

April 10, 1994

Dear Brian:

I address you this way because you seem so familiar due to your presence on the various programs.

After watching the series of "Book Note" tonight I was able to determine why I watch C span so much. It is because I trust you - which includes what and how you ~~for~~ present people & events on the network.

If it were not for C span, I would be completely discouraged. News via newspapers, magazines, or TV is not reliable, as I understand the meaning of "news": (Facts, not ^{opinion} included in a news story)

I will tell you about myself. I am 80 years old - I attended public schools here from grades 1 thru 11 (Complete schooling in those days). I graduated from [redacted] in 1929 about 4 months before my 16th birthday. About 2 weeks after graduation I started to [redacted] not having had stepping or anything related to a job in business. My father arranged for me to attend this school with the understanding that I would pay for the tuition from my earnings when I got a job. (This greatly encouraged the daily school to send me on jobs.) The following March the newspaper called the school for a stenographer and I was sent to interview for the job (16 years old) and was hired as secretary to its circulation manager. (as La. pay)

I spent 13 years there - In 1941 I married - came the WAR and my husband immediately went to New Orleans to join the merchant marines. ~~He was so~~ ^{He ships} was coming in to the east coast ports so in 1943 I went to N.Y. to join him. I had a friend from Shreveport who was working for [redacted] in N.Y.C. She recommended me for a job and I was welcomed with open arms (their employees were taking better paying jobs elsewhere.) Within a few months I was

Supervisors for circulation files - for all their publications - Document
came to my dept. in the thousands.

My marriage failed and my health was not good and in
Jan. 1959 I came back to Shreveport. Going down to the newspaper
to visit friends I was invited to come to work - I worked there until
I ~~retired~~ retired in 1977 at age 64.

I retired just at the time the newspaper was sold to
Barnett. My youngest sister took my job as ^(now retired) secretary to the
Comptroller. ~~I~~ Several years I was in the office of the publisher)

I write you all this so you can have an idea of how much
you are admired and trusted in your responsibility. It is no
wonder people tell you on the air how important C-Span is to
this nation. You can believe it.

If my scribbling came hold out I will give you my
view of the changes in newspaper publishing.

The Young Family owned the New Orleans States the
Shreveport Times and the Monroe, La. News-Star World. The
father of the generation of George I. worked under sent his
oldest son to Shreveport sometime before 1938 to ^{be the editor} manage
along with a N.O. man ^{from the N.O. States} to be the business manager here.
The next generation (about 100) of sons of the ~~business~~

sons & nephews of the earlier generation) had no interest
in the newspapers - therefore Barnett bought them. Let
me say Barnett has been very kind and considerate of
retirees, and I am appreciative.

But, I want to comment about the change out of
town, out-of-state ownership makes in the newspapers.
Publisher, Editor, Adv. & Circ. mgs. are promoted from
small to larger papers, so there isn't real stability because
they are not long term residents. - which makes a

also a radio station
in Little Rock Ark
and Monroe, La

2 / differences in the city. A city as small as Shreveport and the Ark-La-Tex area the paper seems is greatly affected by the management. I understand the system but can't ignore the effect this has here.

The another thing is that the evening paper discontinued publishing about 5 years ago (the paper had a company that published the paper and had combined adv. & circ. depts.) The afternoon ^{paper} has one page (editorial) in the Times 6 days a week. I do not know how long that contrast will be in effect.

I am sure you are aware that this kind of situation is common in our nation, and has ~~been~~ ^{had} and now is responsible for some of the lowering of all kinds of standards in many areas your life.

Keep up the good work - and thank the cable companies who pay for and makes C-Span available.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted Signature]

Also, my thanks to your excellent staff. Because the director and management helps the staff be excellent and enjoy their work.

(I always enjoyed my 27 years of work).

[REDACTED]
Shreveport, La. 71108



Mr. Brian Lamb
CNN
400 N. Capitol St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

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