

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI BULLETIN

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 22

JOURNALISM SERIES, NO. 63

ROSCOE B. ELLARD, *Editor*

*“For Distinguished Work in
Journalism:”*

Missouri's Honor Awards
for 1931



ISSUED THREE TIMES MONTHLY; ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER
AT THE POSTOFFICE AT COLUMBIA, MISSOURI—2,500
AUGUST 1, 1931

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI BULLETIN

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 22

JOURNALISM SERIES, NO. 63

ROSCOE B. ELLARD, *Editor*

*“For Distinguished Work in
Journalism:”*

Missouri's Honor Awards
for 1931



ISSUED THREE TIMES MONTHLY; ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER
AT THE POSTOFFICE AT COLUMBIA, MISSOURI—2,500
AUGUST 1, 1931



FOR DISTINGUISHED WORK IN JOURNALISM
Missouri's Annual Honor Awards

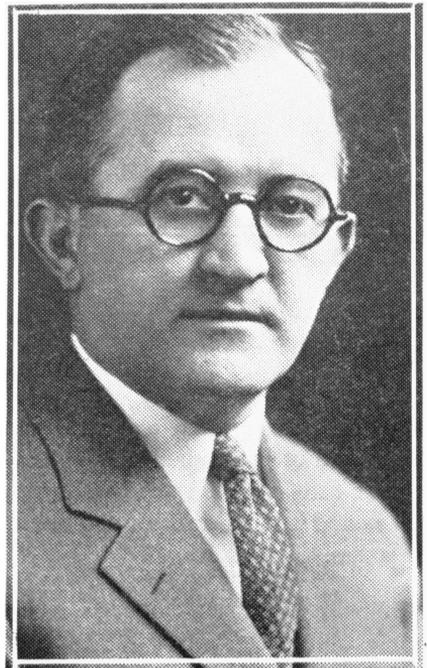
Five awards of a bronze medallion were made for the second time by the School of Journalism during the Twenty-Second Annual Journalism Week held at the University of Missouri in May, 1931. Pictures of those receiving the award and addresses delivered at the ceremonies appear on the following pages.



E. T. SCOTT

Photo by Lafayette, Manchester, England

“for sympathetic understanding of the points of view of other people and other nations.”



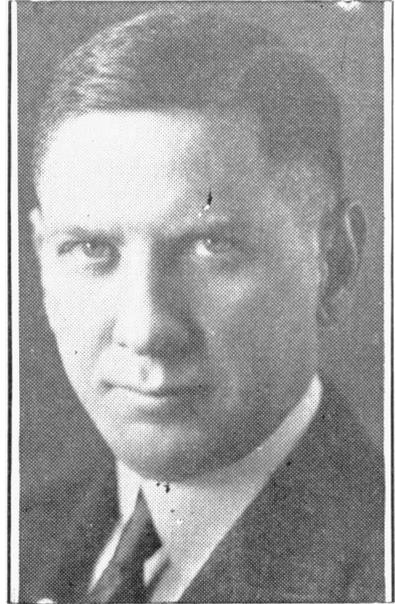
PAUL PATTERSON

“for rendering a patriotic service and contributing significantly to the cause of peace.”



ROBERT P. SCRIPPS

“for achieving and maintaining an intrepid, public-spirited and carefully informed journalism.”



HOUSTON HARTE

“a leader in a brief span of years.”



HENRY F. CHILDERS

“ through continuous publication of one journal for more than fifty years.”



WILLIAM E. MOORE

He accepted the Medal of Honor in behalf of Paul Patterson for the Baltimore Sun papers.

“For Distinguished Work in Journalism”

Missouri's Honor Awards

The second of a series of awards to be made annually by the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri for distinguished service in the professional field were presented to two newspapers and three individual journalists during the School's twenty-second Journalism Week at Columbia. On behalf of the faculty of the School of Journalism, President Walter Williams announced the citations at the morning meeting in the Jay H. Neff Hall auditorium, May 8, 1931.

The Baltimore Sun and Manchester (England) Guardian were the papers selected; and for outstanding leadership as individual journalists were named Robert P. Scripps, editorial director of the Scripps-Howard newspapers; Houston Harte, publisher of the San Angelo (Tex.) Standard-Times, and Henry F. Childers, editor of the Free Press, Troy, Mo. Each received a bronze Medal of Honor, inscribed with the recipient's name and the reason for its presentation.

