

San Francisco Chronicle (1865–1922)

Chronicling Western expansion, growth, and immigration

NOT EARTHQUAKES, NOT FIRES, not even the murder of one of its owners by a minister could stop the independent and often irreverent presses of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Founded by two teenage brothers in 1865 when the West was still wild, this newspaper lets researchers travel back in time to experience the completion of the transcontinental railroad, the Klondike gold rush, the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906, America's entry into World War I, and many other events that shaped both the City by the Bay and the United States.

During its first five decades, the *San Francisco Chronicle* presented issues from a young, Northwestern perspective, giving researchers a window through which to study westward expansion, Chinese immigration, machine politics, urban planning, war, public policy, and more.

Mark Twain, Bret Harte, Jack London, and Rex Beach are among the writers who contributed to the *San Francisco Chronicle's* pages — some without benefit of a byline — during the early years. To trace San Francisco's history from a muddy frontier town full of pistol-packing pioneers and corrupt politicians, through its entry into the Roaring '20s, start here.

Curriculum Focus

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Why the *San Francisco Chronicle*?

- **Full access to this historical newspaper:** Users can study the progression of issues over time by browsing full runs of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which offers coverage of 1865–1922, including news articles, photos, advertisements, classified ads, obituaries, cartoons, and more.
- **Insight into multiple perspectives:** Not only does presenting this newspaper on the ProQuest platform allow for cover-to-cover searching and browsing of complete issues of this newspaper, but users can find a broader view of issues and events by cross searching all of ProQuest's complete runs of historical newspapers.
- **User-friendly support tools to facilitate research:** Digitized at the page level, users can focus on relevant information quickly with hit-term highlighting, searchable PDFs, and image downloads in PDF format.
- **Award-winning, user-friendly interface:** ProQuest was awarded Best Interface in the 2015 *Charleston Advisor* Reader's Choice Awards: "It is much more intuitive and easy to use than previous versions. It includes improved document viewing, easier navigation...Kudos to ProQuest."



April 21, 1906: The 1906 San Francisco earthquake struck the coast of Northern California with an estimated moment magnitude of 7.9.

October 29, 1918: During the Spanish Flu, those who refused to wear masks were called "mask slackers" and were arrested/fined for not wearing masks.

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