HISTORY OF INFORMATION: THE NEWS AND THE NEWSPAPER

Lecture 7 – Megan Finn – 20 July 2009



WHAT NEWS ON THE RIALTO?

Src http://
commons.wikimed
ia.org/wiki/

File:Venice_-_Rialto_Bridge_-01.ipa

HISTORY OF INFORMATION: THE NEWS AND THE NEWSPAPER

Lecture 7 – Megan Finn – 20 July 2009

EXCELLENT

History of the Mer-

With the extreme cruelty of Shylocke, the Iew towards the faide Merchant, in cutting a in it pound of his flesh. And the obtaining of Portia, by the choyse of three Cashess.

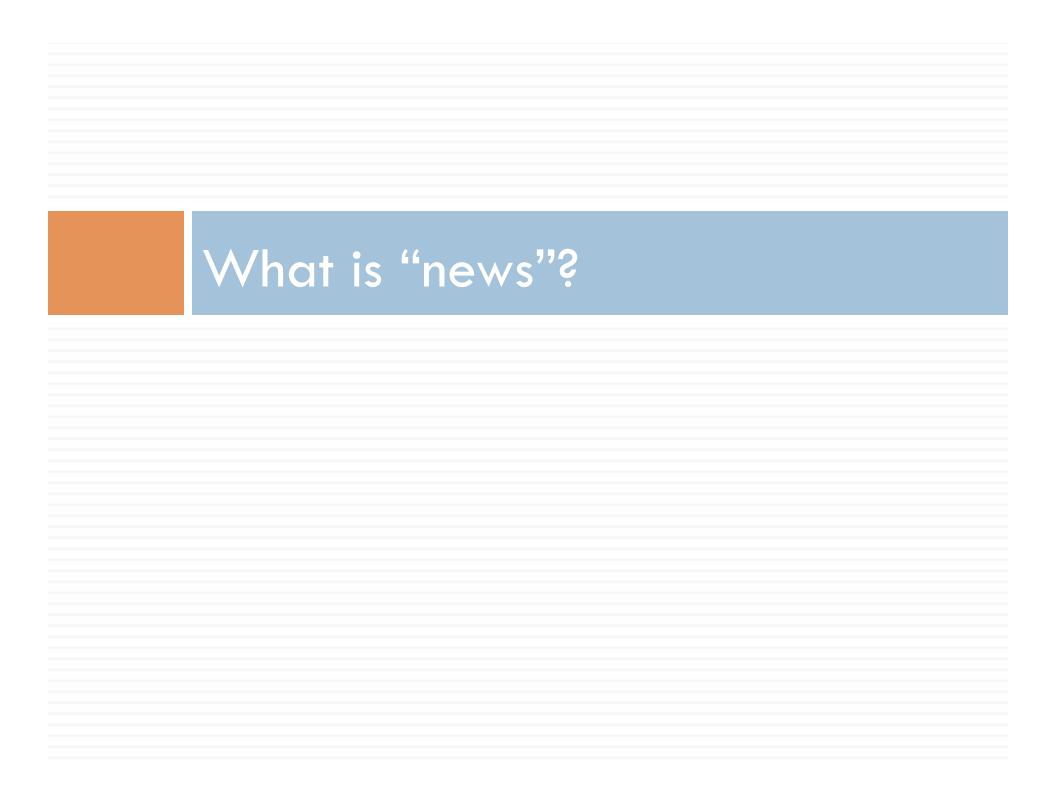
Written by W. SHAKESPEARE.



Printed by F. Roberts, 1600.

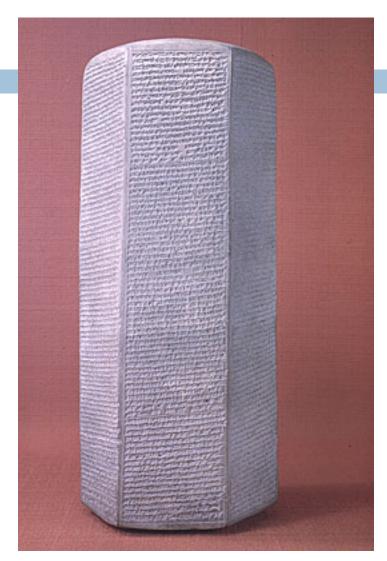
THE RIALTO?

Scrinders of in more warms on in Jan 10 his in Abril 1985 of the designant of the state promoters a flat of the designant distinguian arms to rivormer a quality of the designant distinguian arms to rivormer a quality of the designant distinguian arms to rivormer a quality of the case of the second of the papers in familiar to prove the flat distinguiant of the papers in familiary to the facilities and the second of the



Is this news?

Account of Assyrian
 King Sennacherib's
 campaign against King
 Hezekiah of Judah in
 701? bce



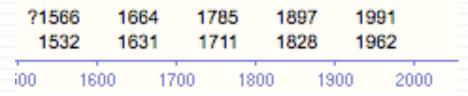
http://wwwnews.uchicago.edu/releases/ 05/050112.oi-objects.shtml

What is "news"?

2. The report or account of recent (esp. important or interesting) events or occurrences, brought or coming to one as new information; new occurrences as a subject of report or talk; tidings.

b. sing. Now esp. such information as published or broadcast.

sr:c: OED online
http://dictionary.oed.com



What is "news"?

c. As predicate: a person, thing, or place regarded as worthy of discussion or of reporting by the media.



sr:c: OED online

http://dictionary.oed.com

What is "news"?

"Abyssinia was News. Everyone with any claims to African experience was cashing in."

-Evelyn Waugh, 1946 "When the Going was Good"

News is old

- Greek mythological news carrier?
- "I have not seen them: I have not heard of them: no one has told me of them. I cannot give news of them, nor win the reward for news."
 - Hymn to Hermes, Homeric Hymns, trans. Hugh G. Evelyn-White, 1914.

Spoken journalist?

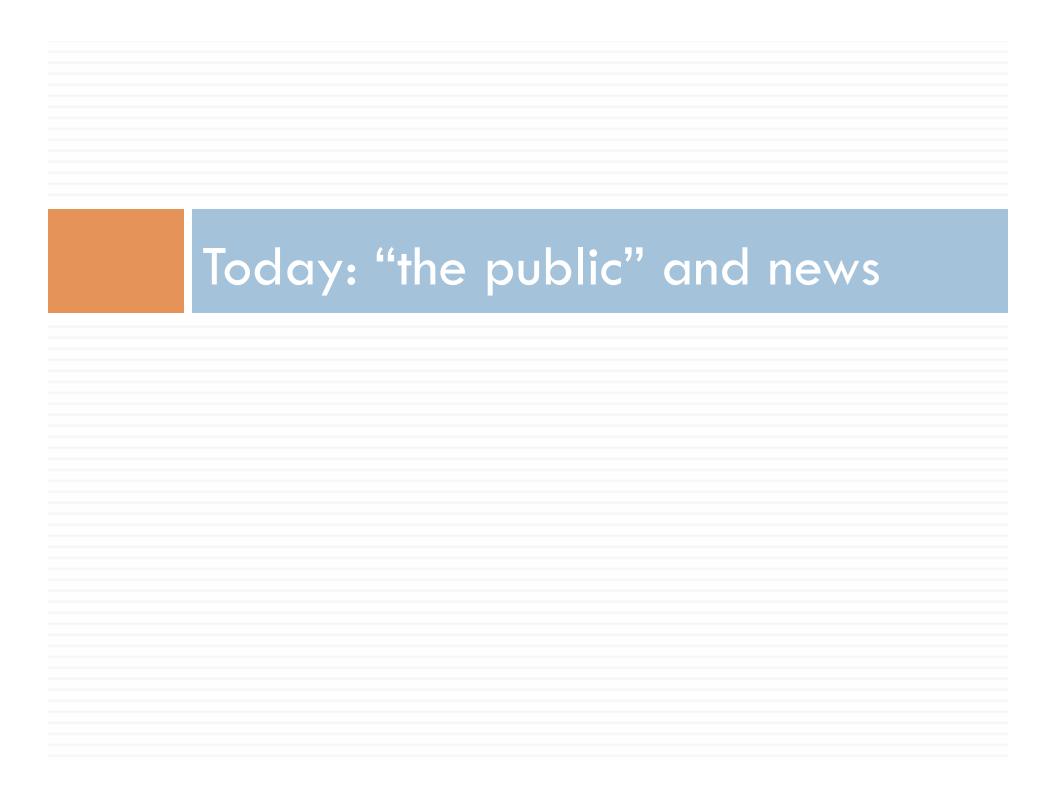
- Hermes was the messenger of the gods who brought the messages of the gods to human beings. As he is depicted in Homer, Hermes literally repeats the same words that the gods had told him to tell a human person. But often, especially in ordinary usage, the business of the hermeneus [interpreter] was more precisely that of translating something foreign or unintelligible into the language everybody speaks and understands. The business of translating therefore always has a certain 'freedom'... Any interpreter who wants to be intelligible must bring what is meant into linguistic expression once again."
 - "Classical and Philosophical Hermeneutics," Theory Culture Society, Hans-Georg Gadamer. 2006:23(1)

Framing controversies

- □ News and newspapers: the medium?
- Political and business interests: who is paying?
- Reporting as profession: Objectivity?

Where we are:

- Last week: rise of the public
- With the rise of the public, came an increase of publications
 - Who owns ideas? Two systems:
 - Stationers Guild Selling and Publishing
 - King's patents Regulated printing
 - Cataloging all of human knowledge
 - And, a desire to "fix" the English language
 - The dictionary doesn't fix the language, but it does fix the dictionary form
 - Supports the rise of the public



Agenda

- □ Pre-print news
- Early newspapers
- Implications of newspapers
- England to America
- □ 19th c. California press
- Death of Newspapers
- Not today: Images (7/22), Advertising (7/24),
 telegraph and postal system (7/27)

Pre-print news networks

Catholic Church

Political authorities of states and principalities.

Commercial banking, trade and manufacturing.

Merchants, peddlers, and traveling entertainers.

"The Trade in News" by John B. Thompson in Communication in History. Crowley and Heyer, eds. 2007.

Pre-print news networks

Catholic Church

Political authorities of states and principalities.

Roman Empire

Commercial banking, trade and manufacturing.

Merchants, peddlers, and traveling entertainers.

"The Trade in News" by John B. Thompson in Communication in History. Crowley and Heyer, eds. 2007.

Roman news-letters

- "Anthony... kept in touch with the political situation in Rome by means of such news-epistles. In a way, he owned his own newspaper of a single edition, for the man who wrote these news-letters was not allowed to write to other officials. There were, however, in the city men who sent out two or more news-letters to patrons."
 - History of American Journalism. James Melvin Lee. 1917 University Press Cambridge.

Acta Diurna ("The Daily Acts")

- □ ~59bce to 222ce (at least)
- "Caesar's very first enactment after becoming consul was, that the proceedings [acta] both of the Senate and of the people should day by day be compiled and published"
 - Suetonius I, xx. Quoted from A History of News by Stephens

Early manipulation of news?

- Emperor Commodus would: "order the insertion in the city gazette [actis urbis] of everything he did that was base or foul or cruel, or typical of a gladiator or procurer,"
 - "Ancient Rome's Daily Gazette." Giffard. Journalism History 1975-6:2(4) quoted from A History of News by Stephens



Pre-print news networks

Catholic Church

Political authorities of states and principalities.

Commercial banking, trade and manufacturing.

Traders need for news

Merchants, peddlers, and traveling entertainers.

"The Trade in News" by John B. Thompson in Communication in History. Crowley and Heyer, eds. 2007.

Magrhibi Traders

- "One of the coalition member's duties was to supply his business associates with trade-related information. This information enabled the traders to respond appropriately to price signals. The importance of information is indicated in many letters in which the writer requests information or mentions that he is expecting to receive additional information before making a business decision."
 - "Reputation and Coalitions in Medieval Trade: Evidence on the Maghribi Traders" by Avner Greif in The Journal of Economic History, 1989:49(4)

The Antwerp Exchange

- "We date the start of the commercial and financial press to these humble but significant beginnings at Antwerp around 1540"
 - John J. Mccusker, "The Demise of Distance: The Business Press and the Origins of the Information Revolution in the Early Modern Atlantic World," The American Historical Review April 2005

Why print?

- "Why did the brokers of Antwerp break with the past and publish their trade secrets? ... Probably the most telling reason merchants in a city such as Antwerp agreed to the organization of a business press was that doing so would generate more business for the city.... A second reason for the publication of business newspapers was that publishing them was a profitable business in itself."
 - □ John J. Mccusker, "The Demise of Distance: The Business Press and the Origins of the Information Revolution in the Early Modern Atlantic World," The American Historical Review April 2005

The market

- "What were the characteristics of the first American newspapers, North or South? They began essentially as appendages of the market. Early gazettes contained aside from news about the metropole commercial news (when ships would arrive and depart, what prices were current for what commodities in what ports), as well as colonial political appointment, marriages of the wealthy, and so forth"
 - Imagined Communities, Anderson

External parties print price information

- eighteenth century took a special interest in the trade upon which the colonies were so dependent... the Boston Gazette, proposed carrying a 'Price Currant' in 1719...local merchants 'made their objections.'... those Boston merchants were fighting a losing battle. Lists of prices would join maritime news as a staple of the newspaper in America."
- History of the News, Stephens. 1988

Business correspondence: Port wine trade

- "Working as commission agents, these gathered orders from the retail outlets, which they relayed on to Portugal. Through these correspondents and their agents around the country, the exporters received a constant flow of communication about both the needs of particular clients and the state of the market as a whole, as well as insights into new taxes and other legislative actions that could affect the chain. (They also formed an occasionally formidable political lobby.)"
 - □ "Networks and Knowledge: The Beginning and End of the Port Commodity Chain, 1703-1860," Business History Review, 2005 79(3): 453-466

Correspondence or newspapers

- "As Trivellato notes, many of the functions attributed to newspapers (such as intelligence gathering and reporting of business and other news) were long the preserve of business correspondence. She also points out that merchant correspondence in Europe continued playing a crucial role in the lives of merchant communities long after the rise of print technology and newspapers. Moreover, she demonstrates that business correspondence was far more efficient in conveying information to a greater number of merchants than most newspapers of the period."
 - "The Salt in a Merchant's Letter": The Culture of Julfan Correspondence in the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean." Sebouh Aslanian. *Journal of World History* 2008:19(2)

HOME INVESTING

COMPANIES TECHNOLOGY

INNOVAT



The Secrets of Goldman Sachs

Posted by: David Henry on July 06

Prediction: The case of the stolen Goldman Sachs trading software will leave more tarnish on Goldman reputation than take profits from its income statement. It will also provide lots of amusement for those of who don't work there or own the company's stock.

