

Editor  
News-Post  
Frederick, Md. 21701

7/8/83

Dear Editor,

In his July 8 column, Roy Meachum pontificates, " I have not - and will never - engage in anything that smacks of 'mud-slinging,' which is the reason why I refuse to reply to my critics."

which is aimed at City Hall,

This is not true. The reason he has never replied to what I have written about his racism and pro-Islamic diatribes is that he is unfair, inaccurate, untruthful and suppresses what is not consistent with the propaganda he writes. If this were not so, given the nature of my comments, he certainly would have made at least a feeble effort to respond if only to save his face.

He doesn't sling mud? What else was he doing when he told his readers that he had consulted a lawyer, who confirmed his belief that I had libelled him? He said this when he wasn't man enough to cite a single thing I wrote that is libel. If any lawyer ever told him any kusch thing, which I doubt very much.

Talking down to those he regards as ignorant yokels, as usual, he also says, "I am concerned about the system." Our system works when the press informs the voters honestly and fully about major issues that are to be decided - not by propaganda, which undermines the system he says he is concerned about.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

7/8/88

Dear Mike,

The current water problem reminds me of what the paper saw fit not to publish and still hasn't, that the city sold its original watershed without competitive bids and at considerably less than the parcel would have brought if the reason for selling it was to get the best deal for the city that was possible.

This was undenied when I stated it at the county zoning board of appeals hearings at which your reporter was present and it was included in what I sent and/or gave you.

So, aside from the nature of the reporting and the character of the deal under which the city lost that source of precious water - precious without a shortage because the area is growing so fast - there is the wisdom of the whole thing.

Why without inference of the shady deal that exists would the city sell any part of its watershed when it is growing as fast as Frederick is?

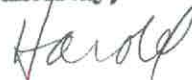
You may not have liked my reference to shopping-news journalism so I tell you that if your reporter intended anything better there was a solid month when the gross and deliberate violations of the board's conditions were violated daily and there has not been a week since in which this was not repeated.

With all the controversy over the breaking of the zoning code this is not news?

No competent reporter would have had even the slight curiosity required for a phone call?

And despite the obvious improprieties there still is no news when there is a water shortage?

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg