the public and the news

the appearance of the newspaper
and the public sphere

Concepts of Information
Feb 10, 2008
It didn't take much vision to figure out that unlimited perfect copyability, with global reach and at zero marginal cost, was slowly transforming the printing press into a latter-day steam engine. And once that became obvious, we said so, over and over again, all the time. We said it in public, we said it in private. We said it when newspapers hired us as designers, we said it when we were brought in as consultants, we said it for free. We were some tiresome motherfuckers with all our talk about the end of news on paper. And you know what? The people who made their living from printing the news listened, and then decided not to believe us.

Clay Shirky, boingboing, Dec 2008
back to the beginning

public and private
the press
news
establishing the news/papers
counterblasts
restrictions and freedom
stabilizing the form
endemic problems
public and private

keywords

-oikos, polis, agora, lexis, praxis
-res publica
-publicité

"a public sphere in the sense of a separate realm distinguished from the private sphere cannot be shown to have existed in the feudal society of the High Middle Ages."

public -- building, servant, school, opinion
private -- soldier
The independent provincial nobility based in the feudal rights attached to the land lost its power to represent; publicity of representation was concentrated in the prince's court.

—Habermas

the king and the court

knight
humanist
gentleman
revolutions

the king and parliament

"There is nothing [that] can more obstruct the long hoped for peace of this Nation, than the illegal proceedings of them that presume from servants to become masters and labour to bring in democracy."

— Charles I, 1649

the bill of rights 1689

the king and parliament

the bill of rights 1789

congress and the people
"the german word privat ... 'not holding public office".... The authorities were contrasted with the subjects excluded from them; the former served, so it was said, the public welfare, while the latter pursued their private interests ... 

"On the one hand this capitalism stabilized the power structure of a society organized in estates, and on the other hand it unleashed the very elements within which this power structure would one day dissolve. We are speaking of the the elements of a new social order were taking place ... new commercial relationships: the traffic in commodities and news created by early capitalist long-distance trade."
Habermas: "The great trade cities became at the same time centers for the traffic in news; the organization of this traffic on a continuous basis became imperative to the degree to which the exchange of commodities and of securities became continuous. Almost simultaneously with the origin of stock markets, postal services and the press institutionalized regular contacts and regular communications

"there existed a press in the strict sense only once the regular supply of news became public ... accessible to the general public ... [contributing to] a public sphere whose decisive mark was the published word"

"... the information that became public was constituted of residual elements of what was actually available."
**schema of social realms**

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Cofl News - 9
Defining "the public"

public:

"The various senses pass into each other by many intermediate shades of meaning. The exact meaning often depends upon the noun qualified; in some expressions the precise sense is unambiguous, but in others more than one sense is vaguely present, and it is difficult to determine in what sense precisely the thing in question was originally called ‘public’." OED entry for public, adj.

Cf adjectival uses: public access, public discussion, public funds, public schools, public house, public scandal, public affairs, the public interest, public company, public enemy, public intellectual, public sector…

Cf also: go public, go public with, in public,
Defining "the public"

**public, n.**

*Am. Her:* The community or the people as a whole. 2. A group of people sharing a common interest: *the reading public.*

*OED:* The community or people as a whole; the members of the community collectively. (e.g., "open to the public")

A section of the community, or of the human race, having a particular interest or connection. (*the reading p.*)

With possessive adjective. The section of society which is interested in or supportive of the person referred to; esp. a writer's readership; a performer's audience.
Defining "the public"

*Am. Her:* The community or the people as a whole.

Occurrences in Yahoo news:

- the American people: 13,342
- the American public: 2241 (6:1)
- the British people: 452
- the British public: 371 (1.5:1)
- the Russian people (5y): 63
- the Russian public: 24 (3:1)
- the Iraqi people: 727
- the Iraqi public: 47 (15:1)

Goog Scholar hits for *the 19th/nineteenth-century public*: 1300; *the medieval public* 128
What interests do members of a "public" share?

Am. Her: A group of people sharing a common interest: the reading public.

Google hits for:
- the reading public (352k)
- the filmgoing/movie going public (152k hits)
- tv-/television watching p. (755)
- the blogging public (1090 hits)

BUT the stamp-collecting public (25)
- the fishing public (2)
- the bowling public (1)

"At AFFTA, we represent the industry’s interests to the fishing public, legislators, and the media."

"Most, if any of these programs provide little or no cross marketing or local brand recognition, so the bowling public has no idea where to go."
The Spatialized Public Sphere

Habermas's Öffentlichkeit is one of those German words that can be both sociological (meaning the public as a group of persons) or philosophical (meaning making something public—the airing of an idea). When Chartier ran into it in translation, however, it had become spatial….as Öffentlichkeit hardened into "space" or "sphere," the metaphor lost its suppleness. It became reified and lost much of the meaning that Habermas had infused in it.

Where (if anywhere) is the "public sphere"?

