

### SOME notes on Style and Usage

ACCORDING TO--do not use except when it is necessary to quote an authority in a controversy. Authority for most news can be established without using "according to." "Said" will take care of attribution most of the time.

ACTED--Do not write "Mr. Smith ACTED as chairman." He WAS or SERVED as chairman.

CLAIMED--Consistently misused. Do not use CLAIM in the sense of say, declare or assert. A person stakes a CLAIM. He CLAIMED the property is correct.

DESTROY--This ought to be pretty obvious. Do not write the building was COMPLETELY DESTROYED. It was or was not DESTROYED.

GUTS, GUTTED--This expression, as commonly used to describe what happened to a house as the result of a fire, is TABOO on the Yakima dailies. Not only in stories, but in headlines.

RUSH, RUSHED--Please do not RUSH the victim of an auto accident to the hospital. Do not have fire engines RUSHING to the fire. It is to be expected that the fire engines and the ambulances will make all speed to their destinations.

CRUSHED--Do not write that victims of accidents are CRUSHED. Probably it never is true. CRUSHED connotes a completeness of obliteration that 99.9 per cent of the time never happened.

EYES, EYED--This, as commonly used in headlines by tired copyreaders is a minor abomination. In the sense that it means the City Council is considering a proposal or an individual is contemplating an action, abolish it from your writing vocabulary.

AFTERWARD, TOWARD, etc.--Write them without the final "s".

PAST and LAST: All time is PAST. If the years or month or some other time period just PAST is meant, use LAST. "He had lived in Pasco the last 15 years." Watch this especially in obituaries. As a matter of fact, in obituaries, usually is is unnecessary to use "LAST."

REAR and RAISE: REARED is preferred for children. RAISE for plants and animals.

SEWAGE and SEWERAGE: SEWAGE is the disagreeable matter carried off by the city SEWERAGE system.