CHARACTERISTICS OF EDITORIAL WRITING



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- An editorial is an article that presents the newspaper's opinion on an issue.
- It reflects the majority vote of the editorial board, the governing body of the newspaper made up of editors and business managers.
- It is usually unsigned.
- Much in the same manner of a lawyer, editorial writers build on an argument and try to persuade readers to think the same way they do.
- Editorials are meant to influence public opinion, promote critical thinking, and sometimes cause people to take action on an issue. In essence, an editorial is an opinionated news story.

WHAT AN EDITORIAL IS NOT

- An editorial is not an obituary.
- An editorial is not a straight news story.

EDITORIALS HAVE:

1. Introduction, body and conclusion like other news stories
2. An objective explanation of the issue, especially complex issues
3. A timely news angle
4. Opinions from the opposing viewpoint that refute directly the same issues the writer addresses
5. The opinions of the writer delivered in a professional manner. Good editorials engage issues, not personalities and refrain from name-calling or other petty tactics of persuasion.
6. Alternative solutions to the problem or issue being criticized. Anyone can gripe about a problem, but a good editorial should take a pro-active approach to making the situation better by using constructive criticism and giving solutions.
7. A solid and concise conclusion that powerfully summarizes the writer's opinion. Give it some punch.

FOUR TYPES OF EDITORIALS WILL:

1. ***Explain or interpret***: Editors often use these editorials to explain the way the newspaper covered a sensitive or controversial subject. School newspapers may explain new school rules or a particular student-body effort like a food drive.

2. ***Criticize:*** These editorials constructively criticize actions, decisions or situations while providing solutions to the problem identified. Immediate purpose is to get readers to see the problem, not the solution.

3. ***Persuade:*** Editorials of persuasion aim to immediately see the solution, not the problem. From the first paragraph, readers will be encouraged to take a specific, positive action. Political endorsements are good examples of editorials of persuasion.

4. ***Praise:*** These editorials commend people and organizations for something done well. They are not as common as the other three.

WRITING AN EDITORIAL

1. Pick a significant topic that has a current news angle and would interest readers.
2. Collect information and facts; include objective reporting; do research
3. State your opinion briefly in the fashion of a thesis statement
4. Explain the issue objectively as a reporter would and tell why this situation is important
5. Give opposing viewpoint first with its quotations and facts
6. Refute (reject) the other side and develop your case using facts, details, figures, quotations. Pick apart the other side's logic.
7. Concede a point of the opposition — they must have some good points you can acknowledge that would make you look rational.
8. Repeat key phrases to reinforce an idea into the reader's minds.
9. Give a realistic solution(s) to the problem that goes beyond common knowledge. Encourage critical thinking and pro-active reaction.
10. Wrap it up in a concluding punch that restates your opening remark (thesis statement).
11. Keep it to 500 words; make every work count; never use "I"

A SAMPLE STRUCTURE

A Sample Structure

I. Lead with an Objective Explanation of the Issue/Controversy.

Include the five W's and the H. (Members of Congress, in effort to reduce the budget, are looking to cut funding from public television. Hearings were held ...)

- Pull in facts and quotations from the sources which are relevant.
- Additional research may be necessary.

II. Present Your Opposition First.

As the writer you disagree with these viewpoints. Identify the people (specifically who oppose you. (Republicans feel that these cuts are necessary; other cable stations can pick them; only the rich watch public television.)

- Use facts and quotations to state objectively their opinions.
- Give a strong position of the opposition. You gain nothing in refuting a weak position.

III. Directly Refute The Opposition's Beliefs.

You can begin your article with transition. (Republicans believe public television is a "sandbox for the rich." However, statistics show most people who watch public television make less than $40,000 per year.)

- Pull in other facts and quotations from people who support your position.
- Concede a valid point of the opposition which will make you appear rational, one who has considered all the options (fiscal times are tough, and we can cut some of the funding for the arts; however, ...).

IV. Give Other, Original Reasons/Analogies

In defense of your position, give reasons from strong to strongest order. (Taking money away from public television is robbing children of their education ...)

- Use a literary or cultural allusion that lends to your credibility and perceived intelligence (We should render unto Caesar that which belongs to him ...)

