

The San Francisco Chronicle

The *San Francisco Chronicle* was founded in 1865 by two teenagers, Charles and Michael de Young. San Francisco still had muddy streets, men were carrying guns, and the city's population was 60,000...it was the largest city in the West. The young men called their new paper "*The Daily Dramatic Chronicle*", "a daily record of affairs -- local, critical and theatrical." It proved to be a great success.

When the 1906 earthquake hit at 5:13 a.m., April 18, the three morning papers -- the *Morning Call*, the *Examiner* and The *Chronicle* had already finished their press runs. The *Chronicle* tried hard to get out an extra, and some of it was actually set in type ready to go. But, as it turned out, the water mains had broken and there was not enough water to get up steam to turn over the presses. The three papers published a combined edition at the Oakland Tribune. The *Call-Chronicle-Examiner* lasted only a day; each paper went its own way. The *Chronicle* published at the plant of the Oakland Herald and never missed a day.

By 1999, the *Chronicle* had become the 13th largest newspaper in the United States. Today, it's the largest newspaper in Northern California and the second largest on the West Coast, with a daily circulation of 512,129 and a Sunday circulation of 539,563 (ABC Publisher's Statement, September 2002) and has been awarded five Pulitzer Prizes for journalistic excellence.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* was acquired by the Hearst Corporation on July 27, 2000, and is now one of 12 daily newspapers published by Hearst Newspapers, an operating group of the Hearst Corporation. One of the nation's largest diversified communications companies, the Hearst Corporation's major interests include magazine, newspaper and business publishing, cable networks, television and radio broadcasting, Internet businesses, television production and distribution, newspaper features distribution and real estate.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* employs more than 3,000 people, including an editorial staff of over 500 reporters. The majority of *Chronicle* employees work at 901 Mission Street in San Francisco. The newspaper also has satellite plants in San Francisco, Richmond and Union City, which operate primarily as production and distribution sites with large pressrooms, production mailrooms and transportation operations.

In addition, the *San Francisco Chronicle* has sales, circulation and editorial offices throughout the Bay Area. In order to provide optimal service to advertisers and subscribers, the San Francisco *Chronicle* operates branch offices in Emeryville, Corte Madera, Concord, Rohnert Park, San Mateo, Oakland and Mountain View.

[<http://www.sfchron.com/about/index.php>]

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/1999/06/16/noltehistory.DTL>]

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