Growth of Newspapers in the United States

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CONTENTS

LIST OF CHARTS

THE GROWTH OF NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES

INTRODUCTION

The American people are great readers of newspapers. In fact, records show that year by year, in increasing numbers they are turning to the newspapers and other periodicals for their information. These records show not only an increased number of periodicals, until the last few years, but a rapidly mounting list of subscribers, and rapid increase in the output of the periodical press.

In the period covered by this examination of the newspapers of America, the United States has grown from 13 colonies and a population of less than 3,000,000 to 48 states, several dependencies, and a population of 115,000,000. Populations have been concentrated in great urban centers until more than half the American people live in communities of 2,500 or more. Manufacturing in factories on a gigantic scale has taken the place of the fireside loom and the blacksmith's forge; the stage-coach and canal packet have given way to 264,000 miles of railroad, and a constantly increasing number of miles of paved motor roads. The tardy mails of Franklin's time have been supplanted by the airplane mail and the instant service of the telegraph and radio. A century ago there were 29 public high schools, today every city and many rural communities have their high schools—more than 16,000 in all. Printing equipment has advanced from the hand-set newspapers of four pages, printed 50 or less copies an hour on a press of Gutenberg's model to the modern newspaper, machine-set, illustrated, and printed 24,000 to 96,000 an hour on stereotype presses.

Some of these interesting social phenomena may be the results of increasing numbers of newspapers. On the other hand, many of these social conditions made possible the great number of periodicals of the present, and the huge circulations of some of them. It will be the purpose of this study, then, to examine some of these social and economic conditions, and discover, if possible, how they affect the growth of newspapers.

The part that the newspaper has played in the development

of the country has been recognized by some of the writers on newspaper subjects, but in other fields the work of the newspaper has been comparatively ignored. Woodrow Wilson's six-volume history of the American people, for example, reproduces a page of a colonial paper, and has one other direct reference to newspapers. Horace Greeley, editor of the New York *Tribune,* is referred to rather as the candidate for the presidency.

Occasionally, however, mentions of the press are to be found, and an appraisement attempted as to the effect of the press on American life.

Only two volumes, those of 1872 and 1886, of Appleton's American Encyclopedia made any mention of newspapers. In the 1872 volume, appearing soon after Frederic Hudson's History of Journalism in the United States, a paragraph is devoted to newspaper statistics in the write-up of each state (Alabama, Kansas, and Ohio excepted), and in the 1886 volume, suggested probably by the S. N. D. North report in the census of 1880, issued in 1884, a section is devoted to the newspapers and press associations.

Worth Sometimes Recognized

Mentions of the worth of newspapers are not entirely lacking, however. The Montreal (Can.) *Gazette* for Dec. 30, 1925, relates some facts antecedent to its founding in 1778. Quoting Thomas White in a sketch on newspaper history in the province of Quebec it says:

"At the time of the American Revolution, things in Canada apparently favorable to the cause of the Revolution arose. Although the population—a little over 10,000—was almost exclusively French-Canadian, there were a sufficient number of English residents, claiming on that ground superior advantages and treating the majority in nationality and religion with something approaching to contempt, to excite in them feelings the reverse of loyalty. Under these circumstances an attempt was made to induce the Canadian colonists to join in the Revolution, and Colonel Hazen, who took command April 1, 1775, set about to obtain a new engine of war. He wrote General Schuyler on the necessity of sending to Canada good generals, a strong army, a good round sum in silver, and a printer. Neither army, generals, nor money were sent; but the printer came. A commission composed of Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Chase and Rev. Charles Carroll started from Philadelphia for Canada to induce the Canadians to join the Congressional cause; and to found a newspaper.

With this latter object they brought material for a printing office and a printer named Fleury Mesplet who had been in employ of Franklin at Philadelphia. . . . The commission discovered their cause was a hopeless one in Canada . . . and they returned in May. Mesplet had in the meantime set up his press and, in 1778, started the *Gazette.*

A writer in *The Merchants' Journal*[1] says: "Where newspapers most prevail, as in Massachusetts, New York, etc. there also are the most schools, the most enterprises, the most wealth, and the most progress. The conclusion is, not that newspapers occasion these results, but that the press and intelligence go together; mutual helps to each other."

"The activity of the press has been at once an index and the instrument of progress in position of the nation in its moral, social and material interests," says the introduction to the report on manufactures, Census of 1860.

Public Opinion is Final Tribunal

In "Observations on the Census," the preface to the mortality section of the Census of 1860, the writer says:

"What is it that controls the different departments of the government and all the varied industrial and social interests within the limits of the republic?

"The answer is, emphatically, public opinion educated through the Press, the public being the tribunal from which there is no appeal but to *Time.* The Press is the real representative of the people, the great conservative power held by them to guard public and industrial liberty."

In the introduction to another volume of the 1860 census, the writer says:

"It is thus apparent that the newspaper which now employs so large a proportion of the persons in every part of the country, and is so valuable as a vehicle of public instruction, was an early and favorite offspring of the American press even in colonial times."

S. N. D. North, director of the Census, in a most exhaustive survey of the press, published in 1884 as a part of the Census report of 1880, said: "The more newspapers there are in a locality, the more thrifty, intelligent and enterprising that locality is found to be." (p. 65.)

The Rev. Dr. Miller, in "Retrospect of the Eighteenth Century,"[2] says: "The newspapers have also become important

[1] January, 1834, p. 102.

[2] Quoted by Isaiah Thomas in "History of Printing in America," pp. 200-201.

in a literary view. There are few of them in the last 20 years which have not added to other political details some curious and useful information on the various subjects of literature, art, and science. They have thus become the means of conveying innumerable scraps of knowledge, which have at once increased the public intelligence.

"In ancient times, to sow the seeds of civil discord, or to produce a spirit of union and co-operation through an extensive community required time, patience, and a constant series of exertions. The art of printing was unknown, and many of the modern methods of communicating intelligence to distant places not having come into use, the difficulty of conducting public affairs must have been great and embarrassing. The general circulation of the Gazette forms an important era, not only in the moral and literary, but in the political world. The general circulation of this powerful instrument, impressions on the public mind, may be made with celerity and to an extent of which our ancestors had no conception, and which cannot but give rise to the most important consequences.

"Our country in particular, and especially for the last 12 or 15 years, has exhibited a spectacle never before displayed among men, and even yet without a parallel on earth. It is the spectacle, not of the learned and the wealthy only, but of the great body of people; even a large portion of that class in the community which is destined to daily labor, having free and constant access to the public prints, receiving regular information of every occurrence, attending to the course of political affairs, discussing public measures, and having thus presented to them constant excitements to the acquisition of knowledge."

Times Seemed Dark in Bennett's Day

A darker appraisement of the situation early in the nineteenth century is contained in "Memoirs of James Gordon Bennett and His Times," in which the biographer[1] gives Mr. Bennett full credit for arousing and educating the public. Says the biographer, writing in 1855:

"There was not any public taste 20 years ago for daily newspapers, and the public had to be educated into the habit of reading and thinking. The rulers of people wrote and read, but the people neither read nor cared to read. Let it not be forgotten that newspapers then were an expensive luxury, owned and supported by politicians or sectarists who

[1] "A Journalist," (Isaac Clark Pray.)

found it to their interest to invest money even in losing speculation, and who deemed their hired editors to be the convenient tools of caprice and pleasure, while the public was a simple multitude to be cajoled and deceived on every subject. . ."

Compact Communities Foster Newspapers

In examining the growth of newspapers, it is proposed not only to seek from such sources as are available, statistics as to the number of publications, at least for significant intervals, but to consider also the growth of population and the growth of circulation of these periodicals.

There is a necessary and intimate relationship between newspapers and population, for without subscribers, newspapers languish; where there are people, there will be found news periodicals. Mere numbers are not alone sufficient, for it will be found that the more newspapers flourish where the people are gathered in the more populous and closely compacted units. For example, the Census of 1850 showed that the whole Pacific slope including California, Oregon territory (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and part of Montana) and New Mexico (Arizona and New Mexico of the present) had 11 newspapers, to 31 in the city of Baltimore with about the same population. (Pacific slope, 167,438; Baltimore, 169,054.) The same year, the city of Boston, with 136,881 population, had 113 newspapers, or ten times as many as approximately the same number of people on the Pacific slope supported. The city of New York the same year had 104 newspapers to the 61 in the whole state of Missouri, having about the same population.

Horace Greeley, in 1851, told a parliamentary committee of the British House of Commons that the general rule in America was for each town to have a newspaper, and, in the free states, each county of 20,000 or more usually had two papers—one for each party.[1] A county of 50,000 usually had five journals, Mr. Greeley said, and when a town reached 15,000 inhabitants, "or thereabouts," it usually had a daily paper, and at 20,000 it had two.

North declares Greeley's summary was practically as true in 1880 as in 1850, but cited numerous exceptions. "The number of weekly publications in a town rarely gets above three without the appearance of a daily, and it is the competion of the weekly papers which frequently supplies a town

[1] North, "History of the Newspaper and Periodical Press of the United States," p. 65.

with two dailies before it has amassed nutriment for the sustenance of one."[1]

It will be the purpose of this study, then, to examine the available statistics at certain periods, for three phases of newspaper history, and then trace the growth of newspapers both as to actual numbers, and in relation to the growth of population.

These phases will be the actual number of newspapers and other periodicals at various periods; the total number of subscriptions to these publications; and the total output of the periodical press.

With these figures as a basis, the amount of increase or growth can be computed, both in respect to actual numbers, but also in relation to the growing population of the country.

It will be found that there have been numerous changes in the rate of growth, and endeavor will be made to check possible coincidence between these changes and the economic and social conditions of the country.

It will not be the purpose of this study to trace newspaper growth as expressed in the financial reports of cost of operation or of investment, nor will more than passing notice be given the relative development of publications of varying frequency of issue.

[2] Ibid., p. 65.

CHAPTER I.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The first step in the problem here undertaken is to get such figures as are to be had along four distinct lines:

1. The actual number of newspapers.
2. The total number of subscribers.
3. The total annual output of the periodical press.
4. Population of the country.

The listing of the actual number of papers is complicated by scarcity of early records and by conflicting figures. For the period prior to 1790, the graphic check list of "The First Century of American Newspapers," makes possible a statement of the number of papers at any desired year.

Isaiah Thomas listed the newspapers of 1810, and a few other estimates are available for dates before the first annual Ayer's Newspaper Directory in 1869. North also lists newspapers in 1810, differing only slightly from Thomas' list, and the Library of Congress has issued a check list of all eighteenth century papers of which it has record. "A Century of Population Growth," a Census bureau publication, lists all papers in existence in 1790, and Yale library has issued a check list of its eighteenth century papers.

Conflicting figures are not infrequently found, due, probably to two causes: the differing time of year at which censuses were taken, and also to a difference in definition as to "What is a newspaper?" Typographical errors may acccount for a few discrepancies.

Changes in the basis of government reports in two respects affect the comparative value of census figures. Beginning in 1904, the Bureau of Manufactures made separate reports of the number and circulation of Sunday papers, thus reporting as two papers the daily that had a Sunday issue, and giving in circulation totals, figures for the daily and for the Sunday paper, even though the bulk of subscriptions were for daily and Sunday combined.

Offsetting this padding of figures was the change in the basis of report, omitting from the census concerns doing less

than $5,000 business annually instead of those doing less than $500 as previously.

Attention should be called to the unexplained difference in reported circulation of newspapers in 1921, as reported in census reports of 1923, and in similar reports issued in 1926. Again, annual output reported for weekly papers in 1870 is 52 times the subscriptions, and the output of monthly publications is 12 times the circulation, but the output of dailies is only 310 times the circulation, apparently indicating that on the average daily paper of 1870 skipped all the Sundays and three holidays as well.

Except for more or less wild guesses of colonial periods, the number of subscribers for all periodicals is available only from occasional encyclopedia surveys, and from the manufacturing census reports, starting in 1850.

Fewer figures on annual output were directly available, but the reports and estimates of colonial and earlier days may be supplemented by computations from detailed statistics of the Bureau of Manufactures.

Population prior to the first census is almost invariably estimated. However, something approaching accuracy is possible by comparing various estimates. Population from 1790 in decennial years is definitely shown in the federal census; and for other years may be computed, based on the average yearly increase for the census period, or found in Census Bureau estimates.

The term "newspaper" is here used in its general sense to cover all periodical publications.

With these observations as to source, numbers of papers, their circulation and annual output are presented in Table I., and represented graphically in Charts I, II, and III.

Few Papers Before Revolution

At no time prior to the American Revolution were there as many as 100 newspapers in the American colonies, but by the time of the first census in 1790, the number was 106. Then began a steady climb, as gathered from the various census reports, newspaper directories, and other authoritative estimates.

It will be noted there was a slight recession in the number of publications between 1830 and 1835, but this was followed by a rapid period of expansion, especially in the decades of 1870-80 and 1880-90, to a peak of 24,089 papers in 1910. In other words, there were 588 times as many newspapers in the United States in 1921 as at the time of the Revolution, but only 43 times as many persons.

The details of this change in newspaper numbers, by decades, with special reports at other early dates when available, will be found in the third column of Table I.

Figures on the total circulation of all periodicals are harder

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TABLE I.

NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS, TOTAL CIRCULATION, AND TOTAL ANNUAL OUTPUT, 1704-1925

Year	Population	Number of Papers	Total Number Subscriptions	Total Copies Printed Annually
1704	300,000	1	300	10,200
1710	357,500	1		15,600
1720	500,000[1]	3	3,269	
1725	1,000,000	5		170,000
1730		8		
1740		12		
1750	1,207,000[1]	14		
1760	1,610,000[1]	21		
1770	2,205,000[1]	29		
1775	2,803,000	48	23,300	1,196,000
1776		37[8]		
1780	2,580,000[1]	38		
1788	3,660,000[2]	93[5]	77,000[5]	4,000,000[5]
1790	3,929,214	106		
1800	5,308,483	150[6]		
1810	7,239,891	393[6]		22,500,000[6]
		359[8]		22,321,700[7]
		366[3]		24,577,400[3]
1820	9,638,453	861		
1828	12,220,500[3]	863[8]		68,117,798[8]
		852[7]		
		851[9]		
1830	12,866,020	1,300		
1835	14,000,000[4]	1,258		90,361,000[4]
1840	17,059,453	1,403[8]		195,838,673[8]
		1,631[3]		
1850	23,191,876	2,526[10]	5,142,177[10]	426,409,978[10]
1860	31,443,321	4,051[3]	13,663,409[10]	927,951,548[10]
		3,266[11]		
1870	38,558,371	5,871[3]	20,842,475[10]	1,508,548,250[10]
		5,983[12]		
1872	40,974,498	5,195[13]	19,122,418[13]	1,372,167,266[13]
		5,400[19]	19,369,447[19]	1,375,096,168[19]

Year	Population	Number of Papers	Total Number Subscriptions	Total Copies Printed Annually
1880	50,155,783	11,314[3]	31,779,686[10]	2,067,848,209[10]
		10,643[12]		
1890	62,974,714	17,616[10]	69,138,934[10]	4,681,113,530[10]
		18,129[12]	68,147,619[14]	4,669,217,750[14]
1899	74,798,612	18,793[14]	106,889,334[15]	7,830,882,308[17]
		21,325[12]		
1904	82,601,384	21,848[14]	150,009,723[15]	10,044,751,777[17]
		22,312[12]		
1909	90,691,354	22,141[14]	164,463,040[15]	11,626,417,321[17]
		22,725[12]		
1914	97,927,516	22,754[14]	205,594,907[15]	14,058,600,190[17]
		23,167[12]		
1919	105,003,065	20,489[14]	222,481,938[15]	15,108,162,934[17]
		20,941[12]		
1921	108,445,000	13,167[15]	212,901,931[16]	15,587,205,536[17]
		20,887[12]	210,946,631[18]	15,134,056,854[18]
1923	111,692,000	13,077[15]	232,042,614[16]	16,760,921,987[17]
1925	115,378,094	14,065[15]	259,986,457[16]	17,942,124,562[17]

[1] Estimates by F. B. Dexter, Yale University.
[2] Computed on basis of proportional increase throughout decade.
[3] Newspaper summary in U. S. Census of 1880, by S. N. D. North; also in Census of 1850, p. lxiv.
[4] Frederick Hudson, "History of American Journalism."
[5] Census of 1860, mortality section.
[6] Isaiah Thomas's "History of Printing in America."
[7] Census of 1850, quoting American Almanac for 1830.
[8] Coggeshall, quoted by North in Census of 1880, p. 47.
[9] Dexter, "History of Education in the United States," p. 506.
[10] Report of Manufacturing Industries, Census of 1850, p. lxv.
[11] Bogart, "The Economic History of the United States," p. 235.
[12] N. W. Ayer's Newspaper directories.
[13] Appleton's "American Encyclopedia" for 1872.
[14] Special Reports of the Census of Manuufactures for 1905, vol. III.
[15] Abstract of the Census of Manufactures. (Businesses more than $500 annually.)
[16] Abstract of the Census of Manufactures. (Businesses more than $5,000 annually.)
[17] Computed from number of papers of various frequencies of publicca- as reported in the Census.
[18] Revised Census figures. [19] See Appendix II, p. 94.

NOTE:—Population figures from 1790 on are from reports of the Bureau of the Census; prior to 1790, largely estimates. Compare Bancroft's estimates for 1688, "History of the United States," vol. I, p. 602, and for 1754, idem. vol. II. p. 389 (quoted also in "Century of Population Growth") with estimates of H. C. Carey in "Principles of Political Economy," (1840) part III, pp. 25-6.

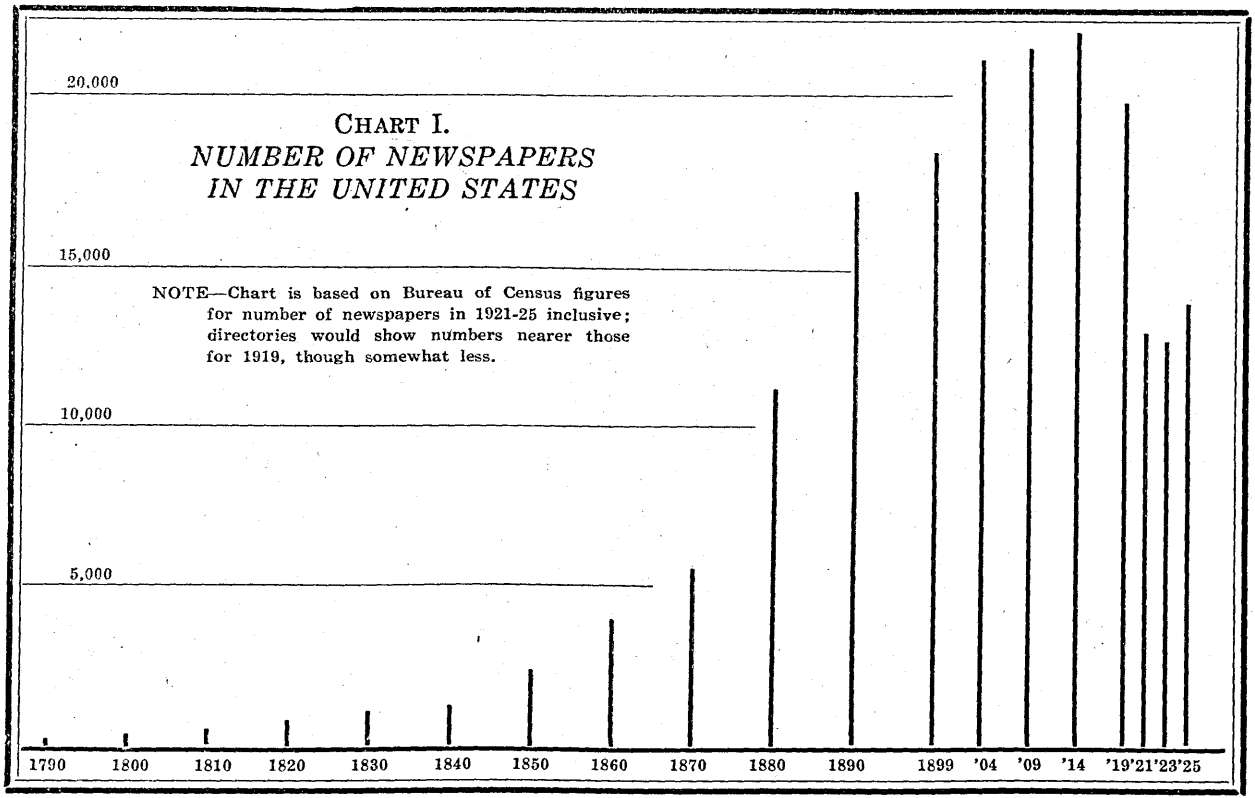


CHART I.

NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES

NOTE—Chart is based on Bureau of Census figures for number of newspapers in 1921-25 inclusive; directories would show numbers nearer those for 1919, though somewhat less.

CHART II.

NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

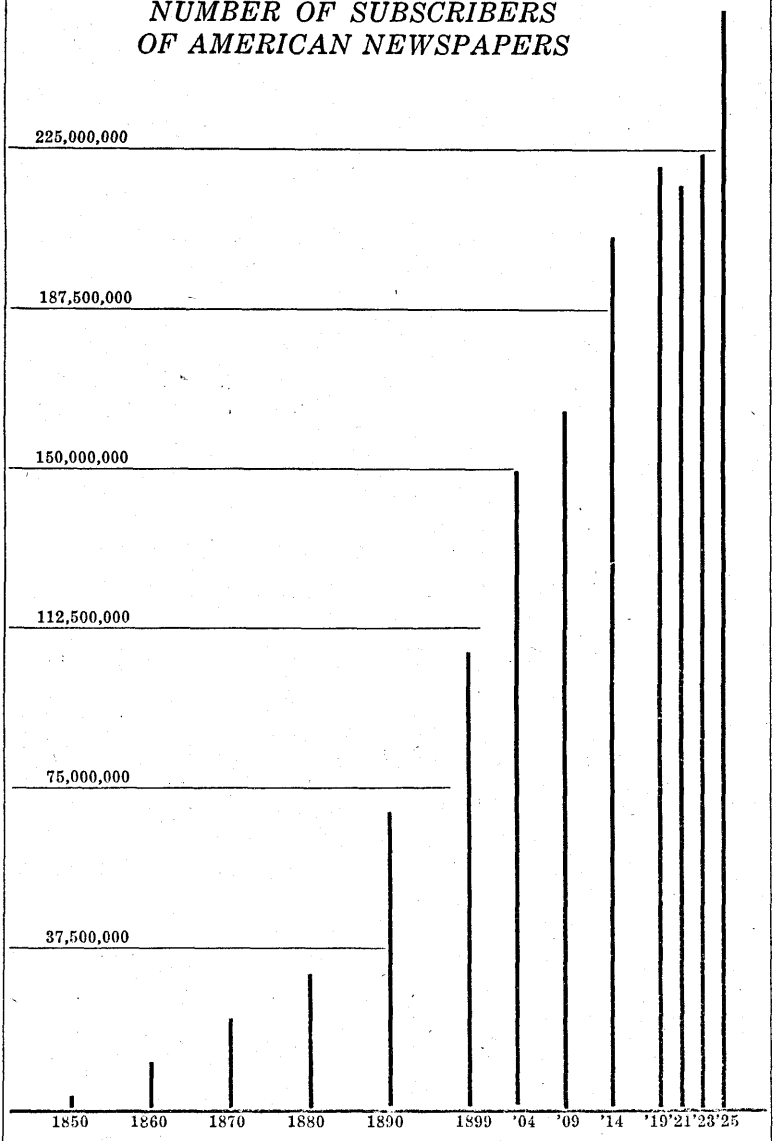
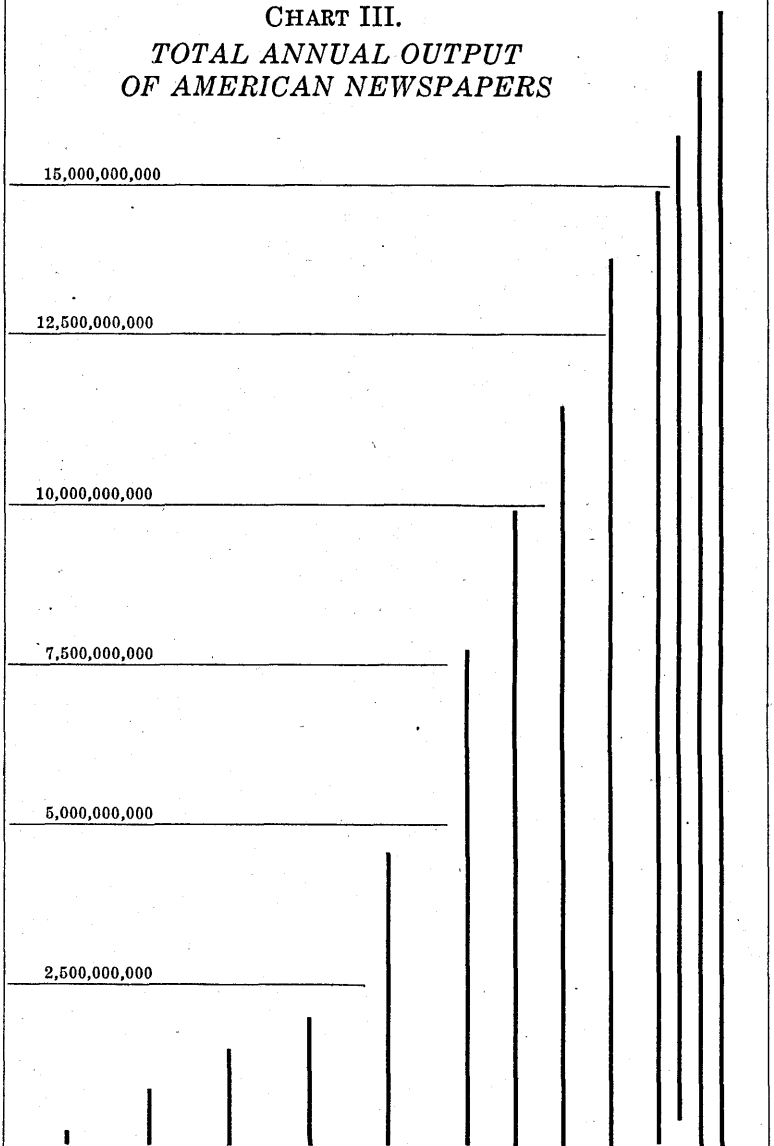


CHART III.

TOTAL ANNUAL OUTPUT OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS



to get, due to the fact there were no newspaper directories before 1869, and the newspaper historians of earlier days seldom mentioned the circulation of any publication. Isaiah Thomas, the first historian of the press, mentions that the *Boston News-Letter* probably never printed more than 300 copies of an issue.

In fact, Campbell in his *News-Letter* of Aug. 10, 1719, wrote that the printer "cannot vend 300 at an impression, tho some ignorantly concludes he sells upwards of a thousand." North says it is doubtful if the *News-Letter* at any time printed more than a thousand copies for an issue.

Thomas, in his history of colonial printers, says that in 1747-8, when the *Pennsylvania Gazette* was making its greatest progress, under Franklin's direction, it had "extensive circulation in Pennsylvania and in the neighboring colonies."[1] Franklin's projected *Philadephische Zeitung* (in German) died on its second issue because 300 subscribers could not be obtained.

Thomas's own *Massachusetts Spy,* when it was a weekly, had 200 subscribers, but according to his "Memoirs," it had in two years a circulation "larger than that of any other newspaper in Boston."

While periodicals had such limited circulations, there were other publications of wide circulation, such as Ames' Almanac, which had editions as large as 10,000 annually.

Rivington's *New York Gazette* once boasted in the Revolutionary period, that it had a circulation of 3,600, but these are the largest figures available for the earlier newspapers.

