

Part II: Coming of Age

10 First Gold, 1917–1919: The Great War, Brought Home

Chapter 10 Discussion

1. Why do you think the Pulitzers took so long to “catch on”? Consider whether it related to the low regard in which journalism was held, Joseph Pulitzer’s poor reputation, or the rarity of prizes in general. What other factors might apply?
2. What does “disinterested” mean, and is it a good adjective to describe good journalism?
3. Is “All the News That’s Fit to Print” still a good slogan for the New York Times? Why or why not?
4. Carr Van Anda seemed to set the newsroom tone at the New York Times in the early 1900s. Can you think of other editors, from Part One, Martin Baron, John Carroll, Jim Amoss, Stan Tiner, or Bill Marimow, who had a similar impact?
5. Discuss whether the 1918 Pulitzer Prize to the Milwaukee Journal was a product of its time.

Chapter 10 Quiz

1. No Pulitzer Prize for Public Service was awarded in the first year, 1917:
True False
2. Which of these was a key ingredient in the New York Times prizewinning work in 1918
A Reporting by women B Reporting by African-Americans
C Wireless transmission of news D All of the above
3. The designer of the Pulitzer gold medal also designed
A The Statue of Liberty B A statue of Abe Lincoln
C Mount Rushmore D All of the above
4. After the New York Times’s first Pulitzer Prize for Public Service in 1918, how long did it take the paper to win another
A 5 years B 16 years
C 26 years D 46 years
5. As part of its winning Pulitzer Prize entry in 1919, the Milwaukee Journal proposed to ban the teaching of the German language:
True False