

THE JOURNALIST'S PREDICAMENT

The Journalist's Predicament

Difficult Choices in a Declining Profession

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Sandra Vera-Zambrano

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The reporter has to be courageous, sharp as a hawk, mentally untiring, physically enduring. He comes in contact with everybody, from monarchs to beggars, from noblemen to nobodies. He sees the tragedy and comedy of human life, its cynicism and toadyism, its passionate struggle and feverish ambition, its sham and subterfuge, its lavish wealth and gasping poverty, its joy and sorrow, its good deeds and its most hideous crimes. His is a strange career, with its constant predicaments and anxieties. But it is an attractive, fascinating life to many, because of its wondrous change and kaleidoscopic variety.

—EDWIN SHUMAN, *STEPS INTO JOURNALISM*, 1894

