss Corinne Lowry, Murray State College; Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Moore, Fulton; Mr. and Mrs. John S. Lawrence, Paducah; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lawrence, Cadiz; Paul F. Cox, Chicago; Warren Fisher, Carlisle; Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Beamer, Louisville.

Tom Wallace, Louisville; Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Paxton, Paducah; Mr. and Mrs. Elliott C. Mitchell, Paducah; J. C. Utterback, Paducah; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O. LaGore, Paducah; H. R. Chandler, Barbourville; Mr. and Mrs. John T. Ross, Paducah; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Olds, Benton; A. E. Stein, Clinton; E. P. Dawes, Benton; Vernon Richardson, Danville; William S. Murphy, Berea; Miss Pat Harris, Henderson; La Mar Bradley Providence; Mr. and Mrs. Howe Sadler, Louisville; Mrs. Hattie Clark Goff, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Mrs. Eugene Spragens, Lebanon; D. B. Spragens, Lebanon W. L. Nofcier, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. W. W. Johnson, Princeton; S. O. Catlett, Princeton; A. W. Jones, Princeton; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Alverson and children of Harlan.

George H. Goodman, Paducah; Lloyd P. Robertson, Lexington; Miss Louise Davis, Murray; J. I. Brown, Marion; Raymond Wallace, Nashville; Moses Glenn, Dawson Springs.

Miss Shipman: What was the greatest thing about George Washington?

Anthony: His memory. They erected a monument to it.

Minutes Of Mid-summer Meeting

The sixty-second annual mid-summer association was held in the Hotel Irwin meeting of the Kentucky Press at Paducah, June 25, 26 and 27, 1931, and was attended by over one hundred editors and members of their families from various parts of the state.

The Illinois Central railroad company provided a special sun parlor car for the editors from Louisville to Paducah on Friday, June 25th, and gave the party a delightful luncheon on the train, which left Louisville at 12:01 o'clock noon, arriving at Paducah at 6:05 p. m. Citizens of Paducah met the train at the station in automobiles and took the editors to the Hotel Irwin Cobb, headquarters of the meeting. After registering of delegates, the editors were entertained at a local theatre and musical concert.

The first business session was held Friday morning, June 26th, being called to order at 10 o'clock by the president, Joe T. Lovett, of the Murray Ledger and Times Dr. N. R. Bell, pastor of the First Christian church of Paducah offered the invocation.

The address of welcome was delivered by E. C. Mitchell, editor of the Paducah Sun-Democrat, who is a very interesting manner extended a hearty welcome to the editors. Mr. Mitchell read telegrams from Irvin Cobb and Senator Alben W. Barkley, expressing regret upon being unable to be present. Mr. Cobb could not attend on account of business engagements and Senator Barkley was in a hospital an account of being in an automobile accident.

The response to the address of welcome was delivered by President Lovett, who also made a very interesting address, expressing the thanks of the association for the welcome extended and the hospitality shown the editors. Mr. Lovett read letters of greetings from Senator Barkley; former President of the K. P. A., Lew B. Brown, of the St. Petersburg, Florida, Daily Independent; the Kentucky Children's Home Society, Editor Geo. A. Joplin, of the Somerset Commonwealth, and Dr. Rainey T. Wells, president of the Murray State Normal School.

Editor A. Robbins, the Hickman Courier, president of the West Kentucky Press Association, in a brief and interesting address, welcomed the editors to western Kentucky in behalf of the editors in that section of the state. He spoke of the many interesting points of interest in western Kentucky.

Young E. Allison, of the Insurance Field, Louisville, one of the older members of the press of the state, attended the meeting and following the address of Mr. Robbins was called

upon for a talk by President Lovett. Mr. Allison spoke in a very interesting and entertaining manner about the editors of forty years ago, mentioning in particular Urey Woodson, Harry A. Sommers, and Chas. M. Meacham, who were present.

Editor Robert L. Elkin, of the Central Record, Lancaster, and Secretary J. Curtis Alcock, Danville, made reports of the National Editorial Association convention held June 1-4 at Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Elkin spoke first and said he was disappointed in the attendance at the N. E. A. convention, but greatly enjoyed the occasion. He said the secretary would make a more detailed report of the convention.