V. Conclude With Some Punch.

Give solutions to the problem or challenge the reader to be informed. (Congress should look to where real wastes exist — perhaps in defense and entitlements — to find ways to save money. Digging into public television's pocket hurts us all.)

- A quotation can be effective, especially if from a respected source
- A rhetorical question can be an effective concluder as well (If the government doesn't defend the interests of children, who will?)

- **Editorial Format:** All four of the editorial types follow this simple, basic format when written. Editorials are get to the point quickly. You can use a quote in an editorial, if you wish, but most don't. Use one when it comes from a credible source and will support your point or stance.
- **Do not use "I" or "me" in your editorials.**

- **Paragraph 1 – Introduction**
  - States the topic you will be discussing and it is usually one or two sentences. Save your stance and supporting facts until later. As with all introductions or ledes, this should be attention-grabbing and draw the reader in.
- **Paragraph Two –Reaction**
  - This is where you actually state your opinion on the topic you mentioned. It should be only one or two sentences.
- **Paragraph Three through Five – Supportive Arguments for your stance**
  - These paragraphs are where you sell your opinion. You must use examples, strong facts, and details to support your stance. Each paragraph should be two or three sentences. Each paragraph contains a different argument for your opinion.
- **Paragraph Six – The Other Side**
  - By making a counterargument (giving the other side), you are making your own argument stronger. Only one paragraph is needed. After you state the other side, you must then refute it. In other words, give reasons showing why that side is not valid.
- **Paragraph Seven – Suggestions or Solution**
  - What do you propose to solve the issue? This should be one paragraph. Provide some options to fix the problem.
- **Paragraph Eight – Conclusion**
  - End with an appeal to the readers. What do you want them or officials to do? What message do you want them to away from the editorial?

Paragraph I: Introduction

The warning labels on cigarette cartons tell the story: smoking can cause lung cancer, heart disease, emphysema, premature birth and injury to babies born to smokers. Yet, despite the dangers, cigarettes are readily available in convenience stores, gas stations, and liquor stores.

Paragraph II: Reaction

Although tobacco companies may defend their products, numerous studies have shown that cigarettes are as addictive as any illegal drug and as treacherous as a drunk driver. Like those societal hazards, cigarettes should be officially outlawed.

Paragraph III: Supporting arguments and facts

Cigarette smoking is one of the leading causes of death, cancer and other disease in the United States. Just look at the statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Health problems traced to cigarette smoking lead to one of every five deaths, more than HIV, illegal drugs, car accidents, suicides and murders. Smoking is blamed for the majority of lung cancer deaths among men and women, and boosts the rate of heart disease, bronchitis and emphysema.

Paragraph IV: Supporting arguments and facts

Smokers are not the only ones risking illness and death from cigarettes; second-hand smoke also kills and debilitates. A 2006 report by the U.S. Surgeon General's office concluded that nonsmokers have a substantially increased risk of heart disease and lung cancer after being exposed to second-hand, or environmental, tobacco smoke. Many experts also trace high incidents of asthma and other respiratory ailments among children to second-hand smoke, illustrating how insidiously cigarette smoke can maim the innocent.

Paragraph V: Supporting arguments and facts

Even with clear evidence linking serious health problems to cigarettes, many smokers are unable to quit. According to the American Cancer Society, about 70 percent of smokers express a desire to stop smoking and about 40 percent try to give up cigarettes each year. However, only about four to seven percent actually manage to break the grip of cigarette addiction. The rest continue to endanger their lives and the lives of others.

Paragraph VI: The Other Side

Tobacco companies, such as Philip Morris International, have funded studies disputing the health risks associated with smoking and produce "safer" cigarettes that supposedly cut down on dangers. On its website, Philip Morris also defends the right of businesses to allow smoking in public places. Yet, even the company admits, "cigarette smoking causes lung cancer, heart disease, emphysema and other serious diseases in smokers ... There is no such thing as a "safe" cigarette."

Paragraph VII: Suggestions or solutions

Cigarettes are deadly; the risks are real; the benefits are non-existent. The only way to stop the danger is to stop the sale of cigarettes altogether.