In case you haven't seen the headlines, a former Goldman computer wiz and Russian immigrant was arrested by a team of FBI agents at Newark Airport on July 3. Sergey Aleynikov was

Early newspapers

 $15^{th} - 17^{th}$ c. Europe

From correspondence to news

Newsbooks

The first newspapers

"key developments"

- Postal system (next Monday!)
- Printing
 - "The Trade in News" by John B. Thompson in Communication in History. Crowley and Heyer, eds. 2007.

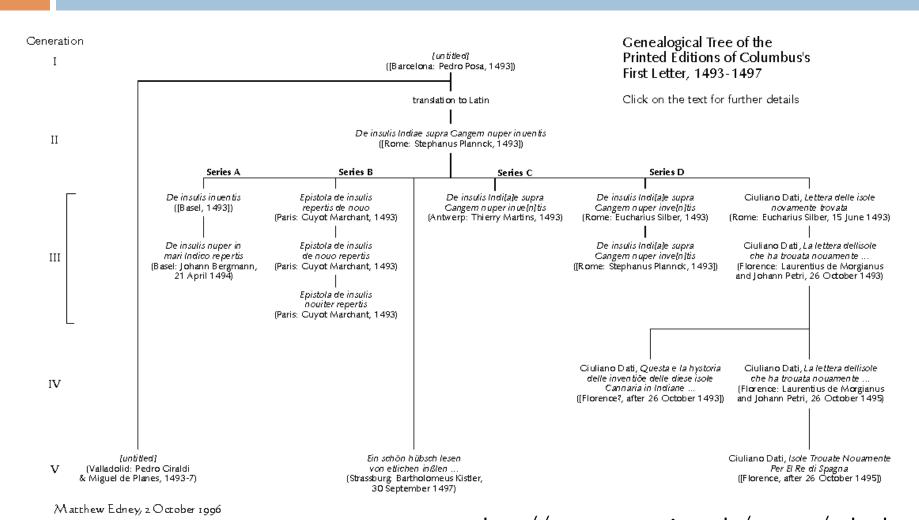
Early printed "news"

Epistola Christofori Colomicus etas nostra multu debet: de Insulis Indie supra Gangem nuper inuctis-Ed quas pergrendas octano antes mense auspicis e ere inuctissemon fernadi e Delisabet Dispanian Regu missus suerat: ad magnisteum dam Gabrielem Ganchis conunde serentssimon Regum Tesauraria missarqua nobilis ac litteratus vir Leander de Cosco ab Dispa no idiomate in latinum conertit tertio kass Maii- M-cccc-reiis pontificatus Elerandri Serti Enno primo-

Clonfam fuscepte prouintie rem perfectam me Accutum fuiffe gratum tibi fore scio:bas conflitui exarare: que te vnlufcuiufq rei in boc noftro itinere gefte innenteq ad moneant: Tricefimotertio die poftos Gadibus discessi in mare Indică perueni: vbi plurimas infulas innumeris babitatas bominibus repoeri:quarum omnium pro feliciffuno Rege noftro preconio celebrato verillio extenfio contradicente nemine poli feffionem accept:primegs earum diui Baluatoris nomen impor ful: cufus fretus auxilio tam ad bancios ad ceteras allas perues nimus-Eam do Indi Guanabanin vocant-Bliarii etiam vuam quanquono nomine muncupaut quippe alia infulam Sancre Darie Conceptionte aliam Fernandinam aliam Dyfabellam aliam Joanam-v fic de reliquis appellari inffi-Cum primum in cam tufulam quam dudum Joanam vocari digi appulimus: iur rta cius littus occidentem verfus aliquantulum proceffu tamos cam magnam nullo reperto fine innentive non infula: fed conti mentem Chatai prouinciam effe crediderim: mulla th videns op pida municipiane in markimia fita confinibe preter aliquos vis cos a predia rufticaccum opor incolla looni neonibam-opare fi

The Latin Letters of Columbus printed in 1493. Reprinted by Bernard Quaritch, London 1893

Columbus' letter



http://www.usm.maine.edu/~maps/columbus/genealogy.html

"ancestor of the modern newspaper"

- "The first literature of information, the ancestor of the modern newspaper, was developing.... reports announcing occurrences of all kinds, such as the passage of a comet, or describing a festival or the ceremonial entry of a king into a city, or narrating the outcome of a battle, were printed by the thousands."
 - The Coming of the Book, Febvre and Martin. 1997

Newsbooks

- "Such pamphlets were often called 'relations,' later 'newsbooks.' Unlike a newspaper, each usually focused on a single event. These newsbooks were small.. 4 to 28 pages... illustrated by large initial letters and woodcuts"
 - A History of News. Mitchell Stephens. 1988

Newsbooks



 "The crying Murther: Contayning the cruell and most horrible Butcher of Mr. Trat" (1624)

Newsbooks

- Often sensationalistic
- Sometimes highly regulated
- About "foreign" news or Fait divers
 - "...acceding to pressure from authorities and to their own rooting and commercial interest, they tend to provide their audiences with a version of what their audiences wanted to hear"
 - A History of News. Mitchell Stephens. 1988

Newsbook to newspaper

- What makes a "newspaper"?
- 1. published "regularly and frequently"
- 2. "includes a variety of different stories"
- 3. "displays a consistent and cognizable title or format"
 - A History of News. Mitchell Stephens. 1988

First "newspaper"?

Di Spagna helle Com Care in hi in Aprile into Scornano de moneyana mi ordina alcune Mais gonardar alla Heridas interioride of the fant differenance to returner a quelle injula 9 of the Regima Diconaux Vandar i partonir a Guarda wasterpore is the grands were in spagna. Got 3 se to Case a oraco al Dinne : papara in frantira has hie di Madam A era occe parissiona la sua patrata se seriena la contence fi la hadra the bassess conclus well consister have a first un locativo di 70 - di sopra chiefe vacate y diffrituire a far It the evans state deposition degradate ale ministra mass telle Cami Inegia e melo iddenati a pagar grans de varen 20 Jones delle 3. dillaggio Some vitornabe beg gales let find Doria of portonono le parte alli opag" in sardeyna to Lebion inetar salva Cormata Si Star " se dichero La cacua a due gabere Suna mifero à fendo a baltra master in term, a la Bers anche efer con 8 hus e ghi altri andanamo errando, requisto dalla (anali li otto Sula propiarle . Li hier Lella Bafricelle patrin di s ticom Cors have mardato que 2. And wenuts sorra le gales colle in of internata dalle trace deve perto lanari vertualis e il comiliario e uno versari Vimandar plano delle con requie Latte & freta de fromarhinefta sela tos timos milo Vaficuran of forumin men sieno puniti della eccepti latta est no hati, Time paper of the de ven " Thomas referenden in home Conste " gut " wan trute le polimine confusie nalle se Conseive some a Balla, se dege tont venere le int

First "newspapers"?

- "All the same, the writing of manuscript newsletters by "reporters" (reportiste) continued to flourish in the eighteenth century.... Manuscript copies were made of the official relazioni.... By the seventeenth century at the latest, these relazioni were on sale in certain European cities"
 - "Early Modern Venice as a Center of Information and Communication" by Peter Burke in Venice Reconsidered, John Jeffries Martin, Dennis Romano, eds. 2002.

