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54/08/03 Letters To The Editor: "Furious"; "Sees Press in Rabble Rousing Role"

Cleveland Press

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The Cleveland Press,
Tuesday, August 3, 1954

Letters

To The Editor



Furious

I have rarely before this time encountered such complete bias in the reporting in your paper.

The coverage of the Sheppard murder has been so completely slanted against Sam Sheppard that an impartial jury would be impossible to find.

When a newspaper takes upon itself to play God—act the part of police, judge and jury, and inflame public opinion to the point of fury, then I am furious too—at your infamy!

ELENA W. WELDON, 47 W. Vine St., Oberlin.

Sees Press in Rabble Rousing Role

I've just read the morning's paper which reports the arrest of Dr. Sam Sheppard, and I'm wondering, now that you've accomplished your purpose, what new target will The Press choose to sell more papers?

I've heard you (Mr. Seltzer) speak on many occasions and have always thought of you as a dedicated man with a message. One of these "messages" was to the people to wake up and be aware of the fact that our rights and freedoms in this democracy are being threatened.

When you left one of Seltzer's speeches you were more aware of these dangers and you, too, were dedicated to do something. Now, the paper whose editorial policy you dictate becomes the ringleader of a howling mob.

To me it seems like a direct parallel to the lynching crowd, with The Press assuming the voice of the hard-mouthed rabble rouser.

What has happened to one of our original liberties where supposedly "a man is innocent until proven guilty?" Dr. Sam has been tried and proven guilty by The Press.

Have you printed any of the wonderful things Dr. Sam and Marilyn have done for our community? Or wouldn't that type of news sell papers?

Speaking of our community, I must also protest your editorial policy which pictures Bay Village as a "plush and fashionable" village that "gets away with murder."

There are a great majority of "ordinary" homes in Bay Village and a great majority of Bay Villagers who live in "ordinary" neighborhoods.

When selling newspapers make sensationalism paramount and allows our free press to tread heavily on personal liberties, we all have something to think about.

MRS. JAMES ASPINWALL, 31126 Walker Rd.,
Bay Village.