Greeley's *Log Cabin,* started in May, 1840, with a circulation of 30,000, soon ran to 80,000. It would doubtless have attained still wider circulation had the publisher possessed the present facilities for printing and mailing, says Appleton's Encyclopedia.[2]

The earliest authentic figures of total circulation of American newspapers are those of the census of 1850, which gives the total for all publications, numbering 2,526, and total number of subscribers at a little more than 5,000,000. Succeeding decennial censuses carried similar figures until 1890, after which the figures were compiled from the reports of manufacturing establishments, beginning in 1899 and continuing at five-year intervals. The earlier of these are probably very nearly correct, as they include reports from establishments

[1] Thomas, "History of Printing in America," p. 235.
[2] First Series, vol. XII, p. 366.

doing business as low as $500 annually, but in 1921 the basis was raised to $5,000, and the figures of newspapers reporting (13,167) are far below the number of newspapers known to exist.

With the exception of reports for 1872 (which omit at least three states) and 1921, the circulation figures show a constantly upward tendency. Even with a falling number of papers at the opening of the twentieth century, the circulation totals increased, people turning to remaining publications when one was discontinued. For details, see column 4 of Table I.

It is when computations are made of the total number of copies of all periodicals issued annually that the figures mount most rapidly. Estimates of the total output in the Colonial period are of necessity largely matters of guess, with total output something more than a million copies annually, by the time of the Revolution. In 1923 the total output of the periodical press was in excess of 16 billion copies, or 16,000 times as many papers for the readers of 1923 to peruse as were available in Colonial days.

Increase Put on Annual Basis

Not included in the table are circulations and aggregate annual output for 1872, as reported in the separate state write-ups in Appleton's Encyclopedia for that year. Alabama, Kansas and Ohio failed to report on newspapers, and the District of Columbia, New Mexico and Utah are not mentioned at all, but the totals for the rest of the states, aggregating 19,122,418 circulation and 1,372,167,266 aggregate annual output are in line with the census figures. For details of annual output, see column 5, Table I.

The preceding table had to do with the numbers of newspapers, their number of subscribers, and their annual output, together with population figures at the various periods for which newspaper figures are available. This table, then, becomes the basis for some interesting computations, set forth in Tables II and III.

Table No. II is intended to show in its first columns the actual increases in numbers of papers, subscriptions, and annual output, and in the last three columns the rate of these increases for each year of the various periods. Since the periods vary in length from 2 to 65 years, it is the last three columns—the rates of annual increase—that are significant.

Table No. II shows, then, that newspapers, when they were first started increased at the average rate of one newspaper

TABLE II.—*RATE OF GROWTH OF NEWSPAPERS IN AMERICA*

From	No. of years	Total Increase in Number of			Annual Increase in Number of		
		Papers	Subscripptions	Annual Output	Papers	Subscriptions	Annual Output
1710 to 1725	15	4		154,400	.27		10,293
1725 to 1775	50	43	23,000[2]	1,026,000	.72	354.0[2]	20,520
1775 to 1788	13	45	53,700	2,004,000	3.46	4,130.8	154,153
1788 to 1810	22	300		18,500,000	13.64		840,909
1810 to 1828	18	459		45,617,798	25.50		2,534,332
1828 to 1835	7	406		22,243,202	58.00		3,177,600
1835 to 1840	5	373[1]		105,477,673	74.60		21,095,534
1840 to 1850	10	895[1]	5,065,177[3]	230,571,305	89.50	81,696.4[3]	23,057,130
1850 to 1860	10	1,525	8,521,232	501,541,570	152.50	852,123.2	50,154,157
1860 to 1870	10	1,821	7,179,064	580,596,702	182.10	717,906.4	58,059,670
1870 to 1880	10	5,484	10,937,211	559,299,959	548.40	1,093,721.1	55,929,996
1880 to 1890	10	6,261	37,359,248	2,613,265,321	626.10	3,735,924.8	261,326,532
1890 to 1899	9	1,177	37,750,400	3,149,768,778	230.78	4,194,477.8	349,974,309
1899 to 1904	5	3,055	43,120,389	2,213,869,469	611.00	8,624,077.8	442,773,894
1904 to 1909	5	464	14,453,317	1,581,665,544	92.40	2,890,663.4	316,333,109
1909 to 1914	5	442	41,131,867	2,432,182,869	88.40	8,226,373.4	486,436,574
1914 to 1919	5	—2,265	16,887,076	1,049,562,744	—453.00	3,377,415.2	209,912,548
1919 to 1921	2	—7,322[4]	—11,535,307[5]	25,893,910	—3661.00	—5,767,653.5	12,946,955
1921 to 1923	2	—90[4]	22,095,983	1,626,865,133	—45.00	11,047,991.5	813,432,566
1923 to 1925	2	988	27,943,843	1,181,202,575	494.00	13,971,921,5	590,601,288
1710 to 1725	215	14,064	259,963,457	17,942,108,962	65.41[5]	1,209,132.4	83,451,669

1 Census figures for 1840 used.

2 For the 65-year period from 1710 to 1775.

3 For the 62-year period from 1788 to 1850.

4 Decrease due largely to changed basis of Census figures.

5 Census figures for 1925 used; directory figures would give an average of 98 papers yearly for the 215 years.

CHART IV

ANNUAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES

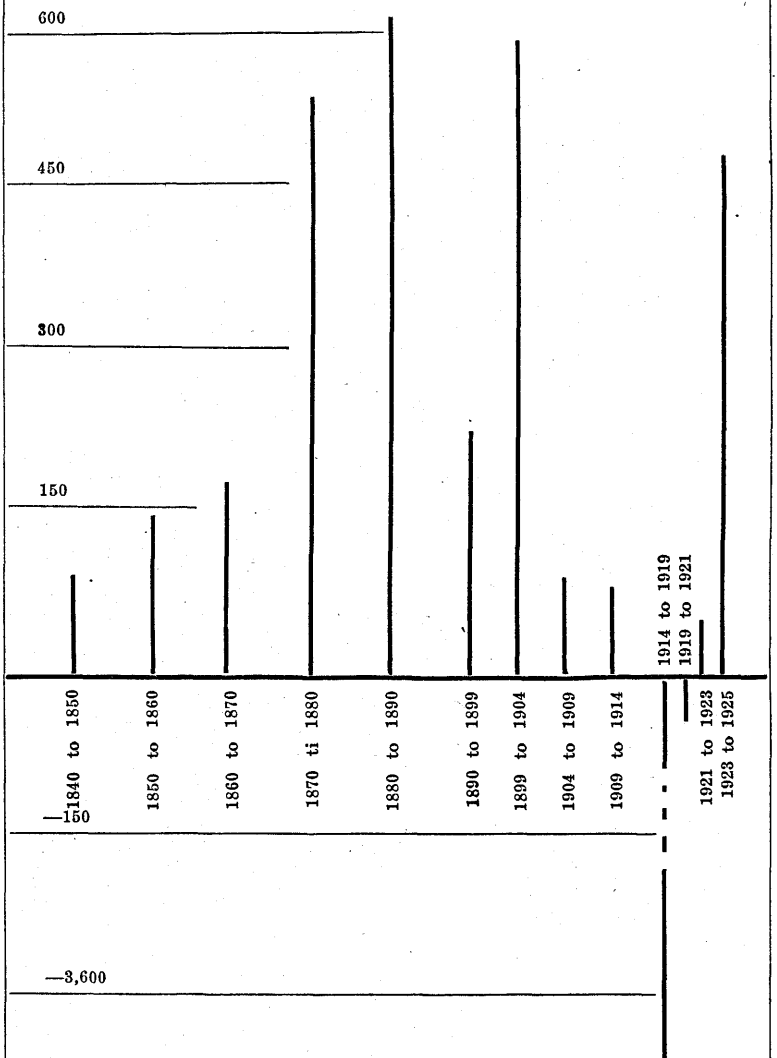


CHART V.

ANNUAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

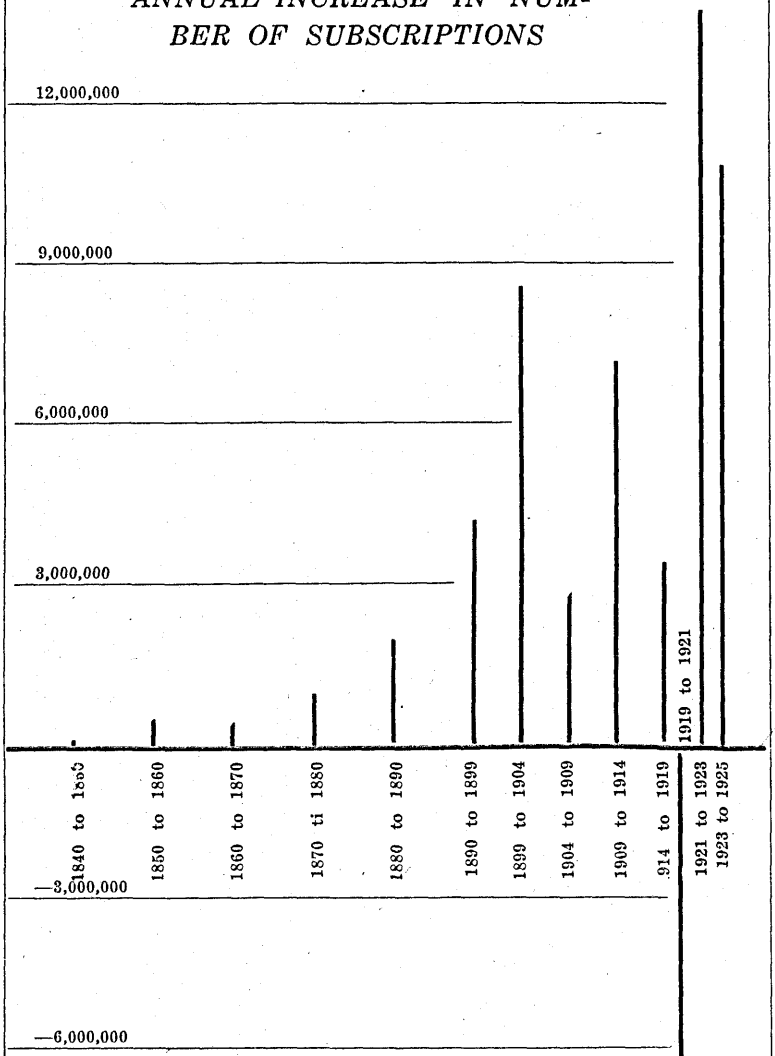
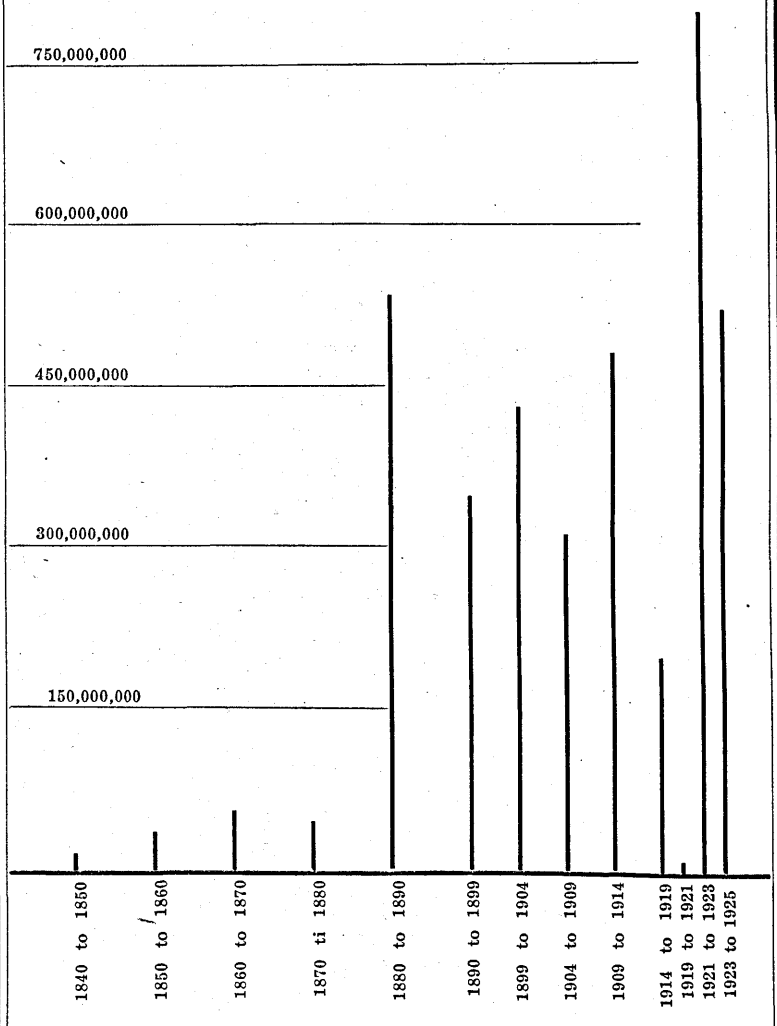


CHART VI.

ANNUAL INCREASE IN TOTAL ANNUAL OUTPUT OF NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES



every four years, while in the 13 years after the Revolution they increased at the rate of 3.46 a year; and at one time grew in numbers almost two a day. The table shows that the greatest rate of increase started soon after the Civil war, and continued into the twentieth century with the exception of the 90's, a period of financial depression. Greatest growth in the number of newspapers came in 1880-90, the decade of settlement of the nation and the founding of great numbers of new towns. The rate of growth was checked abruptly by the World war, and the number of papers actually declined after 1914.

In the same way, the annual increase in subscriptions is computed, showing the increasing momentum in the reading habits of the people of the country. The period of greatest increase in subscriptions did not come until the opening of the twentieth century, the increase of subscriptions in 1899-1904 being at the rate of more than 8,000,000 a year. The five years just before the World war likewise were years of prosperity for the newspapers that were able to keep on.

Reference to Table III, following, will show that the average circulation of newspapers, in the period of most rapid growth (1880-90) was less than at later periods, and explains the lagging of the peak of the number of subscriptions behind the peak of the number of papers. This apparent discrepancy is especially noticeable in the period 1914-19, when the rising cost of commodities, due to the war, was putting many weaker newspapers out of business, but the people were turning in large numbers to other established papers for their news.

Population Also Increases

The total annual output of the periodical press shows more uniformity than do the figures either for the number of newspapers, or the number of subscriptions. There was a falling off in the 70's (a period of financial depression) even though the number of new publications continued to increase. The panic of '93 apparently did not halt the steady increase in the output of the press, and even the World war and its fatalities among the newspapers did not halt the growth in output, explainable, probably, by the fact that persons deprived of weekly papers by their suspension, turned to the dailies, substituting 313 to 365 issues a year of the daily for the 52 issues they had been receiving of the weekly.

But all this time the population had been growing, sometimes at such a rate that the number of newspapers in relation to population was declining. The whole Revolutionary

period from 1770 to 1780 was one of such decline, and again in the decade from 1830 to 1840.

Taking 1,000 persons as a unit, the ratio of papers to population can be computed. This shows, for example, 14.6 times as many papers in relation to population in 1920 as in 1775. Compare with this the actual 511-fold increase in the number of publications.

Table III therefore presents the same general information as Table I, but in relation to population.

The figures of Table III are diagrammed in Charts VII, VIII, and IX. It will be noted that the maximum of newspapers in relation to population was reached in 1890, nearly 15 years before the peak in actual number of papers. In 1890 the ratio was 279 papers for each million persons in the nation. Thirty years later, two-thirds as many papers (per thousand of population) averaged more than four times as many subscribers.

Everybody a Subscriber to a Periodical

The year 1890 marks the date at which everybody subscribed for a newspaper, when the average was 1097.9 papers for each 1,000 persons.

As in the case of the actual number of subscriptions, the subscriptions in relation to population reached their maximum long after the number of papers was at its peak. The latter were more numerous (in relation to population) in 1890, while it was 1919 before subscribers per thousand of population were at their highest. Total annual output continued to increase throughout the period under consideration.

The annual rates of growth of newspapers, subscriptions, and annual output, all in terms of 1,000 popuation, will be found in Table IV.

Table No. IV is intended to show in parallel columns something of the rate of growth of the total number of newspapers, of subscriptions (circulation) of American newspapers, and also of the increase in total annual output of the periodical press, all in relation to the number of persons in the country.

Population made a slight gain on the growing number of newspapers in 1810-28, and a decided gain in 1835-40. From 1840 to 1890 the number of newspapers, in relation to population, continued to gain, but the next 30 years witnessed a see-saw race between newspapers and population.

If we may accept the guess that the *Boston News-Letter* had not to exceed 300 subscribers by 1710, that is a growth

at the rate of 50 a year from the founding of the paper. From then on, the growth of circulation was steady to the time of the Civil war, when it developed that, while there was still

TABLE III

NEWSPAPERS IN RELATION TO POPULATION

Year	No. of Papers	Papers per thousand Population	Subscribers per thousand Population	Annual Output per thousand Population	Average No. of Subs. Each Paper
1704	1	.0033	1.0	34	300.0
1710	1	.0028		43	
1720	3	.0063			
1725	5	.0050	3.3	170	
1730	8	.0107			
1740	12	.0135			
1750	14	.0108			
1760	22	.0118			
1770	29	.0154			
1775	48	.0171	8.2	427	485.4
1780	38	.0137			
1788	93	.0252	21.0	1,093	827.9
1790	106	.0270			
1800	150	.0282			
1810	393	.0497		3,108	
1820	861	.0899			
1828	852	.0697		5,294	
1830	1,300	.1010			
1835	1,258	.0899		6,454	
1840	1,403	.0822		11,480	
	1,628	.0954			
1850	2,526	.1089	221.7	17,955	2,035.6
1860	4,051	.1288	434.5	28,876	3,372.8
1870	5,871	.1523	540.7	39,121	3,550.0
1880	11,314	.2234	633.6	41,229	2,808.6
1890	17,616	.2797	1,097.9	74,333	3,924.8
1899	18,793	.2506	1,425.2	104,411	5,687.7
1904	21,848	.2652	1,820.8	121,923	6,865.3
1909	22,141	.2449	1,819.8	128,647	7,428.0
1914	22,754	.2334	2,109.2	144,329	9,035.5
1919	20,489	.1964	2,132.3	144,801	10,858.6
1921	13,167[1]	.1214[1]	1,945.2	139,555	16,021.0
1923	13,077[1]	.1179[1]	2,077.5	150,046	17,736.6
1925	14,065[1]	.1219[1]	2,253.3	155,508	18,484.5

[1] Note result of changed basis of Census figures.

CHART VII.

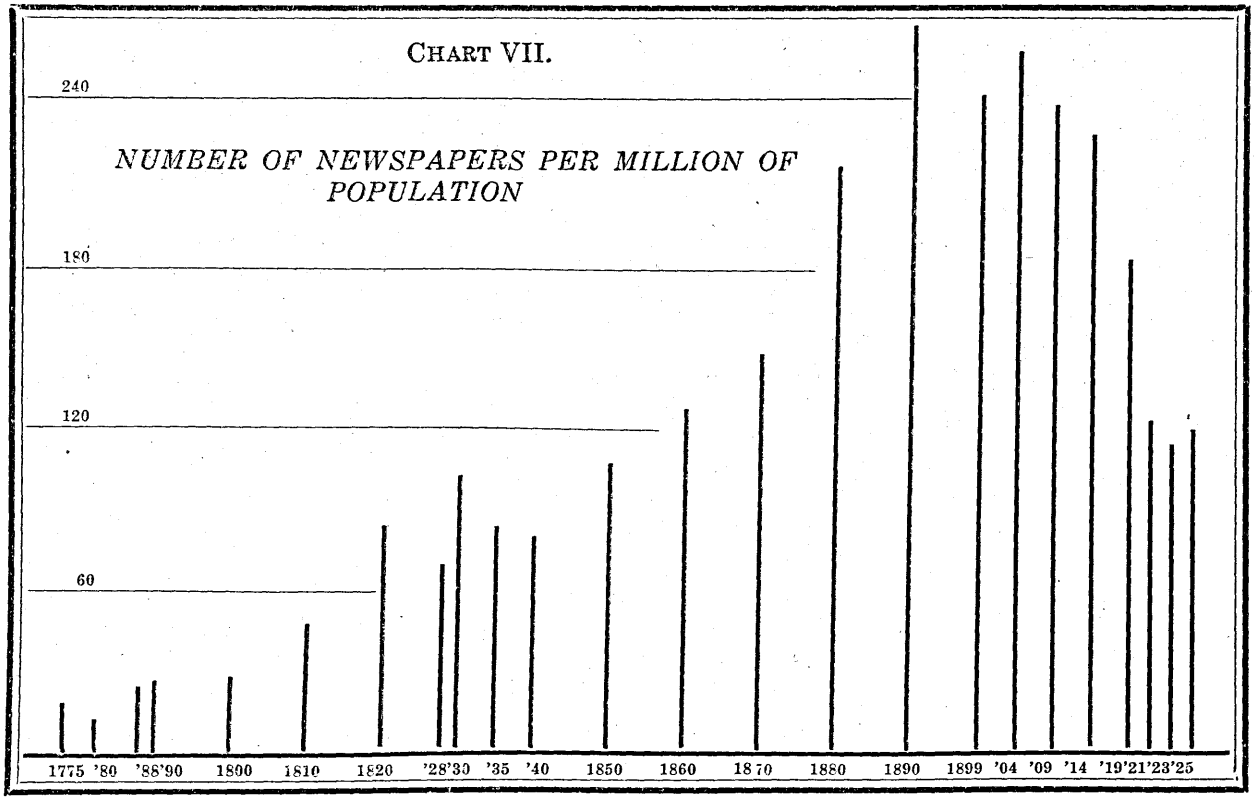

240
180
120
60
NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS PER MILLION OF POPULATION
1775 '80 '88'90 1800 1810 1820 '28'30 '35 '40 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1899 '04 '09 '14 '19'21'23'25

CHART VIII.

NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS PER THOUSAND OF POPULATION

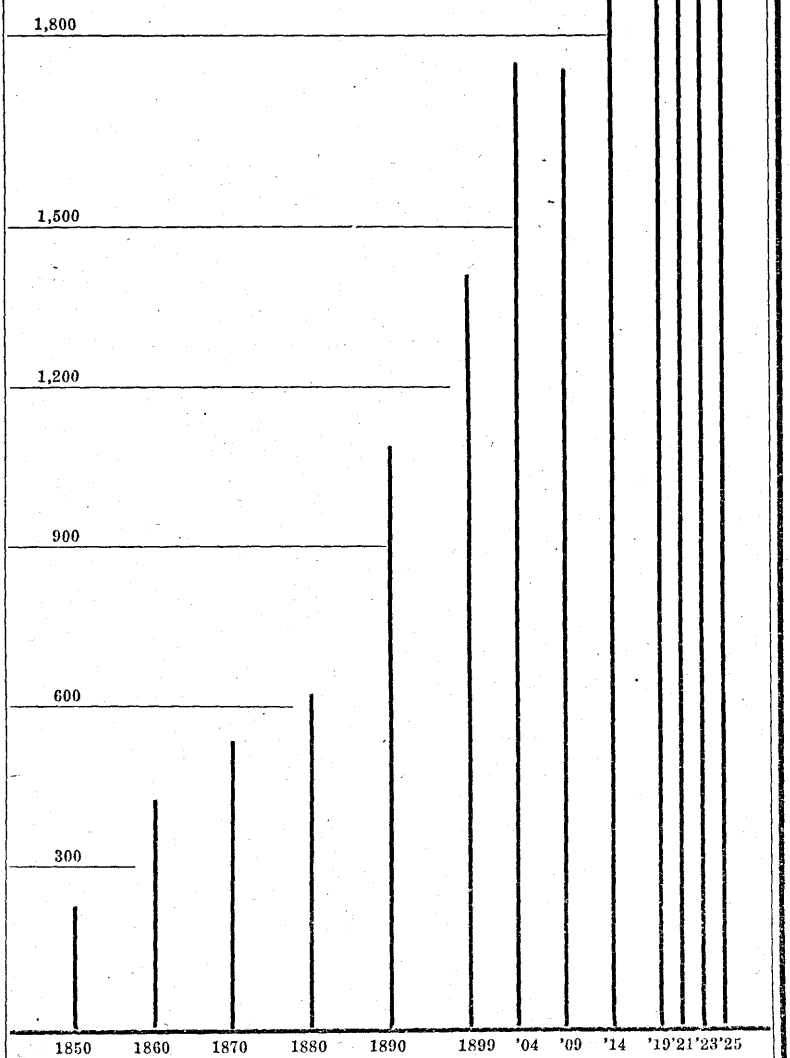
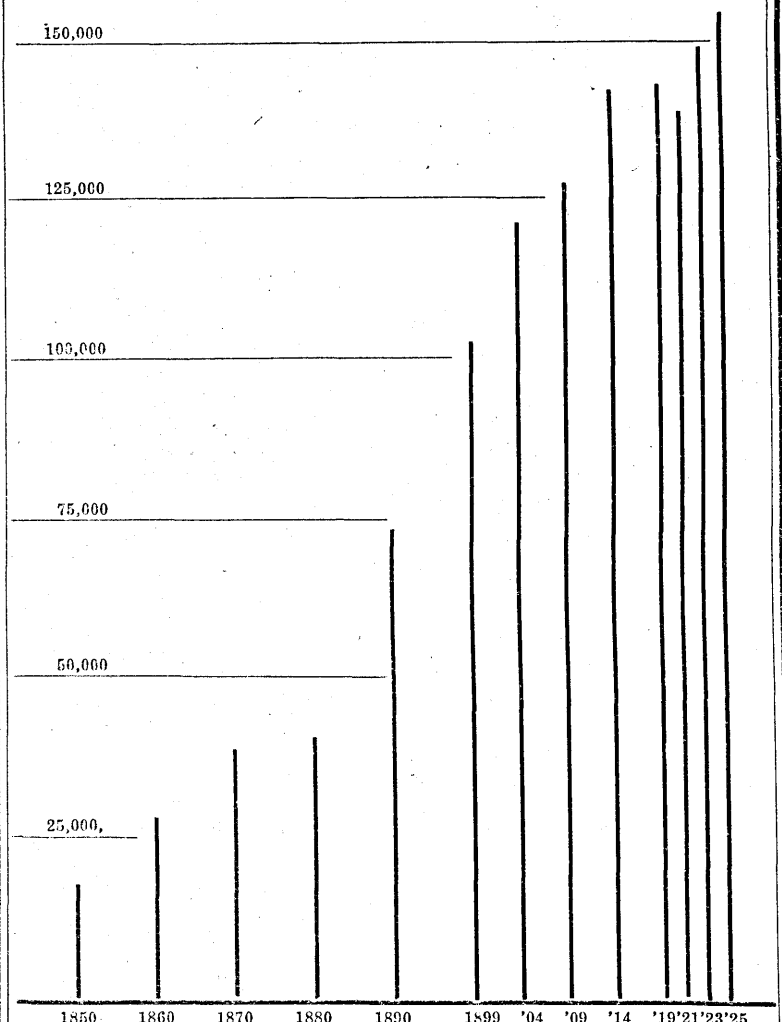


CHART IX.

TOTAL ANNUAL OUTPUT PER THOUSAND OF POPULATION



growth, it was not at as rapid a rate as it had been. Because of the long period between 1775 and 1850, the annual average is much lower than it would be especially for the latter years of the period.