Why not print?

- ""Presumably the authorities, concerned as usual with secrecy discouraged these activities. What was printed was relatively anodyne."
 - "Early Modern Venice as a Center of Information and Communication" by Peter Burke in Venice Reconsidered, John Jeffries Martin, Dennis Romano, eds. 2002.

Even if the publishers wanted to...

- "Controlling 'lying and open slauderous mouthes; or even hand written letters seems beyond the power of early earthly authorities. Printed reports, however, can be controlled... [the printing press's] bulkiness made it difficult to conceal and, consequently, easy for authorities to regulate"
 - □ A History of News. Mitchell Stephens. 1988

Censorship and media

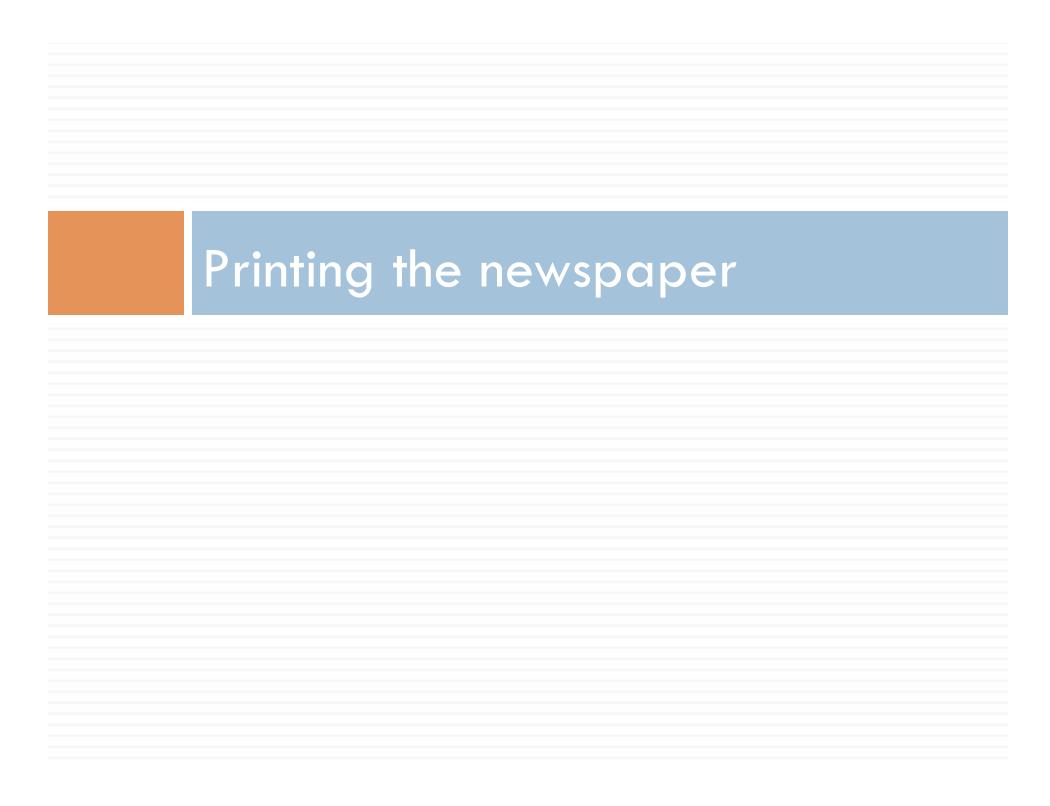
- "Letters are a good source of information: uncensored, they included remarks, comments and important details for understanding both the news that was circulating and the news that was being published in the gazette. If we read the gazettes for the 1740s along with letters written by the reporter, the scarcity of the printed gazette's information makes a lot more sense."
 - "Between History and Periodicity: Printed and Hand-Written News in 18th-Century Portugal" by André Belo in e-Journal of Portuguese History http://www.brown.edu/Departments/ Portuguese_Brazilian_Studies/ejph



http://filipspagnoli.files.wordpress.com/ 2008/10/stop-war.jpg

Multiple media news networks

- □ There is no purpose "to derive one mode of communication from another,.... It was the spread of the message that mattered – not its origin but its amplification, the way it reached the public and ultimately took hold"
 - Darnton



throughop or of this were

The contents of the first of the Sarth Chart are got the experiments of the content of the conte Brownings, sho to the Sattle Continue go.

" day of third or, the sit, Personalis

The training form of Table and attempts of the Table of T

Oldest surviving English newspaper published in the Netherlands (1620)

Source: Author: Keerius, Petrus, fl. 1620. (publisher.) Corantos, Amsterdam Series: Printed for Petrus Keerius; 2 Dec. 1620 - 18 Sept. 1621. Date for this issue: 2nd December 1620 http:// gateway.proquest.com/ openurl? ctx_ver=Z39.88-2003&res_i d=xri:eebo&rft_id=xri:eebo:i mage:177675

The new tydings out of Italie are no Out of Weenen, the 5 Newember.

He French Amballadour hath caused the spice to be buried flately at Gabor cited all the Hungtriffs States , to comtogether at Prefburg the 5. of this prefent , to discourie aboute the Crowning & other causes concerning the time

The measures, who is the Seath of Card for give the contraction of the Card for give the Card for the Card f

Andrew count of The Pringer Colombia to come to come to produce a Principal of a fundamental colombia to the Colombia of the Colombia to the C

James, etc. sa. Stromber.

"The new tydings out of Italie are not yet come/Out of Weenan the 6 of November/The French Ambassador hath caused the Earle of Dampier to be buried flately at Presburg....The Hungarians continue vvith roveing against these lands... Here is certain newes come, that the Crabats, as also Lord Budean are fallen unto Berlem Gore"

News out of England

Septemb. 9.

Numb. 23.

CONTINUATION OF THE FORMER NEWES.

Three great Inualions already attempted:
the one by Bethlem Gabor, who with the Turkes is
already come downe beyond the River Donaw: the other by
the Count of Thurne, having the command of the Marquis of
laggendorps Forces, hath now entired into Selefia: the last
by the Tartari vpon Polosia, which hath driven them
all to annazement.

With the present estate of the Siege of Breda, and in what manner Spinole hath beleager'd the towns.

Likewise the resolution of the Colledge of Electors, concerning the succession of the Palatinate, as also the late commotion nowly hapned in Rome; with the arrest of the Emperors Ambassador in Turkie, and diotrs other occurrents.

LONDON.

Printed for Thomas Archer, and Beniamin Fifter: and are to be fold in Popes head Alley, over against the Signe of the Horse-Shoo, and in Fater noster Row at the Signe of the Talbot.

"The continvation of the weekely newes"

Source: Thomas Archer, (publisher.) Issue number: 32 Date for this issue: 9th-10th September 1624 http:// gateway.proquest.com/ openurl? ctx_ver=Z39.88-2003&re s_id=xri:eebo&rft_id=xri: eebo:image:177722

1702: first daily English paper

The Daily Courant.

Wednelday, March 11. 1702.

From the Harless Courses, Devel Morth A. N. S.

Stager, Feb. ta. N Wednelday Infl., our New Victory, the Duke of Belance, provid benefited & Sprunders of the Gallery of Social, We made his Europeer dreft in a Brangh to-tal and the California of Strongh tothe Kingle causing histor, were we keeling of the Kingle causing histor, were we keeling of the eleke history for housing the Royal was for his Majolly. The Mangar of Geogra is able assemily here

with a Regioners of Person.