The awards—given first last year when two were presented to newspapers, one in the United States and one abroad, and three to individuals—were made upon recommendation of a special committee from the professional faculty and approved by the general faculty of the School. The Board of Curators of the University of Missouri authorized the citations. Plans and regulations for their annual bestowal were adopted by the Journalism School, March 20, 1930. The medals will be awarded “to newspapers, or periodicals, or editors or publishers of newspapers and periodicals, or persons engaged in the practice of journalism, for distinguished service performed in such lines of journalistic endeavor as shall be selected each year for consideration.”

In making the awards in 1931, President Williams said:

“To the Manchester Guardian: For giving to the world's journalism throughout more than a century its unparalleled line of distinguished editors; for its defining by unremitting practice for the profession everywhere those journalistic virtues of Reliability and Authority; for its brilliant battle for liberalism, for sympathetic understanding of the points of view of other people and other nations, and for its courageous fight for peace; for its sensitiveness

to moral ideas. The medal will be received by A. Wyn Williams, American correspondent for the Manchester Guardian, New York City.

"To Houston Harte of the San Angelo (Tex.) Standard-Times, alumnus of the School of Journalism: For his spirit of pioneering; for his eminent success through undaunted, untiring efforts toward the goal of high service in journalism, and for the wide influence as a leader for betterment gained individually and as an editor in a brief span of years.

"To the Baltimore Sun papers: For rendering a patriotic service and contributing significantly to the cause of peace by presenting an outstandingly well-planned, complete and highly intelligent coverage of the Washington Arms Conference from both American and European points of view; and for consistently giving a wide field of readers two brilliant, fearless and constructively liberal newspapers, national in their interests and authoritative in their opinion; for maintaining a journalism completely free from either one-man domination or business control; for reporting and interpreting important local, national and world news with careful knowledge and literary quality. The medal will be accepted by William E. Moore, managing editor of the Baltimore Sun.

"To Robert P. Scripps, publicist and newspaper executive: For achieving and maintaining an intrepid, public-spirited and carefully informed journalism; for a wise employment of vigorous youth on his newspapers; for seeing and meeting the need today for an aggressive, constructive liberalism to combat in the interests of that great middle stratum of our American people the domestic and international corruption and injustice which challenge the efficacy of the world's social structure.

"To Henry F. Childers, of the Troy (Mo.) Free Press: For conspicuous service to a rural community through continuous publication of one journal for more than fifty years; for his devotion to the high ideals of clean, independent and courageous journalism; for his contribution to the progress and welfare of the State of Missouri, and for his inspiring gentlemanly character as exemplified by him as a citizen and through the medium of his profession."

A. Wyn Williams Responds

A. Wyn Williams, American representative the Manchester Guardian, read a message from E. T. Scott, editor of the Guardian. Mr. Scott's remarks were:

"I am deeply sensible of the great honour which the University of Missouri has conferred upon the Manchester Guardian, and greatly regret that I am unable personally to accept on its behalf the medal awarded by the School of Journalism. The distinction is one which I prize especially as coming from a country which possesses many newspapers of great traditions and

conspicuous enterprise. The essential qualities of good journalism are the same everywhere, and despite the striking differences in appearance provided by American and British newspapers there is no doubt that for the most part these differences cover an underlying unity of aim. The standards and ideals of the profession are alike everywhere; they must be clothed in the special local and national colours, but underneath they are the same; they are international. In judging foreign newspapers, one is always apt to pay too much regard to superficial differences of local or national idiom and too little to the profounder similarities of function and purpose. I am proud to think that the honour you are today conferring upon the Manchester Guardian means that you place it in the great company of newspapers which exist in all countries of the world to carry on a vital public service.

"Newspapers for the most part serve an area whose radius is limited by the facilities of transport. As the facilities of transport grow the range of each newspaper's influence grows too. But of course influence is not entirely a matter of physical communication. It is possible for a newspaper to be known and admired, and therefore, to have influence even where it does not sell a single copy. That may not appear to be a very remunerative aspect of journalism, but there is none which an editor prizes more highly. In spite of the ever diminishing distance between America and Europe it is not possible for the daily newspapers of either continent to circulate to an appreciable extent in the other. That does not mean that they are without influence upon one another. On the contrary the growth of internationalism has been accompanied by a remarkable growth in the habit of quotation from foreign newspapers. We are more interested in one another than we used to be, and the foreign correspondent is expected to satisfy this curiosity. His responsibilities are great, for he has to mirror in a few sentences what the whole press of the country in which he lives may be saying or its people thinking. There is, of course, another way of satisfying this international curiosity, a way which is being increasingly adopted—that is by means of the weekly or monthly journal. Readers of these weeklies or monthlies are less particular about having everything red-hot from the printing press and one of the most encouraging signs we have ourselves met with is the steady growth of interest in the Manchester Guardian Weekly in the United States. There is, it seems, a correspondingly growing field for the development of American periodicals in Great Britain, and in time this should do much to familiarize the nations with each other's difficulties and points of view.

