



## *Social and Personal Mention*

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### HOW OLD IS THIS NEWSPAPER RACKET?

It is a long trek back thru the centuries to 30 B.C! You would not likely think at this time there existed a daily newspaper, yet records reveal this fact, and also that Julius Caesar was its founder. He introduced the daily publication of the news of the Roman Senate and the people. The "Acts of the Senate" were reported by trained writers and these facts were revised and edited by a Senator appointed for this purpose.

The "Acts of the Senate" grew into a dose of daily news known as the Acts of the City – Emperor Augustus, who reigned in Rome, discouraged the publication of the Senatorial Acts, but encouraged printing news of general interest.

In this age of modern, machinery –Linotypes and mechanical appliances used in grinding out the news, it is hard to contemplate the tasks assigned the Roman Slaves when copying the large editions of manuscripts. However with Slave labor, voluminous manuscripts were produced at minimum cost – about 12 cents in U.S. coin which included the entire cost of production, material and labor. Reading material was sold cheaply and Roman empire books were plentiful. This period is a memorable one in the art of literature.

As stated above, it is a long journey back thru the years from the year 30 B.C. to the year A.D. 1937 yet the importance of daily and weekly recordings of people and things has continued to live thru the ages. Interesting? Yes! Why? Because, after all, HUMAN BEINGS with their various faults and failures, vices and virtues, still hold universal interest! A newspaper office brings you in contact with many different types of people. Many members of the Fourth Estate, those who represent this journalistic field of activity, fail to employ the prime requisites of the Art they represent namely, COURTESY – CONSIDERATION – and – UNDERSTANDING of a

fellow craftsman and the many ups and downs that beset the daily grind in News-Land. So it is an especially happy privilege to find one who typifies these requites and who daily puts them into practice, we pause here to pay verbal tribute to a fellow traveler along the inky trail and offer "honor to whom honor is due" – We refer to W. M. WYATT EDITOR AND PUBLISHER OF THE MONTEVALLO TIMES, who magnanimously and generously came to our rescue last week with his equipment and aided us in getting the Democrat out on time after an unexpected break down in our Linotype, and he did it with a smile. For his cheerful response to our S.O.S., for the kind understanding that years spent in this fascinating work has brought the popular Editor, and for the great service he rendered the Shelby County Democrat, we proffer eternal appreciation.

Mack Wyatt is a credit to the Craft he represents! He is big enough for his job! Montevallo is to be congratulated upon acquiring his service as Editor of one of the best weeklies in Alabama; Shelby County is the richer for his citizenship; WE are happier for his FRIENDLY UNDERSTANDING and GENEROSITY. He possesses the qualifications which merit the success he now enjoys. We sincerely hope, down the corridors of Time – To – Be — we shall have the privilege of returning in a measure his kindness. Rest assured, it will be a happy task we shall eagerly undertake, when and if we are accorded the chance.

It is indeed a refreshing experience to meet one who can and does rise above a petit selfishness warped with personal prejudice to lend a helping hand. "He who can do this has the whole world with him. He who cannot – walks a LONELY WAY". Mack Wyatt will never be lonely, nor lack for FRIENDS – Heaven's richest gift to mankind!