Secretary Alcock read a report of the N. E. A. convention, mentioning the number of topics discussed and resolutions adopted. He gave as "high spots" in the resolutions adopted the following: Opposed government competition by the government; endorsed co-operation with the schools of journalism and better appreciation of practical problems of newspaper business; endorsed circulation audits and cost accounting; condemned all moves to reduce advertising rates; approved abandonment by moving picture companies of sponsored advertising films; suggested that all advertising media be given the same legal status on libel, slander, blue sky, promotions and lotteries, etc.

A letter from W. L. Daley, Washington representative of the National Editorial Association, to the secretary relative to the radio as a competitor of the newspapers was read. The letter gave some interesting facts in regard to activities of the radio corporations not only compete with newspapers in the advertising field, but in the news field as well.

The president appointed Warren R. Fisher, A. E. Stein and J. M. Alverson on the resolutions committee.

R. L. Elkin offered a motion, which carried, directing the secretary to send a telegram to Editor J. M. Allen of the Cynthiana Democrat, who was ill, expressing regret upon his illness and wishing him a speedy recovery.

W. L. Nofcier, director and permanent chairman of the Kentucky Division of the White House Conference of Child and Health Protection, made a brief talk in the interest of his work and asked for the cooperation of the state editors. Following his address President Lovett appointed the following committee to work with Mr. Nofcier: Judge Robert W. Bingham and Tom Wallace, Louisville; W. Vernon Richardson, Danville; Dan Bowmar, Versailles; D. M. Hutton, Harrodsburg; Albert Shumacher, Berea; Herndon J. Evans.

Pineville, and J. T. Norris, Ashland.

S. M. Saufley, of the Inter-Southern Life Insurance Company, spoke of the advantages of the group insurance, which is taken by a number of publishers in the state.

E. C. Mitchell, of the Paducah Sun-Democrat, read the address prepared by Senator A. W. Barkley, who was on the program, but could not be present on account of being injured in an automobile accident a few days before the meeting. The address was a most interesting one.

Paul F. Campbell, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who was in Paducah conducting a "Better Business and Advertising Institute," under the auspices of the Paducah Sun-Democrat, addressed the meeting, having for his subject "The Importance of Selling Your Advertiser Something Besides White Space." His talk was quite interesting and of special interest to advertising managers and publishers present. Mr. Campbell suggested organizing advertising clubs in each community.

Friday at noon a most delightful luncheon was enjoyed by the editors at the Hotel Irwin Cobb as guests of the Western Press association, Pres. A. Robbins, of the Hickman Courier, presiding. The menu was excellent and the program an interesting one. Editor Herndon J. Evans, Pineville Sun, Editor Tom Wallace, Louisville Times, and Editor Henry Lawrence, Cadiz Record, made interesting talks. A feature of the program was the music, including a violin solo by Prof. Buell Agey, of the Murray State Teachers' College, accompanied by Miss Evelyn Eaves, and singing by a male quartet from the Murray College, Dean Dowdy, first tenor, Stum Wells, second tenor, Harold Bird, first bass, R. T. Parker, Jr., second bass, Mrs. Connor, accompanist.

Following the luncheon program, President Lovett took charge and held the afternoon business program. Col. Urey Woodson, of Owensboro, delivered an address on "The Good Old Days," which gave some interesting history of the past forty years in Kentucky journalism. Colonel Woodson was president of the Kentucky Press association in 1890, being succeeded by Colonel Harry A. Sommers, of Elizabethtown, at Paducah in 1891. Colonel Summers was succeeded as president by Editor Chas. M. Meacham, of Hopkinsville, in 1892 and all three of these well known and beloved newspaper men were on the program to talk on Kentucky journalism in the past forty years.

Mr. Meacham followed Colonel Sommers delivered his address on "The Past Forty Years" at a banquet given by the Paducah Sun-Democrat Fri-

day evening. All three addresses were very interesting and enjoyable and efforts will be made to print them in the minutes of the association, thereby preserving some past history of the Kentucky Press association mentioned by the speakers.

The secretary was directed, at the suggestion of Colonel Woodson, to send a telegram of greetings to Editor John D. Babbage, of the Cloverport News, who is one of the oldest members of the press association. Upon a motion of Colonel Sommers a telegram was sent Senator Alben W. Barkley, who was in a hospital at Parkersburg, West Virginia, and could not fill his appointment on the program.

