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Editorial Columns

(City Editor and Reporter.)

Three newspaper men were discus ng their profession during their ch half hour. Editorial columns

whose remaining hand is not whole These newspaper men attributed the trend to the weakness of most of the editorial pages and to the apparen

Many editorial columns say noth not forceful because it lacks the power of ideas. The writer, hampered by the groveling policy of the paper discusses frivial subjects generally but when he comes to real issues does little more than retell the news story with explanations. The expressions of the paper are identical. But the eader is not so easily deluded. He feels the editor's fear to state his convictions boldly and he sees in the editorial a lack of personality, force and vision. Pressing local question in which the paper's position might have considerable influence are passsubjects, discussion of which is no likely to offend.

The contrast is found in the news paper that takes a decided and altogether vicious stand on every ques Some editors permit personal considerations to a far greater extent than is for the public good. They oppose everything that does not mee with their approval. Thus far their policy is good, but they hold up for ridicule these parties and persons editor's theory is that he alone is right: the rest of the world, that does not side with him, is wrong, and being wrong has no right to its opinions or to an expression of them. Newspapers edited in such a manner are Thrilling Escape vicious. They apparently care not what effect their policy has on the their purpose. They strain freedom of speech to the limit with their own utterances, but almost go to the point speech for ot ars.

editorial pages and newspapers are camp with a scream of fury. without influence in very wide and powerful circles of citizens,

This weakness and prostitution of the editorial columns eventually sounder and have more life than the tent those presented either by the weakkneed or the vicious editor. The trouble is that where an editor will stoop to perversion in his editorials he will scatter the same mental poison throughout his news stories. The are thinking on the false premises made for them by the editor-premises calculated to lead them to the same conclusions that the editor has determined they shall reach-his con-

How long, the three newspaper ate such dangerous newspapers? Cerfood for thought shall be sane, broad, forward-looking and wholesome. Surely they will bestir themselves and insist that the material for their minds shall be as untainted as the inspected food that gives them phy-

The discussion then turned to outstanding newspaper personalities and the personal touch of a newspaper The selfish editor who serves a vicious newspaper fills the thing with his personality. The newspaper is recognized by the readers as actually being the voice of the editor and Such publications have followings, too, sometimes surprisingly large. The three men at the lunch table wished that there might be more personalities in the profession. They wished for personalities and intellects big enough and broad enough to dominate newspapers, hundreds of them, with the highest idea of the profession—SERVICE TO THE PUB-LIC. They would have such personalities stand out with all their strength and boldness against the personalities that are their opposites.

As the lunch period ended the three had decided that the dominant personality in most offices was in the siness office, and was concerned

business office, and was concerned more with the gnancial gains than with the ideals of a newspaper as held in the editorial rooms.

The lunch period discussion had merely meant that the working newspaper men—the ones who have the highest respect for their profession—want mere powerful and infunction want more powerful and influentia newspapers—powerful because the



one on which they worked ranked far above the average.

From an Elephant.

A British officer tells of the escape a friend of his in India had from a mad elephant. The brute had been of advocating a l'mitation of free making mighty efforts to wrench up the stake to which it was chained Some of the people, notably those and at last it succeeded. With the who take what they read without first desperate bound forward the reasoning and thinking for themselves, heavy ankle chains, frayed and worn are deceived by such an editorial in one link, had snapped asunder, and policy. But observant and thoughtful with the huge stake trailing behind persons are not, consequently those it the elephant charged down on the

The cry was raised, "Run, run, The German Sahibs, the tusker has gone mad! He has broken loose!"

The white men started to their should work to the good of the public. feet and ran. The servants fled in all It should teach people to read the directions. One man was overtaken news more carefully and do their and killed, another was seized and thinking with the approximate facts flung into the river, and then the as a basis. Their conclusions should maddened beast vented his fury on

awake some time and demand that the folds of cloth. Raising his huge the disarming must be completed by the newspaper that provides them the would scream in the very October, and conditions existing then probability that the remains belong to frenzy of his wrath, but at last he will indicate how much good faith

to the jungle. And then to the joy of the enlookers a muffled voice was heard from Minister at the Conference was ren

Foreign Minister.

gium, brought to the notice of the From the other shore of the river ter for Foreign Affairs in the Governthe Britishers could see the elephant ment of the German Republic. In who had thus scattered them in a perfect frenzy of rage, kneeling on the Foreign Minister was second only to shapeless heap of cloth, furniture the Chancellor. When Germany most cunningly and treacherously and poles, and digging his tusks with launched her war, von Bethmannsavage fury into the hangings and Hollweg, of "scrap of paper" fame, people then do not get the facts, but canvas in the very abandonment of was Chancellor, and Herr von Jagow was Foreign Minister. The men who Then they realized that their friend now fill these posts under the repuband companion, McIntyre, had been lic are Herr Fehrenbach and Herr left in the tent. They held their Albert Simons. It was from these breath and dared not look into one men that the representatives of the another's faces. Everything showed Allies obtained at Spa a renewal of as clearly as if it had been day. They the promise given by Germany in the men wondered, will the public toler- saw the elephant tossing the strong Treaty of Versailles that Germany canvas canopy about. Thrust after would disarm. The Conference fixed tainly, they reasoned, the people will thrust was made by the tusks into a time limit. A certain portion of

themselves that in many respects the staggered to his feet and rushed in- Germany is putting into these pro-

The position of the German beneath the tent folds: "Get me out dered especially difficult by the action of this, you fellows or I'll be smoth- of one of his countrymen, Herr Hugo Stinnes, the great coal magnate of In trying to leave the tent Mc- Germany, who addressed a truculent-Intyre's foot had caught in a rope ly worded harangue to the Allied and the whole falling canopy had delegates, and had to be called to orcome down upon him, hurling the der by M. Delacroix, the Belgian table and a few cane chairs over Premier, who was President of the him. His escape had been miracu- Conference. However, Herr Stinnes' lous. The brute in one of his savage statements had been disavowed in purposeless thrusts had pierced the advance by Herr Simons, the Foreign ground between McIntyre's arm and Minister, and were, therefore ignored his ribs, pinning the Afghan coat in- by the representatives of the Allies.

Ship Tomb of Queen.

The discovery of a new Norgewian Viking ship south of Aalesund, Norway, disclosing many things concerning ancient civilization and northern antiquities, recalls to a reader the finding of the "Oseberg ship" discoverworld a German who heretofore had ed at Oseberg, near Tonsberg, Norbeen but little known outside his own way, in 1903. This ship is the finest country, Herr Albert Simons, Minis- and best-preserved of the Viking sity of Christiania. It is more than 100 feet long and 161/2 feet wide. It dates from the early part of the Ninth Century. The prow and stern are beautifully carved and the vessel contains a vastness of priceless furniture and other antiquities, a loom with a tapestry of small pictures, sledges with luxurious ornaments, implements of various kinds and a carriage which is all, the Oseberg ship has served the strange purpose of a sarcophagus for a Viking queen, who lived and died 200 years before William the Norman conquered Britain. Skeletons of two women were found in the ship and scientific investigation points to the