Paragraph VIII: Conclusion

. It is time politicians took decisive action. It is time for cigarettes to be declared illegal.

PERSUASIVE TECHNIQUES USED BY EDITORIAL WRITERS

- **BANDWAGON**
- Using the argument that because everyone is doing it, you should, too.
- Every kid loves pizza, so our cafeteria should serve it every day.

- **TESTIMONIAL**
- Using the testimony or statement of someone to persuade you to think or act as he or she does.
- Bob has been in three different middle schools, and he claims our cafeteria has the best pizza.

- **EXPERT OPINION**
- Using quotes and statements from a person considered to be an expert on that particular topic.
- Sally Jones, the Health Inspector, said after her visit to our cafeteria, "You have wonderfully clean facilities."

- **STATISTICS**
- Using research to support the writer's view.
- According to a Middle School Health survey, only 85% of adolescents consume lunch.

- **CALL TO ACTION**
- Encouraging the reader to do something about the issue being addressed.
- All of us need to eat lunch in our cafeteria each day.

- **EMOTIONAL APPEAL (DICTION PLAYS A ROLE IN THIS)**
- Using details to create an emotional response from the reader (pity, disgust, fear, anger, etc.).
- When you skip a meal, your body begins converting energy into fat in an effort to
- keep from starving to death.

PERSUASIVE TECHNIQUES USED BY EDITORIAL WRITERS

- **RHETORICAL QUESTION**
- Using a question to get the reader's attention and focus the purpose.
- Do you enjoy the sound of your stomach growling?

- **REPETITION**
- Repeating a word or phrase throughout the writing.
- Hunger. It affects all of us at some point in the day. Hunger. Our growing bodies need fuel to help us function. Hunger. It is keeping many of us from achieving our best in school.

- **ALLITERATION**
- Repetition of initial consonant sounds (at the beginning of words) in 2 or more words. Serves to emphasize the words or an idea. Also creates mood.
- EX: Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there wondering, fearing, Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream before

- **PREDICTION**
- Predicting the outcome of the situation.
- If we do not take our eating habits seriously, our grades will drop and our future will be doomed.

- **Imagery**
- Use language that appeals to the senses that can arouse anger, pity, joy, etc…)

- **Diction**
- Use words with STRONG connotations (positive or negative)

- **CAUSE AND EFFECT**
- Stating the effect that something may have.
- Because not enough students are eating in the cafeteria, our choices of food items have been limited.

…FROM CHAPTER 25

"*The Maycomb Tribune* appeared the following Thursday. There was a brief obituary in the Colored News, but there **was also an editorial**. Mr. B. B. Underwood was at his most bitter, and he couldn't have cared less who canceled advertising and subscriptions. (But Maycomb didn't play that way: Mr. Underwood could holler till he sweated and write whatever he wanted to, he'd still get his advertising and subscriptions. If he wanted to make a fool of himself in his paper that was his business.) Mr. Underwood didn't talk about miscarriages of justice, he was writing so children could understand. Mr. Underwood simply figured it was a **sin (ETHOS)** to **kill cripples (PATHOS)**, be they standing, sitting, or escaping. He likened Tom's death to the **senseless slaughter of songbirds (ALLITERATION)** by hunters and children, and Maycomb thought he was trying to write an editorial poetical enough to be reprinted in *The Montgomery Advertiser*. How could this be so, I wondered, as I read Mr. Underwood's editorial. Senseless killing—Tom had been given due process of law to the day of his death; he had been tried openly and convicted by twelve good men and true; my father had fought for him all the way. Then Mr. Underwood's meaning became clear: Atticus had used every tool available to free men to save Tom Robinson, but in the secret courts of men's hearts Atticus had no case. Tom was a dead man the minute Mayella Ewell opened her mouth and screamed. The name Ewell gave me a queasy feeling. Maycomb had lost no time in getting Mr. Ewell's views on Tom's demise and passing them along through that English Channel of gossip, Miss Stephanie Crawford. Miss Stephanie told Aunt Alexandra in Jem's presence ("Oh foot, he's old enough to listen.") that Mr. Ewell said it made one down and about two more to go. Jem told me not to be afraid, Mr. Ewell was more hot gas than anything. Jem also told me that if I breathed a word to Atticus, if in any way I let Atticus know I knew, Jem would personally never speak to me again."