The banquet given by the Paducah Sun-Democrat was held on the roof of the Irvin Cobb Hotel, Editor Elliot C. Mitchell being the toastmaster. Colonel Sommers and Major James G. Wheeler, of Paducah, were the speakers. A dance followed the banquet dinner and music was furnished by Jan Garber's famous orchestra.

The last business session of the meeting was held Saturday morning, June 27, it being called to order at 9:30 o'clock by President Lovett, who first introduced W. J. McBride division passenger agent of the Illinois Central railroad company, who had shown the editors many courtesies. Mr. McBride was greeted with applause and made a short talk.

Communications from John Babbage, Cloverport, and Harry J. Meyers, of Bush-Krebs Co., Louisville, were read. Mr. Meyers' son was recently drowned accidentally and the secretary was instructed to send a telegram expressing sympathy of members of the association.

Prof. Victor R. Portmann, of the of Kentucky, Lexington, chairman of Department of journalism, University of the newspaper awards committee, made a report of the prizes and extended invitation to hold the next winter meeting at the university in Lexington.

Professor Portmann made an interesting talk on the value of the newspaper contests and read of the report of the judge, Dr. B. Wise, teacher of journalism at Centre College, Danville, which was as follows:

Danville, Ky., June 22, 1931.—To the Committee on Awards of Prizes, Kentucky Press Association—Gentlemen:

"All papers submitted in the Front Page Contest show high excellence. Absence of minor defects therefore, must determine the winners. For skilled news-writing, concise headlines that find the news facts, ranking of stories according to news value, artistic pattern in make-up:

1. The Corbin Times-Tribune, Silver Pitcher.
2. The Marion Falcon, \$10.

3. The Commonwealth, Somerset, \$5.
Honorables mention: The Union County Advocate, The Carlisle Mercury, The Anderson News and The Twice-a-Week Leader, Princeton.

"First prize in the Best Editorial Contest is awarded for constructive thinking on a matter that vitally concerns all citizens of the state:

1. If I Were Governor—A. A. Bowmar, Woodford Sun (Silver Pitcher)
2. Can Taxes Be Reduced?—Warren Fisher, Carlisle Mercury \$10.
3. Continued Discrimination—Keen Johnson, Richmond Daily Register \$5.

Honorables mention: Time to call a Halt, J. L. Bradley Providence Enterprise; The Major Nuisance, D. B. Spragens, The Marion Falcon; More Grass—Less Murder, Herndon J. Evans, Pineville Sun; A Serious Problem, A. Robbins, Hickman Courier; Testing the Cows, W. D. Grote, Big Sandy News-Recorder, Louisa.

"Best Advertising Composition:
Full Page—Union County Advocate, \$5; Honorable mention: The Marion Falcon, The Carlisle Mercury, The Ohio County News, The Anderson News, The Kentucky Standard, Bardstown.

Half Page—Union County Advocate, \$5; Honorable mention: Princeton Twice-a-Week leader, The Marion Falcon, Kentucky Standard, Anderson News and Carlisle Mercury.

Quarter Page—Danville Daily Messenger, \$5; Twice-a-Week Leader, Ohio County News, Marion Falcon, Henry County Local and Anderson News.

The News Story:

1. Sterling Towles, Danville Daily Messenger, \$15.
2. J. L. Bradley, Providence Enterprise, \$10.
3. James A. Miller, Richmond Daily Register, \$5.

Honorables mention: D. B. Spragens, Marion Falcon; E. D. Mittendorf, Russell Times; J. L. Crawford, Corbin Times-Tribune.

1. The Carlisle Mercury (Silver Pitcher and Goblet).
2. The Marion Falcon, (10)
3. The Anderson News, (\$5)

Honorables mention: Corbin Times-Tribune, Paintsville Herald, Berea Citizen, Somerset Commonwealth and Big Sandy News-Recorder.

"Inspection of the grades on all newspapers entered in this division of the contest will indicate that no department of a paper, such as general news, farm news, editorial, can be neglected by any editor who would attain a high average rating.