The Spatialized Public Sphere

Put simply, the public sphere refers to the areas of informal public life – from cafes, to Internet chat rooms, to the exchange of opinion in magazine and television talk programs – where citizens can go to explore social interests and conflicts... The public sphere is comprised of any and all locations, physical and virtual, where ideas and feelings relevant to politics are transmitted or exchanged openly.

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—W. Lance Bennett and Robert Entman, Mediated Politics: Communications in the Future of Democracy, 2001
Where (if anywhere) is the "public sphere"?

**sphere**, OED:
6. a. A province or domain in which one's activities or faculties find scope or exercise, or within which they are naturally confined; range or compass of action or study. *Each branch of government deals with matters falling within its sphere; in/out of his sphere*, etc.

7. a. The whole province, domain, or range of some quality, thing, etc. *E.g., the sphere of architecture, sphere of operations*
Where (if anywhere) is the "public sphere"?

Non-spatial spheres

If legitimacy is essential in the academic sphere, both ownership and authority are vital in the administrative arena.

Protocol IPv4 is keeping its post because of the commercial sphere, so it is up to academic sphere to fight for its expansion. ...

What is really needed is for the government to completely withdraw from the business sphere.
Where (if anywhere) is the "public sphere"?

Non-spatial spheres

Cf also nonspatial uses of domain, province, area, field, world…

Note stress difference:

*If legitimacy is essential in the academic sphere, both ownership and authority are vital in the administrative arena. We will discuss the challenges facing women in the business sphere. What role are the media to play in the public sphere?*
Where (if anywhere) is the "public sphere"?

Non-spatial spheres
Cf also nonspatial uses of domain, province, area, field, world...

Note stress difference:
If legitimacy is essential in the ¹ academic ² sphere...
We will discuss the challenges facing women in the ¹ business ² sphere.
What role is the media to play in the ² public ¹ sphere?
Cf a ¹ private ² capacity, in the ¹ technical ² domain vs in the ² public ¹ domain
(OED) **public opinion n.** (originally, as a count noun) an opinion held by the majority of people; (later also, as a mass noun) views prevalent among the public; what is generally thought about something

1735 Visct. Bolingbroke *Diss. upon Parties* Let them stand, or fall in the publick Opinion, according to their Merit.... 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* When the court has pronounced its decision, then let it be freely commented upon; but until then parties must not attempt to influence public opinion 1900 'M. Twain' *Man that corrupted Hadleyburg*: A Government cannot satisfy all these public opinions; it can only go through the motions of trying.
"It is certainly right and prudent to consult the public opinion. ... If the public opinion did not happen to square with mine; if, after pointing out to them the danger, they did not see it in the same light with me, or if they conceived that another remedy was preferable to mine, I should consider it as my due to my king, due to my Country, due to my honour to retire ... but one thing is clear, that I ought to give the public the means of forming an opinion." Charles James Fox, 1792
"the creation of collective consciousness or public opinion...theoretical issues at stake ...
the sociology of communication ...
rather than the more voguish theories of Jürgen Habermas"

Darnton, "Early Information Society"

Habermas
the model case of British development
"three events occurring in 1695 and 1695 marked the beginning of this development"
--Bank of England
--elimination of censorship
--cabinet government

Darnton
the ancien régime
salons
secret police
early signs

from ballad to gazetti

Cleo: Nay, 'tis most certain, Iras: saucy lictors
Will catch at us like strumpets, and scald rhymers
Ballad us out o'tune: the quick comedians
Extemporally will stage us, and present
Our Alexandrian revels; Antony
Shall be brought drunken forth, and I shall see
Some squeaking Cleopatra boy my greatness
I' the posture of a whore

Sir Pol: O, I shall be the fable of all feasts
The freight of the Gazetti ...
establishing the news

truth
fact
news
speculation
comment
opinion
rumour [craquer]
gossip
hoax
falsehood
Cofl News - 25
establishing the news

a phenomenological account?

news is ...

what journalists write

------

what makes money

what fills the channel

"news is what we read in newspapers or see and hear on news broadcasts"
Darnton, "Early Information Society"
establishing the news

a historical-material account?

form/mode/genre

seriality

periodicity

periodical, journal, daily, weekly, monthly, annual...

title

news, gazette, courant, post

voice

intelligence(r), informer, observer, spectator, guardian

source

Lloyd's News, Defoe's Review...
an eternal human trait

a foraging account

"every society develops its own ways of hunting and gathering information."

"How did you find out what the news was in Paris around 1750?"

