

## *Part II: Coming of Age*

# **11 Reporting on the Roaring, 1920–1929: Ponzi’s Scam and an Ohio Editor’s Murder**

### **Chapter 11 Discussion**

1. In what ways does the story of Charles Ponzi’s scheme represent U.S. history during the “Roaring Twenties”?
2. What does the emphasis of Ku Klux Klan-related stories among Pulitzer winners say about the Pulitzer Prize organization’s early years?
3. What did Joseph Pulitzer mean by “Every reporter is a hope, every editor a disappointment”?
4. Consider the reaction of people in Canton, Ohio, to the murder of a newspaper editor in their town who exposed corruption. Is it unusual for a city like Canton to not look at negative stories like this as part of its history?
5. How difficult is it for a large organization to change its image—in this case when the Pulitzer Prizes first were seen by some as being part of the Pulitzer family enterprise?

### **Chapter 11 Quiz**

1. Where did the Boston Post find out Charles Ponzi had been imprisoned for forgery?

A Massachusetts	B Mexico
C Canada	D New York
2. Ponzi thought the Post was unfair when it exposed him:

True	False
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3. The Ku Klux Klan was the subject of Pulitzer-winning work more than once:

True	False
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4. Where was Don Mellett shot?

A His driveway	B At his editor’s desk
C At a public meeting	D In Cleveland
5. The two newspapers owned by Joseph Pulitzer were the New York World and

A St. Louis Post-Dispatch	B Cleveland Plain Dealer
C Chicago Tribune	D New York Times