As has been indicated, in the decade in which occurred the Civil war, the growth in circulation was retarded, but from then on until the end of the century, the total of newspaper subscribers increased 50 to 110 per cent each decade. Then came a lull, another spurt, and then the lull of the World war, when scarcity of paper, and other conservation measures offset the natural desire of the people for more news because of war conditions. Near the close of the table, the figures show

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TABLE IV

RATE OF GROWTH OF NEWSPAPERS IN RELATION TO POPULATION

From			No. of Years	Total Increase per M. Pop. Papers	Subs. An. Output		Annual Increase per M. Pop. Papers	Subs.	Output
1710	to	1725	15	.0021		127	.00014		8
1725	to	1775	50	.0096	7[1]	257	.00019	[3]	5
1775	to	1788	13	.0081	13	666	.00059	[4]	51
1788	to	1810	22	.0245		2,015	.00111		91
1810	to	1828	18	.0166		2,187	.00092		122
1828	to	1835	7	.0236		1,159	.00389		166
1835	to	1840	5	.0055		5,025	.00110		1,005
1840	to	1850	10	.0135	201[2]	6,475	.00135	3[2]	648
1850	to	1860	10	.0199	213	10,920	.00199	21	1,092
1860	to	1870	10	.0235	106	10,245	.00235	11	1,025
1870	to	1880	10	.0605	93	2,107	.00605	9	211
1880	to	1890	10	.0816	464	33,104	.00816	46	3,311
1890	to	1899	9	—.0408	327	30,078	—.00453	36	333
1899	to	1904	5	.0146	395	17,512	.00292	79	3,502
1904	to	1909	5	—.0203	—1	6,724	—.00407	[6]	1,345
1909	to	1914	5	—.0115	289	15,682	—.00223	58	3,136
1914	to	1919	5	—.0370	23	472	—.00740	5	94
1919	to	1921	2	—.0750[5]	—187	—5,246	—.03750	—99	—2,623
1921	to	1923	2	—.0035[5]	132	20,491	—.00175	66	10,246
1923	to	1925	2	.0040[5]	175	5,462	.00200	88	2,731

[1] For 65 years, 1710 to 1775. [2] For 62 years, 1788 to 1850.
[3] Increase at rate of 11-100 subscribers yearly.
[4] Increase at rate of 99-100 subscribers yearly.
[5] Based on larger establishments reported to the Census Bureau
[6] Loss 2-10 of a subscriber yearly.

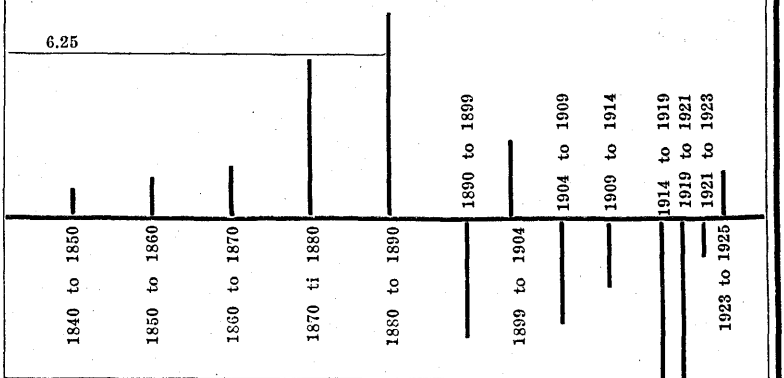


CHART X.

ANNULAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS PER MILLION OF POPULATION

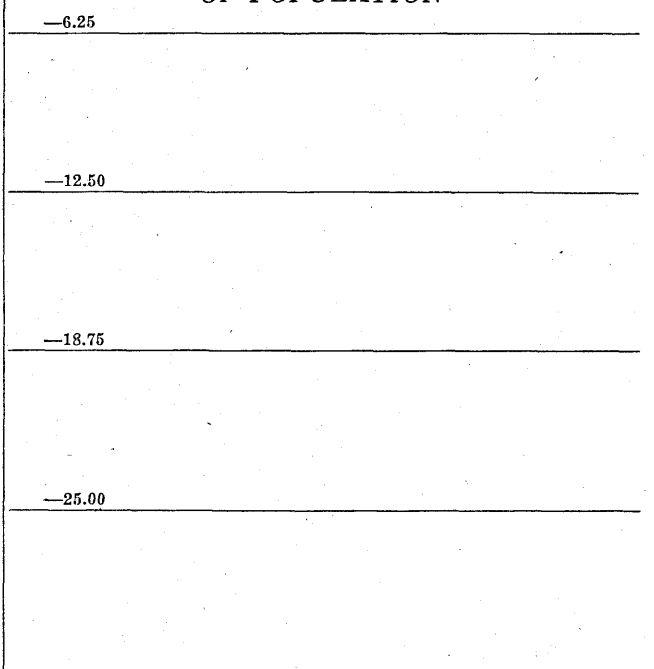


CHART XI.

ANNUAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS PER THOUSAND OF POPULATION

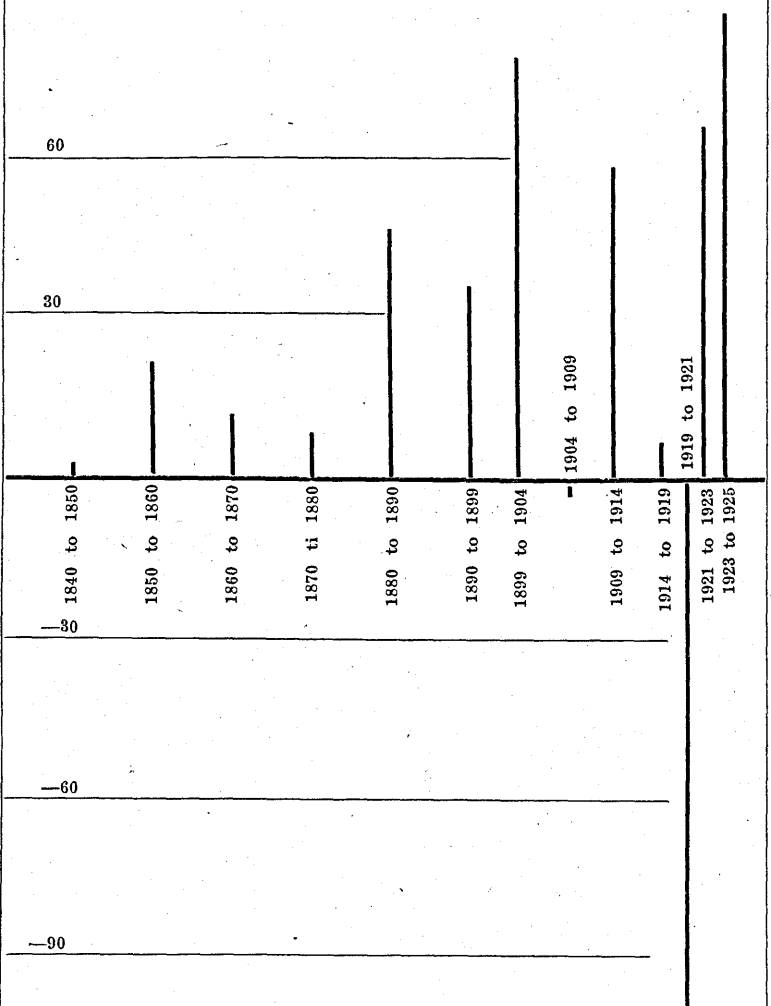
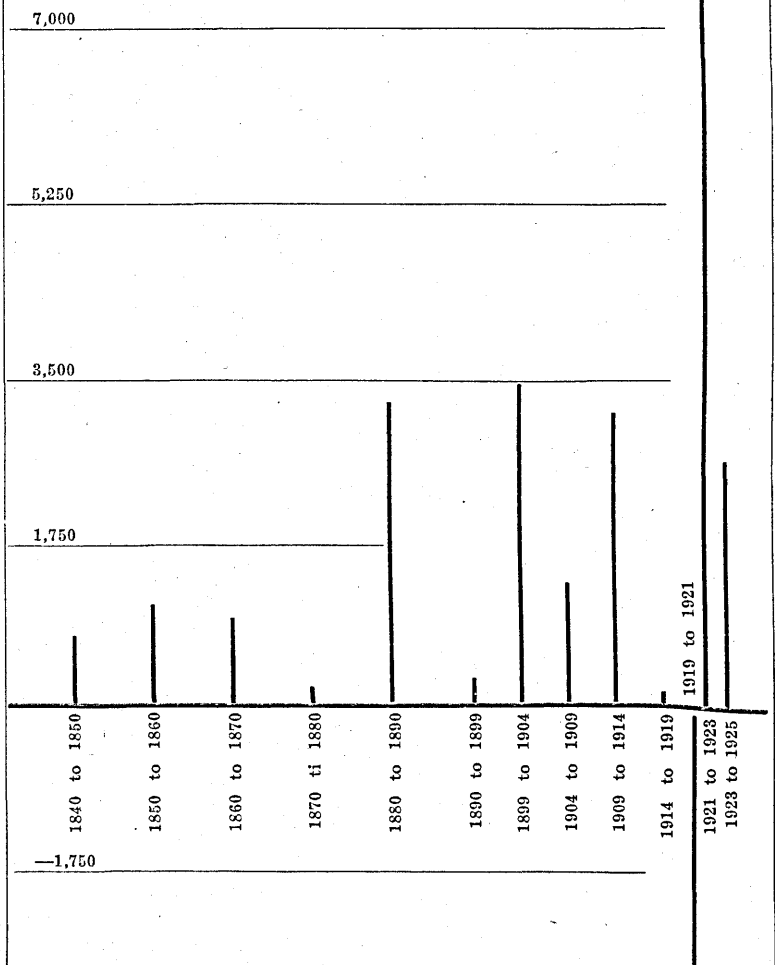


CHART XII.

ANNUAL INCREASE OF TOTAL ANNUAL OUTPUT PER THOUSAND POPULATION



a decrease, probably because of the changed basis for census returns, and the resulting omission of large numbers of smaller publications.

Examination of the next figures—the rate of annual increase of newspaper subscriptions—shows two decided lulls in an otherwise steady growth of newspaper reading, and both of these were war periods.

At the opening of the Civil war, on an average, 434.5 persons of each thousand in this country subscribed for a newspaper. In 1870, the number was 540.7 per thousand, showing an average increase through the decade of 11 subscribers a year. This rate of increase was only half the increase for the preceding decade, and only two-thirds of the gain for the decade of 1880-1890. Succeeding decades showed similarity until some unnamed cause in the five-year period of 1904-09 jumped the rate of increase to 70 subscriptions yearly for each thousand of population.

The rate of gain before the World war (58 persons out of each thousand in the country) slumped decidedly while the United States was in the war, and turned to an actual decline in subscriptions for the two years following the war.

First Dailies Appear

An examination of the rate of growth of news-reading habits, as evidenced by the total number of copies annually, in relation to population, gives some other interesting examples of the coincidence of changes in rate of increase with events in American history.

The figures of rate of increase in newspaper reading during the pre-Revolutionary period bear out in numbers of actual newspapers the statements that the Colonials were not a newspaper-reading people. With the formation of the new government of the United States, and the strong political discussions that grew out of the war, and the settling of terms and meanings of the new government, there was an increase in newspaper reading, as indicated both by the multiplication of the papers themselves, and of the increasing numbers who were getting newspapers. The actual number of papers in the 13 years from 1775 to 1788 increased each year three times as fast as it did during the 50 years before the Revolution; subscriptions increased nine times as fast, and the total annual output increased ten times as fast. Appearance of the first dailies in the later period accounts for the fact that annual output increased faster than did subscriptions. Whereas subscribers to the papers were increasing 1.1 for each 10,000 of

population before the Revolution, the annual increase was 9.9 per 10,000 in the 13 years after 1775.

The next rapid increase in the number of papers printed yearly was from 1835 to 1840, when the annual increase was one a person, or six times as rapid as it had been in the preceding seven years. The next decade, mounting population cut the rate of increase, but the two succeeding decades, including the one of the Civil war, showed the reading habits of the people growing as rapidly as in the 1835-40 period.

This was followed by a decided slowing up. The panic of 1873 made times hard, and immigration, retarded by the Civil war, recommenced, combining to lessen the ratio of newspapers to readers. Then followed a half century of development of the country, the settling of state boundaries, and the founding of many new cities and villages throughout the land. Newspaper reading was increasing at substantially the same rate throughout the half-century, except in one period, that of 1904-09.

Then came the World war, and paper conservation and coal shortages, and other problems that hampered the newspapers.

Not All are Weeklies

Thus far the figures have had to do with newspaper numbers, circulation, and annual output in the bulk, without consideration of the frequency of issue. It is not the purpose here to weigh the relative merits of dailies and weeklies; of tri-weekies and quarterlies, but to hold, with this one digression, to a study of newspaper growth as a whole.

Before the Revolution, there were no dailies, and few semi-weeklies or tri-weeklies. From the lists of newspapers in existence in 1790[1] and in 1810, it is possible to obtain figures for these two years, and from 1850 to the present the Bureau of the Census has supplied the detail. Early historians made no detailed report on circulation and output, and most of the later census reports omit the total annual output. This may be computed, of course, accurately for the dailies, weeklies, etc., where number of issues annually is given, and approximately for the "other" group.

The number of papers for various frequencies of publication, for years available, will be found in Table V, and the total annual output in Tables VI and VII respectively.

Tri-weeklies, it will be noted, never have constituted any

[1] For 1790, in "Century of Population Growth," p. 32; for 1810 from Isaiah Thomas "History of Printing in America."

considerable portion of the number of papers, and the semi-weeklies have been declining since 1904.

Sunday editions of daily papers, when counted separately, added to the total of all publications, but did not decrease the number of dailies. In the same way, total subscriptions and total annual output are increased by the double counting of Sunday issues of daily papers.

Both subscriptions and total annual output of weekly papers have not changed greatly in 11 years, but the subscriptions and output of the monthly publications have increased much more. Subscriptions and output of the Sunday papers doubled in the 21 years from 1904 to 1925.

Daily papers have fallen off slightly in number, but they have increased constantly in circulation and in total output.

From these figures may be drawn the following:

1. Three tables of percentage of each frequency of publication to the total publication for each year, one table for the number of papers, one for circulation, and one for total annual output.

2. Three tables showing the number of papers, circulation, and annual output in relation to some unit of population—1,000 persons, for example.

3. A percentage distribution of each of the three tabu-

TABLE V.

NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES OF VARYING FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION

Year	Total	Sunday	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Tri-weekly	Semi-weekly	Quarterly	Other
1790	103		8	73	7		12		3
1810	393		27	289			54		23
1840	1,634		141	1,141			125		227
1850	2,526		254	1,902	100	115	31	19	105
1860	4,051		387	3,173	280	86	79	30	16
1870	5,871		574	4,295	622	107	115	49	109
1880	11,314		971	8,633	1,167	73	133	166	221
1890	17,616		1,731	12,721	2,247	40	214	225	392
1899	18,793	567	2,226	12,979	1,817	62	637	237	268
1904	21,848	494	2,452	15,046	2,600	58	645	353	340
1909	22,141	520	2,600	15,097	2,491	73	635	361	364
1914	22,754	571	2,580	15,172	2,822	84	583	500	442
1919	20,489	604	2,441	13,375	2,647	93	452	489	388
1921	13,167	537	2,343	7,054	1,907	85	423	515	302
1923	13,077	602	2,314	6,887	1,907	79	407	555	326
1925	14,065	597	2,280	7,568	2,271	74	383	553	339

TABLE VI.

TOTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR VARIOUS FREQUENCIES OF PUBLICATION

Year	Total	Sunday	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Other
1850	5,142,177		758,454	2,944,629	740,651	698,493
1860	13,663,409		1,478,435	7,581,930	3,411,959	1,191,085
1870	20,842,475		2,601,547	10,594,643	5,650,843	1,995,442
1880	31,779,686		3,566,395	16,266,830	8,139,881	3,656,580
1890	69,138,934		8,387,188	28,954,515	19,624,038	12,173,193
1899	106,889,334	No report	15,102,156	34,242,052	37,869,897	19,675,229
1904	150,009,723	12,022,341	21,079,130	36,732,037	64,306,155	17,821,907
1909	164,463,040	13,347,282	24,211,977	40,822,965	63,280,535	22,800,279
1914	205,594,907	16,479,943	28,777,454	50,336,963	79,190,838	30,809,709
1919	222,481,938	19,368,913	33,028,630	51,902,121	91,681,807	26,500,512
1921[1]	210,946,631	20,853,335	32,341,678	43,521,178	83,459,114	30,771,306
1921[2]	212,901,931	20,110,206	33,777,827	43,947,298	83,954,144	31,112,456
1923	232,042,616	24,511,693	35,733,107	47,860,508	91,654,028	32,283,278
1925	259,986,457	25,630,056	38,039,682	50,815,443	111,875,957	33,625,319

[1] As published in Census of Manufactures reports in 1923. Note effect of raising minimum below which businesses were not required to report.

[2] As published in Census of Manufactures reports in 1926.

TABLE VII.

TOTAL ANNUAL OUTPUT FOR VARIOUS FREQUENCIES OF PUBLICATION

Year	Total	Sunday	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Other
1850	426,409,978		235,119,966	153,120,708	8,887,808	29,183,296
1860	927,951,548		456,600,050	394,260,360	40,943,508	36,147,630
1870	1,508,548,250		806,479,579	550,921,436	67,810,116	83,337,128
1880	1,133,054,319		1,116,281,635	845,875,160	97,678,572	73,218,952
1890	4,533,780,464		2,625,189,844	1,505,634,780	235,467,384	167,467,384
1899	7,830,882,308		4,908,200,700	1,780,586,704	454,438,764	687,656,140
1904	10,044,751,777	625,162,182	6,145,004,739	1,883,789,284	772,393,860	628,401,968
1909	11,626,417,321	694,050,664	7,579,348,801	2,122,794,180	759,366,420	470,849,256
1914	14,058,600,190	856,957,036	9,007,343,102	2,617,522,076	950,290,056	646,487,920
1919	15,108,162,934	1,007,183,476	10,337,961,190	2,698,910,292	1,100,181,684	463,926,282
1921[1]	15,134,056,854	1,084,374,460	10,122,945,214	2,263,101,256	1,001,509,364	468,126,560
1921[2]	15,587,205,537	1,047,730,712	10,572,459,851	2,285,259,496	1,007,449,728	482,306,150
1923	16,760,921,987	1,274,608,036	11,184,462,491	2,488,746,416	1,099,848,336	713,256,708
1925	17,942,124,562	1,332,762,912	11,906,420,466	2,642,403,036	1,342,511,484	718,026,664

[1] Based on total subscriptions as reported in census reports of 1926.
[2] Based on total subscriptions as reported in census reports of 1923.

lations suggested in paragraph 2, showing the proportion of each frequency of publication in the figures for each year.

Each of the nine tabulations should be illustrated with a graphic chart similar to those used for charting the bulk figures. For the purpose of this study, one phase, that of subscriptions in relation to population, will be worked out and charted. These results are to be found in Tables VIII and IX.

TABLE VIII.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PER THOUSAND OF POPULATION FOR VARYING FREQUENCIES OF PUBLICATION

Year	Sunday	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Other
1850		32.59	127.30	31.92	29.89
1860		46.93	241.15	108.19	36.24
1870		67.60	275.22	146.53	51.35
1880		71.60	324.40	162.84	73.76
1890		133.94	456.73	311.80	95.33
1900		200.95	456.06	505.95	272.25
1904		274.94	477.05	835.75	233.10
1909	147.4	269.33	451.31	700.62	151.14
1914	168.7	293.18	516.75	822.04	308.49
1919	185.5	307.05	498.96	878.51	266.28
1921	187.0	316.36	409.88	783.94	292.49
1923	223.6	324.85	436.65	833.21	251.30
1925	222.1	329.69	440.42	969.65	291.44

TABLE IX

PERCENTAGE OF EACH FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION, BASED ON NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS PER THOUSAND POPULATION

Year	Sunday	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Other
1850		14.9	57.6	14.8	12.7
1860		10.2	55.8	25.4	8.2
1870		12.5	50.9	27.1	8.5
1880		11.3	51.2	25.7	11.8
1890		13.5	45.7	31.3	9.5
1900		14.0	31.1	35.2	19.7
1904		15.1	26.2	45.9	12.8
1909	8.5	15.7	26.2	40.8	8.8
1914	8.0	13.8	24.5	39.0	14.1
1919	8.7	14.8	23.3	41.2	11.9
1921	9.9	15.3	20.6	39.6	14.6
1923	10.4	15.4	20.6	39.5	14.0
1925	9.9	14.6	19.5	43.0	13.0

CHART XIII.

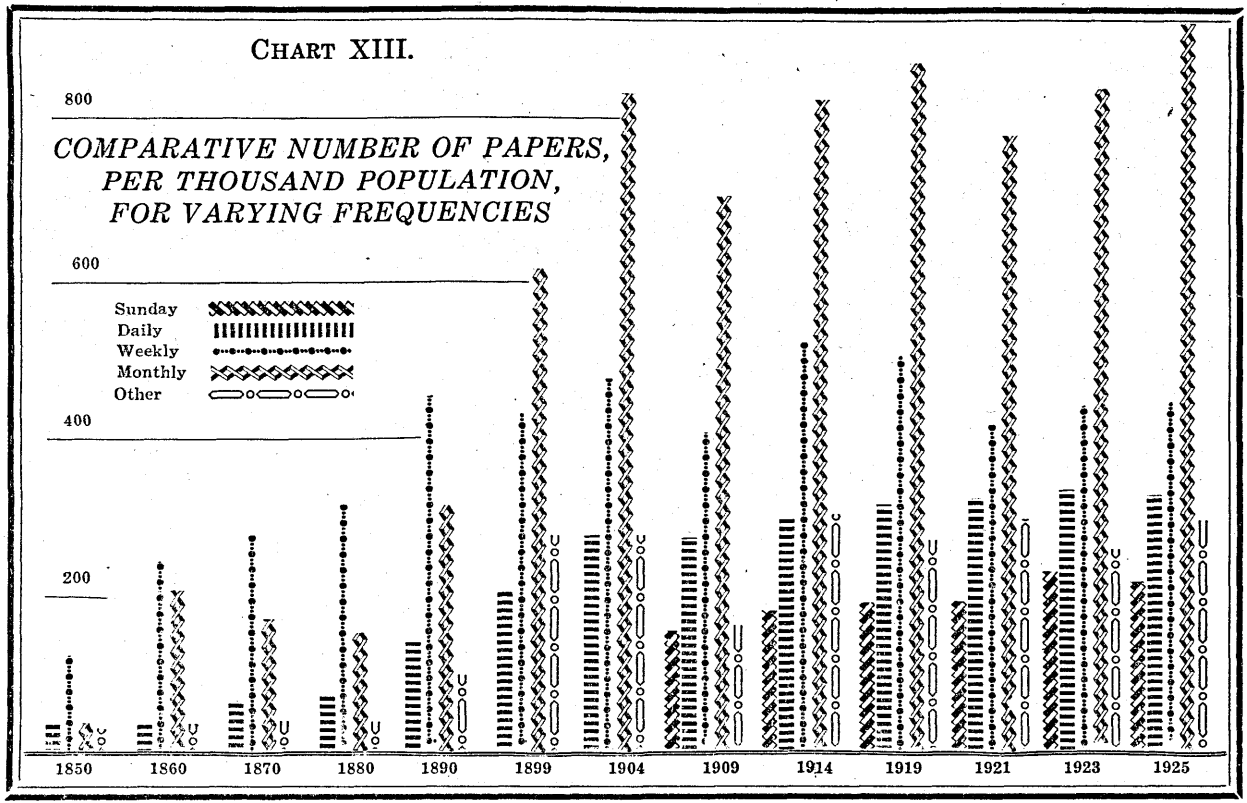
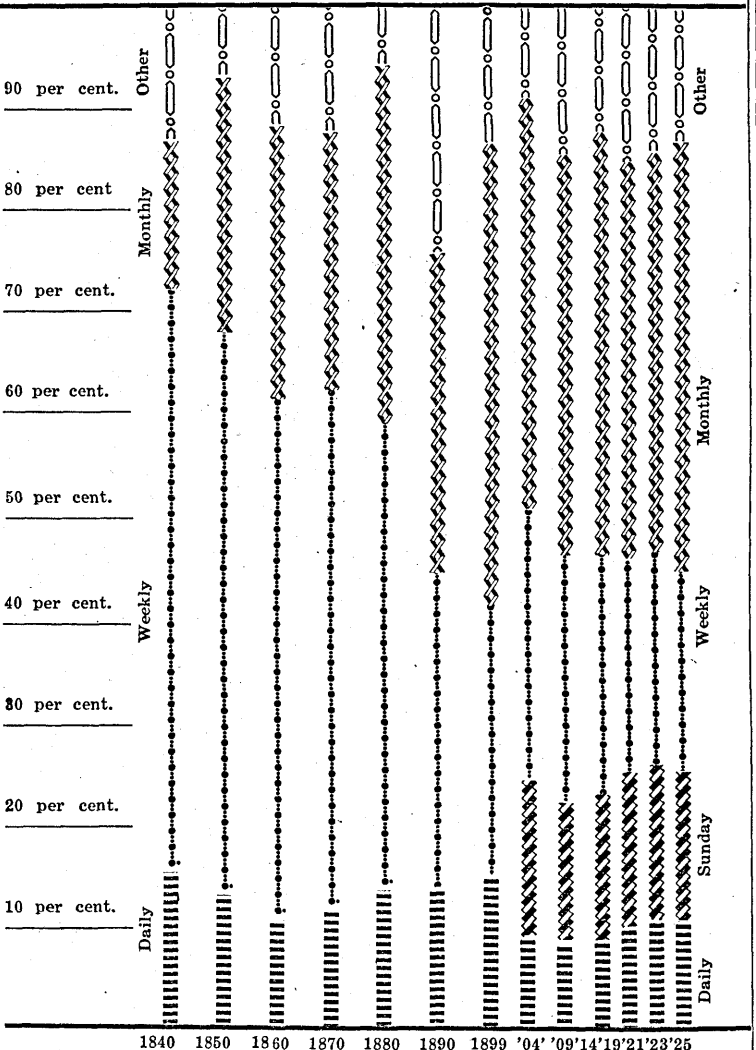

COMPARATIVE NUMBER OF PAPERS, PER THOUSAND POPULATION, FOR VARYING FREQUENCIES
800
600
400
200
Sunday
Daily
Weekly
Monthly
Other
1850
1860
1870
1880
1890
1899
1904
1909
1914
1919
1921
1923
1925

CHART XIV.

PERCENTAGE OF EACH FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION PER THOUSAND POPULATION—1840-1925



It would appear, then, that the growth in the number of newspapers, their lists of subscriptions, and the total output of the periodical press, increasing as it has so vastly from the figures of the pre-Revolutionary period, has not been a steady one, but has reflected in a fairly large measure many of the activities of the people.

This study, then, will endeavor to trace some of these social and economic conditions, at what appear to be fairly significant periods, and try to connect with these conditions the facts as to newspaper numbers and output—in other words, with the newspaper-reading habits of the American people.

General economic conditions, including the rise of the factory system in America and the beginnings of the labor movement; the increase in general, public education; the movement to cities and other concentrated groups of population; improvement of means of transportation; invention of the telegraph and its application to the gathering of news; perfection of printing machinery; the co-operation of the post-office department; the rapid settlement of the country—all have a connection more or less direct with the growth of the newspaper business and its place in American life.

We are not unmindful of the place of the Press in political discussion from pre-Revolutionary times to the present, but it is the purpose of this study to turn more to the social and economic phases of national life, with the thought that, influential as the newspaper may be in community and political leadership, it is also a product of all the conditions that go to make up what we know as American life.

CHAPTER II.

SOME ECONOMIC CHANGES AND THE PRESS—THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

It is not the purpose of this study to trace the growth of American newspapers and of their circulation for every year, and seek to tie up this varying rate of growth with other historical events, but rather to select three or four typical periods in American history, trace in a general way their social and economic conditions, and then examine the condition of the newspapers in the light of these conditions.

At the outset it must be stated that while most of the figures used come from census reports, or similar publications of authoritative character, other figures are but computations or even estimates. If computations, the foundations are given, and if estimates, the authority is cited. Differences in definitions of what really is a "newspaper" also may account for discrepancies in figures. High school publications and house organs are not listed by newspaper directories, but might be included in some other listings of publications.

Probably the greater part of the figures given by an authority for aggregate circulations and for aggregate annual output of the periodical press contains some estimates, especially for some of the smaller papers, but the figures are fairly consistent, and are significant and comparable even if they may not be entirely exact.

