

5-1-1973

## Correspondence Between Roger J. Traynor and J. Edward Murray Regarding the National News Council, 1973 May 15 - 1973 May 31

Roger J. Traynor

*The National News Council, Inc.*

J. Edward Murray

*American Society of Newspaper Editors*

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### Recommended Citation

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May 31, 1973

Mr. J. Edward Murray  
President  
American Society of Newspaper Editors  
Detroit Free Press  
Detroit, Michigan 48231

Dear Mr. Murray:

After an all too peripatetic month, I have at last been able to settle down with mail at home base. It was indeed heartening to receive so gracious a note as yours of the 15th, for despite all that Daniel-whistling in the dark in Washington, I hadn't really expected to come any time soon into the sunlight of good wishes.

Some years back I did a piece on fact-skepticism, laboring what should be obvious but isn't to many, that in the process of judgment we deal always in probabilities only, in relative terms. Hence I particularly welcome your cautiously optimistic note of relativity, your belief that a National News Council is more likely to help than hurt free press. I share that belief, and hope to see it materialize.

Sincerely,

Roger J. Traynor

J. EDWARD MURRAY  
DETROIT FREE PRESS  
PRESIDENT

ARTHUR C. DECK  
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE  
VICE PRESIDENT

HOWARD H. (TIM) HAYS  
RIVERSIDE PRESS-ENTERPRISE  
SECRETARY

WARREN PHILLIPS  
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
TREASURER

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS

PRESIDENT  
J. EDWARD MURRAY  
DETROIT FREE PRESS  
DETROIT, MICH. 48231

May 15, 1973

Justice Roger Traynor  
Hastings School of the Law  
198 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Justice Traynor:

On behalf of the Society and myself, thank you very much for speaking to the ASNE convention audience on the National Press Council.

Your measured statement outlining the project was just what we needed to introduce our pro and con participants.

Personally, I happen to be among that minority of editors who believe a national press council is more likely to help than hurt free press, and therefore should be given a fair chance.

So, the very best of luck on the undertaking.

Again, it was good of you to come.

Sincerely,



J. Edward Murray

JEM:mep

CC: Deck, Daniels, Patterson

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President, American Society of Newspaper Editors  
Detroit Free Press  
Detroit, Michigan 48231

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Sincerely,

Rogel G. Traynor