"Parisians ... powerful appetite for information ... famished for news"

"I have merely described what was news"

—Darnton

Cofl News - 28
"Almost simultaneously with the origin of stock markets, postal services ..."

precedents
Venice, gazetta
Holland, corantos
France, gazette
Edward VI, 1551

A proclamacion, set furth by the Kynges Maiestie, with the advise of His Highnes moste honorable counsail, for the reformation of vagabondes, tellers of newes, sowers of sedicious rumours, players, and printers without license & divers other disordred persons, the xxviii. day of April in the v. yere of His Highnes most prosperous reigne, [London?] : Richardus Grafton, tpyographus Regius excudebat, M. D. LI.
Wonderfull newes of the death of Paule the. iii. last byshop of Rome [and] of diuerse thynges, 1552

Newes come latle fro[m] Pera of two most mighti armies as wel of foteme[n] as of horsme[n], tra[n]slated out of Italien, 1561

Newes from Vienna the 5. day of August. 1566. of the strong towne and castell of Tula in Hungary, 1566

The trauayled pylgrime bringing newes from all partes of the worlde, such like scarce harde of before. 1569
true discourse & matters of fact

The truth of the most wicked and secret murthering of Iohn Brewen, goldsmith of London committed by his owne wife, through the prouocation of one Iohn Parker whom she loued: ... 1592.

The brideling, sadling and ryding, of a rich churle in Hampshire, by the subtil practise of one Judeth Philips, a professed cunning woman, or fortune teller With a true discourse of her vnwomanly vsing of a trype wife, ... 1595.

A true discourse of a cruell fact committed by a gentlewoman towards her husband, her father, her sister and two of her nephewes First printed in French at Roan..., 1599.

Two horrible and inhumane murders done in L[in]colnshire, by two husbands vpon their wiues the o[ne] strangled his wife ... the other havinge killed his wife, made a great fire, and burnther ...1607
Corante, or weekly news from Italy, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Bohemia, France, and the Low Countries, N.B. 1621

Between 1621 and 1632 newsbooks appeared in sequentilly numbered series, printed in quartos of four to forty pages, and generally sold for 2d. each.

1621-1641 John Butter & Nicholas Bourne (Thomas Gainsford, ed.)

30 Years War
The Continuation of our Newes, from the 4. to the 15. of this instant:
Containing amongst other things, these particulars.
A great overthrow given to the King of Persia by the Turkes.
A Letter written by the King of Sweden, being a second manifellation of his proceeding, & the reasons thereof, with several passages concerning Germany, and of the Administrateur of Hall, his preparation and success in, and near Magdeburg.
The valour and courage of the Protestants in Bohemia, in resishing the tyranny of the Imperialists over their conscience.
Some late passages of the King of Denmarke, and those of Hamborough, and of his good success against the Hamburgers, and others.

London, Printed for Nathaniel Butter, and Nicholas Bourne, 1630.
CofI News – and periodicals

July 25. Numb. 35.

THE CONTINUATION OF OVR WEEKLY

Advices, since the 19. of this present,

Certaine late and very remarkable passages twixt the Pope, and the Embassadors of the Emperor and King of Spain, concerning the excommunication of the King of Sweden and his adherents.

A Resolute and very Religious Speech of the King of Sweden, upon occasion of a danger escaped.

The Last and certainest passages of Maastricht, in manner of a diurnall, by which you may guess of the event of that sledge.

The names of certaine English and French Commanders lately hurt and slaine before Maastricht.

A Proclamation of the King of Spain against Count Henry of Vaubanet, one of the Revoluted Lordes of that State.

COnditions proffered by the Emperor to draw the Duke of Saxen to his side: Ineffectuose.

Besides divers other particulars of Note.

LONDON.

Printed by I. D. for Nathaniel Butter and Nicholas Bourne 1632.
Weekly Relations of Newes, 23 August 1622

If any Gentleman or other accustomed to buy the Weekly Relations of Newes, be desirious to continue the same, let them know that the Writer or Transcriber rather of this Newes hath published two former Newes, the one dated the second and the other the thirteenth of August, all of which doe carrie a like title, with the Armes of the King of Bohemia on the other side of the title page, and have dependance one upon another: which manner of writing and printing he doth propose to continue weekly by God's assistance, from the best and most certain intelligence.

Farewell; this twenty third of August 1622
counterblast

But to behold the Wals
Buttered with Weekly Newes Composed in Pauls ...
These shameful lies would make a man in spight
Of Nature, turne satirist, and write
Revenging lines against these shameless men,
Who thus torment both Paper, Presse and Pen
—A Scourge for Papers, or Papers Just Complaint
counterblasts

Ben Jonson 1572-1637

Volpone 1606

News from the New World 1620

The Staple of the News 1626
Printer: I'll give any thing for a good copy now, be't true or False, so it be Newes

....

Printer: See mens divers opinions! It is the Printing of 'hem makes 'hem news to a great many, who will indeed beleeve nothing but what's in Print. For those I doe keepe my Presses, and so many Pens going to bring forth wholsome relations, which once in halfe a score yeares (as the age growes forgetfull) I Print over againe with a new date, and they are of excellent use

Jonson, News from the New World 1620
print over again with a new date
United’s Tough Morning

Investors wiped out $1 billion of the market value of UAL, United Airlines’s parent, after the erroneous news flash; the stock price nearly recovered when trading resumed.