POPULATION GROWTH CONSIDERED

This study has included not only the number of newspapers, as reported at various times by the newspaper historians, the newspaper directories, and the Census Bureau, but has compared these numbers with the growth of population of the country.

The figures, not only of the number of newspapers, but of such fragmentary suggestions as we have of their circulation and total annual output, indicate that the pre-Revolutionary forefathers were not a newspaper-reading people. In his Autobiography, Benjamin Franklin wrote: "At the time I established myself in Philadelphia (1723) there was not a good bookseller's shop in any of the colonies south of Boston.

In New York and Philadelphia the printers were indeed stationers, but they sold only paper, almanacs, ballads, and a few common school books."

In fact, it was more than 50 years after the introduction of a printing press into the American colonies (that of Stephen Daye at Cambridge in 1638) before even an effort was made to issue a news periodical, and that was proposed to be issued more than once a month only "if a glut of occurrences happened," and fourteen years elapsed before John Campbell began his printed *News-Letter* in Boston. Fifteen years passed before he had any competition—80 years after the press was established at Cambridge. Not until 1740 were there as many as a dozen newspapers at one time in all the American colonies.

In the whole hundred years from the time Benjamin Harris tried to start his *Publick Occurrences* until the close of 1790, there were only 237 publications started in the colonies, ranging from the projected *Philadelphische Zeitung* of Franklin and the two issues of the *Boston Weekly Magazine* of Rogers & Fowle, to the *Boston News-Letter,* which under varying titles continued 72 years until the outbreak of the Revolution put a stop to it. Never more than three score papers were in existence at one time, for a population that was nearly three million by the time the Revolution started.

No Newspaper for 275,000 People

The earlier part of the colonial period was one of conquering the wilderness and the establishing of small settlements along the seacoast and on the larger rivers. Before 1700, only three settlements had reached more than 2,500 population. By that date, Boston had 6,700, New York between 4,400 and 4,900, and Philadelphia 4,400.[1] And there were no newspapers in all the colonies with their total population of probably 275,000.

By 1750 the population had grown to a little more than a million (1,207,000), and there had been 40 publications started in seven of the colonies. Of these publications, all but thirteen had ceased by the year 1750.

The period from 1750 to the outbreak of the Revolution, then, may be taken as the first of the periods that shall be examined.

As has been indicated, this period just before the Revolu-

[1] Estimated populations of groups and cities are from "A Century of Population Growth in the United States, 1790-1900," Bureau of the Census, p. 11.

cording to DeBow, the population of the colonies had increased to 2,803,000, nearly one-half of which was in the southern colonies, and one-fourth each in New England and the Middle colonies.

Half a dozen cities of more than 5,000 population had grown tion was one of settlement and rapid growth. By 1775, acup, and Philadelphia with approximately 30,000 inhabitants was the largest city in the colonies. New York had 21,863 in 1771, and Boston with a falling population had 15,520 in 1770. Charleston, the only large city in the South, had between 12,000 and 15,000. The only other cities of any size were Baltimore (5,924); Salem, (5,337 in 1776); and Newport, (5,299 in 1776). Except for the decade 1730-40, the population in cities of 8,000 was less than 4 per cent of the total, and it was 1820 before it exceeded 5 per cent.

Aside from these few cities, a vast area of 820,000 square miles was settled only by small communities, and scattered outposts, and these mainly were confined to the 239,935 square miles nearer the coastlines. In fact, up to the time of the Revolution, only six of the thirteen colonies had any very definite boundary lines, and as late as the first census (1790) only 417,170 square miles were enumerated, and 178,000 square miles had less than two persons to the square mile.

Paper-Making an Early Industry

These scattered people were largely engaged in agriculture and fishing. America's wealth of minerals had hardly been discovered, and England had as a matter of policy discouraged manufacturing in the colonies. Except in the towns, where skilled artisans were developed, each family was sufficient to itself, raising practically all its food, making its own homespun cloth for clothing, and depending on itself alone for sustenance.

Iron was being mined in a small way, and by the close of the Revolution as many as 76 small foundaries had been established. Paper-making, too, early claimed attention, and many small mills were erected.

The extent of the paper making business before the Revolution may be judged from Thomas's[1] description of it in 1810. At that time the total annual output was about 50,000 reams, or 500 tons of paper, for the 22,500,000 newspapers printed annually. This paper, Thomas estimates, was worth about $3 a ream, or $300 a ton. Most of the mills had but

[1] Thomas, "History of Printing in America," vol. I, p. 25.

two vats, and employed 12 or more men, turning out 2,000 to 3,000 reams annually. A capital of $10,000 was required for the mills of that time.

In addition to the making of paper, early printers made some efforts to provide their own presses and type, even before the Revolution. As early as 1750 Christopher Sower, printer of a German newspaper at Germantown, Penn., superintended the construction of a printing press, and shortly after 1775 there were well estabished factories for the making of printing presses at Philadelphia and at Hartford, Conn.

As early as 1768, a Mr. Michelson tried to cast some type at Boston, so Thomas says,[1] and in 1769 Abel Buel of Killingworth, Conn., a jeweler, made a little. In 1772, Christopher Sower, Jr., established a foundry at Germantown, the scene, 84 years before, of the first paper mill in America.

Type Foundries Started

Sower had imported the molds and machinery from Germany, and was prepared to cast only German type, but his apprentice, Justus Fox, who was put in charge of the type-making machinery, repaired deficiencies of the originals and cut molds for several sizes of Roman and italic type for English works.

Necessity for faster presses and for mechanical means for assembling type had not arisen, and the natural human inertia made Sower content, apparently, with the same general equipment as that used by Gutenberg and Stephen Daye.

Means of transportation were of the crudest, and consisted of the coastwise craft which sailed on indeterminate schedules, and meagre highways through the forests. These highways were literally little more than trails, and at best were not suited to the hauling of produce and the consequent development of commerce. As a result, there was little incentive for any farmer to grow more than he could consume himself or dispose of in his immediate vicinity.

Passenger travel was by sea or by stagecoach, but by either method the rate was not rapid. An advertisement in the *Massachusetts Spy* for Jan. 5, 1786, was for a stage line from Portsmouth, N. H., to Savannah, Ga. The splendid service was noted, since a passenger leaving Boston on Monday morning "precisely at 5 o'clock," would reach New York Thursday evening.

[1] Thomas, "History of Printing in America," v. I, pp. 27-28.

About the only things that entered into general commerce were salt fish, salt, rum, and tools and utensils.

Facilities in the home were crude. The houses were simple, heated by fireplaces and lighted by candles. Sanitation was almost an unknown science, and pestilence was not uncommon, especially in the larger towns. That is why Boston's population fell off in 1770.

By the time of the Revolution, the idea of general education had taken fair hold of the northern states, and there were in most towns elementary schools, which were operated a few months in the winter for the boys and in the summer for girls. In Massachusetts, for example, each town of 50 householders, was required to maintain a schoolmaster who would teach the children to read and write; and each town of 100 householders was required to have a grammar school.

By 1790, fourteen colleges had been established—Harvard, Yale, and William and Mary dating from 1700 or before, but even Yale had not to exceed 250 students, and the graduating class of all the colleges in 1789 was not more than 170.[1]

Law and theology were the principal studies in the colleges of Massachusetts, and medicine and science (due to Franklin's influence) in the schools of Philadelphia.

In 1750, there were 14 newspapers in all the colonies—five in Massachusetts, four in Pennsylvania, two in New York, and one each in Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina. Between that date and the outbreak of the Revolution, there were 67 started and 33 discontinued, leaving 48 in existence at the opening of the conflict.

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts, it has been indicated, was the first of the English colonies in America to have a printing press, and that was soon after the establishment of colonies about Massachusetts bay. Stephen Daye, who had been induced in 1638 to come to America, had his press in operation long before the Revolution. Thomas lists at least three printers at Cambridge, all of whom apparently operated the Harvard press.

It was not until 1676—a century before the Revolution—that a press was established in Boston proper, and it was nearly another century before a press was established at any inland point in Massachusetts. Half a dozen different printers are named by Thomas as having operated printing presses in Boston before 1700, but whether there were six separate plants or the same plants used by two or more, it is hard to

[1] "A Century of Population Growth," p. 32.

say. In 1690, when Benjamin Harris attempted to start his *Publick Occurrences,* Bartholomew Green also had a plant at Boston, but John Foster, Samuel and Richard Pierce had discontinued their presses. In all, nearly thirty different plants were operated in Massachusetts before the Revolution.

In 1750 there were in existence five newspapers, all of them papers of fairly long history. The oldest of these, of course, was the *Boston Weekly News-Letter,* which had been established April 24, 1704, by Postmaster John Campbell as the *Boston News-Letter.* This paper continued throughout the period under discussion, ceasing in 1776 when the British withdrew from Boston, for the *News-Letter,* under its varying titles, had been an organ of the Tories.

The second newspaper was the *Boston Gazette or Weekly Journal,* which had been established in 1741 by the combination of William Brooker's *Boston Gazette* of 1719 and Samuel Kneeland's *New England Weekly Journal. The Gazette* continued under several minor changes in title until 1798. It was published at Watertown from June 5, 1775, to Nov. 4, 1776.

"Evening Post" Not a Daily

The third paper of 1750 was the *Boston Evening Post* (not a daily as the name now would indicate, but a paper delivered to subscribers on the afternoon of publication day). *The Post* was established in 1735 by Thomas Fleet, printer, who for several years had been in charge of the *Weekly Rehearsal,* which had been established in 1731 by Jeremiah Gridley. The *Boston Evening Post* continued under that name until April 24, 1775. Strangely enough, that last issue has only a bare reference to the conflict at Lexington and Concord, which had occurred nearly a week before.

The fourth newspaper of 1750 was the *Boston Post-Boy,* established in October, 1734, as the *Boston Weekly Post-Boy* by Ellis Huske, and changed in title in June, 1750. Four years later the paper was discontinued, and Aug. 22, 1757, Green & Russell revived the paper under the title of the *Boston Weekly Advertiser,* and continued it under various titles until April 17, 1775. For about a year in 1769 the paper was under the title of *Massachusetts Gazette and the Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser,* and published in conjunction with the *Massachusetts Gazette, and the Boston Weekly News-Letter* a page of legal notices and other official matter.

Rogers & Fowle's *Independent Advertiser* is included in the list of newspapers of 1750, although one authority lists it as having been discontinued in December, 1749. The paper

was started Jan. 4, 1748, and the *Boston Morning Advertiser* of the present dates its numbers from 1748. However, three newspaper authorities list the paper as having been discontinued in 1750 to 1752.

Before 1750, only half a dozen other attempts had been made to establish newspapers, the most notable of which was the *New England Courant,* established in 1721 by James Franklin, and running a stormy career until June 4, 1725.

Throughout this period, the population of Boston continued in the neighborhood of 15,000, disease counteracting the natural tendency of the new community to grow. Massachusetts colony, however, increased from 165,000 to 291,147 population, indicating the springing up of new communities. The newspaper record shows establishment of papers before the Revolution at Worcester, Newburyport, and Salem, in addition to those at Boston.

Salem, a town of 4,500, was the first of the points outside of Boston to have a newspaper. In fact, for a time it had two, before one removed to Boston. The first was the *Essex Gazette,* founded early in August, 1768, by Samuel Hall, and continued until the Revolution.

The other Salem paper was the *Salem Gazette and Newbury & Marblehead Advertiser,* established in June or July, 1774, and continued for eighteen months by Ezekiel Russell.

A third paper established in this period, and perhaps one of the most important of the pre-Revolutionary period in *Massachusetts Spy,* established in Boston, Aug. 17, 1770, by Isaiah Thomas. The next year he changed the name to the *Massachusetts Spy or Thomas' Boston Journal,* and with the beginning of hostilities in May, 1775, moved the plant to Worcester and continued the publication as the *Massachusetts Spy or American Oracle of Liberty.*

The latter part of 1773, Thomas established at Newburyport the *Essex Journal,* which continued to the close of the century.

Some short-lived publications of this period included: *The New England Magazine,* a publication of 60 pages, conducted irregularly for six or seven months by Benjamin Macom; the *Boston Chronicle,* the first American twice-a-week, run by John Mein from Dec. 21, 1767 to June, 1770; *The Censor; The Royal American Magazine;* and Samuel Adams' *Independent Advertiser.*

PENNSYLVANIA

While Pennsylvania did not have as early a start as did Massachusetts, either in settlement or in the publication of

newspapers, both the colony and the city of Philadelphia were in population nearly on a par with Massachusetts and Boston by 1750. Population of Pennsylvania in 1749 was 150,000 compared with Massachusetts' 165,000 in 1750, and Philadelphia had about 13,000 population, compared with Boston's 15,731.

Both Philadelphia and Boston at the opening of the 1750-75 period had four newspapers and as in the case of Boston, two or three of the Philadelphia papers of 1750 were long established and long continued publications. The first Pennsylvania publications, of course, had been at Philadelphia, with one fairly early at Germantwon, nearby.

Just as in Massachusetts, there had been printers long before there were any newspapers, so in Pennsylvania. William Bradford had established his print shop in Philadelphia before 1690 and had printed the official documents of the government and books for the booksellers until 1693, when the governor of New York induced him to come to that city. He had arrived in the colony in 1682 and had settled "near Philadelphia," Thomas says, probably at Chester, or at Burlington, in New Jersey.

Enter Ben Franklin

Whether there was a press in the Penn colony between 1693 and 1712 it is hard to say, but Thomas is of the opinion that Bradford left some minor equipment there in charge of Reinier Jansen, on some partnership basis, until his son, Andrew Bradford, reached his majority. From 1712 to 1723, Andrew Bradford operated the only press in the colony, and it was during this time that he started the third paper in the colonies—*The American Weekly Mercury*—which continued until 1747.

The important paper of 1750 was Benjamin Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette,* which he had taken over from Sam Keimer in 1729. Keimer had opened a print shop in Philadelphia in 1723 and was a competitor of Bradford when Franklin came to the city. In fact, Franklin was for a time employed in the Keimer shop. Franklin had been planning a second publication in opposition to Bradford's *Mercury,* but Keimer got wind of it, and entered the field first, coming out Dec. 24, 1728, with the *Universal Instructor in All the Arts and Sciences and Pennsylvania Gazette.*

The story of Franklin's connection with the *Gazette* is familiar through his own autobiography and other publications.

The fate of the *Gazette* is more in doubt. Frederick Hudson, writing a newspaper history in 1870, says: *"The Gazette* skipped a few issues in 1804, and was sold in 1845 to the *Philadelphia North American."* S. N. D. North, in a newspaper review appended to the census of 1880, says, "Suspended, 1824." James Melvin Lee, in 1920, writes: " . . . suspended Oct. 11, 1815, and plant disposed of to Philadelphia printers."

W. S. Rossiter, chief clerk of the Census Bureau, in "A Century of Population Growth in the United States," lists all publications of 1790, and in a column "Remarks" for the *Gazette* says: "Became *Saturday Evening Post* in 1821."

John Clyde Oswald, editor of the *American Printer,* and an authority on matters relating to Franklin, in his publication for Jan. 20, 1924, writes: " . . . suspended Sept. 10, 1777 to Jan. 5, 1779 (during British occupation) and sold in 1821 to Samuel C. Atkinson and Charles Alexander, who changed policy, dress, subscription price, and name to *Saturday Evening Post."*

The latter two statements would be at least partly in line with the front-cover statement each week on the *Saturday Evening Post* that it was "Founded A. D. 1728 by Benj. Franklin."

The second paper of importance in 1750 was the *Pennsylvania Journal & Weekly Advertiser,* founded in 1742 by William Bradford, grandson of the first William Bradford. The paper continued in the hands of the Bradford family until 1797 or later.

The other two publications in Pennsylvania in 1750 were in the German language. As early as 1732 Franklin had attempted to publish the *Philadelphische Zeitung,* but not being able to get 300 subscribers, issued a second sheet to announce the failure of the attempt.

Die Zeitung, started in Philadelphia in February, 1747-8* by Godhart Ambruster continued until 1759 and the *Zeitung,* published at Germantown by Christopher Sower (or Sauer) continued throughout the period. By some authorities it is believed to have been a successor of Sower's *Pennsylvania Recorder of Events,* begun in August, 1739, and others date it from 1744.

Thomas lists as in existence in 1775, C. Sower's paper as

*—Double numbering used prior to 1752, when "New Years" was changed from Mar. 1 to Jan. 1.

being published at Lancaster, and North lists in the papers of 1775 an unnamed one at Lancaster published by Lahn, Albright & Steiner. Thomas ascribes to Lancaster an unnamed English and German paper, started in January, 1751, by Miller and Holland.

As has been indicated, only one of the four papers of 1750 suspended before the Revolution (Ambruster's *Zeitung*). Both the colony and the city of Philadelphia were more prosperous than Massachusetts and Boston, and in the 25 years after 1750 the colony doubled in population and the city increased from 13,000 to 34,400.

This growth in population was reflected in the greater increase in newspapers, compared with Massachusetts. While the northern colony had a net increase of three papers in 25 years, Pennsylvania had an increase of six, thirteen being started and seven ceasing publication.

German Papers Started

Included in the papers started in this period and continuing into the Revolutionary war years were: *Der Wochentliche Philadelphische Staatsbote,* started Jan. 18, 1762, by Henry (Henrich) Miller, and the *Pennsylvania Evening Post,* started Jan. 24, 1775, by Benjamin Towne, and continued until the British evacuated Philadelphia in 1779. The *Staatsbote* continued at least until 1812.

The third and most important of the new publications of this period was the *Pennsylvania Pacquet or General Advertiser,* started in October or November, 1771, by John Dunlop. It was important, for it became after the Revolution, the *American Daily Advertiser,* the first American daily, and in 1840 became a part of the *Philadelphia North American.* The latter was absorbed by the *Public Ledger* in 1925. It was published at Lancaster during the British occupation, and before becoming a daily was issued as tri-weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly again, each for comparatively short periods. D. C. Claypoole was the partner of Dunlop in the daily venture.

Unsuccessful attempts to start magazines tell the story of some of the short-lived papers of the period. For a short time in 1764, C. Sower, Jr., ran *Ein Geistliches Magazien,* the first religious periodical in America, and Anton Ambruster published *Fama* a short time in 1763. Lewis Nicolle ran an *American Magazine,* the third of that name in Philadelphia, throughout the year 1769, and in January, 1775, Robert

Aiken published the *Pennsylvania Magazine or American Monthly Museum,* until the war ended it.

New York

While the city of New York was nearly the same size as Philadelphia in 1750, if not a trifle larger, the colony of New York was only about one-half as populous as was Pennsylvania. Nor did either city or colony increase in population as rapidy as had Philadelphia and Pennsylvania.

William Bradford had taken a printing press to New York in 1793, and three years later, at the direction of Gov. Benj. Fletcher, had reprinted an issue of the *London Gazette,* containing some important war news. Thirty years later, (Nov. 16, 1725) Bradford started a periodical of his own, the *New York Gazette,* which continued until 1743, when James Parker took it over and made it the *New York Gazette or Weekly Post-Boy.*. It suspended after a time and was revived in 1747 as the *New York Gazette, Revived in the Weekly Post-Boy.* This publication finally ceased in 1772, covering the greater part of the period 1750-75.

The only paper to continue throughout the period was John Peter Zenger's *New York Weekly Journal,* which he had established late in 1733, and published in spite of libel suits and frequent other difficulties with the authorities until 1752 and revived again in 1767 under John Holt. When Revolutionary activities became too great near New York, the paper was moved to Kingston (July 7, 1777) and the next year to Poughkeepsie, until the war was over.

Four publications started during the 1750-75 period continued over into the conflict, and only one continued beyond the date of peace.

One of the most enterprising of the new papers was the *New York Mercury,* established Aug. 3, 1752, by Hugh Gaine and continued until 1783. Another newspaper of note was James Rivington's *Royal Gazette* or *Royal Gazetteer,* started in 1762, and likewise continued until the close of the war. His paper is said to have had a circulation of 3,600 copies weekly at one time.

Samuel Loudon's *New York Packet and American Advertiser,* said to have been a revival of some paper called the *Pacquet* of 1763, was established Jan. 4, 1776, and was in existence in 1835. It was published at Fishkill 1781-83.

Thomas makes mention of a paper called *John Englishman, in Defense of the English Constitution,* published for three months by Parker & Weyman, but no dates are given, nor is

the place of publication indicated. Yale library has copies dated from May 20, to July 5, 1755.

The shorter-lived publications of the period included James Parker's *Independent Reflector,* 1752-54; Alex and James Robertson's *New York Chronicle,* 1768-71; John Anderson's *Constitutional Gazette,* which ran a few months in 1775; James Parker's *New American Magazine,* 1758, and the *American Chronicle,* published a short time in 1762 at Troy by Samuel Farley.

After discontinuing the *Chronicle,* A. & J. Robertson went to Albany and established the *Albany Post-Boy,* which they continued until 1775.

Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina were the only other colonies to have newspapers in 1750, and they had but one each.

Maryland had a newspaper at a comparatively early period, when William Parks started the *Maryland Gazette,* Sept. 19, 1727, at Annapolis, and continued it for eight or ten years. Jan. 17, 1745, Jonas Green revived the publication, and it continued throughout the pre-Revolutionary period and was in the Green family as late as 1839. The paper published its second centennial number in September, 1927.

William Goddard's *Maryland Journal,* started at Baltimore Aug. 20, 1773, became the *Baltimore American* in 1799.

Virginia was more backward about the newspaper business. In fact, Governor Barclay had expressed thanks that there were no newspapers nor schools in the colony, "for these had brought dissensions into the world."

"Gazette" is a Popular Name

After discontinuing the *Maryland Gazette,* William Parks went to Williamsburg and started (Aug. 6, 1736) the *Virginia Gazette,* which he continued until about 1750. Early in 1751 William Hunter revived this *Gazette,* and in 1766 Thomas Rind started another *Virginia Gazette,* at the same place. It continued for ten years. A third *Virginia Gazette* was issued at Williamstown by Alex. Purdy, Feb. 3, 1775, and continued until 1779.

Thomas Whitemarsh tried to start a newspaper in South Carolina before 1750, but his *South Carolina Gazette* continued only from Jan. 8, 1732 until Sept. 1733. The following February Peter Timothy revived the *Gazette,* and it continued, barring interruptions by war, until the close of the century

and was all that time under the direction of Timothy or of his widow.

Robert Wells' *South Carolina Weekly Gazette* continued from 1758 to 1782, and Charles Crouch's *South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal,* established in November or December, 1765, was taken by his widow to Salem, Mass., at the outbreak of the Revolution.

South Carolina, in the 25 years before the war, had grown from 64,000 to 175,000 population, and Charleston had become a city of 10,000 or 12,000.

Thus, in six of the thirteen colonies, there were no newspapers in 1750, but by the time the Revolution broke out, all of them had had some sort of regular publication, and singularly enough, the name "Gazette" was given the first or at latest the second paper in each colony.

Connecticut for some reason, in spite of a late start, seems to have been a good newspaper field. No cities of 5,000 or more developed during the Revolutionary period, but the colony grew from an estimated 100,000 in 1749 to a counted 196,088 in 1774, and five newspapers were established. All but one were able to survive the Revolution, and continue into the nineteenth century.

James Parker and John Holt ran a *Connecticut Gazette* at New Haven from Jan. 1, 1755 to 1767, and at Hartford, Thomas Green, Oct. 29, 1764, started the *Connecticut Courant,* which has continued until this day. Other Connecticut papers were the *New London Summary,* edited by Timothy Green, Jr., and the *Connecticut Journal and New Haven Post-Boy.*

Three newspapers were established in New Hampshire before the Revolution. One of these, the *New Hampshire Gazette,* started Sept. 7, 1756 by Daniel Fowle, has continued to the present, and is the oldest newspaper in the United States which has not changed its name.

Half a dozen papers were started in North Carolina between 1755 and 1775, but with few exceptions they were of short life. Efforts to start a paper in New Jersey were not permanently successful.

Two newspapers started in Rhode Island and one in Georgia, continued into the Revolutionary period.

The newspaper history of the pre-Revolutionary period has thus been covered somewhat in detail because of the fewness of the papers, and because these few papers are so representative of the journalism to follow. The limited number listed is in sharp contrast with the numbers of the present.

It is proposed now to advance to the nineteenth century and examine newspaper conditions and the related social and economic conditions in 1850.

This date is chosen because it is just a century after the beginning of the period just discussed; also because it represents the period of greatest conquest of the continent, for the territories on the Pacific had been established and state and territorial boundaries were taking form on the west bank of the Mississippi. But more especially is it chosen for investigation since it marks a high point in changes in economic conditions in this country, and marks also the inception of many of the modern labor saving devices of the present.

In 1850 most of the great newspapers of today—newspapers that came from the "penny press" era—had been established. The year 1850 was the time of Greeley, Dana, Raymond, Bennett, and the rest of the giants of the American newspaper world. Comparison with newspaper conditions of a century before will be illuminating, for the changes will be great.

CHAPTER III.

THE PERIOD OF EXPANSION, CENTERING IN 1850

Examination has just been made of the newspaper situation in the 25 years before the Revolutionary war, and the roll of the newspapers has been called, partly because of the contrast with the huge directory lists of today, and also because out of that early period came a number of the notable journals of the present. It is proposed now to advance 100 years to 1850 and examine the newspaper situation of that period, and see how it is reflected in social and economic conditions.

Among these conditions to be considered will be:

1. Spread of population over the nation.
2. Development of the factory system.
3. Development of transportation systems and the various means of communication.
4. The postal system, especially in its relation to newspaper mail.
5. Growth of general education.
6. Inventions for use of the publisher.
7. The situation with regard to the newspapers themselves.

The year 1850 is desirable also as a point of investigation, for that census year marks the period of practically completed continental territorial expansion. The 820,000 square miles of 1790 had expanded by the addition of great sections of territory until in 1850 continental United States contained 2,974,142 square miles, a million more than in the nation a decade before.

The border lines of the 1850 were, therefore, much like those of the present, with states east of the Mississippi much as they are now, and four states west of the Mississippi following present-day lines. Minnesota territory took in most of the Dakotas, and Oregon territory lapped over into Montana and Wyoming. The great prairie states and westward to the crest of the Rockies was "Indian Territory," and only Texas and California approximated present boundaries.

So sparsely settled was this vast area that little more than one-half of it was enumerated for the 1850 census, and one-third of that enumerated was not "settled," that is, did not have as many as two persons to the square mile. The first postoffice west of the Rockies (Astoria, Ore.) had been in use but three years. With a population so widely dispersed, newspapers were out of the question.

Territorial expansion carried with it growth of population but not to the same extent. Whereas there were in the colonies in 1750 only about a million and a quarter persons, the number had grown in 1850 to 23,191,876, of whom 14,569,584 were within the territory that was enumerated at the first census. Less than 9,000,000 persons, then, were to be found in 1850 in all the territory from the Appalachians westward to the Pacific, and no cities had developed to any size in this western domain except Cincinnati and New Orleans.

Chicago, now with its three million or more, in 1850 had 29,963, and Detroit, a few more than 21,000. Kansas City did not even appear in the census returns, and the two large cities of the Pacific coast, Los Angeles and San Francisco, now with more than a half million each, then had 1,610 and 42,261 respectively.

Whole Nation is Developed

In the east, however, settlement had progressed to a point where there were but 17,000 square miles of territory that was enumerated in 1790 that did not have at least two persons to the square mile. New York had grown to a city of two-thirds of a million, and there were a half dozen cities of more than 100,000 population.[1] In 1925 there were 81 cities of more than 100,000 population in the United States.

Population of towns of 8,000 or more represented almost exactly one-eighth (12.49 per cent) of the population, whereas at the time of the Revolution and for two or three decades afterward, the percentage was between four and five. The drift city-ward was therefore well under way.

