

The Press As Ostrich

by Tom Wicker

Kansas City, Oct. 25 - The newspapers here, as might seem to befit the heartland of America, are supporting Richard M. Nixon for re-election. So are hundreds of others across America, in one of the strangest paradoxes of a paradoxical election.

[Main body of column deals with Administration attempts to restrict freedom of the press.]

That so many American newspapers, for whatever reasons, are nevertheless supporting Richard Nixon and those he has brought to power only raises these sad and no doubt futile questions: If the Bill of Rights and the First Amendment are not vital to a free press, what is? If a free press won't stand up for them, who will?