

Essary, Darlene Anderson, "True Meaning of 'Americanism'," letter to the editor, Tulsa Tribune, September 18, 1950, p. 28, col. 2.

TRUE MEANING OF 'AMERICANISM'

Editor, The Tribune:

Thank you for your editorial The Tribune of September 14, concerning the Bartlesville library. It says eloquently what should have been said by our local newspapers many months ago.

I should like to set the record straight about "Soviet Russia Today." That periodical was not on our library's subscription list, but was received without charge. No one paid any particular attention to it until the so-called Citizens' Committee charged that it, together with The Nation and The New Republic, was "subversive." The Library board responsible for the administration of our library prior to June 14, 1950, of which I was a member, carefully appraised these magazines, as well as all other publications on the subscription list. We determined that "Soviet Russia Today" was of insufficient value, from the standpoints of interest and information, to justify occupation of the limited shelf space available to us. "Soviet Russia Today" was removed from the shelves on March 6, 1950, and has not since been contained in our library.

All citizens who understand the true meaning of the word "Americanism" join with me in rejoicing that there is at least one newspaper in Oklahoma which recognizes that freedom for the press, like other freedoms, has a corollary: responsibility.

Bartlesville

DARLENE ANDERSON ESSARY