"At the present time there is great need of understanding, for both nations have to bear the shock of that world-wide economic collapse which has closed so many markets to the exporting countries. But hard times will pass and when the sun of prosperity shines again it is to be hoped that with the better knowledge of one another which the newspapers can do so much to promote

the ties of business will be re-inforced by the ties of a yet more intimate friendship.

(Signed) "E. T. Scott"

"As Free as Birds"

In thanking the School of Journalism for the award made to the Baltimore Sun, William E. Moore, the son of Columbians and a former student at the University of Missouri, said:

"Receiving this medal for my paper from my old university combines an honor with a pleasure difficult to frame in words. But my satisfaction is mingled with regret. This medal of honor was to have been presented to Paul Patterson, chief executive of the Sunpapers and builder of that organization which has made the Sun and the Evening Sun what they are. Mr. Patterson and I are old friends as well as associates and I have watched him in thirty years climb, by modest merit alone, from the bottom to the top rung of the journalistic ladder. I am sorry he could not have been here in person to accept the honors this great school is bestowing on a great newspaper.

"I can boast of the merit of the Sun with no immodesty for it was cast in the mold of its present form, and its current reputation was established, before I joined its staff. Therefore, I suffer no embarrassment in acknowledging President Williams' eulogies, nor in pointing out some reasons why the Sun has become the great newspaper it is acclaimed. The chief reason is that the group of capitalists who own it do not interfere with the newspaper men who run it. That the results have been remarkably profitable to the owners ought to carry a lesson to other proprietors who are not so tolerant.

"On the staff itself the same tolerance obtains. We have men of all shades of opinion among the executives and writers. It is no unusual thing to witness an internecine war of words going on in the Sun's columns between the writers on the editorial page and correspondents in Washington and Europe.

"Frank Kent, our political philosopher and critic, speaking last month before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, told how the editorial writers sometimes assail him.

"'Often they roughly assault me in the editorial columns', he said, 'when I crack one of their pet policies. But they let me fight back in mine. I am free as a bird.'

"On the Sun we are all free as birds. Those of us who have charge of the news columns do not have to hold our ears to the ground to keep in tune with the ideas of either owners or editors. Inside the circle we have some mighty battles, but when they are over each goes back to his department to carry on unfettered.

"An example of how unfettered we are is a memo I sent to all executives under me when I took over the job of managing editor. It reads as follows:

"Henceforth the only rules we have are those of common sense, good taste and good English."

"This has never been questioned by my superiors nor have I ever found it necessary to modify it."

A Tribute to His Organization

Accepting, what he said was the first medal ever presented to him, Mr. Scripps remarked that while the award was intended for him personally and was accepted as such he would be "unable to function as an editor without the support and co-operation of that organization, an unusually fine organization, the Scripps-Howard newspapers."

Spirit of Pioneering

In his acceptance of a medal, Mr. Harte, a graduate of the School of Journalism seventeen years ago, observed that in his opinion grades in the School of Journalism were a trustworthy scale whereby the student would be a success in the future as a newspaper man, that students trained in advertising found it harder to "make a go of newspaper work than those trained in the editorial field and that newspaper experience before entering the School of Journalism prepared a man to better absorb the specialized training given in the School than those devoid of actual practice."

Service to a Rural Community

Mr. Childers accepted the medal in the following speech:

"President Williams:

I desire to sincerely thank you and the faculty of the School of Journalism for the honor which you have conferred upon me in the presentation of this medal. While I scarcely feel worthy of the distinction, I want to assure you that it gives me the greatest pleasure that has been mine in all the years of my work as a country editor. It is a very happy coincidence in the fact that it comes to me upon the golden anniversary of my affiliation with the body which is meeting here today. In the year 1881, I first became a member of the Missouri Press Association.

"As memory recalls the years that have passed, the faces of many good friends come before me to remind me of the happy hours enjoyed in the recurring meetings of the Association. I see through the vistas of the past my

friends, E. W. Stephens, John W. Jacks, A. A. Lesueur, George W. Trigg, H. E. Robinson, W. O. L. Jewett, B. F. Blanton, J. A. Hudson, and many others whose names I might repeat. Those were the men who wrote the history of Missouri, those were the men who gave their lives to its progress.

“Not long since, I read in a trade paper a prediction by a writer that the country weekly would soon disappear; that the expanding circulation of daily papers would crowd the weeklies from the field. He based that prediction upon the fact that 3000 weeklies have been discontinued or merged in the recent past. I challenge his conclusion. The country weekly will flourish so long as it has a mission in this republic of ours.

