

SOUTHERN OREGON COLLEGE

ASHLAND, OREGON

April 27, 1961

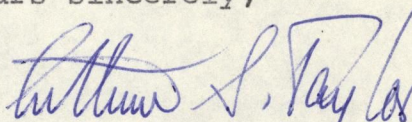
Mr. Click Relander  
Editor  
Yakima, Washington

Dear Click:

I want to tell you how much I enjoyed your paper and also the fact that I was given a chance to appear with you at Walla Walla. Everyone seems agreed that we did a nice job.

I have a copy of your paper, and I am sending you a copy of mine at this time. Thank you for everything.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Arthur S. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Arthur" and last name "Taylor" clearly legible.

Arthur S. Taylor, Chairman  
Social Science Division

AST/nms

Enclosure



**THE PASSING OF THE REGIONAL JOURNALIST;  
SOME COMMENTS ON THE PAPERS PRESENTED  
BY MR. CLICK RELANDER AND MR. BRUCE MITCHELL**

by

**Arthur Samuel Taylor**

**Chairman, Social Science Division**

**Southern Oregon College**

**Ashland, Oregon**

**April, 1961**



One reason is that there are fewer local newspapers. It used to be that a county seat would have at least two newspapers, oftentimes in competition editorially as well as commercially. Smaller towns supported weeklies. Even tiny places such as Talent in Southern Oregon supported short-lived publications.

The ownership and control of the local newspapers has changed. For example, in western Illinois and eastern Iowa a chain of newspapers exists. Editorial writers may be assigned to papers in neighborhoods not familiar to them. Editorial traditions disappear. While many newspapers disavow this, judgment would tell us that ownership does exercise some control of news practices and editorial policies.

There are other competitive elements that are felt by the small town editor. Both television and radio news services editorialize. News magazines do the same. The family, adults and children, get news from a variety of sources. It is a common experience for teachers of social science to have their students refer to articles read in national news magazines or to telecasts. Seldom in my classes do I get questions or comments drawn from our own community newspapers, and yet our college library stocks the leading journals, local and national.

I suppose one could also say that our interests have become more national in character. This condition has given rise to the commentators. Mostly commentators deal with national and international affairs. Even when a commentator does deal with a local problem, such as the reclamation and power development of the Columbia Plateau, he is speaking from a distance or drawing his ideas as a result of a brief visit. It is true that the local editor



sometimes cannot see the woods because of the trees, but too often the national commentators see the woods only dimly and the trees not at all.

I would not have you believe that the local editors are less competent than their predecessors; they may actually be more competent in running a newspaper and making it pay. Certainly they are not afflicted with as much prejudicial blindness. They are better educated in techniques of publishing even though they do lack a knowledge of the classics.

Possibly the condition exists because of changes in moves, economic conditions, communication or education; but the fact remains that the influence exerted by Harvey Scott, Robert Sawyer, T. Vault and many, many others was great. In placing Rufus Woods and Wilbur Robertson with that group, Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Relander have done us all a great service.

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SOUTHERN OREGON COLLEGE

ASHLAND, OREGON

May 29, 1963

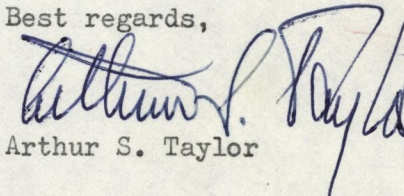
Mr. Click Relander  
1212 N. 32nd Avenue  
Yakima, Washington

Dear Click:

Thanks a lot for "Strangers on the Land." I shall read it and then contribute it to the Library of The Southern Oregon Historical Society. We have a fine little library consisting of a number of hard-to-get (some rare) items.

I am asking them to send you a copy of the latest thing I have done titled Ed Meade, Southern Oregon Barnstormer. It appeared in the Medford Mail-Tribune about six weeks ago. Meade was also a Washington character as you can see from the opening paragraphs.

Best regards,



Arthur S. Taylor

AST cso