"All papers of the K. P. A. have made marked improvement since 1927; some of them have attained metropolitan excellence. Such papers are the ultimate stronghold of democracy, and their editors are our best patriots.

Sincerely yours,

"B. A. WISE"

Following the awarding of the prizes Editor J. T. Norris, of the Ashland Daily Independent, conducted a round table discussion of newspaper problems, including the radio as a competitor of newspaper advertising. Several editors took part in the discussion, some saying the radio is a competitor in advertising, while others said the radio is not injuring the newspapers. Sentiment against the use of free radio publicity was expressed by all. Other topics were also discussed.

President Lovett appointed Mr. Norris, J. M. Alverson, of the Harlan Daily Enterprise, and Fred Wachs, of the Lexington Leader, a committee to make an investigation of the radio problem and report at the next meeting of the association.

Editor J. M. Alverson then read the following resolutions, which were adopted:

RESOLUTIONS

We, the members of the Kentucky Press Association in convention assembled at the 62nd annual mid-summer meeting in the delightful city of Paducah, do hereby resolve:

We are deeply grateful to the citizens of Paducah, members of the W. K. P. A., and the Paducah Sun-Democrat for the wonderful hospitality extended to our association during our meeting here, despite the handicap of unusually hot weather.

We extend our thanks and appreciation for the courtesies extended to us by the Illinois Central railroad, and especially do we voice our appreciation to Mr. W. J. McBride, division passenger agent, for his interest and enthusiasm during our journey to and from Paducah.

We congratulate ourselves for the inspiring presence and fellowship of our "youngest" members, Urey Woodson, Harry Sommers, Young E. Allison, and Charles Meacham, and hope that our meetings for years to come will be enhanced by their active participation.

We congratulate our president, Joe F. Lovett, and his fellow editor, "Gus" Robbins and their associates in the W. K. P. A., for their splendid program and its successful completion, and their wonderful luncheon.

We wish to thank Manager J. E. Quinn and his associates for the many courtesies extended to us during our visit to The Irvin Cobb, and congratulate the city of Paducah upon the possession of such a splendid hotel.

We extend our especial thanks to John Lawrence, former president of the K. P. A., for his untiring efforts in making our visit one of ease and pleasure from start to finish.

We thank the management of the Lakeview Country Club for the many courtesies extended to us on links

and pool.

Last, but not least, we extend our hearty thanks and appreciation to Elliott C. Mitchell and individual members of the Paducah Sun-Democrat for their untiring efforts for our comfort and pleasure, for the banquet and everything that has contributed to make our stay the most pleasant.

We also express our thanks and appreciation to Prof. Enoch Grehan, head of the department of journalism, University of Kentucky, to the Lexington Herald, Lexington Leader, and the Courier-Journal and Times for contributing the prizes in the various newspaper contests.

We further resolve that the K. P. A. does heartily endorse the work and aims of the Kentucky Division of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection and will gladly co-operate in every way to further the movement in the state.

WARREN FISHER

A. E. STEIN

J. M. ALVERSON

COMMITTEE

TO IRVIN COBB

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Whereas, the sixty-second convention of the Kentucky Press Association is meeting at the birth place of Irvin Shrewsbury Cobb, and

Whereas, during the years since the Association convened here he has risen, of his own efforts and deserving, to the highest place in journalism and letters, reflecting the greatest honor upon our beloved profession, and

Whereas, within the week of this convention he has reached another milestone of his distinguished life, and

Whereas, it is our mutual good fortune that his mother still lives to love and inspire him to yet greater achievements,

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved by the Kentucky Press Association in sixty-second convention assembled, That this association with justifiable pride and deep gratitude salutes Irvin Shrewsbury Cobb as its most distinguished fellow craftsman and acknowledges his great contributions to the ideals, the achievements, and the honors of journalism, and recognizes the outstanding distinctions as journalist, humorist, and versatile author he has conferred upon the Kentucky Press, the Old Kentucky Home and the Nation.

Be it further resolved, That this association, as an expression of its gratitude and appraisal, enroll these resolutions upon its permanent records and present a copy thereof to Mrs. Manie S. Cobb, mother of her and our illustrious son, together with a tangible token suitable to the sentiment and occasion.

