Words More Powerful Than Dams, Says Press Editor Carmack At Wiess

By GARY HANOVICH

“There is no such thing as freedom of the press,” George Carmack, editor of the Houston Press, told the audience at a Wiess College night last week. “There is only the right of a free people to know what is going on in their government councils.”

Mr. Carmack, speaking on “Propaganda and How to Recognize It,” said he is suspicious of anything painted in all black or all white. He warned the audience to be watchful for political candidates promising Utopia and to be suspicious of the man who says what he is for but does not say what he is against.

ACCORDING TO Editor Carmack the Russians are ahead in the propaganda sphere because they early realized that words are more powerful than dams.

The public in America, though, is becoming more and more aware of public affairs. Magazines are growing at a fantastic rate. Mr. Carmack even pointed out that the circulation of the most popular news magazines has almost passed of the “True Confessions” type. He also said that the newspaper circulation in America is growing at a faster rate than the exploding population.

IN ANSWER TO a query from the audience, Mr. Carmack said that Attorney General Robert Kennedy’s Indonesian pronouncement on the Mexican War will haunt us for generations.

When asked how he would rate Houston’s three papers nationally, Mr. Carmack replied that the situation in Houston is one of the best in the nation because of competition. He pointed out that Houston is one of only four cities in the nation that still has three or more separate newspaper ownerships.