Beart, Politary, In a Military Congregation of State
that with bold bear, it was Refairful to draw a Rame
from Aloni to the Benders of the Ecolefichia State,
absolve the boundary of the Ecolefichian State,
absolve the boundary of the Ecolefichian State
Botton. Onders are four to Crisia Venchia to its surthe Gallery, and to therephase the Carrième of these
Playmer Culti- is made Garrerase of Periyas,
The Manyon dal Valler, and the Proces de Calima
encouse field in the Impared Senhardsder's Politary
to the State Carrième to the Congress of the State
than the Ecoleficher to the State of Carrier of the Mercery Widow his Endellinery has a Goard of so Man many Digit in Aron. Yes being of Paragol has discid the Archdistropeck of Linker, exceed by the Discill of Continut Study, for the Initiates his Record See,

who is about 12 Years att.

Flower, Max., Orders are increasing a Registration of Flore, the a of Consulters, and as sent of these gates, which are broke up from Mangary, and are en their way to halp, and which could of abuse Ag ar 15mm Manjob Sudies shoir March plainerwick of Expedition. The 4 new Requirem of Huffign that are now spiling, are in to poste a tertworder's, there shay will be unsuplyan, and in a Condition on ments of company, and in a Gandhing as of a Man of ments by the middle of May. From Barnin of powers of an Boden has receive as Gener, to earlife bineful friend criticing thinken, but Perfected being to very scentific; and in sector deficil on the Unional-Man. We have it.

of the specie delicit on the Unpartition.
Aungles, Man vs. The Manquel & Unrited in coper up fireadway, and is to draw eigenber a Biday of Goos Regionance of Hersin-gaid Fort think the Garidges of Allianz , but will not letter chain of Steam ridges of Allians, jour with our trillier time of Decab-bases and Landon, which was already very weak-On the other hand, the Transport File baseous Sig-sifity, and his Allian, her played on form a Softy mar Geroudless in the Patenbases, of Which Files. a wind as gli the Alians in Spite, though Lawson of Bridges is expected in soles a View, in these or liver days. The linguish and thunks Maruheraghe Cowys of Frish.

very praceably much one number to the Country for themselves. of Papers, and that the Doka of Vindome, as her. The Copper (as she Yike phone) and he Passified

Rybe, Feb. 15. We not taking here all publish fre-turning for the Society of the Budgladdellad Eura to this publish Conjuntum, and have delive to make your Mon on the Custom of Societadellad. The Para-hea apprison of the Diske of Beredul, in he his Lara-manusi Control, and he is no Calendade form John on the Francisco of Nation: I he has also feater a your lasts a Parties of come Cannot a your during Life.

Framithe Paris Generie, Durealbear, et. 1704.

Nights, Betie: 19. Give Facuch Splitters are seriord. better, and are expected to be follow'd by particulars. A Complex close game hither on the each has broughe

A Consider stom some lather on the copic has become a formatter stom some affect to that the Kong of Lyon deligness to be lone evidence the not of Manach, and antistency Christon are provided to the not of Manach, and antistency Christon are provided matter the securitary Manach states of Manach and the securitary Manach states of Manach and the securitary Manach and the state of Manach and the states of Manach and the states of Manach and the states of the state states and the states of the state states of the state state state the Manach and for the Manach at the states and the Manach and for the Manach and the states are the Manach and the states and the states and the Manach and the states and the states and the Manach and the states and the states and the states and the Manach and four the Spanish and Manach and four the Spanish states and the Manach and four the Spanish states are states and the Manach and four the Spanish states and the Manach and provided Manach and provi

We have Avier by an Experis hom Resoc of the 18th of Philmann, Than conveninhantling the poeting Philmanns of the Imperior Employabless, the poeting Indenness of the Imperior Employabless, the Page had Conditional the Marquis of Fash on the king thing and the Philmann of the Conditional of Philmann of the Conditional, for one ampring as Andrew the Congre apophit has of Publishin Englishing Cardinol Instant

ABVERTISEMENT.

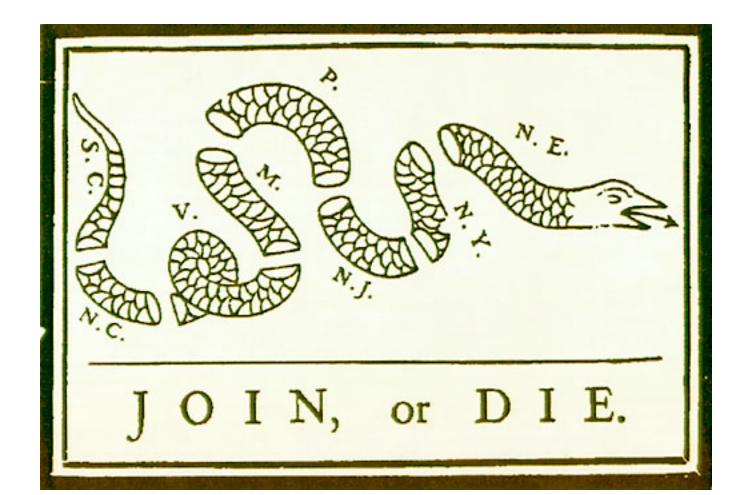
Enterprise in the Palacitation, of which there is whill as gli the Alison to Spirit, there is seen as the experiment of the Alison to Spirit, there is the Constitution of the Alison to Spirit, there is the experiment of the Alison to Spirit, there is the foreign theory in these or finer days. The Enterprise and Dunch Mandersafte Course of Frig. 1 and the Rosen Vander Mander Course to Frig. 1 and the Rosen Vander Mander Course to Frig. 1 and the Rosen Vander Mander Course the Enterprise And for not deformed the Enterprise Alison Vander Mandersafte Course to the Enterprise And for not deformed the Enterprise Alison the Spirit the Alison And Enterprise And Ente

The domestication of news

- 1640s English papers increasingly report on local controversy
- 1650s Cromwell reestablishes many of the restrictions
 - 45 newspapers in London in 1645
 - 2 English newspaper in 1655
- By 1660 when Charles II was restored his papers
 - "The shackles had returned but the world, at least the English-speaking world, would retain a vision of the potential of the unfettered paper."

Domestication in America

- 1695 expiration of Licensing Act in England: "What I approve I defend; what I dislike I censure"
 - □ Defoe, 1712
 - Defoe's "objectivity"?
- American journalism inherited from England
 - Franklin learned printing in England in the 1720
- Local political debate in colonial papers?
 - Shudson: Franklin's Gazette from 1728 to 1765 only touched on local politics 34 times
 - Tebbel: in 1750, 14 dailies in the colonies "... [after 1750] the news was largely political, whether foreign or domestic"
- □ 1765 Stamp Act "taxation without representation"
 - interest of the publishers



Abridged recap: England to the USA

- 1605: First regularly published weekly newspaper appears in Antwerp.
- 1620: News sheets called "corantos" are sold in Europe.
- 1622: First ad in an English newspaper, The Newes.
- 1639: Puritans ship a printing press to the American colonies.
- □ 1650: Leipzig publishes the first daily newspaper.
- □ 1690: After one issue Publick Occurrences, first colonial newspaper, is suppressed.
- □ 1702: Daily Courant England's first daily newspaper
- □ 1712: The Stamp Act requires newspapers in England to pay for pages and ads
- 1765: The British Stamp Act taxes newspapers, documents angers American colonists.
- □ 1783: Pennsylvania Evening Post, the first daily newspaper in America.
- □ 1791: Philadelphia to N.Y. coded light messages of financial news outraces horses.
- □ 1794: Nearly flat rate U.S. postal law mails most newspapers for a penny stamp.
- □ 1797: In England, a heavy tax is levied on newspapers to limit the radical press.