Source: Bloomberg
UAL files for bankruptcy

Chicago airline will try to stanch losses that have reached $22 million a day

By John Schmeltzer and Tom McCann | Tribune staff reporters

After 76 years as a Chicago business icon, United Airlines on Monday began mapping plans for a fresh start.

United became the biggest airline to go bankrupt, revealing that it is losing as much as $22 million a day--triple the losses it had earlier disclosed.

To survive, United must reinvent itself with the help of its unionized employees, company Chairman and CEO Glenn Tilton said. He emphasized that message in appearances outside U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Loop and at O'Hare International Airport.

Tilton also offered the first glimpse at his strategy for saving United. He said the carrier must cut operating costs by at least 20 percent to compete with other full-service airlines.

Related links

United CEO Tilton on bankruptcy  Audio

Video

And he said he wants to consider creating a point-to-point "airline within an airline" at United that can compete with low-cost carriers Southwest Airlines and JetBlue Airways. United competes against discount carriers in 70 percent of its markets.
Prologue: Come Gossip, be not ashamed. The Play is the Staple of Newes, and you are the Mistresse, and Lady of Tatle, let's ha' your opinion of it: Do you heare Gentleman? what are you? Gentleman-vsher to the Play? pray you helpe vs to some stooles here.

Jonson, A Staple of the News, 1626
I will say no more, but let the Letters answere for themselves: onely by way of Caution let me intreat you, neither to expect an order from Prioritie of date, nor any such exactnesse, as men are tyed to in a continued Story: For in plaine tearmes for any thing I see, they that are writ these Letters had them by snatches, and the whole business resembles a Bill of accounts, divided into severall Items, whose Summa totalis is the newes of the last July, and to the tenth of August 1623

B&B, More Newes from Europe, 1623

I think it not unfit to resolve a question which was lately made unto mee, viz. wherefore I Would publish any tidings which were only rumoured without any certainty: I will answer that I doe it to shew both my love and diligence to the unpartiall Reader. And that I rather will write true tidings only to be rumoured, when I am not fully sure of them, than to write false tidings to bee true, which will afterwards prove otherwise

B&B, Late Newes of a True Relation, 1624]
A corranto-coiner is a state newsmonger; and his own genius is his intelligencer. His mint goes weekly, and he coins money by it. Howsoever, the more intelligent merchants do jeer him, the vulgar do admire him, holding his novels oracular; and these are usually sent for tokens or intermissive courtesies betwixt city and country. He holds most constantly one form or method of discourse. He retains some military words of art, which he shoots at random; no matter where they hit, they cannot wound any. He ever leaves some passages doubtful, as if they were some more intimate secrecies of state, closing his sentence abruptly with—hereafter you shall hear more. Which words, I conceive, he only useth as baits. You shall many times find in his gazettas, pasquils, and corrantos miserable distractions: here a city taken by force long before it be besieged; there a country laid waste before ever the enemy entered. He many times tortures his readers with impertinencies, yet are these the tolerablest passages throughout all his discourse. He is the very landscape of our age. He is all air; his ear always open to all reports, which, how incredible soever, must pass for current and find vent, purposely to get him current money and delude the vulgar. Yet our best comfort is, his chimeras live not long; a week is the longest in the city, and after their arrival, little longer in the country, which past they melt like butter, or match a pipe, and so burn.

Braithwaite, Whimzies, Or a New Cast of Characters, 1631
freedom of the press

1641: end of licensing

"Printed in the year when men think what they speak and write what they think."

One More Argument against the Cavaliers, 1641

titles:
  Diurnall

Post

diurnal

the seriality of events vs the periodicity of reporting
freedom of the press

1641: end of licensing
"Printed in the year when men think what they speak and write what they think. One More Argument against the Cavaliers, 1641"

titles:
Diurnall
Post

diurnal

the seriality of events vs the periodicity of reporting
350 titles of news publications of all kinds appearing in the period from 1641–1659 alone

—Dooley, *Politics of Information*

**EEBO titles containing newes OR news**

- 1473-1500: 0
- 1501-1550: 7
- 1551-1600: 65
- 1601-1650: 824
- 1651-1700: 586
A Perfect Diurnall
OF THE PASSAGES
In Parliament:
From the fifth of September, unto the 12.
More fully and exactly taken then by any
other printed Copies as you will finde upon
Comparing, &c.
Printed at London for Francis Cotes.

Monday the 5. of September.

The Lord Spencer, and the Lord Faulkland came
to the Houes, and presented them with a Message
from his Majestie, in reply to the Houes last
Message, the effect whereof was; That the Parlia-
mament will appoint a certaine day to recall their
Votes and Declarations against such Persons that
are declared Traytors or otherwise for assisting his
Majestie, he also will upon the same day recall all
his Proclamations and Declarations, and take downe his Standard, so
that the Treaty may goe on, as was formerly propounded.