Following the adoption of the resolutions, W. L. Nofcier, of Asbury

The Bowmars and the Woodford Sun of Versailles

By Margaret Cundiff

The Woodford Sun, now in its sixty-second year, was founded in January, 1869, under the name of The Woodford Weekly, and has been published continuously since its origin in Versailles, Kentucky, the Woodford county seat. For fifty-one years of its existence The Sun has been in the hands of the Bowmar family, and is at present owned by the Woodford Sun Company, which has as its president Mr. Daniel M. Bowmar, and as secretary-treasurer, Mr. Aitcheson A. Bowmar. These two brothers, who have served their community through the Sun, have co-edited the paper since the former was sixteen and the latter eighteen years old.

The Woodford Sun is one of the few existing old style "Blanket Sheet," four large page editions now published in the newspaper field. For some time the editors attempted to issue the usual eight page edition, in smaller size, but returned to the old form after finding that their subscribers preferred to "have it all when you have it in your hands," as Mr. Aitcheson Bowmar explains. In defense of the style of the paper he says:

"It is all right to take the city dailies apart, one member of the family reading one sheet and one another. Probably no one reads any issue of a daily through. But the subscribers to a community weekly usually have a personal interest in everything it contains, and they want to read it all. Also, they like to find things in the same place every time. Very few weeklies print the pages at once, like a daily, and their news frequently gets scattered."

Clarence Greathouse whose destiny and romantic life were yet ahead and Capt. Henry C. McLeod, two young Versailles lawyers, established The Woodford Weekly in January, 1869, as has been noted, and published the paper regularly until the end of that year, when they sold it to J. D. Hill, a newspaper man. Greathouse then went to San Francisco, where he gained for himself an enviable renown as the editor of the San Francisco Examiner, at that time under the control of Senator George Hearst. He also won the reputation of being a most brilliant lawyer at the San Francisco bar, and after five years of work on the Examiner, in

1885 resigned the editorship to accept an appointment of consul general from the United States to Japan, at Yokohama.

When President Harrison succeeded Cleveland, Greathouse was continued in office, so fine was his diplomatic record. However, in 1890, as a result of a deep friendship with his Majesty, King Ni-Kung, of Korea, the former editor of the Examiner and The Woodford Weekly, resigned to become postmaster general of Korea. Although Korea has since been annexed by Japan (1910), it was then an absolute monarchy, and Greathouse, as his intimacy with the King grew, wielded more and more power. He was made a general, and when he died, in 1899, so deeply was His Majesty touched that the erstwhile editor was buried with highest military honors in the Royal Cemetery at Seoul. His mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Greathouse, 80 years old, was accompanied from Korea across the Pacific to San Francisco by a native high official.

J. D. Hill, after publishing The Woodford Weekly for some years, turned it over to his son-in-law, J. J. Hayes. It was from Mr. Hayes that Mr. Dan M. Bowmar bought the paper in February, 1876. Since the first months of its publication, Mr. had been a regular subscriber to The Woodford Weekly, even when he moved from Versailles to Chicago, where he was established as the executive head of a Chicago fire insurance company. His health suffered from overwork and in 1875 he returned to his birthplace to regain his strength. His love of work and never falling instincts, however, led him to purchase of the newspaper, an outlet for his energy.

Finding the duties of editorship so pleasant, and not particularly arduous in those days, Mr. Bowmar so far recovered his health that in 1877, he sold the paper to Mr. Ben Deering, editor of the Midway Sun, who moved to Versailles to take over the editorship, and who changed the name of the publication The Woodford Sun. Mr. Bowmar then returned to Chicago. Mr. Deering sold The Sun to Sam C. Field, a young Versailles lawyer, who published the paper until his death, at which time his brother, the late Willis W. Field, took his place. From out of dusty files the words of Willis Field still speak of a decided literary talent and an unusual mode of expression which left a decided impres-

College, explained the child health movement and thanked the editors for offering support.

President Lovett announced that a prize would be awarded to the person

writing the best story about Hotel Irvin Cobb, after which the mid-summer came to a close.

J. CURTIS ALCOCK,
Secretary.

sion upon the people of the county and upon the paper as a whole.