Newspapers and the American identity

- "Between 1691 and 1820, no less than 2120 'newspapers' were published of which 461 lasted more than ten years... Printers starting new presses always included a newspaper in their productions, to which they were usually the main, even the sole, contributor.... printer's office emerged as the key to North American communications and community intellectual life... commercial news.... one fertile trait was their provinciality... the very conception of the newspaper implies the refraction of even 'world events' into a specific imagined world of vernacular readers"
- Imagined Communities, Benedict Anderson

What is next?

- "...the rapid expansion of trade, a result of the new demand for fine editions, of a general increase in the number of titles published, and of the growth of the newspaper, prompted the search for new ways to improve the appearance of publications and above all for technical improvements to increase production."
- □ The Coming of the Book, Febvre and Martin. 1997

A few technical improvements in printing

- □ 1796 Lithographic printing*
- □ ~1810 steam press
- 1833 rotary press
- □ 1839 electricity is used to run a printing press
- 1891: Large press prints and folds 90,000 4-page papers an hour.
- □ 1903 offset press*
- □ 1907 screen printing

US daily readership: 3.5 million in 1880->

33 million 1920

Newspaper epochs I

- "Habermas suggests the following epochs:
- 1) the simple news press of small printer work-shops where the content mainly came from translations of foreign newspapers;
- 2) the journals, newsbooks and newspapers from the 17th to the first half of the 19th century closely linked to a milieu of literary salons and coffee-houses where the roles of editors, writers and publishers often mixed;
- 3) the opinion press with hired editors expressing or fighting for general ideas, and with rather passive publishers;
- 4) the party press with strong links to political parties and;
- 5) the commercial press with rather active publishers hiring journalists to realize their business idea of a newspaper for the masses."
 - "Constructing Epochs in the History of the Press," Svennik Høyer, Nordicom Review. 1998:2

Newspaper epochs II

- "Schudsons suggested epochs of the American press are:
- 1) Newspaper monopolies during the colonial period, requiring a permit from the British government,
- 2) the "dark age of the party press" until the middle of the 19th century,
- 3) commercialization starting with the 'penny papers' from the 1830s, but most typically during the 1860s and 1870s,
- 4) the professional era, most typically from the 1920s.
- This is not a story of decay à la Habermas, but of growing independence and progress for and by the press grounded on a professional ideology inspired by mainstream contemporary currents in American thought."
 - "Constructing Epochs in the History of the Press," Svennik Høyer,
 Nordicom Review. 1998:2

QUIZ

Some have argued that newspapers became increasingly commercialized in parallel with the professionalization of journalism. Does objectivity (OR nonpartisanship) support the shift to commercialization? Argue why you or why not using evidence from the readings to support your response.

Balanced marketing strategy

- "The American inspired 'paradigm' of balanced, objective (neutral), event-oriented news stories may have been inspired by a market strategy trying to build a readership which included different social strata of conflicting political views. Publishers who primarily tries to influence the opinion of their readers, by contrast, do not see the significance of ideas like journalistic balance, detachment and objectivity."
 - "Constructing Epochs in the History of the Press," Svennik Høyer, Nordicom Review. 1998:2

Progressive and distancing from PR

- "The newly articulated fairness doctrine was related to the sheer growth in news gathering.... Objectivity seemed a natural and progressive ideology for an aspiring occupational group at a moment when science was God, efficiency was cherished, and increasingly prominent elites judged partisanship a vestige of the tribal nineteenth century.... Journalists also sought to disaffiliate themselves from the public-relations specialists and propagandists who suddenly surrounded them"
 - Shudson

Untainted facts

- "Corporate advertisers concerned about the impact controversy might have on sales- would also prove more comfortable associating themselves with newspapers that maintained what the journalism critic Ben Bagdikian terms this 'appearance of neutrality.'... [journalists] had developed a 'set of professional norms' headed by the need for impartiality (untainted facts)."
 - A History of News. Stephens. 1988

Nonpartisanship = profit

- "'The distinguishing characteristic of the professional as opposed to the writer, novelist, scholar and others who produce messages is that the message he produces has no necessary relation to his own thoughts and perceptions'...Bennet can be seen as a 'professional communicator' because his editorial policy often seems motivated less by his 'thoughts and perceptions' than by his profit motive"
 - Mindich, Nonpartisanship

or does it....?

- "Garrison's stance, similarly outside party debates until Lincoln and the nation came around to his views, showed that his position, an "antipartisan" one, could also be effective, not financially, but in terms of its ability to challenge American public opinion."
 - Mindich, Nonpartisanship

California and objectivity

Party press

Big business

Cultural bias

Early California

"Explosive" growth when California becomes a state Still sparsely populated

1850 census:

- .59 people per square mile (compare to \sim 190 in 1990)
- 92,597 people (85,580 men)
- **85,777** rural
- 233,466 "native born"
- 962 "nonwhite"/962 "black"

1860 census

- 2.44 people per square mile
- 379,994 people (273,337 men)
- **301,343** rural
- 233,466 "native-born"
- 56,817"nonwhite"/4,086 black

California press

- □ 1834 first printing press in California
- 1846 first daily newspaper in California
 Californian (later Alta California later Daily Alta California)



1857 information infrastructure

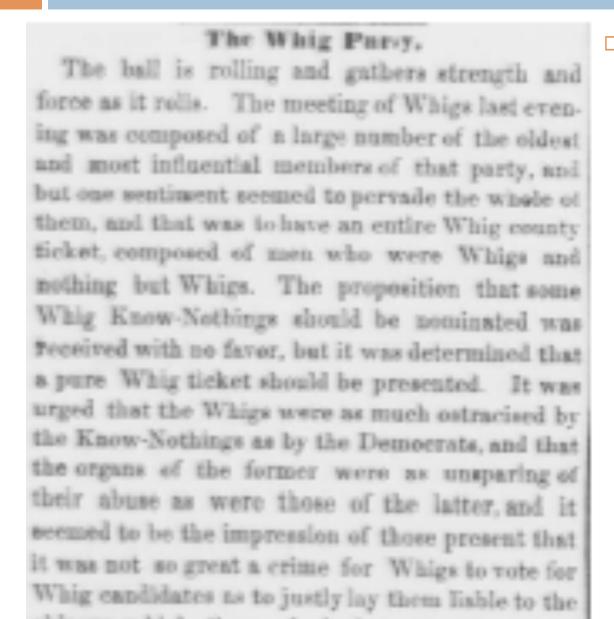
According to the State Register of California for 1857

- 91 different newspapers and periodicals published in the State of California (Aggregate circulation is about 18 million sheet annually)
- 25 are daily
- □ 7 in non-English
- 23 democrat; 9 "American"; 8 Republican; 33 independent
- 9 are religious
- 23 libraries which are non-private
- 2 telegraph lines California State Line; Alta Telegraph Line
 - both "organized" in 1852

Explosion!