After the Reading of this Message in the Houe of Commons, and
some Consultation concerning it, it was divided into severall branches
and Voted by the Commons; the effect of which Votes were:
1. That his Majestie had declared the Parliament Traytors, by decla-

Cofl News - 46
"Any Londoner who wanted to read his newspaper in English had a dozen to choose from. On Monday he could select A perfect Diurnall, Certaine Informations, or Aulicus ... Tuesday he had The Kingdomes Weekly Intelligencer; Wednesday, The Weekly Account or the newly revived A Continuation ... and Thursday a choice between Britanicus and Civicus. Friday brought forth three papers ... On Saturday the reader either acquired The True Informer or went newspaperless. On Sunday he rested."

Frank, Beginnings of the English Newspaper
1662: Licensing Act
l'Estrange ["old crackfart"]
Up betimes, and an hour at my viall, and then abroad by water to White Hall and Westminster Hall, and there bought the first newes-books of L’Estrange’s writing; he beginning this week; and makes, methinks, but a simple beginning.
Samuel Pepys, Sept 4, 1663

1665: Oxford (then) London Gazette
This day the first of the Oxford Gazettes come out, which is very pretty, full of news, and no folly in it, wrote by Williamson
Samuel Pepys, Sept 4, 1663

The Parliament being grown to that height of contempt, as to be gazetted among runaway servants, lost dogs, strayed horses, and highway robbers.
Andrew Marvell, Growth of Popery 1678
This Intelligence, having gained reputation as well by its truth as honesty, some persons have maliciously printed another with the very same title, which can be done with no other design than either to discredit ours by their falsities, or else in hopes to vend them under our Title; Therefore we think fit to give notice, that the Counterfeit Currant Intelligence is printed for Allen Banks in Fetter Lane; but the true one for John Smith in great Queen Street, which for the future, to prevent mistakes, shall be called Smith's Currant Intelligence, etc. [April 26, 1681]
Factor: Gentlemen, I am neither Printer, nor Chronologer, but one that otherwise take pleasure i'my Pen: A Factor of newes for all the Shieres of England; I doe write my thousand Letters a weeke ordinary, sometim twelve hundred, and maintaine the businesse at some charge, both to hold up my reputation with mine owne ministers in Towne, and my friends of correspondence in the Countrey; I have friends of all rancks, and of all Religions, for which I keepe an answering Catalogue of dispatch; wherein I have my Puritan newes, my Protestant newes, and my Pontificiall newes.

Jonson, *News from the New World* 1620
1688 Dyer's newsletter
from coffee house to country

Dyer ... conducted his News-letter on a rather ingenious principle. The copies, instead of being written quite alike, were varied according to the tastes of the persons they were meant for. Previous to sending to a fresh Coffee House, he used to inquire what sort of people frequented it, and, on getting an answer, "would send such news as would fit them"

—Wright, Life of Daniel Defoe
"The Trade of writing News, which has been my profession for several years, being now quite out of doors, I am forced against my own inclination to appear in Print, to recover, if I can, my former customers and preserve those few I have left, who, as they often told me, will rather read a printed paper than a written letter. And because there are already three papers published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday which have got some reputation, I have chosen to publish my paper on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I shall take care, as I did in my Letters, to write Truth and give an impartial account of the most remarkable occurrences both at home and abroad."

—London News-Letter, 1696

"Dyer's newsletter still going strong three years after his death; in 1716, Adison claimed its readers were ignorant of printed news."

Morison, English Newspaper

Morison

"not one public but two publics, corresponding to two habits of reading. The cheapness and despatch of the printer had brought into existence a fresh market for news, but there remained numbers of older readers who were used to the more personal tone of the written news-letters."

—Convergence?
1691, Athenian Mercury

1693, Ladies Mercury

1695, Flying Post

1696, Post Man

before the year 1715 a newly founded newspaper [excluding Dailies] ... would be printed in the format and style originated by Robert Baldwin for The Post Man of 1696.
Lackeys, stable lads, odd-job men, gardeners and porters sit together and chatter about the news in the public prints... So they often think themselves better than the town mayor because they think they know a lot more than he does about every matter of state....

Steiler, *The Pleasure and Utility of Newspapers*, 1695
"[in 1709] there were six distinct publications to read .. on Monday, twelve on Tuesday, six on Wednesday, twelve on Thursday, six on Friday, and thirteen on Saturday."

Fox Bourne

1701, New Observator (Anne Baldwin)
1702, Observator (Tutchin)
1703, Daily Courant (Elizabeth Mallett)
1704, Review (Daniel Defoe)
the greatest part of the people do not read books, most of them cannot read at all. But they will gather together about one that can read, and listen to an Observator or Review —Leslie, The Rehearsal

1705, Post Boy (Abel Boyer; circulation about 3,000)
1708, British Apollo
1709, Tatler (Richard Steele; circulation about 3,000)
1710, Examiner (Henry St. John, Jonathan Swift)
1711, Spectator (Joseph Addison & Richard Steele)
1713, Guardian, Mercator, British Merchant
Reviewing the government's proposal to tax the press (1711)

will leave upon record ... that it could not bear the energy and force of the truth bearing witness against it

... they dare not bring their logics to the test within their enemies

... afraid these poor people should have their eyes opened

... that their practices, whether in politics or morals, will not bear light, and that 'tis in their interest to prevent the secret histories ... being made public

... nothing but a design to suppress truth
enduring form

Al Gore's Arab Moneymen

The story of a suspended ambassadorial nomination.