“The first newspaper published on earth was a country paper. Its editor was a country doctor. He trod the hills and valleys of Judea. He sailed the blue waters of the Sea of Galilee. He sat at the feet of the Master and his inspiration came from the words of the Great Teacher. His country weekly was not a printed sheet, but its pages were bound in The Book and will be preserved so long as time shall last. It was the history of the first years of the Christian religion. It was a lasting contribution to the world’s literature and right well was its mission performed.

“The country press gave to the University of Missouri and to the world this great first School of Journalism. The country press fathered and fostered the idea which made possible this school. So that, Mr. President, the Missouri Press Association and its membership of country editors gave you to the School of Journalism as its first Dean and later we gave you to the University as its President.

“Missouri has today a wonderful system of permanent roads and that system is being rapidly expanded. The cattle paths of yesterday are becoming the farm-to-market roads of today. The old tree-notched state highways of pioneer days are becoming the ribbons of concrete reaching from border to border of our great commonwealth. This march of progress was made possible by the country papers which gave hearty support to the State Highway Department in every program that it placed before the people.

“The country editor has not only written the history of America. He has made its statesmen and has unmade many of its politicians. Lincoln, the Great Emancipator; Cleveland, who saved the United States from a debased currency and who coined the immortal phrase, ‘A Public Office Is a Public Trust’; Roosevelt, the Paul Revere of his day, who rode across the pages of history in his efforts to lead his party to a progressive platform; Wilson, the Great Idealist, who gave his life in an effort to make war impossible and peace permanent throughout the world. These great men were the idols of the country editors of America.

“May I repeat? The country press shall survive and the country editor shall flourish so long as they are true to the best interests of the communities

which they serve. So, my young friends who are students in this fine School of Journalism in the University of Missouri, I offer this word of advice: If you would serve your country well, join the ranks of the country editors. That will give you freedom of thought and action. It will give you a wonderful field for the service of mankind and your country. It will assure material reward to all who will be faithful to those ideals most worthy of your earnest endeavors."

Annual Awards

The annual awards of the Journalism School will not necessarily be restricted to any particular form of journalistic service; nor will there be, necessarily, any designated number of medals voted each year. The citations will be announced at the annual Journalism Week held at the School of Journalism. Awards will be made to those persons only who, upon invitation, are present to receive them, or, in the case of newspapers or periodicals, when such are represented officially.

Nominations for awards may be made in writing to the School of Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, by anyone before February 1 of each year.

If the award is made to a newspaper or periodical, the Medal of Honor, if the faculty so desires, may be bestowed in the name of the editor or publisher of such publication. On the recommendation of the special committee and with approval of the faculty, awards may be withheld for a year.

THE
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
BULLETIN

Journalism Series

Edited by

ROSCOE B. ELLARD

Professor of Journalism

As part of the service of the School of Journalism, a series of bulletins is published for distribution at nominal cost among persons interested. All of the earlier numbers of this series are out of print, so that no more copies can be distributed, but they may be borrowed from the University by any responsible person upon application to the University Librarian.

Bulletins still in print may be obtained (at 10 cents a copy, except the "Deskbook," which is 25 cents) by writing to the Dean of the School of Journalism, Columbia, Mo. They are:

No. 52. "A New Journalism in a New Far East," by Dean Walter Williams.

No. 53. "The Journalism of Chile," by Senor don Carlos G. Davila.

No. 54. "What Is Taught in Schools of Journalism," an analysis of the curricula of members of the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism, by Prof. Vernon Nash.

No. 55. "Local Government and the Press," a lecture on Don R. Mellett, by Marlen E. Pew.

No. 56. "Journalism and Diplomacy," addresses delivered by Mr. Katsuji Debuchi and Senor don Manuel C. Tallez.

No. 57. "News, Its Scope and Limitations," addresses delivered at the twentieth annual Journalism Week at the University of Missouri, May 5-11, 1929.

No. 58. "Organization of Journalists in Great Britain," by Dean Walter Williams.

No. 59. "Deskbook of the School of Journalism," tenth edition; revised, 1930, by Prof. Thomas C. Morelock. (Price 25 cents.)

No. 60. "Missouri Alumni in Journalism," a directory of the graduates and former students of the School of Journalism, University of Missouri, compiled by Lola Anderson.

No. 61. "Visit of the German Ambassador and the Gift From the Press of His Country," a report of exercises held at the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri during the twenty-first annual Journalism Week, May 4-10, 1930.

No. 62. "For Distinguished Work in Journalism: Missouri's Honor Awards.