- 1851 17 journals (includes daily and weekly papers)
- □ 1858 89 journals
 - A History of California Newspapers 1846-1858. Edward C.
 Kemble written in 1858, published in 1962
- "Already by 1860, according to Irvine Leigh's History of the New California (1905), some 43 newspapers had ceased publication – a rate of about four per year."
 - History of California Newspapers, California State Library Foundation. 1985

Party loyalties



- "...to have an entire Whig country ticket composed of me who were Whigs and nothing but Whigs. The proposition that some Whig Know-Nothings should be nominated...."
 - Daily altaCalifornia August24, 1855

Attacking other party's papers

"the moaning of the Whig are useless..."

The Whig and the Superior Court.] The moanings of the Whig are useless in regard to the abolition of the Superior Court; it is a measure brought about by the misconduct of its Judge. It the Whig can hold its temper for a few days, it, as well as the public, will be duly advised of the influences affecting the measure, and the causes leading to it. The writer of this note will state, over his own signature, objections to the Judge of the Superior Court. fully justifying the action of the Legislature, and it is folly to attempt to make political capilar by abusing the Legislature, or to bolster up a ban man in bar-laced official misconduct. There are the Whig be quiet, it shall be duly advised in the premises at the proper time.

The political press

- "In the Vigilance movement of this year the *Alta*, true to its original instincts, took the side of the people against bad laws and corrupt officials... Maintaining its original independence of party, it was essentially Democratic in its adherence to State and popular rights..."
 - A History of California Newspapers 1846-1858.
 Edward C. Kemble written in 1858, published in 1962

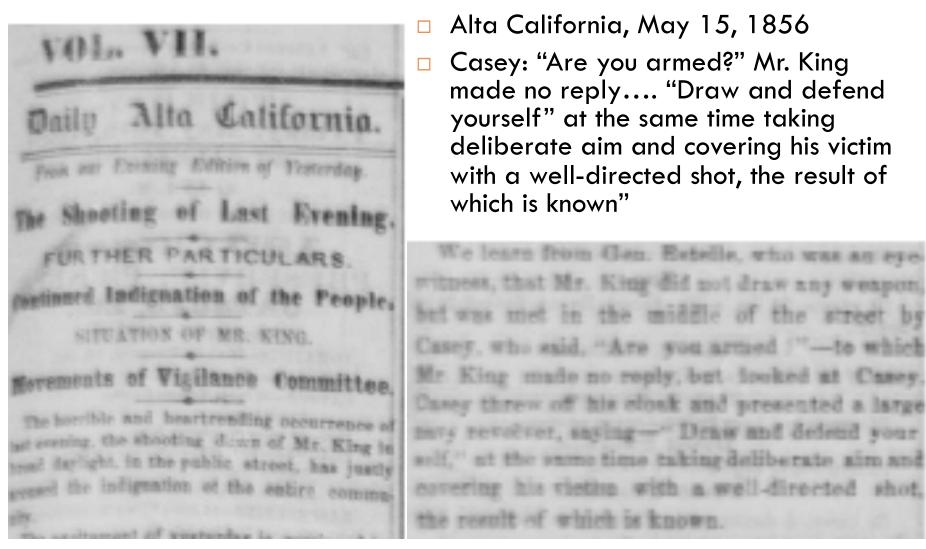
The political press

- "In the Vigilance movement of this year the *Alta*, true to its original instincts, took the side of the people against bad laws and corrupt officials... Maintaining its original independence of party, it was essentially Democratic in its adherence to State and popular rights..."
- "....it held this position through the Spring and Summer of 1852. In August of that year Mr. Gilbert [Alta editor] fell in a duel with J. W. Denver"
-Denver was the ex officio state librarian

California politics

- "He [James King, of William, editor of the Daily Evening Bulletin starting in 1855] wrote with a vigorous pen... in six moths, the daily edition had grown to before unexampled circulation (for California) of seven thousand copies. It became a power in the State; King was the idol of a large portion of his readers. About 10th of May, '56, he saw fit to make a newspaper attack on J. P. Casey, and ex-convict from the State Prison of New York, and a professional ballot-box stuffer."
 - A History of California Newspapers 1846-1858. Edward C. Kemble written in 1858, published in 1962

Violent California politics



- Alta California, May 15, 1856
- Casey: "Are you armed?" Mr. King made no reply.... "Draw and defend yourself" at the same time taking deliberate aim and covering his victim with a well-directed shot, the result of which is known"

We learn from Gen. Estelle, who was an eye-

covering his vietim with a well-directed shot.

the result of which is known.

....more scandal....

- "For years after the Civil War, the Golden Gate scene was dominated by a single paper, the Chronicle. It had been started in 1865 by two young brothers, Charles and Michael H. De Young... Charles De Young was shot and killed in 1880 as a result of the Chronicle's battle against the Workingmen's Party. Earlier De Young had shot and wounded the Party's Mayoral candidate, whose son was the editor's assassin."
 - The Compact History of the American Newspaper. John Tebbel. 1969

Party politics

CHARLES DE YOUNG KILLED

MAYOR KALLOCH'S SON MURDERS HIM IN HIS OFFICE.

THE DEED COMMITTED EARLY LAST EVEN-ING—DE YOUNG'S SUCCESSFUL CAREER AS A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER—A HIS-TORY OF THE DE YOUNG-KALLOCH FEUD.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—Charles De Young was shot and killed at 7:30 o'clock this evening by J. M. Kalloch, son of J. S. Kalloch, in the *Chronicle* office.

Charles De Young was the senior proprietor of the *Chronicle*. He was the oldest of three brothers, and was born in New-Orleans. When he was quite young

New York TimesApril 24, 1880,

Alta dies... the passing of an age?

OLD CALIFORNIA EDITORS

MEN WHO BACKED THEIR OPIN-IONS WITH RIFLES.

REMINISCENCES SUGGESTED BY THE DEATH OF THE "ALTA CALIFORNIA" —TWO NOTABLE DUELS FOUGHT BY SAN FRANCISCO JOURNALISTS.

The demise of the San Francisco Alta California, the oldest newspaper of the Golden State, a few weeks ago and for many years the most powerful and attractive, calls up many reminiscences, one of which is the fact that it took a stand in favor of the first vigilance committee by its printers "jeffing." John Nugent, who,

- New YorkTimes
- July 5,1891, Wednesday

coast. The Alta was owned by an association of printers, who just managed to make both ends meet. It was known what course Nugent would pursue. He was an out-and-out "law-and-order" man, a Democrat from the word go, and a virulent opponent of vigilante methods. The printers upon the Alta were about equally divided, the majority being opposed to the

for about eight years the dear old Alta has eked out a precarious existence by getting a little out of the railroad, the Water Company, and the Sharon estate, off and on, until, all forsaking it, on account of its loss of circulation and lack of power and influence and generally turgid ways, it died a solemn and almost unnoticed death.

But it had been a great paper in its day and made many millions of dollars. It had two of its editors killed in duels. It followed Brodrick. Baker, and Starr King to their graves. It stood out for the Union all through the war and died at the age of forty. During the last five years

Hearst



- 1887 takes over father's San Francisco Examiner
- Emulating Bennet and Pulitzer
 - No real political convictions "he did it for love of the game"
 - "gee, whiz" journalism
 - Sensationalistic writing and photography
- Innovative and very lucrative



"nonpartisanship" and Exclusion acts

- "the question of whether the two papers [Chronicle and San Francisco Examiner] let the campaigns against Chinese and Japanese immigration or merely reflected the attitude of the community, can be answered decisively in favor of the former.... The publisher was an autocrat... the amount of coverage both papers gave to Exclusion, the headlines used, the pejorative terms... the supporting editorials especially when the issues face crises in Washington, the continual agitation in times where there was no apparent reason for this kind of coverage illustrate the newspapers' leadership in the 42-year effort."
 - "the Course of Exclusion 1882-1924: San Francisco Newspaper Coverage of the Chinese and Japanese in the United States" Jules Becker, 1991.