As between 1750 and 1850, the following expansion had taken place

	1750	1850
Area, square miles	820,377	2,943,142
Area settled	200,000	979,249
Population	1,207,000	23,191,576
Cities of 5,000 or more	4	41

How this growth had expanded into the west—the Missis-

[1] New York, 696,115; Baltimore, 169,054; Boston, 136,881; Philadelphia, 121,376; New Orleans, 116,375; Cincinnati, 115,436.

sippi valley especially—is shown by these figures from the Compendium of the 1850 census (p. 41.):

	1790		1850	
	Area	Pct.	Population	Pct.
Pacific slope			117,271	0.5
Mississippi valley	205,280	5.3	8,641,702	37.2
Atlantic slope	3,708,116	94.3	12,729,859	54.8
Gulf, east of Mississippi	16,431	.4	414,598	6.1
Gulf, west of Mississippi			288,394	1.2
Gulf and Mississippi	221,711	5.7	10,344,746	44.6
Totals	3,929,827		23,191,876	

This same Compendium of the 1850 census publishes a table of percentages of state population increase by decades. This table, too, indicates the crest of the westward wave of emigration. For example, in the decade from 1790 to 1800 populations in Kentucky and Tennessee increased 194.22 and 186.47 per cent respectively, while in the next decade the states with large relative growth were Indiana (421.95 per cent.), Ohio (408.26 per cent.), Mississippi (344.56 per cent.) Tennessee (135.39 per cent), and Kentucky, (80.26 per cent.)

Beginnings of Factories

The tendency of the population to gather into towns and cities has already been noted. One large contributing factor in this was the introduction of the factory system of manufacture. As has been pointed out, the colonial period was one of home and farm labor. There were a few small paper mills, employing a dozen persons each, and there were a few factories for the manufacture of cotton and woolen cloth. It was not until after the Revolution and the introduction of the steam engine that the factory system really started.

The first complete cotton factory in the country was established at Pawtucket, R. I., in 1789 by Samuel Slater. Development was so slow that by 1804 there were only four in the country. "The so-called factories were small and short lived (before 1800), says Bogart.[1]

Alexander Hamilton's "Report on Manufacturing in the United States" in 1791 listed only seventeen different industries.

The factory system calls for the employment of large groups of workers, living at convenient distances from the factory. In 1850 there were, according to the census, 121,855 individuals and establishments engaged in manufacturing, mining,

[1] Bogart, "Economic History of the United States," p. 152.

and the mechanic arts, employing 719,479 men and 225,512 women at an annual wage of $229,736,377.

This increase in population and the introduction of factories, insofar as they brought people together in larger units, made it possible for newspapers to increase in numbers and circulation, because there were sufficient bodies of population to support the newspapers. Not only this, but the bringing of people into compact groups makes for increased neighborly interest, and for increased consideration of public questions. Where families are living remote from each other, there is little need for concerted action and little interest in the doings of the distant neighbor. When grouped in towns and cities, matters of health, water supply, sanitation, and police protection become subjects of group interest. The projects must be undertaken jointly and usually after much public discussion. As these problems became pressing, discussion passed from the town forum to the press, and thus was added an incentive for subscribing for a newspaper. Add to this incentive curiosity about people one knows (more possible in the city than in rural districts) and impelling causes are at hand for rapid increase of newspaper reading.

The swing to the cities, induced in part by the development of the factory system, is shown strongly in the following table from the Compendium of the 1850 census:

	1790	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850
Towns, 100,000 or more—				2	2	4	6
Towns, 50,000 to 100,000		2	2	1	2	1	3
Towns, 20,000 to 50,000	2	3	3	3	4	11	21
Towns, 10,000 to 20,000	2		3	5	11	14	30
Towns, 5,000 to 10,000....	2	7	8	11	12	57	38
Towns, 5,000 or more.....	6	12	16	22	31	87	98

TRANSPORTATION

Accompanying the great territorial expansion of the United States, which reached approximately its present continental extent in 1850, was the movement for improved transportation. As has been indicated, highways of the colonial period were the open sea, the rivers, and the few rugged highways through the forests.

With the establishment of the new government came the desire to explore and to settle new territories. The waterways and the turnpikes were familiar to the people, and they were improved gradually for the aid of the traveler.

Before the war of 1812, 37,000 miles of postroads had been

laid out. These roads were by no means the fine, hard-surface roads of the present. In fact, one historian relates that when it was found that the Cumberland Pike was costing too much, the contractor was urged to go on more rapidly, leaving the stumps of trees in the right of way, taking care only that the stump did not protrude more than a foot above the ground.[1]

Soon after the War of 1812, more progressive spirits turned to the new invention, the steam engine, as a means of solving transportation problems, and in the late 20's and 30's many projects were discussed and a few were started. Both Baltimore and Washington wanted to do something to counteract New York's commercial advantage from the Erie canal, but it had been found by surveys that Washington's project of a Chesapeake and Ohio canal would cost $22,375,000. This was considered too expensive.

First Railroads Operated

Experiments in England with steam locomotives, and one or two "railroads" with horse-propelled cars in America, had stirred the imagination of two Baltimore merchants, and after long struggles, thirteen miles of track, from Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills, were used by an American-built locomotive.

By 1850 the railroad situation was about this:

Total mileage of all railroads in 26 states, 9,021.

The Baltimore and Ohio, which had operated the first steam train in America in 1830, had completed enough line so that the celebration for the completion of the line to Cumberland was held in 1851. Trains were running into Wheeling on Dec. 24, 1853.

The Erie, from Piermont, 24 miles from New York, to Dunkirk, on Lake Erie, was nearing completion, with the railhead at Corning, N. Y., on Jan. 1, 1850. It was completed to the Lake in the spring of 1851. President Buchanan and Daniel Webster were among the notables at the completion celebration May 14.

The Pennsylvania extended only from Philadelphia to the foothills of the Alleghanies, and it was the last of 1852 before trains operated from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh.

As early as 1843 a trip could be made by rail from Albany to Buffalo by changing trains six times, but by 1850 through service was established between these points at a fare of $9.75.

West of Chicago, many roads had been projected, but the

[1] C. F. Carter, "When Railroads were New," p. 4.

Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific had made only a start, and had laid only ten miles of track.

In January, 1850, Stephen A. Douglas introduced a bill in Congress to grant lands in Illinois, Mississippi, and Alabama for construction of a railroad from Chicago to Mobile. (The present Illinois Central.)

Daniel Webster and others, as early as the 30's, had dreams of a railroad from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but it was not until July 4, 1851, that the first spadeful of earth was turned for a railroad west of the Mississippi. This was at St. Louis, and it was nearly twenty years more before the rails met at Promentory Point, Utah, and the rail line was completed to the coast. The importance of 1850 in the railroad world is reflected in a sentence from the census report of 1860: "The commerce resulting from our railroads, consequently, has been . . . . . the creation of the last decade. (1850-1860.)"

Railroads Aid Settlement

This brief review is made of the railroads of 1850 to show the beginnings of what was to become a vast network of steam highways throughout the nation. This network has made possible the rapid movement of the people for their pleasure and their profit, and has made possible the development of the tremendous volume of traffic that has built business prosperity, and at the same time this network of roads has made possible the rapid and wide distribution of newspapers.

By the railroads was conquest of the continent made possible. Settlers in the many new sections of the country had interests back in their former homes, and they desired the newspapers in order to keep in touch. Rail transportation made possible the early delivery of newspapers, even to the interior of the country. For the *New York Herald* is claimed the first use and the popularization of express service for dispatch of newspapers.

Along with the building of the railroads came construction of the telegraph, although telegraph dispatches were not used for directing train movements until 1851. Soon after S. F. B. Morse had sent his message, "What hath God wrought?" on May 24, 1844, a public message was sent over the wires from the Democratic national convention at Baltimore to Silas Wright at Washington advising him of his nomination for the vice-presidency. His reply, declining the nomination, was not

[1] Pray, "Memoirs of Bennett and His Time," p. 471.

believed by the convention, which adjourned for a day, awaiting confirmation.

The press, however, early seized on the telegraph as an aid. A telegraph line was completed later in 1844 from Washington to Wilmington, and was at once used for press dispatches, or rather, for calling attention to important items in papers that were being forwarded by mail. In 1848-9, half a dozen New York newspapers* organized for the joint use of telegraph wires, forming the first Associated Press.

North reports that in 1880, 228 of the 438 morning papers and 127 of 533 evening papers received telegraphic news reports.

Importance of the telegraph to the newspapers was recognized by James Gordon Bennett of the *New York Herald.* An editorial from the *Herald* in 1845 is quoted in "Memoirs of James Gordon Bennett and His Times." (pp.363-4.) It follows:

BENNETT FORESEES IMPORTANCE OF TELEGRAPH

"The Telegraph may not affect magazine literature, or those newspapers which have some peculiar characteristic; but the mere newspapers—the circulators of intelligence merely—must submit to destiny and go out of business. That Journalism, however, which possesses intellect, mind, originality, will not suffer. Its sphere of action will be widened. It will be more influential than ever. The public mind will be stimulated to greater activity by the rapid circulation of news. The swift communication of tidings of great events will awake in the masses of the community still keener interest in public affairs. . . . .

"The revolutions and changes which this instrumentality is destined to effect throughout society, cannot now at all be realized. Speculation itself, in the very wildness of its conjectures, may fall far short of the mighty results which are thus to be produced. One thing, however, is certain. This means of communication will have a prodigious, cohesive, and conservative influence on the republic. No better bond of union for a great confederacy of states could have been devised. Steam has been regarded, and very properly so, as a most powerful means of preserving the unity, and augmenting the strength of a great nation, by securing rapid intercommunication between its different cities and communities; but

*—*New York Journal of Commerce, Courier and Enquirer, Tribune, Herald, Sun, and Express.*

the agency of steam is far inferior to the Magnetic Telegraph, which communicates with the rapidity of lightning from one point to another. The whole nation is thus impressed with the same idea at the same moment. . . . .

"In the hands of government—controlled by the people—and conducted on a large scale with energy and success, this agency will be productive of the most extraordinary effects on society, government, commerce, and the progress of civilization; but we cannot predict its results. When we look at it, we almost feel as if we were gazing on the mysterious garniture of the skies—trying to fathom infinite space, or groping our way into the field of eternity."

The telephone has no place in the discussions of 1850, for its invention was still a quarter-century in the future.

Newspaper Postage Rates in 1850

Newspaper postage rates in 1850 were those established by an Act of 1845, which imposed rates much higher than those that had prevailed, in actual practice, previously, and higher, also, than the general one-cent-a-pound rate that prevailed for the 35 years from 1883 until the World war.

The Act of 1793, in the days when practically every paper in America was a four-page sheet of four or five columns, established a rate of one cent for each paper, anywhere within the state of publication, or to a point not more than 100 miles from the city of publication. Beyond these limits the rate was one and one-half cent for each paper. These rates were materially less than the rates for letters, and were made so on the theory that newspapers were necessary for the formation of governmental policies, and the enlightenment of the people.

In fact, in the early 30's there was agitation for the entire abolition of newspaper postage, in order further to encourage newspaper reading. Postmaster General Barry opposed the plan, however, pointing out that some of the metropolitan papers had grown to great size, and the city papers therefore enjoyed a distinct advantage over the smaller papers of the interior cities. He argued if postage were abolished, the smaller papers would be forced out of business, for people would subscribe to the much larger city paper in preference to the smaller local one.

As a matter of fact, newspapers sent to other papers in exchange were carried free of postage, and this continued until the number of exchanges—sometimes as many as 500 for one

paper—became a burden on the postal system, and exchange copies went into the general postage-paying list.

Postmaster General Amos Kendall, in 1838, reported to Congress that the *New York Courier and Enquirer*, for example, was carried for 1 1-2c a distance for which the letter postage on a parcel of the same weight would have been $1.75.

Size Becomes Postage Factor

Accordingly, the Act of 1845 took cognizance of the differences in sizes, by providing one rate for newspapers of not more than 1,900 square inches, and another rate—the pamphlet rate—for those exceeding 1,900 inches, and raising rates on weight as well as on distance. Under this Act of 1845, newspaper rates were: Under 30 miles, free; 30 to 100 miles, or within the state, one cent an ounce. For pamphlets and magazines, the rate was 2 1-2c an ounce for the first 300 miles (one-half the rate for a half-ounce letter) with an increase on one cent for each additional ounce.

In his report to Congress that year (1845), Postmaster General Johnson had urged a higher rate for newspapers on the ground that newspapers were not paying anywhere near the cost of moving them, and in addition, were delaying the transmission of the first class mail.

He suggested, also, that newspaper postage should be prepaid. He declared the postmasters were lax in collecting the postage from the newspaper subscribers, and the government was losing much revenue. The prepayment of postage by the publisher was established in the Act of 1852. It was not until 1874 that zone rates were abolished, and newspapers carried entirely by weight. For newspapers published once a week or oftener the rate was 2c a pound, and for those published less frequently it was 3c a pound. Nine years later postage was reduced to 1c a pound anywhere, with free mailing privilege for weeklies in the county of publication.

Throughout the period in which newspaper postage was being reduced, service was being extended. The 4,500 postoffices of 1820 had become 18,417 in 1850, and post routes increased in those years from 72,492 to 178,672 miles. It is doubtful whether, without the co-operation of the post office department American newspapers could have had anything like the growth in number and circulation that they had.

While the United States was expanding territorially and increasing in population and wealth, with yearly additions to the means of transportation through canals and highways and railroads, changes were likewise taking place in the in-

terests of the people. The Revolutionary war interrupted what interest there had been in education, and it was not fully re-established until after the War of 1812. In the interim, education was largely a matter of the fundamentals of reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, and declamations. Grammar and geography were added when suitable texts became available.

The year 1850 marked the passing of the period of the academies, and the firm establishment of the general system of free public education for the young people of the country.

Boston, in 1821, had established a free high school in the "English Classical School," and 17 years later started the Central High school. Baltimore, Providence, and Hartford, before 1850, had established high schools, and New York in 1848 had a free academy, now the College of the City of New York.

Throughout this period, the interest in popular education was widespread. As early as 1829-30, one of the planks in the platform of the workingmen's party was a demand for better educational facilities, and in 1830 a workingman's committee of Philadelphia made a detailed report condemning the lack of educational facilities in the state.

In 1850, Horace Mann, who had spent ten years in popularizing education, by speeches and printed matter, especially in Massachusetts, was a member of the national house of representatives. By his numerous meetings with the people, and publication of the *Common School Journal*, and his seven notable annual reports, he had overcome much of the idea that education was only for the well-to-do, and had obtained laws permitting establishment of libraries. Thus did one representative of the periodical press have a strong influence in educating the people to use and demand more education and more newspapers.

"Electors Need Education"

The old political cry of '75 "all men are created equal" continued its effect and found expression in the demand for full manhood suffrage, and for educational advantages for the workingmen's children equal to those of the children of the well-to-do.

The election of Jackson (1829)—a "man of the people"—to the presidency, marks the turning point. Governor DeWitt Clinton of New York, in a speech in 1835, had declared, "if an elective republic is to endure for any length of time, every elector must have sufficient information not only to accumu-

late wealth . . . but to direct wisely the legislature, the ambassadors, and the executive of the nation—for some part of all these . . . falls to every freeman."

Education for women was still (in 1850) in its infancy. Boston had failed in 1826 to start a high school for girls, and the Philadelphia Girls' high school of 1840 was chiefly for teacher-training. Mary Lyon had had less than 1,000 graduates from her Mt. Holyoke seminary, and none of the great women's colleges of today, Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, and Bryn Mawr, had been established. Oberlin college had been co-educational since 1833.

High schools, which had been started in Boston in 1821, multiplied, but it was not until after the Kalamazoo case of 1872 that the right of the state to use tax funds for higher education was well established.

It was 1848 before Boston had so classified its school students that there was a teacher for each class of the elementary grades.

School health service, and manual training were far in the future.

Michigan, in 1850, asked the national government for 50,000 acres of government land for an agricultural school, and this was finally granted to Michigan and other states under the Morrill Act of 1862. Up to the close of 1853, according to the compendium of the 1850 census, federal land grants for educational purposes were for schools, 48,909,535 acres; for universities, 40,600,704 acres.

Other testimony of the increasing interest in education is found in the figures of colleges, public schools and academies reported in the 1850 census:

	Number		Students	
	1840	1850	1840	1850
Colleges	173	239	16,233	27,821
Public schools	47,209	80,978	1,845,244	3,354,011
Academies and grammar Schools	3,242	6,085	164,159	263,096
Totals	50,624	87,302	2,025,636	3,644,928
Illiterates			549,693	*1,053,420
Population			17,069,453	23,191,876
Percentage of population in school			11.8	17.6
Percentage of illiterates to population			3.2	4.5

*—"Cannot read and write."

The doubling of the number of illiterates from 1840 to 1850, in the face of an increase of 36 per cent in population

and of 80 per cent in school attendance is disconcerting, but is probably due to difference in the form in which the census enumerators asked their questions. Army tests for the World war also disclosed the unreliability of general illiteracy statistics.

All the testimony of educators is that the first half of the nineteenth century was a period of great popularization of education. This revival of interest in education had begun in the early 20's and continued until free public education became the accepted thing.

By 1840-50 the children of the 20's were grown and were establishing homes of their own, thus becoming potential newspaper subscribers. Just how far this increase in the general educational level added to the purchase of newspapers is hard to say, but undoubtedly it was one of the contributing factors. As the general level of education was raised, the growth in number and circulation of newspapers increased.

Mention has been made of the invention of the telegraph as one of the devices of benefit to the newspapers. Within the business itself, invention had been at work on presses and paper, and 1850 saw the newspapers far better equipped to handle their business than ever before. The old press of Gutenburg's time, modeled after a cider press or cheese press, did duty for nearly 300 years with little modification.

Printing Equipment is Bettered

The nineteenth century was 16 years old before George Clymer of Philadelphia substituted a system of levers for the tedious screw in operating the press, and it was 1822 before an Englishman devised the powerful toggle joint.

In the meantime, however, efforts were being made to devise a press with a rotating cylinder. The first practical one was operated in England in 1790, and Frederick Koenig in 1806 brought out one with two cylinders. In 1814, the *London Times* began operating its presses with steam power.

In America, in the 30's was founded the press-building firm of R. Hoe & Co., which tried out many innovations in printing presses. One that came into fairly general use for the larger dailies was one in which the type was locked onto a large cylinder, V-chaped column rules helping to lock the type securely on the revolving cylinder. With four impression cylinders it was possible to print 8,000 copies an hour.

The first use of steam power in operating printing presses in America was in 1823 or 1825, and the *New York Sun,* when

it was started in 1835, was printed on a power press. That same year, Sir Rowland Hill patented in England a process of printing from a roll of paper, but the first Hoe perfecting press (printing from a roll of paper on both sides of the sheet) was not available until 1857.

Stereotyping as a means of making curved plates and therefore faster and safer presses, was not invented until 1861.

The printing press, then, of 1850, was a very crude affair. All except the larger and more prosperous journals were printed on the old flat, hand-operated press of the Washington or Rammage type. For the larger dailies there were a number of forms of press, largely experimental, that would print from 1,800 to 6,000 an hour. Steam power was used only in the larger offices.

Rollers as substitute for the original ink balls, for inking the type, were not invented until 1817.

Type, almost without exception, was set in the old hand method of Gutenburg. The larger the paper, the more type and the more printers required. Large-faced type for advertising or headline display was almost unknown. If the advertiser wanted particular display he either repeated the same line a dozen or more times before going on to the next line of his copy, or he formed a word by outlining each letter in the size desired, using body-size letters to outline each letter. For example: TTTTTTT

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Paper, in 1850, was still made largely from rags, but inventors were at work on processes to use materials less expensive. Just the year before, D. and J. Ames of Springfield, Mass., had made white paper in quantity from straw. By 1857, this paper had come into general use for newspapers, and continued so until after the Civil war. Paper making machinery was improved until it was possible to make paper in continuous strips instead of the single sheets of the old, hand-making days

In the colonial period, the small paper mills used stamping rods to reduce the cloth scraps to pulp. Forty pairs of rods could prepare 100 pounds of rags in 24 hours. This pulp, diluted with water, was spread on wire frames about 20 by 30 inches in size, and when the water had drained out, the wet

sheets were placed in a pile, alternating with felt blankets, subjected to pressure, and allowed to dry.

The first improvement was in the form of preparing the pulp. The Hollander engine, consisting of a rotating cylinder carrying many blades that passed close to similar blades mounted in the bed-plate of the machine, is used to the present in the preparation of pulp.

The next step was to apply machinery to the forming of the paper web, and it was found that a continuous strip could be produced from which sheets of the desired size could be cut later. Patents for such processes were taken out in France before the close of the eighteenth century, but it was 1816 before Joshua Gilpin patented such a process in America. By use of his machine, he turned out an excellent piece of writing paper 27 inches wide and 1,000 feet long. He presented it to the American Philosophical society at Philadelphia. His first customer for the new paper was *Poulson's Daily Advertiser* of Philadelphia.

Search is Made for Pulp Material

After the invention of improved machinery, attention was turned to pulp-making processes and search made for substitutes for rags for pulp. Corn husks, curriers' shavings, seaweed, and straw were tried as paper sources. Of these, straw gave fair results, especially for wrapping paper. About 1830 it was discovered that chlorine would bleach materials, and thus old sail cloth, cordage, and refuse from the cotton mills became available. Then attention turned to wood as a source for pulp, and there was then started a business that now required thousands of acres of timberland annually.

A patent issued in 1815 protected a method of preparing wood pulp by a caustic soda process, and a few years later patents were issued for a mechanical grinder for reducing wood. The sulphite process was not invented until after the Civil war.

Thus, when newspaper circulation was reaching its maximum under old manufacturing conditions, inventions came to its aid with faster printing devices and cheaper print paper. Processes had by no means reached the perfection of the present, but they were a vast improvement over the methods of the days of Franklin and Bradford and Thomas.

With all the economic changes in American life that have just been noted as having taken place between the time of the Revolution and 1850, and with all the inventions that made it

possible to publish newspapers more easily and distribute them more widely, it is natural to suppose there would be increase in the number and circulation of newspapers. How widespread the newspaper business had become in 1850 is shown in Table X. This shows newspapers in 33 states, and in greatly increased numbers in the original thirteen states.

Because the newspapers did not spread completely over America, the states have been arranged in regions roughly similar in character and interests. This arrangement makes it possible, too, to compare the newspaper growth in the older regions, and point out the regions in which the great westward spread of newspapers took place.

To make the comparison a bit more vivid, take regional totals from Table X. and compare the regions, together with some available figures for 1790.

Circulation figures for 1790 are not available, but the number of papers is. Regional totals from Table X. combined with the 1790 newspaper figures give a graphic presentation of the 1850 newspaper situation.

In the North Atlantic region, for example, the number of newspapers had multiplied 16 times and the number of persons per paper in the region was less than one-third as great as at the close of the preceding century. These comparisons are set forth in Table XI.

The high ratio of subscribers per thousand of population is shown in the closely settled New England in sharp contrast with the scattered population of the Mountain region.

The New West is Settled

Thus, in less than a lifetime, two great sections of the country had become settled, and newspapers had become established. The northern colonies had become the most populous of the new states, and the most aggressive. The southern Appalachians tended to shut off emigration to the west, but the open valleys across New York, and the comparatively low passes of western Pennsylvania, together with the wonderful westward-flowing waterway of the Ohio impelled the greater part of the settlement to center first in the valley of the Ohio. The year 1850 offers the cross section that shows this northeast central section of the country making its most rapid development.

Whereas, in 1790, a few years after the establishment of the Republic, there was but one newspaper in all that territory, and hardly enough people to be enumerated in the first census, there was in 1850, a population of more than five and

TABLE X.

NEWSPAPERS OF 1850

	No. of Papers	Circulation	Subs. per M. of Pop.	Persons per Paper
New England	396	966,079		
Maine	49	63,887	109	11,901
New Hampshire	38	60,176	189	8,366
Vermont	35	45,956	146	8,918
Massachusetts	209	716,969	721	4,758
Rhode Island	19	25,975	176	7,766
Connecticut	46	53,116	577	8,060
North Atlantic	885	2,283,600		
New York	428	1,022,779	523	7,237
New Jersey	51	44,454	91	9,599
Delaware	10	7,500	82	9,153
Pennsylvania	310	983,218	425	7,457
Maryland	68	124,287	213	8,574
Dist. of Columbia	18	101,362	1,960	2,871
South Atlantic	245	265,922		
Virginia	87	89,134	63	16,341
West Virginia				
North Carolina	51	36,839	42	17,040
South Carolina	46	55,715	83	14,533
Georgia	51	67,484	74	17,768
Florida	10	5,750	66	8,745
Northeast Central	641	737,724		
Ohio	261	415,109	66	7,570
Indiana	107	63,352	65	9,228
Michigan	58	52,718	132	6,856
Wisconsin	46	33,236	109	6,639
Illinois	107	88,623	104	7,958
Kentucky	62	84,686	86	15,845
Southern	258	240,578		
Tennessee	50	67,877	68	20,054
Alabama	60	34,597	45	12,860
Mississippi	50	30,870	51	12,130
Louisiana	55	80,847	154	9.412
Arkansas	9	7,250	35	23,322
Oklahoma				
Texas	34	19,137	90	6,252

TABLE X.—Continued.

Newspapers of 1850

	No. of Papers	Circulation	Subs. per M. of Pop.	Persons per Paper
Northwest Central	90	93,480		
Missouri	61	70,480	104	11,181
Kansas				
Nebraska				
Iowa	29	23,000	120	6,628
Minnesota				
North Dakota				
South Dakota				
Mountain	2	900		
Montana				
Idaho				
Wyoming				
Utah				
Colorado				
Arizona				
New Mexico	2	900	14	30,773
Coast	9	5,734		
Washington				
Oregon	2	1,134	87	6,647
California	7	4,600	50	13,228
Nevada				

TABLE XI.

Region	Papers		Circulation	Subs per M. Pop.	Inhabitants per paper	
	1790	1850	1850	1850	1790	1850
New England	38	396	966,079	354	26,563	6,888
North Atlantic	53	885	2,283,600	345	25,235	7,486
South Atlantic	14	245	265,922	68	105,213	16,134
Northeast Centr'l	1	641	737,724	134		8,589
Southern		258	240,578	72		12,950
Northwest Centrl		90	93,480	106		9,782
Mountain		2	900	12		36,464
Pacific Coast		9	4,600	43		11,777
Totals	106	2526	4,594,017			
West of the Mississippi		199	207,348	104		10,047

a half million, and 641 newspapers—nearly as many as there were in the North Atlantic from New York and Philadelphia, which had had newspapers for a century and a quarter, and a half more than all New England, the cradle of American journalism.

The newness of this western country, though settled by people from the North Atlantic and New England regions, is shown by the fact that the number of newspaper subscribers in relation to population, was little more than one-third as great as in the more settled territory. The ratio of newspaper to population, however, was about the same as in the northern Atlantic states.

Of that vast territory west of the Mississippi, that eventually was to become 22 states, only eight states had papers, and the total of publications was less than 200. Iowa and Missouri of the plains states, and Louisiana and Texas of the Gulf, were the chief newspaper states, with scattering publications in the Mountain and Coast regions. Much of the

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TABLE XII.

AVERAGE CIRCULATION OF NEWSPAPERS OF 1850 *BY STATES*

New England	2465	*N. E. Central*	1151
Maine	1304	Ohio	1590
New Mampshire	1584	Indiana	592
Vermont	1313	Michigan	909
Massachusetts	3430	Wisconsin	722
Rhode Island	1366	Illinois	847
Connecticut	1155	Kentucky	1366
North Atlantic	2580	*Southern*	933
New York	2387	Tennessee	1357
New Jersey	871	Alabama	576
Delaware	750	Louisiana	1470
Pennsylvania	3171	Arkansas	805
Maryland	1828	Texas	563
Dist. of Columbia	5620	*N. W. Central*	1059
South Atlantic	1086	Missouri	1155
Virginia	1025	Iowa	793
North Caroina	722	*Mountain*	450
South Carolina	1211	New Mexico	450
Georgia	1323	*Pacific Coast*	637
Florida	575	Oregon	567
		California	659

Missouri valley was still "Indian Territory," unsettled and consequently without newspapers.

