

THE EMPORIA GAZETTE

DAILY AND WEEKLY

W. A. WHITE, EDITOR AND OWNER

W. E. HUGHES, MANAGER

EMPORIA, KANSAS

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Mr. W. C. Simons
The Journal-World
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Simons:-

I am interested in this Associated Press controversy between the Hearst papers in Baltimore and Rochester and the publishers of The Sun and The Evening Sun and The Times-Union in the two towns, but I am only interested as a country editor who sees with anxiety the growing influence of Mr. Hearst in the Associated Press organization.

I believe the evidence entitles me to the opinion that Mr. Hearst does not play our game. The ideals of the Associated Press, as I understand them, do not seem to interest him. Certainly insofar as there is a tacit gentlemen's agreement among the members of the Associated Press to treat each other's territory with respect, it seems to me he may be fairly said to be interested more in the prosperity of his own publications than he is in maintaining the integrity of the ideals which have been established after thirty years of hard and expensive fighting - much of it against Mr. Hearst himself.

Therefore, I feel a personal interest, as a member of the Associated Press, in using my influence to see that wherever Hearst buys into the Associated Press - and he only gets in by buying in - he has never been voted in - that when he buys in a big town he shall there meet with some member of our association whose professional character is such that we know he will respect our ideals.

The publishers of The Baltimore Sun and The Rochester Times-Union are men of our kind. Give each of them a vote and a membership in the Associated Press, and they will offset the two votes that Hearst has, which I feel ultimately may be used to the disintegration of our entire Association.

Now let us consider Mr. Hearst's relation to the Associated Press historically.

When the whole fabric was in peril in 1899 through a decision of the Illinois court, declaring the then organization a common carrier, an entirely new organization was formed in New York and the members of the Illinois corporation were invited to join in this new effort to protect their mutual rights. This organization has been eminently successful, and has doubled in size and increased in efficiency many fold.