

President Butler
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It is our considered opinion, Mr. President, that our courses of instruction must be more closely related to the current practices and requirements of the profession; that our students must take more general advantage of University classes and scholarship and that they must make wider use of New York City as a laboratory for reporting and editing. We believe, also, that we should endeavor to bridge the gap between the sheltered environment of education and the unsheltered environment of newspaper life and of the life of the country as newspaper men are compelled to see, record and interpret it.

The profession of journalism today makes exacting demands upon its personnel. It demands an increasing accuracy of knowledge. Editors and reporters must be able and willing to adapt themselves to organized discipline without losing their individuality. They must have the ability to obtain accurate information and the industry to interpret and report it within constantly shrinking periods of time. They must have the capacity to pursue a continuous process of education. They must have the ability to comprehend the developments in many specialized fields of human action. They must develop an international viewpoint without losing a domestic consciousness; and above all they must have idealism and a balance which can not only withstand the stress of experience but aid in strengthening the idealism of a profession which is repeatedly shaken by its intimate contact with the weaknesses and the failures of human institutions.

Under these conditions we must place a high value upon our responsibilities to the profession if we wish to expect our graduates to value highly their responsibilities.

By requiring three years of college work of all students admitted to the School of Journalism as candidates for the degree, our student body will be provided with a broader cultural foundation. Upon this we shall build a two-year professional course and assign our students to University classes in government, history,