In December, 1881, Mr. Field sold the paper to Mr. Dan M. Bowmar, who had come back to Versailles to make the life of the journalist his own. On January 2, 1882, Mr. Bowmar once more took charge of The Woodford Sun, and since that day it has never left hands of his immediate family.

Mr. Bowmar's valuable training in business stood him in good stead, and whereas most other country editors were concerned with the writing side alone, he made of the newspaper a financial success as well as an important voice in Kentucky's community journalism. So well did he instill his own excellent business methods and so well did he imbue his two sons, Aitcheson and Dan Jr. with the ideals and ethics of the profession, that when in later years ill health again took his strength, they were able to take full charge of The Woodford Sun, although only boys in their 'teens.

"We had three good reasons for remaining in business we grew up in. We loved the newspaper business, we loved Versailles and Woodford county, and we loved each other, and were not willing to part for any business advantage. The friendship and confidence of the people of Woodford is a reward which cannot be estimated in money."

To quote him further, from an article which appeared two years ago ("The story of a Country Newspaper"), in The Sun on occasion of its sixtieth birthday:

"The best type of newspaper cannot be 'launched' like a ship, nor 'started' like an automobile, but it must grow, like a human being, through the successive stages of childhood, youth, and maturity. This is true of all newsmen in their communities. Dan and I received very definite training in editorial policies from our father, but even after we had mastered them, they had to be assimilated by The Sun as well, for the paper, though edited by us, has a personality of its own, acquired by growth.

"The newspaper which finds itself through growth will have a soul, a character and principles, in addition to a definite personality, formed by, yet in some respects different from, the personality of its editors.

"While the type of weekly newspaper Dan and I have tried to build must be strictly impersonal—yet at the same time having a personal interest in the joys time it must be intensely personal, and sorrows of its people, and not simply a newsgatherer's interest.

"When the impersonal attitude and the deeply personal interest conflict too sharply, then a country editor who is trying to do his duty suffers much distress.

"We never publish the sordid details of any wrong doing. One of our resolutions was to follow in our father's

footsteps and publish an absolutely clean newspaper—a paper for every member of the family—a paper from which no one, young or old, could receive harm.

"One of the most important policies of The Sun is our constantly increasing effort not to color the news with our own opinions, but to save those opinions of the editorial columns and for 'The Country Editor's Thoughts.'"

"Yet we disagree with that large number of newspapers which devote themselves entirely to publishing the news and which seem to have no opinions. The expression of editorial opinion is one of The Sun's most important departments, and we feel that without this a paper, no matter how excellent its news facilities or its typography, has thrown away one of its greatest opportunities not only for usefulness, but for holding the interest of its readers.

"These, as I have said, are our aims, not of course, fully lived up to. Like Paul, we count our selves not to have attained, but we press forward and will do so until that day comes when we lay down our pencils, and the final judgment of the people we love to serve is passed upon our record."

These aims, as stated, have been ever before the eyes of the two editors, and their paper has profited by its unbiased and progressive views, as well as its firm stand for betterment of their community. With such a code of ethics, and such earnestness in their work, these two men, Daniel and Aitcheson Bowmar, deserve admiration and respect for the greatest contribution they have made to community journalism in the state.

From the first, when the two boys took over the joint position of editing the paper, they indebted themselves to no one, in order that The Sun might not be obligated to certain interests, thereby signing away their independence in news columns and editorial pages. At that time, in the era of personal and party biased journalism, it was an unwritten rule of editorship never to criticize or speak with disapproval of anyone or anything connected with the political party which the newspapers backed. If one showed definite tendencies toward the Democratic party, as did The Sun, then the very name of the Democrats was sacred unto itself.

This code of ethics the two youthful editors soon discarded, and made of their paper one of the first Kentucky publications to speak freely and with non-partisanship in its columns. Having accepted no favors, they were not wont to give them except where they were rightfully deserved. This they carried even into their personal lives, because they felt themselves so closely bound with the ideals of The Sun.

Thus can we account for the popularity and growth of the Woodford Sun. With the banner of truthfulness,

unbiased viewpoint, personal interest in their subscribers, favoritism and personal gain for none, cleanliness in the news, faithful service for the readers and the people of their community, ever standing before them, Aitcheson and Dan Bowmar have set a worthy example to the hundreds of weekly newspaper editors throughout the country, whose besetting sins might be found in the lack of just these same ideals.

