12 From Depression to Wartime, 1930–1945: Corruption and the Dust Bowl

Chapter 12 Discussion

1. Do you think stories about municipal graft, like the case in Medford, Ore., occur more frequently during economic strife? If so, why? If not, why not?
2. Compare the approach taken in the Bismarck Tribune's coverage of the Dust Bowl to much-later stories of natural disasters, like the coverage of Hurricane Katrina in 2005.
3. Discuss the Harvard Crimson's criticisms of the New York Times' approach to the "Ignorance of U.S. History" story.
4. What are some other businesses besides newspapers in the pre-World War II years that put women in a subsidiary position on staffs. Why?
5. Consider the movie "A League of Their Own," about women playing professional baseball during World War II. How did the experience of women journalists compare, or contrast, with that during the war?

Chapter 12 Quiz

1. What did NRA stand for in the New Deal of the 1930s?
   - A ☐ National Rifle Association
   - B ☐ Newspaper Recovery Act
   - C ☐ National Recovery Act
   - D ☐ Nothing
2. The Dust Bowl was limited to North Dakota:
   - ☐ True
   - ☐ False
3. Chicago's Tribune Company now owns the Bismarck, N.D., Tribune:
   - ☐ True
   - ☐ False
4. What newspaper is associated with the name Sulzberger?
   - A ☐ Wall Street Journal
   - B ☐ New York Times
   - C ☐ USA Today
   - D ☐ The Onion
5. The Society Page of decades ago usually was staffed by
   - A ☐ Women
   - B ☐ Union employees only
   - C ☐ Editors only
   - D ☐ Public affairs reporters