Circulation figures by states are not available for 1790, but it is possible to make some comparisons as to the increased ratio of newspapers to population. In the New England states in 1790, there were more than 26,000 persons for each newspaper published, but in 1850, in the same territory, there were only 6,888 persons for each newspaper. In the North Atlantic region the ratios were about the same, with a few less persons for each newspaper in 1790 and a few more for each paper in 1850, than in the New England region. The South in 1790 was only one-fourth as well supplied with newspapers as the more northern regions, but in 1850 it had nearly one-half as many newspapers in relation to population, as did the northern seacoast states.

In New England, in 1850, Massachusetts had the bulk of the newspaper circulation, with three persons out of every four, subscribers of some newspaper. In Connecticut, more than half were subscribers to newspapers.

In a like manner, New York and Pennsylvania supplied the bulk of circulation for the North Atlantic region, with approximately one-half the population subscribers to newspapers. Part of this preponderance in the two states may be due to wide circulation of New York and Philadelphia papers in New Jersey and Delaware—states which from early days had had few newspapers, compared with their neighbors, and few subscribers of local papers.

Another basis of comparison may be found in the average number of subscribers for each paper. Pennsylvania and New York, with larger newspapers of the country, bring the average for the papers of this region to 2,580 subscribers each, or four times the circulation of the few publications on the Pacific slope. State honors, however, must go to Massachusetts, where the newspapers had an average circulation of 3,430. The details by states are shown in Table XII.

Thus the newspaper tables for 1850 visualize strikingly the industrial development of the north Atlantic seaboard, and the settlement of the Ohio valley, with fingers of colonization crossing the Mississippi in three or four places.

CHAPTER IV.

NEWSPAPERS AT THE PEAK

It would be interesting to take two or three other dates in the settlement of the nation and make a cross-section of the newspaper history of the time. Data in plenty is to be had, for since 1869 there have been yearly issues of newspaper directories, and at frequent intervals the government has gathered statistics, or made estimates as to the number of publications, their circulation, and their yearly output.

As was indicated in the preceding chapter, 1850 marked the breaking across the Mississippi of the westward flow of emigration. Gold discoveries in California carried the most of the flow unstopped across the plains states to settle the Pacific slope, and then came the Civil war and its interruption of main lines of development. When the war had been readjusted, through the panic of 1873, settlement of the whole western country began with renewed vigor, and even the Dakotas, until then almost unsettled, had their first newspapers. The movement reached its greatest height in the 80's and by 1890 the country was ready for a period of development to take the place of the period of pioneering.

A NATION FULLY SETTLED

The year 1890 would make an interesting point for another cross-section, for by that time, present day social, economic, and educational conditions had come into being, and nearly all the present-day facilities of the newspaper business were available.

Railroads had been extended to all parts of the country, totalling 167,000 miles. The telegraph and the long distance telephone reached all the important cities, and hundreds of smaller ones.

Public education for all was the accepted standard. Nearly 13,000,000 of the 18,500,000 persons between the ages of 5 and 18 were in public schools, and 657 colleges and universities reported 56,449 students in attendance. Except in the most backward sections—the South and slums of great cities, and in remote sections—all the children were being taught to read. School attendance in proportion to population was almost twice what it was in 1840.

Industrial development included formation of trusts for the more efficient manufacture and marketing of goods, and foreign imports and exports reached more than a billion and a half for the year—a sum not greatly exceeded at any time for a decade. The postal law of 1880, by far the most favorable American newspapers ever had, had resulted in the most rapid expansion of the number of newspapers in the history of the United States. The price of print paper was the lowest it had ever been, and printing equipment of present types had been invented and was in fairly general use, especially for the rapid production of newspapers.

Hand-set Type Supplanted

After persisting for 450 years, the old, hand-set type of Gutenberg's invention was about to be superceded by machines. Several more or less practical type-setting machines were on the market, and the slug-casting machine of Mergenthaler was in use in some of the larger daily newspaper offices. The colored supplement had been devised, and the "yellow" journel was already flourishing.

By 1915, railroads had reached within a few hundred miles of their maximum mileage in the United States (253,789 miles) making smaller the mesh of the network that 25 years before had reached all corners of the nation.

The foreign trade which in 1890 had been little more than a billion and a half, by 1915 was four and a half billion dollars.

The telephone, which had not been invented in 1850, and was serving 227,000 stations in 1890, had been expanded into a service for ten and a half million patrons. The telegraph lines of at least two companies reached even remote hamlets, the wireless telegraph had been demonstrated, and wireless telephony was being started.

Educationally, 19,693,000, or 75 per cent of the children from 5 to 12, were enrolled in the public schools, which were being maintained at a cost of $600,000,000 annually. College and university attendance nearly doubled in the decade from 1910. (Enrollment 521,754 in 1920.)

Illiteracy was down to 6 per cent of the whole population, and 4 per cent of the population between 5 and 10 years of age.

By 1915, all present-day devices for rapid printing of newspapers had been worked out. Metropolitan papers had batteries of stereotype perfecting presses, each capable of turning out 24,000 24-page papers an hour, and even moderate

sized dailies had their stereotype press. Flat-bed perfecting presses provided rapid service for smaller dailies.

For quality work, presses as good as any of the present had been devised, and were used for the high grade periodicals, making beautiful letter-press and pictures possible in black and white as well as in color. The present-day rotogravure press alone was missing.

Slug casting composing machines were in use on all metropolitan newspapers, some being equipped with 40 or 50 of the machines, and even country weeklies of moderate circulation were installing these labor-saving devices.

Wood pulp paper was available in abundance at low prices, for the war in Europe had not yet brought paper shortages and advancing prices.

It would be too cumbersome to attempt to trace state by state the increase in the number of newspapers or their circulation in 1915 as was done in 1850. However, by taking the same regional grouping as that used in the 1850 discussion, the general increase in newspapers in 65 years and the changing ratio of newspapers to population may be found. This is shown in Table XIII.

The newspaper regional statistics for 1915 show a new distribution of newspapers. All sections of the country showed increase in the actual number of papers, but by no means in the same proportion. In New England, the number of papers

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TABLE XIII.

NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS AT THREE PERIODS

	Number of Newspapers			Inc. p.c. 1850 to	Inhabitants for Each Paper		
	1790	1850	1915	1915	1790	1850	1915
New England	38	396	1,230	211	26,563	6,888	5,671
North Atlantic	53	885	4,189	373	25,235	7,486	5,432
South Atlantic	14	245	1,500	512	105,213	16,134	7,412
N. E. Central	1	641	5,417	745		8,589	4,101
Southern		258	3,008	1,066		12,950	5,257
N. W. Central		90	4,841	5,279		9,782	2,499
Mountain		2	1,218	60,800		36,464	2,385
Pacific Coast		9	1,687	18,644		11,777	2,941
United States	106	2,526	23,090	814	37,068	9,181	4,281
West of the Mississippi		199	10,679	5,261		10,047	2,762

had little more than doubled, but in the Mountain region they had increased 600 fold.

With the settlement of the country had come a leveling up of the newspapers in relation to population. In 1850, newspapers were more than five times as numerous (in relation to population) in New England as they were in the mountain regions, but in 1915 conditions were somewhat reversed. The mountain region, now best supplied with newspapers for its population, was only about three times as well supplied as the South Atlantic region, with its 7,400 persons for each newspaper.

Whereas, in 1850, the Atlantic seaboard and the northeast central section had fewer persons than the average of the United States for each newspaper, and consequently more than the average papers for the population, in 1915 the conditions were reversed, and all this territory and the South added had fewer than the average newspapers.

Newspapers Evenly Distributed

In 1915, it would seem, the territory which in 1850 was so sparsely settled that it had few newspapers, was now well settled, with newspapers printed in many communities that were even smaller than similar communities of the older sections that likewise had their newspapers. In other words, the 1915 tabulation shows a fairly even distribution of newspapers over the whole nation. Distances between cities of the west compared with distances between cities of the east, likewise tended to increase the number of newspapers in relation to population, for it is to be noted the figures relate to newspapers, not to circulation.

It is to be noted, also, the figures for 1790, and to a large degree those of 1850 may be taken as an index of the periodical-reading habits of the people of the regions mentioned, for before the Civil war there were few publications not of rather local character and circulation. Of course, New York and Philadelphia papers circulated in New Jersey, but there were few if any really national publications. In 1915, however, there were scores of publications in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago which were national in their scope, and numbered among their readers persons in all sections of the country.

State totals, computed from publications from within the state, are often misleading. Three of the larger cities of Missouri, for example, are on state boundaries, and their newspapers circulate freely in adjoining states.

CHAPTER V.

TWO CENTURIES AND A QUARTER

In preceding chapters, pause has been made at three or four points to examine the newspapers, as well as the social and economic conditions of the time. In some instances a backward look, and occasionally a forward look has been taken to make the conditions of a given period a trifle more clear. A bringing together of these various cross-sections is now proposed.

In the statement of the problem, in Chapter I, the actual figures were submitted for three phases of newspaper growth: the number of newspapers themselves; the number of subscriptions; and the total annual output. Fortunately for this study, the early statisticians did not get returns on total pages printed in a given period, as for example, did the *New York Times*, which reported for November, 1925, the publication of 1,012,533,184 pages. Each page contained about as much reading matter as any whole paper of the pre-Revolutionary days. Paper consumed by *The Times* for the month was 7,650 tons, or 38 times as much as all the newspapers in the United States used in 1810. On a single night in September, 1927, the *Chicago Tribune* consumed 550 tons—an amount for one newspaper exceeding the total American consumption in 1810.

All three phases of newspaper history are important as showing the growing demands of the American people for more and more reading matter, and that largely of a local nature.

The growth of the actual number of publications is interesting, particularly when the papers appear in new territory, and are not a source of duplicated circulation. Newspapers are to such a large extent local in their distribution that the increasing number of publications, in various sections of the country, is at least a partial index of the public interest in public affairs.

It is not a full measure, however, for the multiplication of many small, poorly edited and poorly supported publications would not indicate as high a regard for the information obtainable from the press as would half the number if they were

well edited papers, each with twice the subscription lists. On the other hand, the greater the number of publications in a given reader-population, the greater the possible range of opinion and viewpoint.

Reference to the tables of Chapter II shows the period of most rapid growth in the number of newspapers was one in which the reading-demand of the people was being surpassed, for the average circulation dropped decidedly in that particular decade, and it was nearly 20 years before the old average was regained, and the real peak of gain in subscriptions was reached.

The number of subscriptions, then, whether distributed among many or few newspapers, is probably a better guide to public interest in newspapers.

Annual output offers an interesting further light on the support the public gives the press, differing from circulation only as public support shifted fro mdailies to weeklies or vice versa. (A "subscription" would count as four copies yearly of a quarterly, 52 of a weekly, and 313 to 365 of a daily.) Similar trends are found in an examination of the three phases of newspaper statistics—number of papers, number of subscriptions, and annual output—when taken in relation to the growth of population.

Many Forces at Work

The outstanding result of the study is the fact that only large forces, or at least combinations of several smaller ones, affect the rate of growth of the press and its general circulation.

Population of the United States increased rapidly throughout the first hundred years, but the press far outstripped it. From 1790 to 1890 the population increased from a few less than 4,000,000 to more than 60,000,000, multiplying thus more than 15 times. The number of newspapers increased from 106 to 17,616, a number more than 170 times as great as at the beginning of the Republic.

In terms of subscriptions and copies of periodicals annually, following are the census figures:

	1790	1910
Number of families	393,403	15,963,965
No. copies printed annually	1,196,000	7,830,882,308
Copies yearly for each family	3.04	491.8
Copies yearly for each person	.4268	104.7

Copies per family annually, in 1900, 161 times that of 1775.

Mere increase in numbers of people is not the only reason

for the increase in the number of papers. Nor would it be possible to draw a parallel between increase of newspapers or readers, and any increase in the number of some supposed minimum unit of population that could support a newspaper. What might such a unit be? Tombstone, Ariz., with a population of less than 1,000, had two daily papers in 1880.

Railroad transportation was not an essential factor in the growth of newspapers, for newspapers were well estabished before there were any railroads. Railroads aided, however, for along every new rail line, especially those beyond the Mississippi, towns sprang up at intervals, and in almost every place a newspaper appeared.

Telegraph Spreads News

Soon after the inception of the railroads, and the rapid transportation, which made it possible to distribute newspapers quickly and widely, came the telegraph by which information could be distributed instantly, as far as desired.

The effect of transportation on the press was more indirect. It made possible the dissemination of the population and the development of commerce. With these came added demand for newspapers, and also added ability to subscribe for them.

The labor movement in a three-fold way affected the rise of the newspapers. In a purely incidental way, the labor press added its numbers of papers, subscribers, and general annual output. In a broader way, labor, in seeking to find itself, created much discussion of public questions, especially education, and thus made for an increased desire to read the newspapers. In the third place, by raising the scale of wages and standards of living, united labor made it possible for the workers to subscribe for at least the "popular priced" periodicals.

Wars Affect Newspapers

Education has had a bearing on the growth of newspapers. It would be unfair to the educated people of Colonial days, or even later, to blame the slow newspaper growth of those years on lack of education. The spread of popular education of the early days of the Republic undoubtedly had its part in the upturn of the growth curve with the coming of the "penny press" of the 30's and 40's. Education is not alone. It required cheaper paper and improved printing machines.

Wars are popularly supposed to "make" newspapers. Wars probably do develop newspaper initiative, and it is not unlikely

that the larger journals do profit by war times. But for the newspapers as a whole, the statistics are not so optimistic. " . . . continued until the Revolution." is not an infrequent phrase in Thomas's story of the Colonial press.

Newspapers continued to increase during the Civil war decade, but not much faster than in the preceding decade. In fact, subscriptions increased more slowly in 1860-70 than they did in 1850-60.

The Spanish-American war was too short to have any perceptible effect on newspaper figures in the bulk.

The many suspensions, consolidations, and limitation of size during the World war are still fresh in memory, and statistics bear out the impression.

Science and invention have had their part in newspaper progress, but not until compelled to do so. Old fashioned, hand-made paper was used until it was almost impossible to get enough of it for the demand, even at high prices. No radical changes were made in presses until demands of circulation made the time consumed by old methods all out of reason. Type set by hand, after the method of Gutenberg, continued until late in the nineteenth century even in metropolitan shops. Recognized slowness of the method, and restrictions of labor organizations led some of the larger publishers to provide funds for development of various ideas, the most promising of which turned out to be Mergenthaler's slug-casting machine, the linotype.

Panics Cut Number of Newspapers

General economic conditions also had some effect on the growth of newspapers. The "Panic of '73" is reflected in the lessened rate of growth of total circulation, and the "Panic of '93" seems to have cut in decidedly on the increase in the number of newspapers. On the other hand, it was not "hard times" in 1914 that set the number of newspapers and circulations to falling and barely allowed annual output to hold its own.

In 1915, *Printers' Ink* statute was suggested, making for honesty in advertising. At this time was developing a new attitude toward the newspaper as a business. The editor ceased, in general, to brag of his poverty-stricken situation, and the newspaper took its place with other business enterprises, with the doctrine that a newspaper that cannot pay expenses is a poor excuse for a newspaper. More business-like methods both were demanded by increasing costs of pro-

duction, and reacted to help build up newspaper properties of great value.[1]

If one decade were to be selected from the two and a quarter centuries covered in this study, it had probably better be the 1880's. That decade marks the years of the most rapid multiplication of newspapers in America—a net gain of almost two new publications a day for a ten-year period.

That decade marks completion of transcontinental railroads, and the most intense settlement of the American continent and the founding of many cities. That decade marks a rapidly rising tide in education and in interest in public affairs. By that decade, invention had come to the aid of the printer with cheap paper, adequate printing machinery, and most of the present methods for the instant assembling of the news. Postal rates were low. Newspaper concepts of public service, "scoops," and enterprise, worked out by the pioneer, personal journalists of the "penny press" era, were the accepted thing, and many of those giants of journalism were yet in their prime. Altogether, it was a golden age for newspapers. True, the greatest growth in subscriptions did not come for 10 or 15 years, nor the greatest annual output for an even longer period, but the '80's marked a period of sharp increase over the preceding decades, and gave promise of what was in store.

Without the vastly increased population, and that an educated population, such growth would have been impossible. Without improved machinery, bettered transportation and cheap paper the growth would have been almost impossible. Without means of instant communication for the gathering of news, and favoring postal laws for its distribution, the growth of newspapers would have been greatly hampered.

No one of the factors is alone responsible for the great increase in American newspapers and their circulation, but all the factors, taken together, have made it possible for America to be the nation best supplied by the periodical press.

[1] The Chicago News, founded in 1876 by Victor Lawson, was sold to the staff, following Mr. Lawson's death, for $9,000,000, and in 1926, the Kansas City Star was sold by the Nelson estate for $11,000,000.

CHAPTER VI.

CONCLUSION

This preliminary study of newspaper growth has taken but two of several possible steps. It has considered the actual increase in numbers of papers, circulation, and annual output, and also these same phases in relation to the growth of population, showing in general there has been a similar upward curve under both conditions, but that the one in relation to population has been somewhat more irregular.

Only a hint has been given here of the possibility of studying the growth of publications of varying frequencies of publication, and no effort has been made to study the growth of different kinds of publications, as the political, the literary, the religious, farm, or other class publications. The growth by states of the publications in general has been touched on only briefly.

Census returns of the Bureau of Manufactures, in recent years would give material for a state-by-state study for the larger states, but in many cases desired figures for a given state are too likely to be hidden under the heading "Other states." Some few scattering results, both for state-by-state study, and also frequency of publication, compiled from various sources, are appended to this study.

This study has omitted also the business growth of the newspaper enterprise, both as to volume of business and as to the amounts invested. Appendix I supplies the figures on gross business from 1880 to 1925.

Further search could well be made in the contemporary literature for appraisements of the place of the press in the economic structure of the country. A few have been included in this paper, but they are elusive things, and represent a vast amount of chaff for each bit of wheat found.

APPENDIX I.

REVENUES OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

Figures as to the volume of business of American newspapers are lacking prior to census reports of 1880, when the gross business of all newspapers reporting was $89,009,074. In 1925, 35 years later, the gross business was $1,321,575,273, or almost 15 times as great as it was in 1880.

The significant factor is the disproportionate growth of advertising and subscriptions. Advertising revenues, which in 1880 were 44 per cent of the total, were, in 1925, almost 70 per cent of the total. Advertising, therefore, was almost 25 times as great in 1925 as it was in 1880, while subscription revenues had multiplied barely eight times. Compare this with the number of subscriptions (p. 12) of 31,179,686 in 1880 and 259,986,457 in 1925, the latter being 8.2 times those for 1880.

The figures by years (all from reports of the Bureau of the Census) are as follows:

REVENUES OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

Year	Total Amount of		Percentage of	
	Advertising	Subscriptions	Advs.	Subs.
1880	$ 39,136,306	$ 49,872,768	44.0	56.0
1890	71,243,361	72,343,087	49.6	50.4
1899	95,861,127	79,928,483	54.6	45.4
1904	145,517,591	111,298,691	56.6	43.4
1909	202,533,245	135,063,043	60.0	40.0
1914	255,421,144	163,427,563	61,0	39.0
1919	528,299,378	278,006,382	65.5	34.5
1921	676,986,710	328,283,545	67.3	32.7
1923	793,893,469	360,892,708	68.7	31.3
1925	923,237,273	398,338,000	69.9	30.1

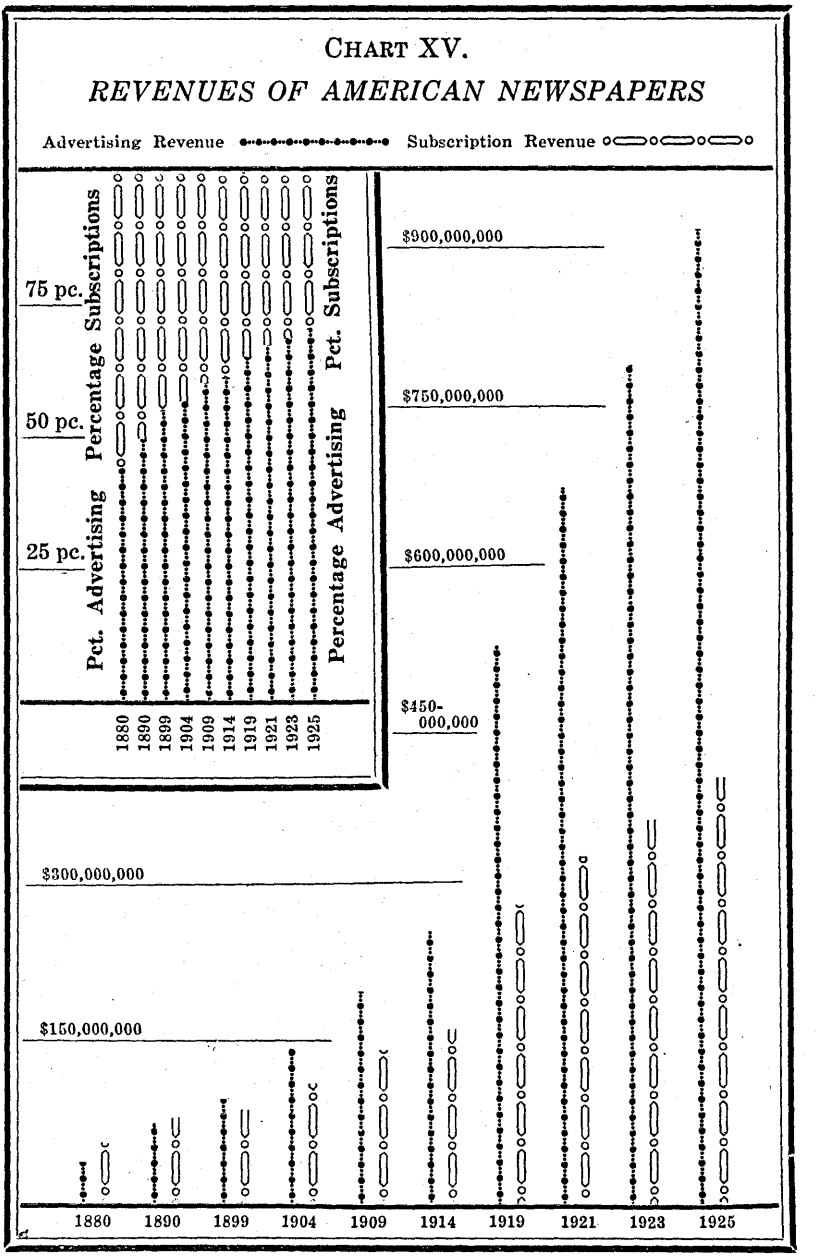
CHART XV.
REVENUES OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS
Advertising Revenue
Subscription Revenue
Pct. Advertising Percentage Subscriptions
Percentage Advertising Pct. Subscriptions
75 pc.
50 pc.
25 pc.
1880
1890
1899
1904
1909
1914
1919
1921
1923
1925
$900,000,000
$750,000,000
$600,000,000
$450-
000,000
$300,000,000
$150,000,000

APPENDIX II.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWSPAPER STATISTICS

Number of Newspapers, by States,—1710-1775

	1710	1720	1730	1740	1750	1750[1]	1760	1770	1775[1]
Maine									
New Hampshire							1	1	1
Vermont									
Massachusetts	1	2	3	5	5	6	4	6	7
Rhode Island						1	1	2	2
Connecticut							2	3	4
New York			1	2	2	1	3	3	4
New Jersey							1		
Pennsylvania		1	2	3	3	2	4	6	9
Deleware									
Maryland			1		1	1	1	1	2
Dist. Columbia									
Virginia				1	1	1	1	2	2
North Carolina							1	2	2
South Carolina			1	1	1	1	2	3	3
Georgia					1				1
Totals	1	3	8	12	14	13	21	29	37

NOTES

[1] "History of Education in the United States," Dexter, p. 506.
[2] W. T. Coggeshall, quoted in Census of 1880, p. 47.
[3] Census of 1850, quoting the American Almanac for 1830, and earlier issues of the National Intelligencer.
[4] Census of 1840.
[5] From detailed tables on page 94, following.

The states are arranged regionally to show the flow of the newspaper flood from its start in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

Variations are to be noted as follows:

For 1790, "Century of Population Growth," (p. 32) gives Pennsylvania 23, Connecticut 9, District of Columbia none, total 103.

For 1810, Coggeshall has list like Dexter's, except Pennsylvania 72 and total 359. See also Thomas' list totalling 393 (p. 91, following). North's summary (Census of 1840, p. 45.) gives Vermont 15, Connecticut 12, New York 67, Pennsylvania 75, Kentucky 17, District of Columbia 6, Florida none, Louisiana 6, Delaware 3, Michigan 1, Orleans 10, total 366.

For 1828, Dexter has Arkansas 1 and Total 851, while Coggeshall gives Rhode Island 24 and total of 861.

APPENDIX II.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWSPAPER STATISTICS

Number of Newspapers, by States, 1776-1872

	1776[2]	1780	1790	1810[1]	1828	1840[2]	1840[4]	1850[5]	1872[5]
Maine			2		29	36	41	49	65
New Hampshire	1	1	6	12	17	27	33	38	51
Vermont			2	14	21	30	33	35	47
Massachusetts	7	7	14	32	78	91	105	209	259
Rhode Island	2	3	4	7	14	16	18	19	32
Connecticut	4	4	10	11	33	33	44	46	71
New York	4	5	14	66	161	245	302	428	835
New Jersey		2	3	8	22	33	44	51	122
Pennsylvania	9	7	24	71	185	187	229	310	540
Delaware			2	2	4	6	8	10	17
Maryland	2		9	21	37	45	49	68	88
Dist. Columbia			1	6	9	14	17	18	
Virginia	2	2	9	23	34	51	56	87	114
West Virginia									42
North Carolina	2		1	10	20	27	29	51	64
South Carolina	3	3	2	10	16	17	21	46	55
Georgia	1	1	2	13	18	34	40	51	110
Florida				1	2	10	10	10	23
Alabama					10	28	28	60	79
Mississippi				4	6	30	34	50	111
Louisiana				10	9	34	37	55	92
Tennessee				6	8	46	56	50	91
Kentucky			1	17	23	38	46	62	89
Ohio				11	66	123	143	261	
Indiana					17	73	76	107	293
Michigan					2	32	33	58	211
Illinois					4	43	52	107	505
Missouri					5	35	35	61	279
Arkansas					1	9	9	9	56
Wisconsin						6	6	46	190
Minnesota									85
Iowa						4	4	29	233
Nebraska									59
Kansas									121
Texas								34	112
New Mexico								2	5
Nevada									18
California								7	201
Oregon								2	35
Totals	37	35	106	358	851	1403	1634	2526	5400

NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1790

State	Daily	Semi-weekly	Weekly	Monthly	Un-known	Total	Papers per 100,000 Pop.
Maine			2			2	2.1
New Hampshire		1	5			6	4.2
Vermont			2			2	2.4
Massachusetts		2	10	2		14	3.7
Rhode Island			4			4	5.8
Connecticut			9			9	3.8
New York	3	4	4	1	2	14	4.1
New Jersey			2	1		3	1.7
Pennsylvania	4	2	14	3		23	5.3
Delaware			2			2	3.4
Maryland		2	7			9	2.8
Virginia			9			9	1.2
N. Carolina					1	1	.3
S. Carolina	1	1				2	.8
Georgia			2			2	2.4
Kentucky			1			1	1.3
Totals	8	12	73	7	3	103	2.6

Statistics from "Century of Population Growth," p. 32. "First Century of American Newspapers" (Dill) lists 10 papers from Connecticut, 24 from Pennsylvania and 1 from District of Columbia, for a total of 106.

NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1810

State	Daily	Semi-weekly	Weekly	Others	Total*	Total**
New Hampshire			12		12	12
Vermont			15		15	14
Massachusetts		9	23	7	39	32
Rhode Island		1	6		7	7
Connecticut			12	1	13	11
New York	7	9	52	5	73	66
New Jersey			8		8	8
Pennsylvania	9	4	62	6	81	71
Delaware		2	1		3	2
Maryland	5	6	10	1	22	21
Virginia		7	17	1	25	23
N. Carolina			10		10	10
S. Carolina	3	2	5		10	10
Georgia		3	10		13	13
Dist. Columbia	1	4	1		6	6
Kentucky			17	1	18	17
Tennessee			6	1	7	6
Ohio			14		14	14
Michigan			1		1	—
Indiana			1		1	1
Mississippi			4		4	4
Ter. Orleans	2	7	1		10	—
Louisiana			1		1	11
Totals	27	54	289	23	393	359

*—Totals and preceding detail compiled from lists of newspapers (pp. 296-305) and of magazines (pp.292-3) of Thomas's "History of Printing in the United States." A footnote adds: "There may be other periodical literary publications in the United States, with which I am not acquainted."

**—From Census of 1850, quoting "American Almanac," of 1830.

NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1840

State	Daily	Semi-weekly	Weekly	Others	Total
Maine	3	3	30	5	41
New Hampshire			27	6	33
Massachusetts	10	14	67	14	105
Rhode Island	2	4	10	2	18
Connecticut	2	4	27	11	44
Vermont	2	2	26	3	33
New York	34	13	198	57	302
New Jersey	4	1	31	4	40
Pennsylvania	12	10	165	42	229
Delaware		3	3	2	8
Maryland	7	7	28	7	49
Dist. Columbia	3	6	5	3	17
Virginia	4	12	35	5	56
N. Carolina		1	26	2	29
S. Carolina	3	2	12	4	21
Georgia	5	5	24	6	40
Florida			10		10
Alabama	3	1	24		28
Mississippi	5	1	28		34
Louisiana	11	2	21	3	37
Tennessee	2	6	38	10	56
Kentucky	5	7	26	8	46
Ohio	9	7	107	20	143
Indiana		4	69	3	76
Illinois	3	2	38	9	52
Missouri	6	5	24		35
Arkansas		3	6		9
Michigan	6	—	26	1	33
Wisconsin			6		6
Iowa			4		4
Totals	141	125	1,141	227	1,634

From Compendium of the Census of 1840. The original census for 1840 (p. lxiv) gives Mississipi two dailies, making state total 31, and grand total 1631.

NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1850

State	Daily	Weekly	Others	Totals	Papers per 100,000 Pop.
Maine	4	39	6	49	8.4
New Hampshire		35	3	38	11.9
Vermont	2	30	3	35	11.1
Massachusetts	22	125	54*	201*	20.2
Rhode Island	5	12	2	19	12.9
Connecticut	7	30	7	44*	11.9
New York	51	308	80	439*	10.9
New Jersey	6	43	2	51	10.4
Pennsylvania	24	261	24	309*	13.3
Delaware		7	3	10	10.9
Maryland	6	54	8	68	11.6
Dist. Columbia	5	8	5	18	35.3
Virginia	15	55	17	87	6.1
N. Carolina		40	11	51	5.9
S. Carolina	7	27	12	46	6.9
Georgia	5	37	9	51	5.6
Florida		9	1	10	11.5
Alabama	6	48	6	60	7.8
Mississippi		46	4	50	8.2
Louisiana	11	37	7	55	11.9
Texas		29	5	34	16.0
Arkansas		9		9	4.3
Tennessee	8	36	6	50	4.9
Kentucky	9	38	15	62	6.3
Missouri	5	45	11	61	8.9
Illinois	8	84	15	107	12.5
Indiana	9	95	3	107	10.9
Ohio	26	201	34	261	13.8
Michigan	3	47	8	58	14.6
Wisconsin	6	35	5	46	15.0
Iowa		25	4	29	15.1
California	4	3		7	7.6
New Mexico Ter.		1	1	2	3.3
Oregon		2		2	15.4
Totals	254	1,901*	371*	2,526	10.89
Totals**	254	1,902	370	2,526	

*—Corrected from the original table published in the Compendium of the Census for 1850. In the original table, Massachusetts appears 22, 125, 62 for total of 209; Connecticut is 7, 30, 7, 46; New York, 51, 308, 80, 428; and Pennsylvania, 24, 261, 24, 310. By correcting cross-totals for Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania, and substracting 8 from "other" and "total" column of Massachusetts, to correct footing, the table balances.

**—Totals as published in report of the census.

Number of Papers, Circulation, and Output, 1850 and 1872.

State	No. of Papers 1850	1872	Total Circulation 1850	1872	Aggregate Annual Output 1850	1872
Alabama	60	79	34,597	45,504	2,662,741	2,929,000
Arkansas	9	56	7,250	29,830	377,000	1,824,860
California	7	201	4,600	491,903	761,200	47,472,756
Connecticut	46	71	53,116	203,725	4,267,932	17,454,740
Deleware	10	17	7,500	20,860	421,200	1,607,840
Dist. of Col.	18		101,362		11,127,236	
Florida	10	23	5,750	10,545	319,800	649,220
Georgia	51	110	67,484	150,987	4,070,866	15,539,724
Illinois	107	505	88,623	1,722,541	5,102,276	113,140,492
Indiana	107	293	63,352	363,542	4,316,828	26,964,984
Iowa	29	233	23,000	219,090	1,512,800	16,403,380
Kansas		121				
Kentucky	62	89	84,686	197,130	6,582,838	18,270,160
Louisiana	55	92	80,847	84,165	12,416,224	13,755,690
Maine	49	65	63,887	170,690	4,203,064	9,867,680
Maryland	68	88	124,287	235,450	19,612,724	33,497,680
Massachus'ts	209	259	716,969	1,692,124	64,820,564	129,691,266
Michigan	58	211	52,718	253,774	3,247,736	19,686,978
Minnesota		85		110,778		9,543,656
Mississippi	50	111	30,870	71,868	1,752,504	4,703,336
Missouri	61	279	70,480	522,866	6,195,560	47,980,422
Nebraska		42		31,600		3,388,500
Nevada		18		11,300		257,200
N. Hampshire	38	51	60,176	173,919	3,067,552	7,237,588
New Jersey	51	122	44,454	205,500	4,098,678	18,625,740
New Mexico	2	5	900	1,525	46,800	
New York	428	835	1,022,779	7,561,497	115,385,473	471,741,744
N. Carolina	51	64	36,839	64,820	2,020,564	6,684,950
Ohio	261		415,109		30,473,407	
Oregon	2	35	1,134	45,750	58,968	3,657,300
Pennsylvania	310	540	983,218	3,419,765	84,898,672	241,170,540
Rhode Island	19	32	25,975	82,050	2,756,950	9,781,500
S. Carolina	46	55	55,715	80,900	7,145,930	8,901,400
Tennessee	50	91	67,877	225,152	6,940,750	18,300,844
Texas	34	112	19,137	55,250	1,296,924	4,214,800
Utah						
Vermont	35	47	45,956	71,390	2,567,662	4,055,300
Virginia	87	114	89,134	143,840	9,223,068	13,319,578
West Virginia		59		54,432		4,012,400
Wisconsin	46	190	33,236	543,385	2,665,487	28,762,920
Totals	2526	5400	4,583,017	19,369,447	423,117,978	1,375,096,168
Average			2051.5	3,681		

NOTE—Figures for 1850 are from tables in Compendium of the Census for 1850, pp. 157-8. Figures for 1872 are from state descriptions in Appleton's Encyclopedia for 1872, except the following: Alabama papers and circulation from Berney's Handbook, and annual circulation estimated; Kansas papers from Wilder's Annals of Kansas; New Mexico (for 1870) from Bancroft's Works.

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The First Century *of* American Newspapers

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A graphic check list of periodicals published from 1690 to 1790 in what was to become the United States

The First Century of American Newspapers

A Graphic Check List of All Newspapers, Magazines and Other Publications Started in that Part of North America Which Became the United States, from Harris's "Public Occurrences" to the First Census

NEWSPAPERS—at least some of them—have led such precarious lives that it is difficult to keep track of all the variations of title under which a publication has been known. This is especially difficult when it pertains to newspapers of a century or more ago, when all events tend to merge together. In order to check the number of newspapers in the American colonies‡ many years before the newspaper directory had been thought of, the graphic chart method was adopted. By this method it is possible to indicate the years during which a newspaper was published and to show, too, something of the paper's line of ancestry. A suggestion of this sort is contained in "The Newspaper's Family Tree," by the same author, and issued as a University Bulletin in 1919.

The time covered in this check list is from the appearance of the first publication intended to be periodical—Harris's "Publick Occurrences"—in 1790, to the first census of the new Republic—a full century.

In the list will be found the name of all newspapers and magazines of the century, so far as they can be ascertained, with the date of founding of each, the name of its first editor, and record of the fate of the paper. The names are so arranged that underscores indicate the years the paper continued publication.

As far as possible newspapers that were related (usually by continuing with the name, or at least serial numbers of another) are grouped together. Otherwise, the plan of grouping is alphabetical by states and towns, and chronologically (subject to relation grouping) within each town list.

Many conflicting records were found, and in most instance note is made of the conflict. In some cases differing dates for the establishment of the papers were found, but more often difficulty arose in determining what had happened to a publication. If definite information is at hand that a paper was sold to another, or discontinued, notation is made of the time; otherwise, the paper is listed as in existence (Exist.) at the time of the latest known issue. Where one authority gives a general date and another a specific one, the latter is used.

Practice of dating the paper "From Monday Oct. 16 to Oct. 23, 1725" may account for some of the discrepancies and changes of name may be dated by one authority as being made with the last issue under one name, and by another authority with the first issue under the new name.

Authorities differ as the spelling of names and we find *Sauer, Saur,* and *Sower; Harrison,* and *Harrisson;* and the more easily explained *Henry* and *Heinrich.* Campbell of the News-Letter sometimes spelled his name *Campbel.*

NEWSPAPERS OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD OF THE UNITED STATES

	1690	1700	1710	1720	1730	1740	1750	1760	1770	1780	1790	All*
Connecticut								2	3	4	10	14
Delaware											2	6
Dist. Columbia											1	2
Georgia							1			1	2	5
Kentucky											1	1
Maine											2	2
Maryland					1		1	1	1	3	9	11
Massachusetts	1		1	2	3	5	5	4	6	7	14	48
New Hampshire								1	1	1	6	14
New Jersey								1		2	3	7
New York					1	2	2	3	3	5	14	25
No. Carolina								1	2		1	10
Pennsylvania				1	2	3	3	4	6	7	24	50
Rhode Island								1	2	3	4	6
So. Carolina					1	1	1	2	3	3	2	8
Vermont											2	2
Virginian						1	1	1	2	2	9	17
Totals	1		1	3	8	12	14	21	29	38	106	227‡

*Last column includes all papers started, many of them short lived and not in existence in decennial years of tabulation. Doubtful papers might increase 1790 and "All" columns by 5 or 6.

Present-day newspapers in so many instances represent consolidations and changes of name that some such method is about the only one by which an accurate view of the newspaper history of a community may be obtained. But the task is too complicated for one undertaking; it must be left to the student of newspaper history to work out the charts for his own town, county, or state.

—W. A. D.

C.—Century of Population Growth; Bureau of the Census, 1909. A check list of papers existing in 1790.
H.—History of American Journalism; Frederic Hudson, 1872.
I.—Check list of XVIII. Century Newspapers in the Library of Congress; J. Van Ness Ingram.
L.—History of American Journalism; James Melvin Lee, 1918.
M.—An Historical Digest of the Provincial Press; Massachusetts Series, Vol. I. 1704-07; Edited by Lyman Horace Weeks and Edwin M. Bacon for the Society for Americana, 1911.
N.—The Newspaper and Periodical Press; S. N. D. North, 1884. Report compiled for the Bureau of the Census.
Bi.—The Germans in Colonial Times; Lucy Fordney Bittinger, 1901.
Ne.—Notes for a History of American Journalism; William Nelson.

CONNECTICUT

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Danbury

Mar. 18, 1790—Farmers' Journal. (Nathan Douglas and Edwards Ely.) Bridgeport Times of 1925.

Hartford

Oct. 29, 1764—Connecticut Courant. (Thomas Green.) Continues to the present. Some authorities say October number a specimen one; first regular issue Dec. 3, 1764. Many minor changes of title and of early editors.

Sept. 1, 1783 — Freeman's Chronicle or American Advertiser. (Bavil Webster.) Eight weeks or more.

July 12, 1784—American Mercury. (Joel Barlow and Elisha Babcock.) To Independent Press in 1833.

Litchfield

Dec. 21, 1784—Weekly Monitor; and American Advertiser. (Thos. Collier & Copp.) Disc. 1806.

Middleton

Nov. 8, 1785—Middlesex Gazette or Federal Advertiser. (Woodward & Green) Disc. May, 1834.

New Haven

Jan. 1, 1755—Connecticut Gazette. (Jas. Parker and John Holt.) T. gives start and closes with 1767. I. starts Apr. 12, 1755 and disc. Feb. 1, 1768.

Oct. 23, 1767—Connecticut Journal and New Haven Post Boy. (Thos. and Sam'l Green.)

Sept. 13, 1775—Connecticut Journal. The Morning Journal-Courier of 1925 dates from 1776.

Feb. 16, 1782—New Haven Gazette and Connecticut Magazine. (Meigs & Dana.) Two years or more. Ne. starts May 13, 1784; disc. Feb. 9, 1786.

1788 (cir.) American Musical Magazine. (Amos Doolittle and Dan. Read.) Ten mo. Ne.

Jan. 5, 1790—New Haven Gazette (— ——) Disc. June 29, 1791.

New London

Aug. 8, 1758—New London Summary. (Timothy Green, Jr.) Disc. Oct. 1763.

Nov. 1. 1763—New London Gazette. (Timothy Green, Jr.) Ne. starts Nov. 18.

Dec. 1773—Connecticut Gazette. C. says disc. 1844; T. says became Connecticut Centinel in 1802; disc. 1844.

CONNECTICUT—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Norwich

Oct. 1773—Norwich Packet. (Alex and Jas. Robertson and John Trumbull.) Disc. 1804. H. and T. give starting date, Oct. 1773; I. gives Oct. 7, 1773; C. gives Dec. 16, 1773; Ne. starts Sept. 30.

Nov. 29, 1790—Weekly Register. (Ebenezer Bushnell.) Sold to Chelsea Courier, Nov. 30, 1796.

DELAWARE

Wilmington

1762—Wilmington Courant. (Jas. Adams.)—T. H. says started in 1761. Ran six months. L. gives same for Wilmington "Chronicle."

1784—Wilmington Gazette. (——) Exist. 1880.—C. See below.

Mar. 1785—Delaware Gazette. (Jacob A. Killen.) Disc. Sept. 7, 1799.—L. See below.

June, 1785—Delaware Gazette. (Peter Brynberg and Sam'l Andrews.) Exist. 1894.—C.

Sept. 1786—Wilmington Courant. (J. Adams & Son.) "Two or three years."—T.

1787—Delaware and Eastern Shore Advertiser. (S. and J. Adams.) Revival of Courant of '62. Disc. 1789.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Georgetown

Feb. 1789—The Times and the Patowmack Packet. (Chas. Fierer.) Exist. Apr. 23, 1789.

Mar. 1790—Georgetown Weekly Ledger. (Alex. Doyle.) Exist. Oct. 5, 1793.

GEORGIA

Augusta

Sept. 30, 1786—Georgia State Gazette or Independent Register. (John E. Smith.)—I. C. dates from Oct. 2, 1786.

Apr. 11, 1789—Georgia. The Augusta Chronicle and Gazette of the State. (John E. Smith.)—I. The Augusta Chronicle of 192b dates from 1785. N. 1880 list has Chronicle and Constitutionalist dating from 1785.

Savannah

Apr. 17, 1763—Georgia Gazette. (Jas. Johnston.) Disc. 1776.

Jan. 31, 1783—Gazette of the State of Georgia. (Jas. Johnston.) Revival of Gazette of '63 with new numbering.—N. J. Archives. Disc. 1802.

GEORGIA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Feb. 1779—Royal Gazette of Georgia. (John D. Hammerer.) Disc. in 1785. I. calls it Royal Georgia Gazette.

Apr. 30, 1789—Columbian Herald, or the Independent Courier of North America. (T. B. Bowen.)

KENTUCKY

Lexington

Aug. 11, 1787—Kentucke Gazette. (John and Fielding Bradford.) Disc. 1848.—C.

LOUISIANA

New Orleans

May 26, 1785—Le Courrier du Vendredi. (— ——.) Exist. Aug. 4, 1786.

MAINE

Falmouth (Portland)

Jan. 1, 1785—Falmouth Gazette and Weekly Advertiser. (Thos. B. Wait and Benj. Titcomb.)

Apr. 6, 1786—Cumberland Gazette. (Thos. B. Wait.) Became Eastern Herald, Jan. 2, 1792.

Oct. 1, 1790—Gazette of Maine. (Benj. Titcomb, Jr.) Sold to Eastern Herald, Sept. 3, 1796, I; exist, 1895, C.

MARYLAND

Annapolis

Sept. 19, 1727—Maryland Gazette. (Wm. Parks.) Disc. about 1736.

Jan. 17, 1745—Annapolis Gazette, Revived. (Jonas Green.) C. says disc. 1839; T. says 1810; Annapolis Capital of 1925 numbers from 1727. N. in 1880 list starts Maryland Gazette, 1747. Ne. calls it Maryland Gazette.

1779—Maryland Gazette and Annapolis Advertiser. (Jas. Hayes, Jr.) I. has copy, July 9, 1779.

Baltimore

Aug. 20, 1773—Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser. (Wm. Goddard.) Became Baltimore American, 1799; still published.

May 2, 1775—Dunlap's Maryland Gazette or the Baltimore General Advertiser. (John Dunlap.)

Sept. 15, 1778—Maryland Gazette or the Baltimore General Advertiser. (John Hayes.) Exist. 1790. —I. Cf. below.

May 16, 1783—Maryland Gazette; or the Baltimore Advertiser. (John Haynes.) Exist. 1791.

MARYLAND—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Easton

May 16, 1790—Maryland Herald and Eastern Shore Intelligencer. (Jas. Cowan.) Exist, 1804.

Frederick

Jan. 4, 1786—Maryland Chronicle and the Universal Advertiser. (Matthias Bartgis.) Exist, in 1824.

Mar. 1, 1790—Maryland Gazette and Frederick Weekly Advertiser. (John Winter.) Exist. in 1791.

Georgetown (Now District of Columbia.)

Feb. 1789—The Times and the Patowmack Packet. (Chas. Fierer.) Exist. 1791.

Mar. 1790—Georgetown Weekly Ledger. (Day & Hancock.) In existence, 1793.

Hagerstown

Jan. 1, 1790—Washington Spy. (Stewart Herbert.) Exist. 1813.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

*1689—Green's Broadside, Present State of New English Affairs. (No number nor date.)

*Sept. 25, 1690—Publick Occurrences (Benj. Harris.) Suppressed after one issue.

April 24, 1704—Boston News-Letter. (John Campbell.)

Dec. 29, 1721—Weekly News-Letter (Bartholomew Green)

Nov. 29, 1730—Boston Weekly News-Letter.

Aug. 25, 1757—Boston News-Letter.

Mar. 18, 1762—Boston News-Letter and New England Chronicle.

Mar. 31, 1763—Mass. Gazette and Boston News Letter.

Oct. 31, 1765—Massachusetts Gazette.

May 15, 1766—Mass. Gazette and Boston News-Letter.

May 19, 1768—Boston Weekly News-Letter.

Sept. 21, 1769—Mass. Gazette and the Boston Weekly News-Letter. Disc. 1776. May, 1768, to Sept. 1769, page in News-Letter and Post-Boy called Massachusetts Gazette, to carry legals.

Oct. 1734—Boston Weekly Post-Boy (Ellis Huske.)

June 4, 1750—Boston Post-Boy Disc. Dec. 23, 1754. Revived in the Advertiser.

Aug. 22, 1757—Boston Weekly Advertiser (Green & Russell.)

Dec. 25, 1758—Green & Russell's Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser.

May 23, 1763—Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser.

Sept. 25, 1769—Mass. Gazette and the Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser. Disc. April 17, 1775.

MASSACHUSETTS—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Dec. 21, 1719—Boston Gazette (Wm. Brooker.)

Mar. 20, 1727—New England Weekly Journal (Sam'l Kneeland.)

Oct. 27, 1741—Boston Gazette or Weekly Journal. Discontinued 1752 (T, H.)

Dec. 26, 1752—Boston Gazette or Weekly Advertiser.

April 1 1755—Boston Gazette or Country Journal. (Ben. Edes and John Gill.) At Watertown, June 5, 1775, to Nov. 4, 1776. H. says disc. Sept. 17, 1798. T. has Gazette of 1752, and Gazette or Weekly Advertiser starting Jan. 3, 1753.

Aug. 7, 1721—New England Courant. (James and Benjamin Franklin.) Disc. June 4, 1726 (L); early in 1727 (T).

Sept. 27 1731—Weekly Rehearsal. (Jeremiah Gridley.) Discontinued Aug. 11, 1735 (T).

Aug. 18, 1735—Boston Evening Post. (Thomas Fleet.) Last issue, April 24, 1775, barely mentions Lexington-Concord.

*Mar. 2, 1743—Boston Weekly Magazine. (Rogers & Fowle). Ran four weeks. (T).

Mar. 5, 1743—Christian History. (Thomas Prince.) Disc. Dec. 1746.—T.

Sept. 1743—American Magazine & Historical Chronicle. (Sam'l Elliott.) Discontinued, Dec. 1746.

Jan. 4, 1748—Independent Advertiser. (Rogers & Fowle) Discontinued Dec. 5, 1749 (M); Jan. 7, 1750 (T); Jan. 7, 1752 (H); Jan. 8, 1750 (Bu). Boston Morning Advertiser of 1925 dates from 1748.

Aug. 31, 1758—New England Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure. (Ben. Mecom.) Irregular, 6 or 7 mo.

*Sept. 21, 1765—Constitutional Courant. (Andrew Marvel.) (Name of editor fictitious; reprint of New Jersey publication.)

Dec. 21, 1767—Boston Chronicle. (John Mein.) (Mein & Fleming, T.) The first twice-a-week. Disc. June 25, 1770.

July 17, 1770—Massachusetts Spy. (Isaiah Thomas.) Tri-weekly.

Oct. 1, 1772—Mass. Spy, or Thomas' Boston Journal.

Moved to Worcester

May 3, 1775—Mass. Spy or American Oracle of Liberty. Minor title changes frequent.

Nov. 23, 1771—Censor. (Ezekiel Russell.) Disc. May 2, 1772 (T); April, 1772 (I).

Jan. 1774—Royal American Magazine. (I. Thomas.) Disc. Mar. 1775.

MASSACHUSETTS—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

May 30, 1776—Continental Journal and Weekly Advertiser. (John Gill.) Disc. Dec. 28, 1786.—I.

June 15, 1778—Independent Ledger and American Advertiser. (Draper & Folsom.) Disc. Oc. 16, 1786.—I.

Oct. 17, 1778—Evening Post and General Advertiser. (White & Adams.) Disc. Feb. 26, 1780.

Mar. 9, 1780—Morning Chronicle and General Advertiser.

Oct. 20, 1781—Boston Evening Post & Gen'l Advertiser. (E.E.Powars)

Jan. 19, 1784—AmericanHerald and the General Advertiser. (Edward E. Powars.)—I. C. has American Herald: and the Washington Gazette starting Oct. 27, 1781.

Moved to Worcester

Aug. 1788—American Herald and Worcester Reporter. (Edward E. Powars.) Disc. Oct. 1789.

Returned to Boston

July 20, 1790—American Herald and Washington Gazette. (E. E. Powars. Exist. Dec. 13, 1790.

1783—Massachusetts Register and U. S. Calendar. (Mein & Fleming.) Issued annually.—Ne.

*Oct. 1783—Boston Magazine. (Norman & White.) Disc. Dec. 1786.

Mar. 3, 1784—Mass. Centinel and the Republican Journal. (Warden & Russell.)

June 16, 1790—Columbian Centinel. C. and I. start it Mar. 24, 1784; to Boston Advertiser, on May 1, 1840.

May, 1784—Gentlemen's and Ladies' Town and Country Magazine. (Job Weeden and Wm. Barrett) Disc. Dec., 1790. (C).

Dec. 30, 1784—Exchange Advertiser. (Peter Edes.) Exist. Jan. 4, 1787.

Feb. 22, 1785 — American Journal and Suffolk Intelligencer. (Wm. Barrett.) Existing, Mar. 29, 1785. (I)

Sept 15, 1788—Herald of Freedom and the Federal Advertiser. (Edmund Freeman and Loring Andrews.)

Mar. 22, 1790—Herald of Freedom. (Edmund Freeman.) In existence, 1793.

MASSACHUSETTS—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Jan. 1789—Mass. Magazine or Monthly Museum. (I. Thomas and Ebenezer T. Andrews.) Disc. Dec. 1796.

Apr. 23, 1789—Courier de Boston. (Sam'l Hall.) Disc. Oc. 15, 1789

Charleston

Dec. 9, 1785—American Recorder and Charleston Advertiser. (Allen & Cushing.) Disc. 1788. (I)

Newburyport

Dec. 14, 1773—Essex Journal and Merrimack Packet. (Isaiah Thomas.) To 1793 or more (H). C. names it Essex Journal and New Hampshire Packet; disc. about 1794.

Jan. 1, 1785—Hampshire Herald. and Massachusetts Intelligencer. (Roger Storrs.)

Northampton

Sept. 6, 1786 — Hampshire Gazette. (Wm. Butler.) Berkshire Co. Eagle in 1900.—C. See Stk'brdg

Pittsfield

May 8, 1788—Berkshire Chronicle and Massachusetts Intelligencer. (Roger Storrs.) Exist. 1900.

Dec. 1, 1787 — American Centinel. (E. Russell.) Brief.

Plymouth

Mar. 22, 1785—Plymouth Journal & Massachusetts Advertiser. (N. Coverly.) Exist. June 13, 1786.

Salem

Aug. 2, 1768—Essex Gazette (Sam'l Hall.) H. starts Gazette Aug. 5; I. and T. as above.

Moved to Cambridge

May 12, 1775—New England Chronicle or Essex Gazette. (Sam. and E. Hall.)

Moved to Boston

Apr. 25, 1776—New England Chronicle.

Sept. 12, 1776—Independent Chronicle and Universal Advertiser. (Powers & Willis.) To Boston Advertiser, 1831.

July 1, 1774—Salem Gazette and Newbury & Marblehead Advertiser. (E. Russell.) H. and T. start in June, 1774; I. as above. I. has in existence Mar. 3, 1775.

June 19, 1776—American Gazette or Constitutional Journal. (J. Rogers) Disc. July 30, 1776.

Jan. 2, 1781—Salem Gazette and General Advertiser. (Mary Crouch) Now Salem Register and Mercury.

Salem

Oct. 18, 1781—Salem Gazette. (Sam'l Hall.)

Moved to Boston

Nov. 28, 1785—Mass. Gazette. (Sam'l Hall.) Disc. Nov. 11, '88.

MASSACHUSETTS—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Mar. 30, 1786—Salem Chronicle & Essex Advertiser. (Geo. Roulstone.) Exist. Aug. 13, 1786.

Oct. 14, 1786—Salem Mercury. (J. Dabney & Cushing.)

Jan. 5, 1790—Salem Gazette. (Thomas Cushing.)—I. C. dates Salem Gazette (Dabney & Cushing) from Oct.14, 1786. In existence in 1895.

Springfield

May 4, 1782—Mass. Gazette or the Springfield and Northampton Weekly Advertiser. (Babcock & Haswell.) Ingham has starting May 14 and becoming Hampshire Herald Jan. 1,1785.

Mar. 1, 1787—Hampshire Chronicle. (Zephaniah Webster.) In existence 1795.