- WE KNOW HE WROTE THE EDITORIAL, WE JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT IT SAID, IN TOTAL

http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/article/20130208/OPINION/302070046/
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Editorial: Paying educators in difficult fiscal times - Modest teacher raise needed

Feb. 11 montgomeryadvertiser.com

Gov. Robert Bentley's call for a 2.5 percent pay raise for teachers and education support personnel in the next budget is a prudent proposal that doesn't deserve the criticism some have leveled against it. Tempting as it might be to win the political points that a larger raise would bring, it is not the fiscally responsible thing to do.

Alabama's fiscal picture is better, but the state is hardly flush with cash. Bentley is right to propose a modest and affordable initial step toward bringing up teacher salaries. The pay for these individuals who have so great an influence on our children and thus on our state's future has not increased since fiscal 2008.

"As our economy improves, I expect this increase to be the start of what we hope will be greater and more frequent raises for our teachers," Bentley said in his State of the State address this week. That is greatly to be desired, for it is important that teacher salaries be high enough to make the jobs appealing to bright and capable people and to be at least competitive with other states in the region.

A pay raise is not a one-time expense. Once it's in place, it becomes a part of all future education budgets. That's why it's crucial to be confident that the state can afford the raise not just in the next fiscal year, but in the years ahead as well.

A 2.5 percent raise would cost about $100 million. That appears manageable in light of budget projections from the Legislative Fiscal Office that show the Education Trust Fund growing by $237 million. Bentley's finance director puts the figure about $40 million higher. Either way, and even if the projections are a bit high, revenue seems sufficient to fund the raise.

There no doubt will be efforts to grant a larger raise. House Minority Leader Craig Ford, D-Gadsden, called Bentley's proposal "insulting." He noted that the amount teachers pay toward their retirement went up by that same amount in 2011, so the 2.5 percent raise is "pay reinstatement."

Calling the proposal insulting is itself insulting. Certainly teachers deserve better pay; that's not the issue. The real issue is what the state can responsibly offer in difficult fiscal times. To go beyond that, to risk throwing the budget out of balance in the next fiscal year or future ones, to make proration of the education budget, with all its harmful implications for our schools, more likely would be irresponsible.

On this issue, Bentley's course is the correct one. The Legislature should follow it.

YOUR TASK - **WRITING AN EDITORIAL**

- In Chapter 24 we learn about what happened to Tom. In Chapter 25 we also learned that Mr. Underwood, the newspaper owner, wrote an editorial about Tom's death. We are not, however, told what is written in the editorial (Show quote from book). Today, we are going to write an editorial about the events over the last few chapters of the novel (24-28, but you may use evidence to support your concerns from the beginning of the novel)

- **TASK:** You and a partner will select an issue in Maycomb that you are concerned about and write an editorial piece about it. You must take a side (reflected in a thesis), provide supporting evidence from the book & employ persuasive techniques.
- There are **bonus points available if you chose to format your editorial as a real newspaper section.**

- **You must:**
- use at least 5 persuasive techniques and underline and label them
- Type double- spaced ¾ page
- Left justify (if like real newspaper, justify all)
- Use Times New Roman font
- Not italicize or bold anything in the editorial (with the exception of the title if you set it up to look like a real newspaper section)
- Include your name and date in the upper right-hand corner (unless it's set up like a real newspaper- date according to novel time period).

ADDITIONAL EXTRA CREDIT OPTION

- Using powerful words, **write an obituary for Tom Robinson as it would appear in the Colored News section of the *Maycomb Tribune*.**
- **Include this on the back of your editorial / must be typed, as well.**
- **Include a picture of Tom**

- **Look at obituaries in your local newspaper to help you will this portion of the assignment.**

The Newport Daily News

NEWPORT ◆ MIDDLETOWN ◆ PORTSMOUTH ◆ JAMESTOWN ◆ TIVERTON

Wednesday
July 13, 2011

OPINION

OUR VIEW

In Newport, leave your car behind

If you're planning to visit Newport this summer, you'll have plenty of options to get around — all while leaving your car in the parking lot.