C ortion Gore, Italian business.

C erson, chairman of the National Security Council, who had suggested that Al Gore be appointed as ambassador to the Arab nations. But because of his perceived closeness to the Arab countries, the nomination was initially blocked by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The nomination finally was approved by the Senate, and Gore was sworn in as ambassador to the Arab nations. The move was seen as a victory for the Clinton administration, which had been working to improve relations with the Arab world.

The appointment of Gore as ambassador was seen as a significant step forward in the effort to improve relations between the United States and the Arab world. It was viewed as a sign that the Clinton administration was serious about improving ties with the Arab world, and it was hoped that Gore's appointment would lead to a more positive relationship between the United States and the Arab nations.

In addition to the nomination of Gore as ambassador, the Clinton administration also took steps to improve relations with the Arab world. For example, the administration worked to negotiate a new Middle East peace agreement, and it took steps to reduce the level of violence in the region.

Despite these efforts, however, relations between the United States and the Arab world remained tense. The two sides had a long history of conflict, and there were many issues that remained unresolved. Nonetheless, the appointment of Gore as ambassador was seen as a positive step forward in the effort to improve relations between the United States and the Arab world.
periodicity

dailies and weeklies

a daily magazine
"The Figure Pamphlets make in the world at present is so very considerable, that there seems a kind of necessity laid now-adays on most People to make their Court to them, or at least, to have an eye upon them, upon some account or other."

Myles Davies, *Eikon Mikro-Biblon. Sive Icon Libellorum, or a Critical History of Pamphlets*, 1715

"the great Glut of News-Papers, that are of late publish'd on Saturdays, is grown almost as a common Nuisance ..."

— *British Mercury*, 1715

"All Englishmen are great newsmongers. Workmen habitually begin the day by going to coffee-rooms in order to read the latest news. I have often seen shoeblacks and men of that class club together to purchase a farthing newspaper."

— César de Sassure, 1726
Defoe's *True-Born Englishman* (1700), a response to Tutchin, went through 9 authorised and 12 pirate editions. It was estimated that the pirate editions alone sold 80,000 copies.

[Population of UK, 1700, 8,565,000
Maddison, *World Economy*, 2003]
On Saturdays during 1746 at least 45,000 papers were sold .... Allowing for the moderate estimate of ten readers per page ...

a de facto readership of not far short of half-a-million.

Harris, London Newspapers in the Age of Walpole, 1987

[the population of London was under 700,000]

In 1780, estimated that 25,000 papers were produced each day.

—Harris
"We shall only add, That as we pretend not to Infallibility: if by Mistake or Misinformation any thing should escape us that requires it, we shall think we owe it to the Reputation we aim to preserve, and to Ingenuity, to take notice of it as soon as possible."

*Daily Courant, 1729*
an open press

**John Dunton** 1669-1732

*Athenian Gazette; or, Casuistical Mercury,*
resolving all the most nice and curious questions
proposed by the ingenious of either sex
1691-1696

a dialogue between readers and experts
"informing" and "correcting"
in league with the penny post

the "athenian society"
cp. Defoe's 'scandal club'
Steele's Bickerstaffe
"Parochial queries in order to a geographical dictionary... Information is desired of the Name of the Parish; XXV. Particular Information of all Places where there are any Caves; XXIX. Information is desired from those who have been most conversant in Fishing;; XXX. By what is proposed of Insects and Fish; the Reader will judge what sort of Information will be acceptable XXXI ... interpreting some Queries to those of the Vulgar, whom they judge Men of Veracity, and capable of giving any the least Information towards it, that may be pertinent and instructive..

Edward Lhuyd, 1697

[Put an advertisement in the *Courant*] by that Means, you'll have the Assistance of the most able Men in the Kingdom.

—Susanne Centilivre, *Love's Contrivance*, 1703

Some People have an Arrogance peculiar to themselves, and can venture things into the World upon the Reputation of a bold Expression, presuming, no man will venture Examination after the positive Assertion of their Pen. If these Gentlemen are so full of Assurance ... when other Men as well Read as themselves, are at their Elbows to Confute them, to Examine their Authorities and reprove them when the Act without Authority ... what work would such men as these make in the World ... if this Padlock of the Press was set on by the Laws, and they were to keep the key

—Defoe, *Regulation of the Press...*
"[regulation] makes the press a slave to Party ... bringing the whole Trade of Books ... under the Arbitrary Power of Mercenary Men"

