

Atrocity Stories Confirmed by Editors' Group

Testimony of U. S. editors and publishers was added this week to that of correspondents in the record of horror in German concentration camps. At the request of General Eisenhower, a group of newspaper executives was flown to Europe a week ago to see for themselves the atrocity stories which their reporters had been sending back.

Dispatches filed by the inspecting committee this week followed one pattern: The stories and pictures which U. S. newspapers have been publishing are true. Excerpts from their reports:

Pulitzer Believes

Joseph Pulitzer, editor of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — "I came here in a suspicious frame of mind, feeling that I would find that many of the terrible reports that have been printed in the U. S. were exaggerations and largely propaganda, comparable to reports of crucifixions and amputations of hands which followed the last war and which subsequently proved to be untrue. It is my grim duty to report that the descriptions of the horrors of this camp (Buchenwald) have given less than the whole truth. They have been understatements."

Julius Ochs Adler, vice-president and general manager of the *New York Times* — "What I have seen is worse than any battlefield. The story of Buchenwald has been told, but it cannot be told too often to the people of the U. S. The skinny corpses of Buchenwald should remind us of what the loss of freedom entails."

Norman Chandler, publisher of the *Los Angeles Times* — "My purpose is merely to testify as to the accuracy of the American correspondents—they have told the truth. They have not exaggerated. Exaggerations, in fact, would be difficult."

Ineradicable Impress

L. K. Nicholson, president and editor of the *New Orleans Times-Picayune* — "The only way to get an idea of the horrors of the Buchenwald concentration camp is to picture yourself as an inmate. . . . The look in the eyes of these prisoners, once seen, is something that will bring such a deep impression into your brain it will never be erased."

Malcolm W. Bingay, editorial director of the *Detroit Free Press* — "Torture, starvation, mass burnings and mass lynchings of thousands of wretched captives, young and old, are only a part of the horrible story." He tells of the millions walking over Europe . . . "wandering seemingly without direction, seeking the only thing that to them matters in life now . . . home . . . wondering as they walk whether any such place exists."

Reporters Entertain

While covering the news at the front, American war correspondents are adding their share to the entertainment of troops overseas, the American Red Cross reports. At a clubhouse deep in the Burma jungle, Frank Martin of AP, Hugh Crumpler of U.P., Deton Brooks of the *Chicago Defender* and the *Negro Press of America*, and Graham Peck of the OWI staged a "Behind the News" program on the war recently.

Navy Awards Purple Heart To McMurtry

Charles H. McMurtry, former chief of the Honolulu bureau of Associated Press, received the Purple Heart May 1 for wounds suffered aboard the original carrier Hornet in the Solomons in October, 1942.



McMurtry

The presentation was made in San Francisco by Rear Adm. Carlton H. Wright, commandant of the 12th Naval District.

McMurtry suffered severe burns about the hands and face when the Hornet was hit during the battle of Santa Cruz and exploding gasoline showered the flight deck. The veteran writer recovered sufficiently to rejoin the U. S. fleet and report the decisive engagement off Savo Island Nov. 30.

McMurtry's work brought him the administrative post at Honolulu, where he headed the AP's Central Pacific staff. He returned recently to become a war editor on the San Francisco cable desk.

New Jersey Resolution

TRENTON, N. J., May 2—Gov. Walter E. Edge recently signed a legislative resolution urging delegates to the San Francisco Conference to adopt a compact guaranteeing world-wide freedom of the press. Among those at the ceremony was Fred W. Burgner, managing editor of the *Trenton Times* and chairman of the New Jersey Associated Press.

J. N. Kelly Moves

TORONTO, May 2—J. N. Kelly, who for the past three and a half years has been national publicity director for the Canadian Red Cross, is joining Cockfield, Brown & Co., Ltd., as an account executive. Before joining the Red Cross, he was for eight years editor of the *Vancouver (B. C.) News-Herald*.

Williams Made Executive Editor In Worcester

WORCESTER, Mass., May 1—The resignation of Joseph C. DeWolf as associate editor of the

Worcester Telegram and Gazette today resulted in the appointment of M. H. Williams, managing editor of the two papers, to be executive editor, and a series of other staff changes. The changes were announced by George F. Booth, editor and publisher.

Mr. DeWolf will remain in the employ of the newspapers, Mr. Booth said, with no formal duties to perform until his health improves sufficiently to permit his taking a regular position.

Francis P. Murphy, formerly Telegram news editor, was promoted to managing editor of the Telegram, and Ayton F. Smith, formerly news editor of the Gazette, was given the post of managing editor of that paper.

Carl W. Erickson, Telegram city editor, became Telegram news editor; Kermit K. Kingsbury, Telegram day city editor, became Telegram night city editor, and Walter Merkel, Telegram reporter and feature writer, became day city editor.

On the Gazette, William F. Holland, city editor, became news editor, and Charles H. Chambers, assistant city editor, became acting city editor.

Mr. Williams will have supervision over all the news and editorial content of the two newspapers as the direct representative of Mr. Booth.



Williams

Headline Error Jumps Gun on V-E

ST. JOHNS, Ariz., Apr. 30—Residents of this small northern Arizona community have already read the V-E edition of the *St. Johns Herald-Observer*.

While there is an error in the headline, "Victory in Europe Is Here"—it was meant to read "Victory in Europe Is Near"—Publisher Isaac Barth said most of the criticism has been favorable.

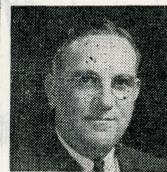
When copies of the V-E edition (Apr. 14) reached offices of newspapers in Phoenix, newspaper men figured that out-of-the-way St. Johns had got the radio announcements of President Roosevelt's death mixed up with the surrender of the Germans, but a talk with Publisher Barth gave a different light.

"We had all the pictures of the boys from Apache County serving in the armed forces, so we decided to print the V-E edition and get it over with," he said. "The people of the county kept asking when it would be published, so we let them have it."

"The headline should have read, 'Victory in Europe Is Near,' but it read 'Victory in Europe Is Here,' and we didn't get around to changing it."

Ad Rate Raised

Effective July 1, the national advertising rate of the *Frederick (Md.) News & Post* will be raised from five to six cents a line.



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Political Bill Killed

MADISON, Wis., May 2—By a voice vote the Wisconsin state senate has killed the bill which would have required newspapers to print the authorization and cost of space statement, now required with political advertisements, with editorials supporting the candidacy of any individual.

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