There is a multitude of styles — not to mention colors — of scooters and Segways available for rental and pedicabs and traditional cabs to take you where you're going.

The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority operates a regular schedule of trolleys and buses to various attractions in and around Newport, including local beaches — and RIPTA riders are eligible for inexpensive all-day parking at the Visitors Center on America's Cup Avenue.

Adding to the mix, there will be three harbor shuttle and ferry services operating in Newport Harbor this summer.

Oldport Marine's Harbor Shuttle and the Jamestown-Newport Ferry, both of which have been operating in and around the harbor for years, have added new dimensions to their services.

Oldport Marine is operating two 26-foot Crosby boats with its most ambitious schedule to date and the advent of a wheelchair-accessible shuttle boat. The boat leaves Perrotti Park every hour on the hour, and people in wheelchairs will be able to board unassisted at all the stops except IYRS and Goat Island, according to Matt Gineo, Oldport's general manager.

The Jamestown-Newport Ferry, which specializes in transporting people across Narragansett Bay's East Passage, added a Waites Wharf stop this year that has proven popular, according to William S. Munger, president and owner of Jamestown's Conanicut Marine Services, which operates the ferry. It also makes stops at Rose Island, Fort Adams, Bowen's Wharf and Perrotti Park.

And the new Aquidneck Ferry is expected to begin operating between Perrotti Park and Fort Adams State Park on Friday.

The Aquidneck Ferry, a 65-foot wooden packet boat that also will be wheelchair accessible, can hold up to 145 passengers, who will be able to enjoy entertainment from singers to storytellers and purchase sandwiches and drinks.

"People come to Newport to see the mansions, get out on the water and have dinner," said ferry owner Addison W. Closson III. "We'll be able to take care of two of the three."

The Newport Dinner Train and Old Colony Railroad also offer scenic tours by old-fashioned rail along Narragansett Bay, departing from the depot on America's Cup Avenue, near the Visitors Center.

So whether you're planning shopping and lunch, going to dinner and a concert or spending a day playing tourist, remember, there are plenty of ways to get around without being stuck in — or contributing to — traffic.

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OPINION

Beach Haven Times • The Beacon • Lacey Bea

EDITORIAL

A matter of life

Long Beach Island and the waters of Barnegat Bay are the place to come for fun and recreation, and everyone who makes a living from tourism wants visitors and residents alike to enjoy the water.

But when it comes to endangering life in the fragile ecosystems of the salt marshes and sedge islands, preservation of habitat must take precedence over fun.

For that reason, Sen. Leonard T. Connors, R-9th District, and Ocean-Monmouth Sens. Andrew Ciesla and Robert Singer have joined together to sponsor legislation that would designate a special conservation zone around sensitive tidal marsh areas, including Island Beach State Park and local sedge islands. Personal watercraft, often called generically by a brand name, Jet Skis, would be banned from these areas, because the craft, usually operated at high speeds, seriously degrade shallow-water habitat, endangering fish and shellfish and natural vegetation. Ninth District Assemblymen Jeffrey Moran and Christopher Connors are scheduled to introduce a companion joint resolution in the New Jersey Assembly this Thursday.

Perhaps the ban also should include high-powered and low draft speedboats, which often rip up the bay and shallow areas as badly as the smaller personal watercraft.

Our wetlands are where the food chain begins. Everything that damages life at the bottom of the chain affects all the links in between and eventually will affect the creatures at the top of the chain — us.

The Death of Clifford T Ward - Newspaper Obituaries

Following a period in hospital suffering from pneumonia, Cliff died on 18th December 2001.

A range of local and national newspaper obituaries soon followed -

Clifford T. Ward

THE EARLY 1970s was a golden period for singers who were also songwriters, with James Taylor, Randy Newman, Joni Mitchell and Carole King performing highly personal material. Clifford T. Ward was similarly individualistic: his gently romantic songs celebrated family life and living in Britain.

