

Period of Self-Examination Ahead for Press: Aynsworth

The American press has entered a period of self-examination, in which only one set of standards must be applied, Newsweek bureau chief Hugh Aynsworth of Houston said Monday night.

"We in the business—newspapermen, radio and television newsmen and magazine writers—must think things through and ask ourselves 'Am I being totally fair, totally objective and responsible?'" he suggested at the 17th Texas Junior College Press Association conference.

The banquet speaker said the press is in the throes of a strange malady.

"It's distrusted for its mistakes, which are beamed, broad-

cast and printed for all to see," said the writer who investigated New Orleans district attorney Jim Garrison.

He recalled that at one time newspaper and radio news were accepted as the absolute truth.

"This isn't true today," Aynsworth reminded more than 250 participants at the three-day TJCPA conference. "And it's healthy not to believe everything you hear or see."

He observed that his saying the media is in trouble is a relative thing. The American news-gathering and reporting system is the best one going, Aynsworth pointed out.

The former Dallas newspaperman views fairness, objectivity

and responsibility as the only criteria by which journalists can operate. Reporters must not allow personal desires to taint their work.

"The 'Saturday Evening Post' is gone because it took freedom with facts. Some publications and newspapers exist solely by the grace of having no competition," he warned.

Severely criticized for his role in reporting Garrison's investigation of an alleged conspiracy in the death of President Kennedy, Aynsworth believes a great many innocent people have lost prestige, community standing, money and the right to hold a job through the New Orleans attorney's activities.

"Learn to write good copy and headlines, edit and interview," he admonished the junior college journalists.

"But for goodness sake, accept and exercise the responsibility so you can sleep nights, wake up and say, 'I've done my job.'"

McLennan, Odessa, Pasadena Win TJCPA Sweepstakes Honors

McLennan Community College of Waco and Odessa College joined Pasadena's San Jacinto College as sweepstakes award winners of the Texas Junior College Press Association.

Awards for top publications in newspaper, yearbook and magazine areas were made Tuesday at the 17th TJCPA conference here.

Odessa College's "Branding Iron" received the first place plaque for the best yearbook, according to Dr. David R. Bowers, journalism professor and contest director. The "Branding Iron" garnered top marks in theme-continuity and copy.

"The Carillon" of Tarrant County Junior College in Fort Worth and Temple Junior College's "Templar" were accorded second and third sweepstakes places. Tarrant County won the

yearbook sweepstakes last year and Odessa was second.

"The Clan," McLennan College publication, was judged the top magazine with firsts in graphics, copy, photography and general excellence. Del Mar College of Corpus Christi placed second with its "Viking Voyager" and San Jacinto's "Perspective" claimed third place.

Awards for previously announced newspaper winners also were presented. The first place plaque went to San Jacinto and Howard County Junior College of Big Spring won second. Tarrant County (South Campus) and Tyler Junior College tied for third.

The three-day conference attended by more than 250 students and faculty of 25 state junior colleges concluded with the awards banquet.

53,233 Degrees Granted By University Since 1876

Texas A&M has conferred 53,233 degrees during its 93-year career, reports Admissions and Records Dean H. L. Heaton.

The total does not represent individuals, since some students earn two or more degrees, Heaton pointed out.

Included in the 1876 through August, 1969, figures are 8,439 advanced degrees. Texas' oldest public university has awarded 1,233 doctor of philosophy and 57 doctor of education degrees, plus 68 honorary doctorate degrees.

Advance degree figures include 4,079 master of science and 1,463 master of education awards.

The College of Engineering led all other Texas A&M colleges with 17,862 bachelor degrees conferred. Next was the College of Agriculture with 13,206 B.S. awards.

Degrees conferred by other colleges include: College of Business Administration, 4,979; College of Geosciences, 454; College of Liberal Arts, 3,591; College of Science, 1,848; Texas Maritime Academy, 74, and College of Veterinary Medicine, 2,712—including 2,177 doctor of veterinary medicine degrees.

Texas A&M awarded 2,645 degrees during 1969, which includes winter, spring and summer graduations, Heaton noted.



DOUBLEHEADER

What do giraffes do when their necks itch? The answer comes from this photo taken on Kenya, Nairobi, game preserve. (AP Wirephoto)

NTSU

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... almost any other field of endeavor," he said.

"In the academic community, the authority rests on the ability of the executive to gain the consent and concurrence of those he would lead."

One of the severest limits, he said, is in tenure granted to faculty members. "You simply can't fire people because they disagree with you. Secondly, by the very nature of things, faculties are accustomed to exercising considerable control of the decisions made."

But Kamerick said this freedom of the faculty to criticize and take part in decision making can also be a plus factor.

"Any organization must be capable of renewal, and for that must create the appropriate intellectual climate for the individual," Kamerick said in a speech to Texas college and university presidents this past summer.

"If the organization is such that it discourages individuality in the members of the organization, then of course the capacity for change is enormously diminished."

"... Ordinarily those who run organizations... cannot trust themselves or others to be adequately critical. Therefore, those who criticize must be in some way protected from the dangers of retribution, and the only possible protection is to create an atmosphere in which anyone can speak up."

The changes at North Texas are just part of the overall educational goals that Kamerick believes should guide American colleges and universities.

"We need emphasis on the development of a different kind of excellence than we are currently developing," he said in a recent speech.

"We may need to develop better professionals, better specialists, better technology, but our greater need is to spend more time on the cultivation of wisdom in more human beings."

"Soon man may be able to determine the genetic characteristics of a human infant—in short may be able to determine what kind of humans are produced. But the question of whether this should be done, let alone the awful question of what kinds of human beings should be produced, is not a question for biology to decide..."

"In a free society, it should be answered, intelligently we hope, by all of us. But all of us are not prepared to answer such questions simply because we are alive. We must have had some experience in attempting to answer the fundamental questions of human existence," he said.

Kamerick said society has depended upon universities to provide the training of humans to answer such questions but too often universities have been too busy training people for society's short-term needs.

"We are concerned only with making better specialists or better professionals and this is as true in the arts and humanities as it is in the sciences and social sciences," he said.

"... We should decide first that the primary goal of a good educational system is to produce an intelligent, civilized human being, and secondarily, and at a different time probably, to produce the specialist or professional."

In a free society, Kamerick said, the role of the university must first be to help students to gain enough knowledge to make the wisest possible choices. "Only thus can we decide what kind of world we wish to create."



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