Master Editor-Publisher

Merze Marvin Seeburger

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest

Part of the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation

Seeburger, Merze M. "Master Editor-Publisher." The Palimpsest 48 (1967), 39-40.
Available at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest/vol48/iss1/7
Master Editor-Publisher

More years piled up. Fifty years an editor and Charley Marvin received his greatest honor — the Master Editor-Publisher of the Iowa Press Association. Marvin was prouder of that award than he would have been of a million dollars or a seat in the United States Senate.

Marvin kept on going until he was slowed by a wobbly heart. But even a heart attack was something new to write about in his Easy Chair:

Doctors and women are Queer.

Especially the women. After a man has lived with a woman for forty or fifty years you would imagine he would be able to know all there is to know about the species, but it is not so.

You have perhaps been coming home regularly every evening to be greeted something like this: "Say, Big Boy, where have you been? Playing golf? Well, if you need exercise you can mow the lawn or dust the car, or maybe tie up the rose bushes."

Then all at once something happens and you get a solar plexus blow and pass out of the picture temporarily. Maybe it's a car accident. Maybe you met up with Joe Louis. Maybe you got in an argument with a New Deal Democrat when you should have tackled something easy. Or maybe you just got upset and dizzy.

That's the way it happened with me. The last thing I remember was wanting to sit down in the Court House at
Clarinda. There wasn't any chair handy. Then I heard a woman screaming, "Help, help, Man overboard," or words to that effect. . . . When I came to I was holding a first class reception in the clerk's office. I was the center of the stage at the Court House for the first and only time in my life. . . .

Marvin recovered but gradually eased out of the more strenuous jobs on the paper. He sold the controlling interest in the Sentinel-Post Co. and turned over the management to younger men. He still wrote the Easy Chair editorials. He was never too old or too tired for that.

A real country newspaperman never loses his instinct for the good news story. He never forgets to write of what is happening around him. "The printer's ink just won't wash off your fingers," Marvin explained.

And so it was when he lay in the hospital speculating on what lay beyond the pearly gates, he greeted the nurses each morning with "What's new today?" and demanded to be propped up in bed. There he wrote his last editorial, on "Illusion or Delusion," but alas, the compositors could not decipher it.

Marvin wrote "30" on his last copy, July 8, 1941.

The Sentinel continues under the direction of Willard D. Archie, who was publisher for many years and now serves as president of the Sentinel Publishing Company.
Company E Goes at 6:40 Sunday

Soldiers Entain in the Morning on Special Leaving Shenandoah For Camp Dodge

Company E will leave at 6:40 o'clock Sunday morning by special train for Camp Dodge ready for Mexican duty. The train will start from Shenandoah over the K & W, pick up the band at Clarinda and join the special train at Villisca. The Burlington special will arrive in Des Moines at 1 o'clock and will bring the companies from Red Oak, Corning, Glenwood, Villisca, Shenandoah, Creston and the band from Clarinda.

The rousing farewell for the departing soldiers will be given as planned by the mayor, C. A. Wenstrand, and the Commercial association.

Secretary of War Baker has issued orders to all army departmental commanders to send to Mexican border all militia available immediately upon their organization without waiting for completion of the mobilization of the separate states. It is thought the Iowa troops will be sent to the border soon after their mobilization.

Seventy-six men had enlisted this morning to go to Camp Dodge under direction of Captain Howard Ross and Lieutenant Merle McCunn and Lieutenant Ray Cleaveland. Other men will be recruited. The required number was sixty-five but volunteers are still joining.

Earl Ferguson, attorney, who accompanied Company E in August to Camp Dodge and later to the coast as war correspondent for several newspapers, will make the speech to the boys in the morning. The business people and the residents are urged to respond with patriotism in the morning and be at the depot to bid the Company E men Godspeed.

The seventy-six who will go from Shenandoah are:

Captain: Howard W. Ross
First Lieutenant: Merle McCunn
Second Lieutenant: Ray Cleaveland

Sergeants:
- George Greenway
- M. E. Beach
- E. W. Chase
- George Criss
- Elmer Wilbur
- Ben Nealy, Jr.

Corporals:
- Hugh McKeen
- Vernie McCunn
- Roy W. Pear
- Charles Hamilton
- Robert Pond

Cooks:
- Russell Collins
- Robert Collins
- H. Harris
- M. True

Musicians:
- George O. Arnold
- Arthur Ashbaugh
- Guy D. Adams
- Charles E. Ashmore
- Paul Burham
- John H. Bettis
- George L. Bush
- Oscar Brown
- Ralph R. Chase
- Ernest E. Clark
- P. Clabaugh
- Floyd Dutcher
- Floyd Doty
- George Early
- Pierce Flowers
- Morris E. Glass
- Charles B. Gilmore
- Elmer Grimm
- Clifton Grimm
- Robert George
- Arthur Haines
- John E. Hensley
- V. M. Irby
- Lee James
- Grover Knight
- Odie V. Knight
- Harry Kendall
- William Leady
- Henry A. Miller
- Rollo Miller
- Fred Mitchell
- R. McKay
- W. McKeen
- Arthur B. Nye
- Andrew Nelson
- Lawrence Neal
- Charles Naeser
- Roy Proctor
- Fred Ratliff
- Floyd Roberts

(Continued on page 2)