

# **LIBERTY AND THE NEWS**

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Liberty and the News by Walter Lippmann

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**WALTER LIPPMANN**

**LIBERTY  
AND THE NEWS**



## LIBERTY AND THE NEWS

BY WALTER LIPPMANN

THE POEMS OF PAUL MARLETT.  
Edited with an Introduction.

A PREFACE TO POLITICS.

DRIFT AND MASTERY.

THE STAKES OF DIPLOMACY.

THE POLITICAL SCENE: An Essay  
on the Victory of 1918.

# LIBERTY *and the* NEWS

BY  
WALTER LIPPMANN



NEW YORK  
HARCOURT, BRACE AND HOWE

1920

In writing this tract I have dared to believe that many things were possible because of the personal example offered to all who practice journalism by Mr. C. P. Scott, for over forty-five years editor-in-chief of the *Manchester Guardian*. In the light of his career it cannot seem absurd or remote to think of freedom and truth in relation to the news.

Two of the essays in this volume, "What Modern Liberty Means" and "Liberty and the News" were published originally in the *Atlantic Monthly*. I wish to thank Mr. Ellery Sedgwick for the encouragement he gave me while writing them, and for permission to reprint them in this volume.

W. L.

New York City.

January 1, 1920.



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## JOURNALISM AND THE HIGHER LAW

**V**OLUME 1, Number 1, of the first American newspaper was published in Boston on September 25, 1690. It was called *Publick Occurrences*. The second issue did not appear because the Governor and Council suppressed it. They found that Benjamin Harris, the editor, had printed "reflections of a very high nature."<sup>1</sup> Even to-day some of his reflections seem very high indeed. In his prospectus he had written:

"That something may be done toward the Curing, or at least the Charming of that Spirit of Lying, which prevails amongst us, wherefore nothing shall be entered, but what

<sup>1</sup>"History of American Journalism," James Melvin Lee, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1917, p. 10.