Stockbridge

Nov. 1789—Western Star. (Loring Andrews.) To Lenox in 1820; in 1842 to Pittsfield; Berkshire County Eagle of 1925.

Worcester

*Sept. 1783—Mass. Herald or Worcester Journal. (I. Thomas.) Four weeks.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Concord

? ?—Before 1796 by Elijah Russell.—H.

Jan. 6, 1790—The Concord Herald and Newhampshire Intelligencer. (George Hough.) Disc. Oct. 30, 1805.

Dover

July 15, 1790—Political and Sentimental Repository, or Stafford Recorder. (Eliphalet Ladd.) Disc. 1829.

Exeter

1775—A New Hampshire Gazette or Freeman's Journal.) Robert Fowle.) Disc. 1777.—T. See following from I:

Apr. 1, 1775—State Journal, or the New Hampshire Gazette. (Robert L. Fowle.)

1775—New Hampshire Gazette or Exeter Morning Chronicle. (Robert L. Fowle.) Disc. early in 1778.

Feb. 17, 1778—Exeter Journal or New Hampshire Gazette. (Zechariah Fowle.)

Mar. to July, 1778— New Hampshire Gazette or State Journal and General Advertiser. (Z. Fowle) Exist. Dec. 1, 1778.

June 10, 1784—Exeter Chronicle, or Weekly Advertiser. (J. Melcher and G. J. Osborne.) Disc. Dec. 1784.

NEW HAMPSHIREE—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

June 27, 1786— Freeman's Oracle and New Hampshire Advertiser. (Lamson & Ranlet.) Ranlet withdrew to start Gazetteer; bought Oracle, Nov. 1789.
Aug. 1789—New Hampshire Gazetteer. (Henry Ranlet.) Became Herald of Liberty, 1792; disc. 1797.

Hanover — May 5, 1779—Dresden Mercury. (Judah and Alden Spooner.) Exist. Aug. 9, 1779.

Keene — Aug. 7, 1787—New Hampshire Recorder and the Weekly Advertiser. (Jas. Davenport Griffith.) Disc. 1792.

Portsmouth — Oct. 7, 1756—New Hampshire Gazette. (D'nl Fowle)
1763—New Hampshire Gazette and Historical Chronicle. (Daniel Fowle.)
Nov. 19, 1776—Freeman's Journal, or New Hampshire Gazette. (Ben. Dearborn.)
1780—New Hampshire Gazette or State Journal and General Advertiser. (D. Fowle.) Became weekly issue of Daily Chronicle in 1861. Still published, 1925.
Jan. 21, 1765—Portsmouth Mercury and Weekly Advertiser. (Thos. Ferber.) Disc. 1768.
Dec. 24, 1784—New Hampshire Mercury and General Advertiser. (Robt. Gerrish.) Disc. probably 1788.—I.
Oct. 24, 1786—New Hampshire Spy. (Geo. Jerry Osborne.)
Dec. 30, 1788— Osborne's New Hampshire Spy. (Geo. J. Osborne.) Disc. Mar. 2, 1793.

NEW JERSEY

Burlington — Dec. 5, 1777—New Jersey Gazette. (I. Collins.)

Moved to Trenton — Mar. 4, 1778—New Jersey Gazette. Disc. Nov. 27, 1786.

Chatham — Feb. 16, 1779—New Jersey Journal. (Shepard Kollock.)

Moved to New Brunswick — Oct. 14, 1783—Political Intelligencer and New Jersey Advertiser. (Shepard Kollock.)

Moved to Elizabethtown — Apr. 20, 1785—New Jersey Journal and Political Intelligencer. Now Elizabeth Daily Journal.

Elizabethtown — Apr. 1789—Christians,' Scholars,' and Farmers' Magazine. (Shepard Kollock.) Disc. Mar. 1791.

New Brunswick — Sept. 1786 — Brunswick Gazette. (Shelby Arnett.) Exist, 1816.

NEW JERSEY—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Woodbridge

1754—The Reflector. (Jas. Parker.) Brief.

Jan. 1758—New American Magazine. (Jas. Parker.) Disc. Mar. 1760.

Sept. 21, 1765 — Constitutional Courant. (Andrew Marvel, at the Sign of the Bribe refused, on Constitution Hill, North America.) Sold in New York; reprinted in Boston and Philadelphia. T. says printed by Wm. Goddard at Parker's plant. Only one issue.

NEW YORK

Albany

1758-?—New American Magazine. (Jas. Parker.) Dates indefinite.

Nov. 1771—Albany Post Boy. (A. & J. Robertson.) Disc. 1775. T. starts in '71; H. in '72.

May 28, 1784—Albany Gazette. (C. R. Webster.) Disc. Ap. 14, 1845.

1788—Albany Register. (Robert Barber.) To N. Y. Standard.

Goshen

1788—Goshen Repository. (David Mandeville.) Disc. 1804.

Hudson

April 7, 1785 — Hudson Gazette. (Ashbel Stoddard and Chas. R. Webster.) Exist. 1925.

Lansingburg

May 5, 1788 — Federal Herald. (Babcock & Hickok.) Exist. 1890.

New York

*May 30, 1696—Gov. Benj. Fletcher had Wm. Bradford, Philadelphia printer, reprint an issue of the London Gazette.

Nov. 8, 1725—New York Gazette. (Wm. Bradford.) Disc. 1744.

Nov. 26, 1744—N. Y. Evening Post. (Henry DeForeest.) Lib. Cong. has Nov. 27, 1749. L. says "successor of N. Y. Gazette."

Nov. 5, 1733—N. Y. Journal. (John Peter Zenger.) Disc. 1751 or 1752.

May 29, 1766—New York Journal or General Advertiser. (John Holt.)

Moved to Kingston (Esopus)

July 7, 1777—Journal. Disc. Oct. 13, '77.

Moved to Poughkeepsie

May 11, 1778—Journal.

Returned to New York

Nov. 22, 1782—Journal. (Holt.) (C)

1783—Independent Gazette, or N .Y. Journal Revived. (John Holt.)

May 20, 1784 — N. Y. Journal and State Gazette. (Elizabeth Holt.)

1787—N. Y. Journal and Patriotic Register, w. (Thos. Greenleaf.)

1787—The Argus, or Greenleaf's New Daily Advertiser, d. C. says est. May 29, 1766; disc. 1810.

NEW YORK—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Nov. 30, 1752—Independent Reflector. (Jas. Parker.) Disc. 1754.

1743—New York Gazette, or Weekly Post-Boy. (Js. Parker.)
Jan. 1747—N. Y. Gazette, revived in Weekly Post-Boy. (Holt & Parker.) In 1766, returned to Parker and Holt revived Journal. Gazette disc. in 1773.

Aug. 3, 1752—N. Y. Mercury. (Hugh Gaine.)
1763—Gaine's N. Y. Gazette and Mercury. Disc. Nov. '83. First to use newsboys. At Newark Sept. 21 to Oct. 2, 1776.

1753-?—Pacquet. T. says ran short time; dates indefinite.

1763-?—Pacquet. H. mentions.

Jan. 4, 1776—New York Packet and American Advertiser. (Sam'l Loudon.) H. says "revival of the Pacquet of '63;" published at Fishkill, 1781-83. I. says at Fishkill Oct. 1, 1776 to Aug. '82. C. says in existence, 1835.

Feb. 17, 1759—New York Gazette. (Wm. Weyman) Disc. Dec. 28, 1767. (I. T.)

1761—American Chronicle. (Sam Farley.) Disc. 1762. (T.)

1768—New York Chronicle. (Alex. and Jas. Robertson.) Disc. 1771.

Apr. 22, 1773—Rivington's New York Gazette, or the Connecticut, New Jersey, Hudson's River and Quebec Weekly Advertiser. Destroyed by mob, Nov. 27, 1777; later started as New York Loyal Gazette. (T. L.)
May, 1778 — Royal Gazette. (Jas. Rivington.) Disc. Dec. 31, 1783. H. says Royal Gazetteer started April, 1762, but T. and Lib. of Cong. give '73 date.

Aug. 1775—Constitutional Gazette. (Jo. Anderson.) Ran few months.

1776—Royal American Gazette. (Robertson, Mills & Hicks.) Disc. 1783. I. starts in 1777, and gives A. and J. Robertson as editors.

Sept. 3, 1779—New York Mercury or General Advertiser. (William Lewis.) Disc. 1783.

1782—New York Morning Post, sw. (Morton & Horner.)
1787—New York Morning Post, d (Wm. Morton.) Disc. probably 1789. (I.)

NEW YORK—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

1783—New York Gazetteer and Country Journal. (Shepard Kollock.) Exist. Aug. 9, 1787.

Mar. 1, 1785—New York Daily Advertiser. (Francis Childs & Co.) To Express, 1836.

May 17, 1788—Impartial Gazetteer, and Saturday Evening Post. (Harrison & Purdy.)

Sept. 20, 1788—NewYork Weekly Museum. (Harrison & Purdy.) Exist. 1816. (C.)

1783—Independent Journal, or the General Advertiser. (J. McLean.)

Dec. 29, 1788—New York Daily Gazette. (John and Archibald M'Lean.) Exist. 1828.

April 15, 1789—Gazette of the United States. (John Fenno.) Moved to Philadelphia, Nov. 3, 1790; sold to North American, 1847.

1790 or before—Weekly Museum. (———) Exist. 1816.—C.

Jan. 1790—New York Magazine (Thos. and Jas. Swords.) Disc. 1797.

? ? John Englishman, in Defense of the English Constitution. (Parker & Weyman.) 3 mo. No dates. T.

Poughkeepsie

1785—Journal. The Eagle and News-Telegraph of 1925. C. lists Journal at Poughkeepsie in 1790, as established in New York in 1734 by John Holt. See New York Journal.

Troy

Mar. 20, 1762—American Chronicle. (Sam. Farley.) T. says ran 1761-2.

NORTH CAROLINA

Fayetteville

? ?—Fayetteville Chronicle and North Carolina Gazette. (——) Exist, 1790. (C.)

Aug. 28, 1783—North Carolina Gazette, or Impartial Intelligencer and Weekly Advertiser. (Jas. Davis and Rebt. Keith.) Not in C. as in existence in 1790.

Newbern

Dec. 1755—North Carolina Gazette. (Jay, or James, Davis.) Disc. 1761.

May 27, 1768—North Carolina Gazette. (Revived by Jas. Davis.) Irregular; disc. Nov. 30, 1778.

June 8, 1764—North Carolina Magazine, or Universal Intelligencer. (Jas. Davis.) Pub. "for a time."

NORTH CAROLINA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Jan. 1786—State Gazette of North Carolina. (Hodge & Blanchard.)

Moved to Edenton

1788 — State Gazette of North Carolina. (Hodge & Wills.) In existence, Dec. 3, 1789.

Wilmington

1763—Cape Fear Gazette and Wilmington Advertiser. (Andrew Steuart, or Stewart.) Disc. 1767.

Sept. 1764—North Carolina Gazette and Weekly Post Boy. (Andrew Steuart.) Disc. 1767. Note preceding.

Oct. 13, 1769—Cape Fear Mercury. (Adam Boyd.) Disc. 1775.

PENNSYLVANIA

Carlisle

Aug. 10, 1785—Carlisle Gazette & Western Repository of Knowledge. (Kline & Reynolds.) Disc. 1815.

Chambersburg

Jan. 1, 1790—Franklin Repository. (Geo. K. Harper.) To the present.—I, but C. lists:

June, 1790—Western Advertiser and Chambersburg Weekly. (Wm. Davison.) Franklin Repository in 1900.

Egg Harbour

? ? Minute Intelligencer. No dates available. T. says issued by a "Philadelphia printer."

Germantown

Aug. 20, 1739—Penn. German Recorder of Events. (Christopher Sauer, or Sower.) T. says ran several years. See below.

1744—Zeitung. (C. Sauer Jr.) Probably successor of Recorder. T. says disc. 1748; N. lists in papers of 1775 one at Germantown published by Sauer. C. lists in 1790 Die Germantauner Zeitung, (C. Saur.) est. Aug. 20, 1739; disc. 1809.

Harrisburg

1789—Oracle of Dauphin. (T. Roberts & Co.) Disc. 1832. (C.)

Lancaster

Jan. 1751—English and German paper. (Miller & Holland.) name not given; life uncertain. N. lists for 1775 an English-German paper at Lancaster run by Lahn, Albright & Steiner. (See below.)

Aug. 8, 1787—Neue Unpartheyische Lancaster Zeitung und Anzeigs-Nachrichten. (Steiner, Alberecht & Lahn.) Disc. in 1794.—C. I. says revived in 1797 as Der Deutsche Porcupein.

PENNSYLVANIA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Feb. 4, 1778—Das Pennsylvanische Zeitungs-Blat. (Frantz Bailey.) Disc. June, 1778.—I.

Philadelphia

Dec. 22, 1718—American Weekly Mercury. (Andrew Bradford.) Disc., 1747.

Dec. 24, 1728—Pennsylvania Gazette. (Sam Kiemer.) Disc. 1776. Owned by Ben. Franklin, 1729 to 1765. At Yorktown, Jan to June, 1778.

The full name of Kiemer's paper was "The Universal Instructor in All Arts and Sciences and Pennsylvania Gazette." As to disposition, Hudson says: "Skipped a few issues in 1804, and sold, Nov. 3, 1845, to North American. North: "Suspended, 1824." Lee: "Suspended Oct. 11, 1815, and plant disposed of to Philadelphia printers." John Clyde Oswald, editor of the American Printer, (Jan. 20, 1924): "Suspended Sept. 10, 1777 to Jan. 5, 1779 (British occupation) and sold in 1821 to Sam'l C. Atkinson and Charles Alexander, who changed policy, dress, subscription price and name to Saturday Evening Post. C. says became Saturday Evening Post in 1821. Note: Not in North's list of half century newspapers of 1880.

May 6, 1732—Philadelphische Zeitung. (Ben. Franklin.) Two issues.

Jan. 1741—General Magazine and Historical Chronicle. (Ben. Franklin.) January to June.

Jan. 1741—American Magazine, or Monthly View of the British Colonies. (John Webbe.) Jan. and Feb.

Dec. 2, 1742—Penn.Journal &Weekly Advertiser. (Wm. Bradford.) Became True American in 1797 (C).

May, 1743—High Dutch Penn. Journal. (Jos. Crellius.) Ran several years (T).

Feb. 47-8—Die Zeitung. (Godhart Ambruster.) Disc. 1759. (H) dates Ambruster's paper from 1743; (N) and (T) from 1747-8.

Oct. 1757—American Magazine, revived by a Society of Gentlemen. Three months.

1759—Penny Post. (Benj. Mecum.) Irregular.

Jan. 18, 1762—Der Wochentliche Philadelphische Staatsbote. (Henry Miller.) Disc. 1812 (T). Not in (C).

Mar. 1775—Henrich Miller's Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote. Disc. May 26, 1779.

1763 (?)—Fama. (Anton Ambruster.)—Bi.

1764—Ein Geistliches Magazien. (C. Sauer, Jr.) (B). First religious periodical.

Jan. 6, 1767—Penn. Chronicle and Universal Advertiser. (Wm. Goddard.) Disc. Feb. 1773. I. starts on Jan. 26.

Jan. 1769—American Magazine. (Lewis Nicolle, or Nicola.) Disc. Dec. 1769.—T.

1771—Royal Spiritual Magazine. (John MacGibbons.) Few months only.

PENNSYLVANIA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Oct. 28, 1771—Penn. Pacquet or General Advertiser. (John Dunlap.) C. gives starting date. (T) says started in November.

Moved to Lancaster

Sept. 16, 1777—Penn Pacquet or General Advertiser.

Returned to Philadelphia

June 30, 1778—Penn. Pacquet or General Advertiser.

Sept. 21, 1784—Penn. Packet and Daily Advertiser. (John Dunlap and D. C. Claypool.) First daily. Tri-weekly, 1778-80; semi-weekly, 1780-83; tri-weekly, 1783-84. Became North American, 1840.

Jan. 1775—Penn. Magazine or American Monthly Museum. (Robt. Aitken.) "War ended it."—T.

Jan. 24, 1775—Penn. Evening Post. (Ben. Towne.) Irregular in 1775-6; Exist. Oct. 26, 1784.

Jan. 28, 1775—Penn. Ledger, or the Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New-Jersey Weekly Advertiser. (James Humphreys. Jr.) Disc. May 23, 1778.

Apr. 1775—Penn. Mercury and Universal Advertiser. (Storey & Humphries.) (T.) Disc. Dec. 1775.

Aug. 20, 1784—Penn. Mercury & Universal Advertiser. (Daniel Humphries.) (I.C.) Revival of Mercury of '75. Exist. 1790.

1777—Royal Penn. Gazette. (James Robertson.) Disc. June, 1778.

Jan. 1778—Arminian Magazine, m (Prichard & Hall.) Exist. 1790.

Feb. 3, 1779—Die Pennsylvanische Gazette, ober der Allgemeine Americanishe Zeitung-Schreiber. (John Dunlap.) Probably only one issue. (I.)

Apr. 25, 1781—Freeman's Journal or the North American Intelligencer. (Francis Bailey.) (I.L.) Disc. 1792. (I.) Had banner on surrender of Cornwallis.

April 13, 1782 — Independent Gazeteer, or the Chronicle of Freedom. (Eleazer Oswald.) C. says disc. 1799; I. says daily Oct. 7, 1786, and sold to Jos. Gales' "Gales' Independent Gazetteer" Sept. 16, 1796.

PENNSYLVANIA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

May 21, 1781— Gemeinnutzige Philadelphische Correspondenz. (Melchior Steiner.) 1790 — Neue Philadelphische Correspondenz. Disc. 1810.

Jan. 1, 1785—Penn. Evening Herald and American Monitor. sw. (Carey & Co.) (I.) Susp. 1788, after changes in title.

Mar. 19, 1785—Complete Counting House Companion. (M. Carey & Co.) Supplement to Penn. Evening Herald and American Monitor. (I.) Exist. Jn. 19, 1788

Sept. 1786—Universal Asylum and Columbian Magazine, m. (Matthew Carey, T. Siddons, C. Talbot, W. Spotswood, J. Trenchard.) Disc. Dec. 31, 1792.—C.

Jan. 1787—American Museum, or Universal Magazine. (Matthew Carey.) Disc. Dec. 31, 1792.

Mar. 8, 1788—Federal Gazette & Philadelphia Evening Post, tri-w. (John McCulloch.) Disc. April 24, 1788. (I.) See below.

Mar. 8, 1788—Federal Gazette & Philadelphia Evening Post, tri-w. (J. McCulloch.) Disc. Apr. 24, 1788.

Oct. 1, 1788—Federal Gazette and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser. (Andrew Brown.) To Pennsylvania Gazeztte and Universal Daily Advertiser, 1794; Rolf's Gazette after 1801.

Nov. 27, 1789—Der General-Postbothe und die Deutsch Nation in Amerika. (Melchior Steiner.) I. says prospectus in November, first issue, Jan. 5, 1789. Disc. June or July, 1790.

Oct. 8, 1790—Die Chesnuthiller Wochenschrift. (Saml. Saur.) Exist. 1794. (C.)

Oct. 1790—General Advertiser & Political, Commercial and Literary Journal. (Benj. Franklin Bache.) To Penn. Gazette in 1828. (C.)

1790—Farmers' Weekly Museum C. lists as in existence in 1790, no editor given.

Oct. 1790—Gazette of the United States. (John Fenno.) (From New York.) After 1804, United States Gazette.

PENNSYLVANIA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 179

Pittsburgh

July 29, 1786 — Pittsburgh Gazette. (John Scull & Jos. Hall.) First paper west of Alleghanies. Gazette-Times of 1925.

Reading

Feb. 18, 1789—Neue Unpartheyische Readinger Zeitung und Anzeigs-Nachrichten. (Johnson, Barton & Jungmann.) Disc. 1816.

York

Jan. 7, 1789—Penn. Herald and York General Advertiser. (Jas. Edie, John Edie, and Henry Wilcocks.) Exist. 1799.—C. N. has York Republiccan of 1880 estab. 1789.

RHODE ISLAND

Newport

Sept. 27, 1732—Rhode Island Gazette. (Jas. Franklin.) Disc. May 24, 1733.—T.

June 19, 1758—Newport Mercury. (Jas. Franklin, Jr.) At Attleborough, Mass. during war. Published in 1925. C. starts, Sept. 1758.

Mar. 1, 1787 —Newport Herald. (Peter Edes.) Disc. 1791.

Providence

Oct. 20, 1762—Providence Gazette & Country Journal. (Wm. Goddard.) To Rhode Island American, 1825. One of the first to recognize the importance of Lexington and Concord. Had a scoop on peace treaty, Sept. 3, 1783.

Apr. 1, 1779—American Journal and General Advertiser. (Southwick & Wheeler.) Disc. Aug. 29, 1781

Jan. 1, 1784—United States Chronicle. (Bennett Wheeler.) Disc. 1802.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston

Mar. 4, 1730—South Carolina Weekly Journal. (Eleazer Phillips.) Disc. about Sept. 4, 1730.—L.

Feb. 2, 1734—South Carolina Gazette. (Lewis Timothy.) L. says revival of Journal. Disc. 1773.

Apr. 9, 1777—Gazette of the State of South Carolina. (Peter Timothy.) Exist. Dec. 30, 1784.

Mar. 28, 1785 — State Gazette of South Carolina. (Mrs. Peter Timothy.) I. says became South Carolina State Gazette and Timothy & Mason's Daily Advertiser, 1795; T. says disc. 1792; C. says disc. 1800.

Jan. 8, 1731-2—South Carolina Gazette. (Thos. Whitemarsh.) Dis. Sept. 1733.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

Nov. 1, 1758—South Carolina and American General Gazette. (Robt. Wells.)

Mar. 3, 1781—Royal Gazette. (Robert Wells.) Disc. 1782.

Nov. 1765—South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal. (Chas. Crouch.) Disc. 1775-6; widow took plant to Salem, Mass., 1785.

Feb. 19, 1783—South Carolina Weekly Advertiser. (Elizabeth Boden.) Exist. Apr. 23, 1783.—I.

Mar. 1783 — The City Gazette or Daily Advertiser. (Jno. Miller.) Exist. 1817.—C. L. says South Carolina Weekly Gazette (Nathan Childs) started Feb. 15, 1783, became Charleston Morning Post and General Advertiser, Jan. 18, 1786; later City Gazette and Daily Advertiser.

1789—Columbian Herald, or the Independent Courier of North America. (T. B. Bowen.) Lib. of Cong. has Apr. 30, 1789.

VERMONT

Bennington

June 5, 1783—Vermont Gazette, or Freeman's Depository. (Haswell & Russell.) Disc. 1880.

Westminster

Feb. 12, 1781—Vermont Gazette and Green Mountain Post Boy. (Judah Spooner and Timothy Green.) See below.

Windsor

Aug. 7, 1783 — Vermont Journal. (Geo. Hough and Alden Spooner.) Still published.

VIRGINIA

Alexandria

1787—Virginia Journal & Alexandria Advertiser. (Geo. Richards & Co.) Lib. Cong. has Aug. 30, 1787 to May 29, 1788.

Fredericksburg

1787—Virginia Herald and Fredericksburg Advertiser. (Timothy Green.) Exist, 1836.

Martinsburg

Nov. 1, 1790 —Potomak Guardian and Berkeley Advertiser. (Nathaniel Wills.) Exist. 1896.

Norfolk

T. mentions unnamed paper by John Hunter Holt, published until British occupation.

1774—Virginia Gazette or Norfolk Intelligencer. (Wm. Duncan & Co.) Exist. June 21, 1775.

VIRGINIA—Cont.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

1787 — Norfolk and Portsmouth Journal. (John M'Lean.) Exist. May 6, 1789.

Sept. 9, 1789—Norfolk and Portsmouth Gazette. (Wm. Davidson.) Exist. Oct. 8, 1789.

Aug. 29, 1789—The Norfolk and Portsmouth Chronicle (Prentiss & Baxter.) Exist. 1793.

Petersburg

July, 1786—Virginia Gazette and Petersburg Intelligencer (Miles Hunter and Wm. Prentis.) In existence, 1800.

Richmond

1782—Virginia Gazette, or American Advertiser. (Jas. Hayes.) In existence, Dec. 13, 1786.

1782—Virginia Gazette and Weekly Advertiser. (Thos. Nicholson and Wm. Prentiss.) Exist. July 19, 1794.

Oct. 11, 1786—Virginia Independent Chronicle. (Aug. Davis.)

1790 — Virginia Gazette and General Advertiser. (Aug. Davis.) Disc. 1809.

Williamsburg

Aug. 6, 1736—Virginia Gazette. (Wm. Parks.) Disc. 1750.

Feb. 1751—Virginia Gazette. (Alex. Purdy and John Dixon.)

Moved to Richmond

July 26, 1780—Virginia Gazette and Independent Chronicle. (Dixon & Nicholson.) Exist. 1795.

Feb. 3, 1775—Virginia Gazeztte. (Alex. Purdy.) Disc. 1779.

Oct. 30, 1779—Virginia Gazette. (Jas. Clarkson and Augustine Davis) Exist. Dec. 9, 1780. T. starts on Apr. 1775; for "several years."

May, 1766—Rind's Virginia Gazette. (William Rind.)

1769 (Aug. 3 or earlier)—Virginia Gazette. (Wm. Rind.) Exist. Jan. 20, 1776.

Gazette of 1766 printed a synopsis of the Declaration of Independence July 19, and text in full, July 26.

Winchester

July 11, 1787 — Virginia Gazette and Winchester Advertiser. (Bartgis & Willcocks.) Exist. 1790.

Apr. 2, 1788—Virginia Centinel or Winchester Mercury. (Richard Bowen & Co.) Exist. 1800.

H. mentions a newspaper in Mississippi in 1779, name, place, and editor unknown; no other authorities mention it.

EARLIEST PAPERS IN THE COLONIES.

1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 1750 1760 1770 1780 1790

1704—Boston News-Letter. (John Campbell.) Disc. 1775.

1719—Boston Gazette. (Wm. Brooker.) Disc. 1798.

1719—American Weekly Mercury, Philadelphia. (Andrew Bradford.) Disc. 1747.

1721—New England Courant, Boston. (James Franklin.) Disc. 1726.

1725—New York Gazette. (Wm. Bradford.) Disc. 1772.

1727—Annapolis, Md., Gazette. (Wm. Parks.) Disc. about 1736; revived, 1745, still published.

1728—Pennsylvania Gazette. (Sam Kiemer.) Soon bought by Benjamin Frankklin; now Saturday Evening Post.

1731—South Carolina Gazette. (Thos. Whitemarsh.) Ran year; revived 1732; disc. 1802.

1731—Weekly Rehearsal. (Jeremiah Gridley and Boston Evening Post (Thos. Fleet.) Disc. 1775.

1733—New York Journal. (John Peter Zenger.) Disc. 1751-2.

1734—Boston Weekly Post Boy. (Ellis Huske.) Disc. 1775.

1736—Virginia Gazette. (Wm. Parks.) (Wm. Hunter.) Disc. 1750.

1739—Penn. Recorder, Germantown. (Christopher Sauer.)

THE OLDEST AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS OF 1925.

1727—Annapolis, Md., Capital; Maryland Gazette of 1727.

1728—Saturday Evening Post; Pennsylvania Gazette.

1746—Hartford, Conn., Courant; name unchanged.

1748—Boston Advertiser; Independent Advertiser, 1748.

1766—New Haven, Conn., Journal-Courier; the Connecticut Journal and New Haven Post Boy, 1767.

1771—Philadelphia North American; Pacquet of 1771.

1773—Baltimore, Md., American; Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser of 1733.

1779—Elizabeth, N. J. Journal; dates from New Jersey Journal, at Chatham, 1779.

1784—Alexandria, Va., Gazette,

1785—Augusta, Ga., Chronicle; the Georgia State Gazette or Independent Register, 1786.

1785—Hudson, N. Y., Gazette.

1785—Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Eagle and News-Telegraph; successor of paper moved from New York, a descendant of Zenger's New York Journal.

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