



MERCURY'S Cracker Barrel Corner

OUR RURAL EDITORS SPEAK OUT

The Letter Box is full this week with letters by the dozens from politicians telling us that they are candidates and would "appreciate our support." They'll forget about us after the election.

THE AZTEC INDEPENDENT
Aztec, New Mexico

Ten years ago, Walter Reuther took off his union mask and allowed the politician to show through. Said Reuther:

"Political action . . . shall have first call on my time and energy as President of the International Union." Every Democrat, Republican and Patriot who hates Socialism and wants to resist it, now can do so by the simple expedient of finding out who Reuther and his COPE political machine support for governor and then aligning himself or herself with

the opponent; which in this California instance is Senator Knowland.

THE VALLEY TIMES
San Fernando Valley, California

Much publicity has been given in recent years about the fact that the price of food was not rising as fast as that of other necessities of life. There was a good reason for this. While prices of everything the farmer bought were going up, prices on what he sold went down.

He does not adhere to any 40 hour week and sometimes puts in an 80 hour week. In that way he furnishes cheap labor for himself. In the second place, the farm wife and the children put long hours into farm production. A survey all over the nation shows that up to 40 percent of the farms in the nation have to depend on out-

side income to balance the books. Farm wives are employed as school-teachers, nurses, and clerks. Many farmers work eight hours a day at employment outside the farm and put in another eight hours on the farm.

POPE COUNTY TRIBUNE
Glenwood, Minn.

One of the great shames in United States history is the manner in which the country's first occupants, the Indians, have been treated.

The white man's record is spotted with broken treaties and broken promises, with cruelty and double dealing toward the people whose first and greatest offense was to be technologically inferior to the invaders.

The federal government owes the Indians not only the individual's *pro rata* share of the tribal assets, but, perhaps more important, they owe them the *chance* to become educated, responsible members of society—something which so far has been largely impossible through the federal reservation setup.

THE MEDFORD MAIL-TRIBUNE
Medford, Oregon

Rural and small town life has given the American Republic, including the southern States, many of its finest qualities. Men and women who grow up close to the land, who are proud of their blood ties and loyalties, do not become *mass* persons. We know that rural living needs protection. Farms and villages are proper breeding grounds for a strong, free people.

THE EDGEFIELD ADVERTISER
Edgefield, South Carolina

What we need to do is to toss Pro-

gressive Education in the ash can, give teachers the right to discipline children intelligently, then back them to the hilt at home, and *make children study*. We've known high school students in the Army who could not write their names any better than they could in kindergarten. Nor spell. Last, but not least, teach your son or daughter *Patriotism*.

DOGWOOD'S WEEKLY

Kannapolis, North Carolina

What our children are taught and by whom is far more important than fancy buildings. . . . Even Mississippi could manage beautifully without federal "grants-in-aid" if we kept our money at home instead of sending it to Washington and begging for half of it back. THE SUMMIT SUN

Summit, Mississippi

Have you ever seen a "Crying Towel?" An enterprising manufacturer of textile specialties produced some small towels inscribed as "Crying Towels," sold largely in taverns where bartenders often have to listen to all kinds of complaints, real and hallucinated. Now there is plenty of opportunity to use "Crying Towels" outside of taverns; better have one handy when you listen to radio and television commentators or read the big city newspapers and the reader-attention-sharps shooting magazines. It seems that about everything we ordinary folk do these days is wrong. What, I'd like to ask, have the press and airwave pundits, and the Washington experts been doing that's good all these years?

THE KENDALL KEYSTONE
Elroy, Wisconsin

"Beep" means you're wanted!

Calling All Doctors

By New Telephone Magic



by Camilla Marvin

DR. BENJAMIN DAVIS stood behind his ball on the seventh green of the Lehigh Valley Country Club and carefully sized up his putt. Aim three inches to the right of the pin, he decided.

Suddenly the doctor knew—knew for sure—he was wanted on the telephone for an important call.

"I'm afraid that's it—for me," he said. "If I don't catch up on the next hole, don't wait."

He shouldered his clubs and headed towards the clubhouse for the pay telephone. Was the doctor psychic? Did unseen thought transference waves notify him of the telephone call?

The relay of the doctor's message would, to those not familiar with modern electronics, seem very mysterious. But it is becoming routine to a service that is offered by the scientists of the Bell Telephone System.

Dr. Davis is a subscriber to the new telephone company service now on trial in Pennsylvania. In his breast pocket he carries a small radio transistor set—about the size of a fat eyeglass case. When he hears its whistling beep from his pocket, he knows he has an important telephone call.

His secretary back in his office screens off routine messages, but when a call is urgent, she dials the telephone company's Personal Signaling Operator, and the doctor is paged—by short wave radio. He may be driving his car to a house call, or doing an errand at the grocery store—but he will hear the prolonged beep from his pocket and know he's wanted. He goes quickly to the nearest telephone and calls his office. Gone are the days when he checked in by 'phone every half hour, or left detailed instructions about where he could be reached.