In a day when a few weekly newspaper men recognized the duty of community service which is particularly dependent upon them today, Daniel Bowmar, Sr., taught his sons the importance of this service, holding it paramount before them in their work with the newspaper. The father started the first business men's organization in Versailles almost fifty years ago, and kept it going with unflagging interest in its behalf until his death. This project his sons attempted to revive when it became defunct after its founder had passed away; they have found it to be spasmodic in existence, however, and needs constant agitation to keep it alive.

Versailles then had no railroad and could be reached only by stagecoach or private vehicle. Mr. Bowmar's (Sr.) activities both in the paper and in his own work, had much to do with bringing into Woodford county its first railroad, meaning that Versailles might progress and stand on equal basis with the other towns of its size in the state.

He found that the county infirmary was literally unfit for human beings, and by continual hammering through the pages of the Sun, and by appearing personally at the fiscal court (then the court of claims) persuaded the authorities that the matter was a disgrace to the county; consequently the present county farm was purchased and a decent brick house built. The Sun can also claim full credit for the erection of a modern structure replacing the wretched old stone jail, once in use in Versailles. Now a new crusade for another building adequate to house the prisoners has been started by the paper.

One of the more recent pieces of constructive work that the paper has accomplished, is its fight for a new high school building with modern equipment. Not long ago, both graded school and high school classes were held in one inadequate, poorly equipped building on South Main street. Feeling that to arouse the proper interest and response in the people of Versailles that he must give them full and accurate information as to what other towns the same size as Versailles had in the way of housing and teaching of students. Mr. Dan Bowmar (Jr.) spent some of the money of The Sun to travel in Kentucky towns such as Georgetown, Nicholasville, Paris, and others of their size, in order to

present his readers with constructive ideas as to what they must do to measure up to educational standards. Working with the board of education upon the experiences and information he had gained, the end was reached and the goal won.

The Sun also aided in the fight for pure water, waterworks, and good sewerage, and was successful. So far, however, they have fought in vain for the employment of a county agent. Endeavoring to serve the whole county, and not only the town, they wanted to make the farmers see the importance of expert advice on agriculture.

These projects are mentioned as a few examples of the crusading spirit in the interests of the people of Woodford County which has characterized The Sun. It has always stood ready to make right what has been found done wrong; the paper owes much of its present popularity in being independent and able to stand aside from petty politics. In some instances of attempting to encourage city progress, when the paper met with opposition, it has not found the fight easy, and has not always won, but it has usually been in the right.

The Sun's equipment is very good, and the shop takes great pride in the quality of printing that it puts out. The presses now in use almost equal in value the entire plant as it was in the early days of its founding. The expense of the mechanical end of the paper makes necessary good business methods, and in this part of the work Mr. Aitcheson Bowmar shoulders the responsibility.

Thus stands the foregoing brief record of some bits of the history of a country newspaper, striving ever to find and give the best, to the people of its community. It acts as intellectual food, it gathers its readers into the close bonds of personal news, it guides in civic endeavor, it amuses and instructs and furnishes information—therefore it fulfills its place in the lives of its subscribers. Interwoven in very phase of the life of The Sun one may see the lives of the three members of the Bowmar family who have stamped their personalities upon its pages. To them The Sun owes its very being.

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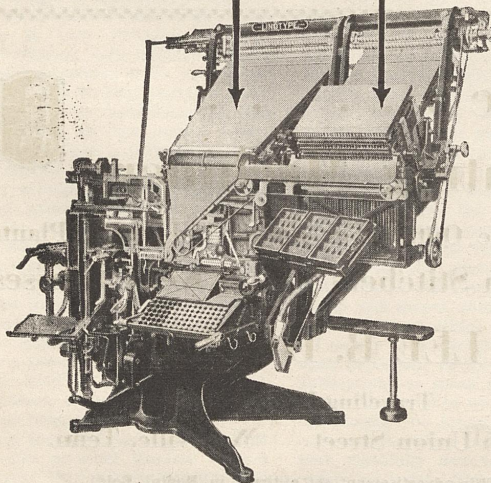
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