Defoe, *On the Regulation of the Press*, 1704
“It must be granted that many of our Public Miseries and Dissensions may be ascribed to the abuse of the daily Vehicles of Intelligence, which are too often employed in the service of Faction ... But these inconveniences should not lead the Lovers of the Country to condemn the Liberty of the Press, but to guard against the perversion of this inestimable blessing”

'The Examiner', *Morning Post*, 1780
"the political constraints on the news... information about the inner workings of the power system was not supposed to circulate under the Old Regime in France. Politics was the king's business"  
Darnton
Stripes part of America Supports You audit

Newspaper’s funds used for DOD’s public relations program under review by IG

By Jeff Schogol, Stars and Stripes
Midwest edition, Saturday, October 20, 2007

perversion vs regulation

in-house journalists

Citations Issued in Education Case

By REUTERS
Published: October 19, 2007

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (Reuters) — The Federal Communications Commission issued a citation on Thursday against a conservative commentator for promoting the Bush administration’s education plan without disclosing that he had been paid to do so.

The commentator, Armstrong Williams, whose firm was also cited, was not subject to any fines for a first violation of F.C.C. rules, because he and his company are not broadcasters.

But the agency said it had fined two broadcasting companies, including the Sinclair Broadcast Group, for putting on the air programs distributed by Mr. Williams and his company, the Graham Williams group, without properly disclosing who had sponsored them.

Mr. Williams could not immediately be reached for comment. He has denied any wrongdoing but has acknowledged that the Education Department’s outside media firm paid $240,000 to promote the No Child I

Behind policy on a television show on which he was the host.

Mr. Williams has said he was a strong backer of No Child Left Behind and was not influenced by outside parties.
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in-house journalists

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perversion vs regulation

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View the July 2006 documents here.

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Clinton Finds Way to Play Along With Drudge

By JIM RUTENBERG
Published: October 22, 2007

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21 — As Senator Barack Obama prepared to give a major speech on Iraq one morning a few weeks ago, a flashing red-siren alert went up on the Drudge Report Web site. It read, “Queen of the Quarter: Hillary Crushes Obama in Surprise Fund-Raising Surge,” and, “$27 Million, Sources Tell Drudge Report.”

Within minutes, the Drudge site had injected Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton's fund-raising success into the day's political news on the Internet and cable television. It did not halt coverage of Mr. Obama's speech or his criticism of her vote to authorize the war in 2002, but along the front lines of the campaign — the hourly, intensely fought effort to capture the news cycle or deny ownership of it to the other side — it was a telling assault.

Mrs. Clinton's aides declined to discuss how the Drudge Report got access to her latest fund-raising figures nearly 20 minutes before the official announcement went to supporters. But it was a prime example of a development that has surprised much of the political world: Mrs. Clinton is learning to play nice with the Drudge Report and the powerful, elusive and conservative-leaning man behind it.
An Advertisement.
Being daily prest to the Publication of Books, Medicines, and other things, not properly the business of a paper of Intelligence. This is to notifie once and for all, that we will not charge the Gazette with Advertisements, unless they be matter of State; but that a Paper of Advertisements will be forthwith Printed apart, and recommended to the Publick by another hand.
An Advertisement. The Commissioners Request may be put into the Gazette, That upon the Third day of July next, there will be sold at Grocers-hall, of Prize-goods, Wines, Brandies, Tobaccoes, and other Goods; and a considerable quantity of Spanish Salt; to be delivered at Dover.
London Gazette 1668

Mr Whites house at the Cock and Bottle, Aldersgate-street, Egbertus Will, of the City of Utrecht, having, by the blessing of God, and his long experience therin, arrived to a great knowledge in curing many defects of Body; doth hereby give notice, that he is ready to undertake the said Cures of deformed Bodies, crooked Legs and Feet, wry Necks, and whatever of this Nature hath been formerly practiced by one Mr. Scot ;
"It is inconceivable that we should allow so great a possibility for service to be drowned in advertising chatter".

Herbert Hoover (Commerce Secretary), 1922

"It is utterly wrong that what we see in our homes should depend on the advertisers to make profits".

Hugh Gaitskell
BBC's global website to carry ads

Advertising will appear on the BBC News website for users outside the UK, the corporation's commercial arm says.

BBC Worldwide says advertising will generate new income for the BBC, which needs to plug a £2bn budget shortfall.

The BBC argues that overseas readers, who do not pay the licence fee, should contribute towards the costs.

However, critics say commercialisation will undermine the editorial integrity of the BBC and is a slippery slope towards privatisation.

BBC Worldwide says the advertising will be introduced on popular web pages but did not say when the first adverts will be carried.

Adverts currently appear on the BBC World television channel, which cannot be seen in the UK, and were recently introduced on the international website's video content.

'Natural development'

More than half the users of the news site are outside the UK.

"Introducing advertising on international traffic to news pages is a natural development in the growth of the BBC's commercial news services," says Richard Sambrook, director of BBC global news.
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"Introducing advertising on international traffic to news pages is a natural development in the growth of the BBC's commercial news services," says Richard Sambrook, director of BBC global news.
"All the public papers now on foot depend on advertisements."
— Defoe, Review, 1705
Mr. SPECTATOR.

