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Correspondence 1970-1973

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4-1-1972

## Letter from Robert Crocker, Secretary-Treasurer of The Newspaper Grind, to Charlotte Michaud

Robert Crocker  
*The Newspaper Guild*

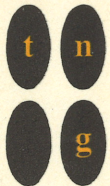
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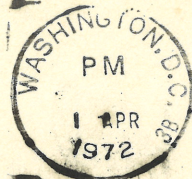
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r.m.crocker

the newspaper guild

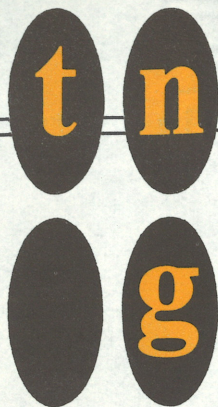
1126 16th street, n.w., washington, d.c. 20036



*Wood  
4-14*

Miss Charlotte Michaud  
~~c/o Journal Magazine~~  
~~Lewiston Evening Journal~~  
~~Lewiston, Maine 04240~~

*129 Wood St  
Lewiston, Me - 04240*



# the newspaper guild

1126 16th street, n.w., washington, d.c. 20036 (202) 296-2990

April 1, 1972

Dear Charlotte:

For some time now, my mother has been sending me clippings of your reminiscences as they appear in the Journal Magazine, and very few items in my recent reading matter have delighted me more. I hope you will keep it up for a long time and I know you can because you must have an almost inexhaustible fund of memories about the interesting characters who populated the Sun-Journal news rooms for quite a few years.

Needless to say, perhaps, but they have brought back many pleasant memories for me. But because most of your stories have been set in time a short interval before I came to work there, they have not only reminded me of people and events ~~which~~ as I saw them but have given me some fresh insights into the lives of the same people just a little while before I came on the scene, and that has proved to be quite an enrichment.

I chuckled a great deal over your account of your covering the Shrine affairs. How times have changed, indeed! At that time the idea of having a Catholic on their premises must have shaken up quite a few of the "brethren." Today, the Masons and the Knights are even exchanging visits once in a while, which surely must be a healthy change. I can remember in my youth hearing rumors that the Knights had an arsenal of weapons in their basement, getting ready to use them on the WASPS, I suppose. Some people really believed it, I suppose, never stopping to think that if the people of French descent had wanted to they could have beaten all of us Anglos to death with hockey sticks and wouldn't have needed any guns, such was the weight of numbers. And looking back on it, I really can't figure out why they didn't want to, in view of some of the then prevalent attitudes.

I didn't know Herbie and Emma Whitney too well but of course had heard a lot about them. Dan Dexter (what a lovable guy), some of the kooky photographers and reporters we had, Mr. Benner (I'm not sure I ever knew his first name), good old Sam and Minnie Conner, Vin Belleau--it's a wonder how so many really unique people gathered under the same tent. Not to mention the many who, thankfully, survive--Eddie Thayer, Margaret Mitchell, Norm Thomas, Gerry Reed and that little dark-haired lady who sat over by the front window and represented herself in the Franco-American social set as the voice of Louis B. Costello, by saying, "Madame Pontbriand (or Couture, or Gallant)? Iciela Journal qui parle."

I'll be looking forward to many more of your columns. Please give my best to any of the "old hands" you see.

Sincerely,

**INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN**

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