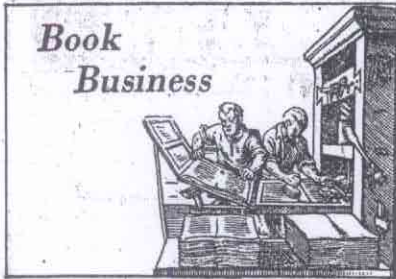


## Book Business



By JOYCE ILLIG

### *The Press Gang*

BARNEY COLLIER and his wife Maggi Castelloe have produced 80,000 words, 28 pages of photographs and, recently, some prepublication jitters over their book, *Hope and Fear in Washington (The Early Seventies): A Story and Pictures of People in the Washington Press Corps*.

Since last month, when a small segment of Collier's book appeared in [More], a monthly newspaper about the media, some Washington writers have been wondering about the time they have given to the freelance writer-photographer team during the past few years while they were working on their book. The sample published in [More] told about an interview with Sander Vanocur in a Washington restaurant and it provoked a lot of protests from readers who thought it was a sleazy swipe at the television newsmen.

Collier was originally signed up for a book on Washington journalists by McKay after his piece on Joe Alsop appeared in *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*. "They wanted a similar book on the Washington press corps, one

JOYCE ILLIG writes regularly on the publishing scene for *Book World*.

that would resemble the look at Alsop in the Times piece," Collier said in a telephone interview. When he turned in the manuscript, it was rejected.

"They expected something they didn't get," said Collier. "After that, the first person who had the guts, the real guts, to take it and like it was Joyce Engelson." Engelson is his editor at Dial, where the book was accepted after McKay and 17 other publishers had rejected it.

To gather material for the book, Collier and Castelloe had numerous sessions with 72 Washington reporters in the electronic and print media, ranging from Dan Rathèr and Roger Mudd to Sally Quinn and Helen Thomas. Of these, 32 were chosen for inclusion in the book. According to one victim, Collier's often antagonistic interviewing tactics silenced some subjects. Descriptions of interjections that suggested moral outrage and of almost manic actions during interviews put more than one of these encounters into categories ranging from merely unpleasant to "crazy."

On one occasion, all Collier did was look. When Carl Bernstein refused to be interviewed, after concluding that Collier's was not a "serious and responsible" book, Collier went to *The Washington Post* and "just sat by his desk one day and looked at him," his wife said. "They didn't talk. He just looked until Carl got real upset. I did get a picture, but Barney tells what he saw when he looked at him."

Joyce Engelson said that Collier has a "not terribly kind" self-portrait running through the book. Collier added that one editor who rejected the book "wrote perceptively that as compared to me, everybody else is a sympathetic character."

Among those discussed in the

book are Eric Sevareid, Ben Bradlee, Art Buchwald, Jack Anderson, Bob Woodward, Carl Rowan, Douglas Kiker, Betty Beale and Eileen Shanahan, plus "kind and moving" portraits of Stewart Alsop and Helen Thomas and a nonpartisan treatment of James Reston.

Collier said he told everyone he spoke to that everything was on the record. People criticized him sometimes for not taking notes, but Collier said that his memory of things was "reasonably accurate."

The book's eccentricities include a list at the end giving the birth date of all the subjects and telling whether they were born at home or in a hospital. Why? "Maggi despises hospitals and our daughter, Kate, was born at home and we just wanted to know if anyone else was born at home in this day and age," Collier said.

Before long, Collier may have to move from Vienna, Virginia to Vienna, Austria.

### *Rumors, Rumors*

ELLIOT RICHARDSON has canceled his contract for a book "on the relationship between the individual and government" since his appointment as American ambassador to England, according to a story carried on March 15 in *London's Daily Express*.

If true, the story is news to Richardson's agent, Julian Bach, who said that Richardson received an advance of "well over \$50,000," and to his publisher, Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

"I saw him in late February," said Irv Goodman, Holt's publisher and vice president of general books. "There are six chapters already in and I'm seeing him in June in London and taking the final part of the manuscript from him. It's scheduled for publication next March or April."