Death? ...or what is next?

Newspaper Death Watch

Chronicling the Decline of Newspapers and the Rebirth of Journalism

R.I.P.

About this column

US metropolitan dailies that have closed since this site was created in March, 2007

Claremont Eagle

Tucson Citizen

Rocky Mountain News

Baltimore Examiner

Kentucky Post

Cincinnati Post

King County Journal

Union City Register-Tribune

Halifax Daily News

Albuquerque Tribune

South Idaho Press

San Juan Star

■ Ad Picture Brightening At Last

By paulgillin | July 16, 2009 - 9:43 am - Posted in Advertising, Business News, BusinessModel, Citizen Journalism, Future of Journalism, Journalism, NewMedia, Newspapers, OnlineMedia, blogging

Gannett gave the industry some welcome good news by <u>posting quarterly results that actually exceeded expectations</u>. In the wake of three layoffs of steadily increasing scope over the past year, conventional wisdom was that Gannett would lay a stinker on investors when it reported earnings this week. Instead, its stated results of 46 cents per share beat Wall Street expectations by nearly a dime. "Demand seems to be firming up a bit in some categories and in some geographic locations," the CFO said.

Maybe those results are a harbinger of better times, because it looks like <u>advertising spending is going to drop 2% next year</u>. That would ordinarily be terrible news, but in 2009 it's cause for celebration. That's because ad spending is off 14.5% this year and 18% in the second quarter alone, the worst showing since the Marx Brothers were movie marquis headliners. The new estimates come from Magna, a unit of the Interpublic Group and a closely-watched monitor of advertising activity. The forecaster expects growth to resume in the second half of 2011 but to expand at an anemic 1% annually through 2014. Online advertising – particularly search – will lead the way, although local TV, national cable and outdoor venues will also grow. Not surprisingly, the big losers are newspapers (3.7% annual decline through 2014) and magazines (3.3% over the same period). Magna's Brian Wieser says the newspaper industry is in "terminal decline."

Buy BusinessWeek For Less Than a Copy of BusinessWeek

Have you always wanted to own a newsweekly? Well, you can buy *BusinessWeek* for \$1. If that sounds like a bargain, keep in mind that the magazine is reportedly set to lose \$75 million this year. That's down from profits of up to \$100 million during the dot-com boom. Times certainly have changed.

Alan Mutter's prescription is for RW to niche itself at the



Popula

bosto

influen

daytona l

tampa tri

bankrupt york time

distribution

washingt 01 05 asp

01 05 asp

duncanvill

Login I Register no

Judge may weigh in on print edition of Tucson Citizen

Jilted buyer wants to stop closure action by Gannett

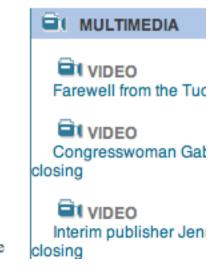


May 16, 2009, 1:49 a.m.

RENÉE SCHAFER HORTON and CARLI BROSSEAU Tucson Citizen

Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Tucson late Friday to stop the closure of the Tucson Citizen, which was announced by the Citizen's owners early Friday.

The lawsuit said closing the Citizen stemmed from an agreement between Gannett and Lee Enterprises Inc., owner of the Arizona Daily Star, to eliminate



Union City Register Tribune

The Union City Register Tribune is in the Grand Rapids - Kala - Battle Creek, MI DMA. The Union City Register Tribune offers ROP and insert advertising opportunities in its daily circulation. Echo Media has direct relationships with over 7,500 newspapers providing tremendous local coverage.



Day of Delivery	
Sunday	No
Monday	No
Tuesday	No
Wednesday	No
Thursday	Yes
Friday	No
Saturday	No

See Also
Booth Newspaper TMC's
Grand Rapids Advance Community Newspaper Group

Market and Circulation			
Market:	MI * Grand Rapids - Kala - Battle Creek		
Market Breakout:	A:0% B:43% C:41% D:16%		
Daily Circulation:	1,212		
Sunday Circ:	0		

Demographics
Rural HH Segment
State(s): MI
Market: Grand Rapids - Kala - Battle Creek

The long view: recap



- importance of government and infrastructure
- printing news can mean giving up your secrets
 - hybrid networks of newspapers and private correspondence
- original emphasis on the foreign-ness of news in the newsbooks and early newspaper
- domestic news was/is? highly regulated/censored
- Newspapers help form an "imagined community"
- □ instability, war can empower newspapers
- commercial interests, politics, local culture and ideology shape what is reported and how



The Newspaper Killers



Front Page: Google News



Funnies: Houston Chronicle (Chron.com)



Real Estate: Trulia



Crossword: Yahoo! Games – Literati



Local News: Topix



Horoscope: Astrology.com



Stocks: Bloomberg



Sports: ESPN.com



Obituaries: Legacy.com



Movie Listings/Reviews: MovieFone.com



Op/Ed: Huffington Post



Classifieds: craigslist



TV Listings/Reviews: MeeVee

The undoing of newspapers

- No one want to pay?
 - Giving news away for free news online
 - Craigslist and Google steal revenue
- □ Blogs do the work of newspapers?
- Unions stifled innovation?
- Undermining their own authority?
 - E.g. "The Wire"

What do we lose with newspapers?

What don't we lose?

What do we lose?

- Newspaper companies? Paper?
 - Move online? Saves trees?
 - Smaller enterprise, smaller circulation
- Objectivity? Watch dog?
 - Other ways this can be institutionalized?
 - How effective were the newspapers?
- Foreign correspondents? Foreign news?
 - Big budgets are needed to send people overseas
 - Role of "translator" in a more transnational world?
- "the public"? "the imagined community"?
 - Television! The internet?
 - Information infrastructure

What don't we lose?

- □ News
- Commercial interest
- Politics
- Cultural bias

Everything old is new again?

January 22, 2009

Publisher Rethinks the Daily: It's Free and Printed and Has Blogs All Over

By CLAIRE CAIN MILLER

SAN FRANCISCO — Amid the din of naysayers who insist that newspapers are on the verge of death, a new company wants to start dozens of new ones — with a twist.

<u>The Printed Blog</u>, a Chicago start-up, plans to reprint blog posts on regular paper, surrounded by local ads, and distribute the publications free in big cities.

The first issues of this Internet-era penny-saver will appear in Chicago and San Francisco on Tuesday. They will start as weeklies, but Joshua Karp, the founder and publisher, hopes eventually to publish free neighborhood editions of The Printed Blog twice a day in many cities around the country.

"We are trying to be the first daily newspaper comprised entirely of blogs and other user-generated content," he said. "There were so many techniques that I've seen working online that maybe I could apply to the print industry."

"Blogger" as "professional" journalist?

- What is the difference between a professional journalist and an "untrained" blogger?
 - The medium in which they report?
 - Editorial control?
 - Professional training?
 - Objectivity
 - Quality of prose
 - Expertise?
 - Pay?
 - Institutional affiliation?

The end?

The article requested is no longer available.