The American balladeer Jack Jones once recorded Ward's composition "Home Thoughts from Abroad" beautifully, but it is incongruous to hear Jones singing, "How is Worcestershire? Is it still the same between us?" The entertainer Richard Digance says, " 'Home Thoughts From Abroad' is still the greatest 'British' song that I have ever heard. Cliff had no pretentious Americanisms, and it's still the only popular song with the word Worcestershire in it."

Ward was born in 1944 in Stourport-on-Severn, a small village near Kidderminster, and he lived in the area all his life. He attended Stourport Secondary Modern School where he was a good pupil with an interest in arts and drama. He recalled a memorable day in 1958, saying, "I saw Buddy Holly and the Crickets when I was only 14 and he was great, marvellous. I named my first child after one of the Crickets' records, 'Deborah'."

In the same year at school, Ward met Pat Rollings, and wrote the song "Confhanger" for her:

If you share my confhanger
Then I'll be hung on you.
If you try to break my neck,
We're through.

They were married in 1961 after Pat became pregnant, and the song appeared on Ward's first album, *Singer/Songwriter*, in 1972.

Ward sang and played piano and, like many youngsters at that time, he formed a beat group, Cliff Ward and the Cruisers, which later became the Secrets. They became popular around Birmingham and Robert Browing must have felt." His lyrics place the mundane next to the significant with telling effect:

Does your cistern still leak
Or have you found a man to mend it?
Oh and by the way, how's your broken heart?
Is that rounded too? I miss you.

The Secrets recorded a single, "Candy To Me", for Columbia records in 1965. "It was a Motown song by that great writing team, Holland-Dozier-Holland," recalled Ward. "Unfortunately, it was the worst song that they ever wrote." Five singles for CBS followed but met with no success, and Ward decided on a change in career. He enrolled at a teacher training college and, once qualified, taught English and Drama at Bromsgrove High School.

He continued to write songs, and sent a tape to the Radio 1 DJ John Peel. Peel was impressed and, with his manager, Clive Selwood, signed Ward to their new label, Dandelion. Peel produced Ward's first album, *Singer/Songwriter*; the first single from it, "Carrie", was inspired by the 1901 novel *Sister Carrie* by Theodore Dreiser.

The Dandelion label was short-lived and Ward commented, "Clive gave Tony Stratton-Smith, who owned Charisma, a pile of Dandelion albums to see if he was interested in any of the artists. Tony picked me out, but he made the wrong decision, as Medicine Head had the hits." Nevertheless, Ward had his first hit in 1973 for Charisma, with the beguiling "Gaye". He explained,

There were three girls I knew called Gaye and I suppose they were all part of the Gaye in the song. There was also some imaginative input in there. It wasn't one of my favourite songs. It was just a song for the album, but Charisma thought it would make a good single and they released it.

With his long, flowing hair and an air of intensity, Ward looked distinctive on *Top Of The Pops* and "Gaye" reached No 8. The following year, "Jesus" reached No 11, but Ward's career was beset by problems. He was unhappy with his record company, and his marriage was breaking up. He left Charisma and, after a brief spell with Island Records, he signed to Warner Brothers in 1976. His first album for the label, *Home Thoughts* (1973), sold well, but Ward kept a low profile. He had no desire to spend time away from his home. His first child had been born with cerebral palsy and for her he wrote "For Debbie and Her Friends" on his third album, *Mantle Pieces* (also 1973). He bought a farmhouse and loved being with his children.

Ward made several fine albums, *Escalator* (1975), *No More Rock and Roll* (1975), *Waves* (1976) and *New England Days* (1977), but his romantic style conflicted with the ethos of the punk era and his songs were regarded by some as old hat. He recorded his finest song, "The Best is Yet to Come" as a single for Warner in 1981 and it has since been recorded by Justin Hayward and Judy Collins. His 1984 album *Both Of Us* included a poignant song about how the media trivialises serious events, "Watchin' the TV News".

That year, during a tour of Ireland, Ward made a trip home to visit his family and, while mowing the grass, fell over several times. He said, "I didn't know what was happening. I knew that there was something very wrong with me." He was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Ward had helped his daughter, Debbie, overcome her handicap, but he had difficulty accepting his own predicament. He shunned medication and said, "I refuse to believe that a cure can't be found."