Several of my Friends were this Morning got together over a Dish of Tea in very good Health, though we had celebrated Yesterday with more Glasses than we could have dispensed with, had we not been beholden to Brooke and Hellier. In Gratitude therefore to those good Citizens, I am in the Name of the Company, to accuse you of great Negligence in overlooking their Merit who have imported true and generous Wine, and taken Care that it should not be adulterated by the Retailers before it comes to the Tables of private Families or the Clubs of honest Fellows. I cannot imagine how a SPECTATOR can be supposed to do his Duty, without frequent Resumption to such Subjects as concern our Health.

—Steele, *Spectator*, Friday April 25, 1712
Two Portugal Merchants and Vintners ... turning from Merchants and Importers, to be Retailers, and setting up Taverns in every Cellar ... It has restor'd the Trade ... the Poisoning Art of Adulterations, Sophistications, corrupt Mixtures, and all the abominable Ingredients and Compositions, which turn'd our simple Liquids into Wine ... we may come to ahve our Portugal Trade restor'd again.

Nothing sells, even in the common Taverns new, but Brook and Hellier ... These Wines were Neat and Natural ... a Glass of Brook and Hellier is the general Entertainment ... if you hear a Drawer call his Wine to be Scor'd, as he comes out of the Cellar, Ten Pints in Eleven shall be red or White Prt .. you shall hear them cry — thus, A Quart of Brook and Hellier-Score.

—Defoe, Review 1711
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**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

This Day is Publish'd,

THE true State of the Case between the Government and the Creditors of the Navy, &c. As it relates to the South-Sea Trade; and the Injustice of the Transactions on either Side impartially enquir'd into. Pr. 24d. Just Publish'd, an Essay on the South-Sea Trade, by the Author of the Review. Pr. 6d. High-Church Aphorisms by those Twin Brothers in Scandal, the Examiner and modest Abel. Pr. 6d. Printed for J. Baker in Pater-Nofer-Row.

THIS is to give Notice, That Meffieurs Brook and Hellier of London, Merchants, who do now give such general Satisfaction in Retailing their New Natural Portuguese Wines in the said City, (being the best that have come from Portugal for many Years past) have for the more effectual supplying the other Parts of the Kingdom caused Ships to Sail directly from Portugal to the following Places, where they are Arriv'd with the like Natural Wines, being the only New Wines that are now there, or can Arrive this Season; which Wines are to be sold by the following Persons, in the respective Places, viz. By Mr. Bart. Avent in Plymouth; Meffieurs James and John Arnold in Portsmouth; Meffieurs James Walman, and John Negus in Tamworth; Mr. Joseph Taylor of Wysbite in Lyme Regis; Mr. Crowle in Hull; Mr. Jos. Stone in Gainsborough; Mr. William Troddor in Newcastle upon Tyne: Note, the Price, viz. The Venetian Wines at 14l. per Hoghead or at 5s. 4d. per Gallon, and the Oporto Wines at 16l. per Hoghead, or 6s. per Gallon.

Printed for and sold by John Baker at the Black-Boy Pater-Nofer-Row. 1711.
Messieurs Brooke and Hellier, lane near Bread-street, having experienced for many years past, have for the more effectual supplying the other parts of the Kingdom, caused Ships to Sail directly from Portugal to the following places, where they are arrived with the like Natural Wines, being the only New Wines that are now there, or can arrive this Season; which Wines are to be sold by the following Persons, in the respective Places, viz. By Mr. Barth. Avent in Plymouth; Messieurs James and John Arnold in Portsmouth; Messieurs James Wakeham and John Negus in Falmouth; Mr. Joseph Taylor of Wysball in Lynn Regis; Mr. Crowle in Hull; Mr. Jof. Stone in Gainsborough; Mr. William Treador in Newcastle upon Tyne; Note, the Price, viz. The Viana Wines at 14 l. per Hogshead, or at 5s. 4d. per Gallon, and the Oporto Wines at 16l. per Hogshead, or 5s. per Gallon.
"Some regard is likewise to be paid to posterity. There are men of diligence and curiosity who treasure up the Papers of the Day merely because others neglect them, and in time they will be scarce. When these collections shall be read in another century, how will numberless contradictions be reconciled, and how shall Fame be possibly distributed among the Tailors and Bodice-makers of the present age.

"The trade of advertising is now so near perfection that it is not easy to propose any improvement.

"Advertisements are now so numerous that they are very negligently perused, and it is therefore become necessary to gain attention by magnificence of promises and by eloquence sometimes sublime and sometimes pathetic.

Samuel Johnson, The Idler, 1759
"1754, the [Daily Advertiser] appeared in the format which was to be the standard for the English newspaper until The Times added a fifth column in 1808. Hence the Daily Advertiser may fairly be regarded as the first modern newspaper —Morison