

# Credo For The Negro Press

*I Shall Be A Crusader . . .*  
*I Shall Be An Advocate . . .*  
*I Shall Be A Herald . . .*  
*I Shall Be A Mirror And A Record . . .*

**I SHALL CRUSADE** for all things that are right and just and I will, with equal fervor, expose and condemn all things that are unjust. I shall be a CRUSADER but I will not permit my fervor nor the rightness of my cause to provoke abandonment of the cardinals of journalism, accuracy, fairness, and objectivity.

I shall be an ADVOCATE of the full practice of the principles implicit in "Life, Liberty, and Justice For All." I shall be an ADVOCATE for these human and civil rights on behalf of those to whom they are denied, and I shall turn the pitiless light of publicity upon all men who would deny these rights to others. I shall ADVOCATE for my country, my state, my city, and my race, but I shall ever be on guard that I will not forget the greatest good for the greatest number while seeking deserving benefits for those who are disadvantaged by denials of them.

I shall be a HERALD, a bearer of good news, whenever I may, but of all news, whether it be good or bad if its heralding is in the public interest. I shall HERALD these tidings, good and bad, in the faith that the people are free only if the truth is known by them. I shall HERALD those things that others would suppress out of bias or for any and all other reasons.

I shall be a MIRROR AND A RECORD—a MIRROR of our existence as it is and a RECORD of our strivings to better that lot. I cannot deny or overlook my people's vices and shortcomings. Neither will I permit their virtues and good attributes to be hidden or denied.

I shall have integrity and I will not be bought. I shall be beholden to no man or class, because I am the voice of all my people.

I will knowingly print nothing with malice nor permit the exploitation of my columns by self seekers and narrow special interests.

I shall mold public opinion in the interest of all things constructive. I shall seem impatient at times. I will be abused and misunderstood, but I shall try always to be right and ignore the abuse, knowing that the wages of advocates and prophets ever have been, in the beginning, abuse and misunderstanding.

I shall be a crusader and an advocate, a mirror and a record, a herald and a spotlight, and I shall not falter.

*So help me God.*