Ward had been experimenting with synthesisers and had built his own home studio, which should have meant an outpouring of new material. His album for Roger Whittaker's label, Tembo, *Sometime Next Year* (1986), and companion singles are excellent and indicate how he had taken his inspiration from watching television ("Cricket") or from seeing his wife cleaning the With your pans and pots and hot plates, You'd brighten up any gallery.

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Ward: 'I am a lover of words, and I know certain words sound very nice with certain melodies' *Retferns*

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Alice Paul, a Leader for Suffrage And Women's Rights, Dies at 92

By DENA KLEIMAN

Alice Paul, a pioneer of the women's movement who helped lead the fight for women's suffrage and who, more than 50 years ago, helped draft the forerunner to today's proposed equal rights amendment to the Constitution, died yesterday at the Quaker Greenleaf Extension Home in Moorestown, N.J. She was 92 years old.

Until she suffered a stroke three years ago, Dr. Paul had continued to campaign for the equal rights amendment, which would guarantee equality to women. The amendment has been ratified by 35 states, three short of the number needed to make it part of the Constitution.

An ardent spokeswoman who organized rallies, went on hunger strikes, and on several occasions was sent to jail, Dr. Paul, as a young woman, was a relentless advocate of women's suffrage. She was educated as a social worker and lawyer.

In an interview several months ago, she said that the adoption in 1920 of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote, was the high point of her life.

"The thing I think that was the most useful thing I ever did, was having a part in getting the vote for all the women," she said.

But Dr. Paul's involvement in the women's rights movement did not stop there. She continued a forceful campaign for equality of women in the United States and abroad. She helped to found the World Woman's Party, and was later instrumental in having a reference to sex equality included in the preamble to the United Nations Charter.

The daughter of a well-to-do Quaker family, she was born in Moorestown on Jan. 11, 1885. She attended Swarthmore College and earned a master's degree and a doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania.

It was not until she did graduate work in England, where she joined the British suffragists, that she began to participate in radical feminist activity.

In Britain she was arrested seven times and jailed three times. During one period she refused to eat and was force-fed by nasal tube twice a day for four weeks.

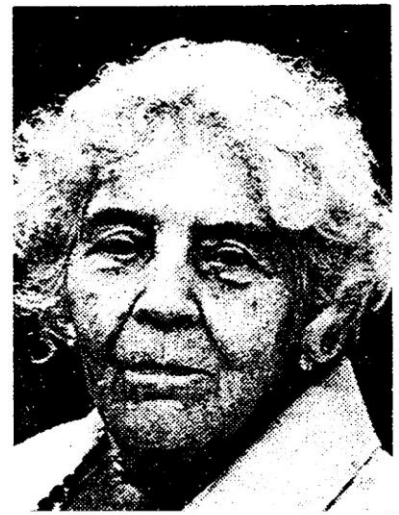
When Dr. Paul returned to the United States, she brought the militant and colorful British tactics to the American suffrage movement.

'Silent Sentinels'

Under her direction, members of the National Women's Party, of which she was chairman, became "silent sentinels" outside the White House, where they would stand wearing white dresses and carrying purple, white and gold banners that expressed such sentiments as "How Much Longer Must Women Wait?" or, "An Autocrat at Home Is a Poor Champion of Democracy Abroad."

Dr. Paul also organized marches and rallies and managed to arrange a meeting with a newly elected President, Woodrow Wilson, to urge him to support the right of women to vote.

Almost immediately after the women's suffrage amendment was ratified in 1920, she turned to the equal rights amendment, which she is credited with drafting (although in 1943 it was rewritten in the Senate Judiciary Committee).



United Press International
Alice Paul

In the 1920's, Dr. Paul earned three law degrees. She went to Europe, organized the World Woman's Party and lobbied in the League of Nations for equality. When World War II broke out, Dr. Paul returned to Washington and resumed her efforts on the equal rights amendment.

"I think it is fair to say she was ahead of her time," said Dr. Barbara Solomon, who teaches a woman's history course at Harvard University. "And if you believe in E.R.A., we are still trying to catch up."

Dr. Paul is survived by a nephew. A private funeral service has been planned.