

HISTORIA VITAE

SERI PENGETAHUAN DAN PENGAJARAN SEJARAH

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ISTORIA VITA

REKAM MEDIS DAN KEMAJUAN KEMAJUAN

Rekam medis adalah catatan tertulis yang menggambarkan riwayat kesehatan dan perkembangan kesehatan seseorang yang digunakan oleh tenaga kesehatan untuk memberikan pelayanan kesehatan yang optimal dan efisien.

Rekam medis memiliki fungsi yang sangat penting dalam pelayanan kesehatan, yaitu sebagai alat komunikasi antara tenaga kesehatan, alat untuk memantau perkembangan kesehatan pasien, alat untuk penelitian kesehatan, alat untuk pendidikan tenaga kesehatan, dan alat untuk manajemen kesehatan.

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REKAMISTRIK AHLI

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REKAMISTRIK PELAKUKA

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**THE NEW EVENING POST, OCTOBER 2, 1749 MAY 7, 1750:
A STUDY IN AN EIGHTEENTH
CENTURY AMERICAN NEWSPAPER**

Fx. Baskara T. Wardaya, S.J.

The New York Evening Post, published in New York between 1744 and 1752, was one of the first papers published in the British North American colonies. The type of news it reported, the apportionment of space to foreign and domestic news, as well as for advertisement and other features reflected various aspects of life in the colonies.

This paper is an attempt to study how to a certain degree the news and journalistic style of *The Post* were a reflection the 18th - century life in America. The fact that most of the news published in the paper were several months old and were reprints from European newspapers suggests the simplicity of the period's means of mass communication. It also suggests that Europe was still very central to the life of many people in the colonies. This paper is based on a study of 26 weekly issues of the paper from Monday, October 2, 1749, to May 7, 1750, inclusive. The November 6 and 13 issues and the four December, 1749, issues were unavailable for this study.¹

The New York Evening Post was published by Henry De Foreest, a printer who lived and worked on Wall Street, in New York. Sources on De Foreest's personal background, however, are very limited. Documentation on his life is very rare, while the available description about him are usually very short and obscure, suggesting that he was probably not a very prominent publisher in his time. Isaiah Thomas LL.D., author of *The History of Printing in America*, for instance, only gave a very brief description on De Foreest's background. He wrote,

Henry De Foreest was born in New York, and served his apprenticeship with either [William] Bradford or [John] Zenger, probably with the latter. I can learn but little respecting him. In 1746, he published a newspaper, *The New York Evening Post*. I cannot ascertain how long before or after 1746, this paper was published. But

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1 Issues under study for this paper are issues published in October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 1749; November 20, 27, 1749; January 1, 8, 48, 22, 29, 1750; February 5, 12, 19, 26, 1750; March 5, 12, 19, 59, 1750; April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 1750; May 7, 1750.

De Foreest was not many years in business. He printed several pamphlets, which I have seen advertised for sale by him in Zenger's *Journal*; also, *The Whole Book of Forms, and the Liturgy of the Dutch Reformed Church*, etc., an octavo volume of 216 pages.²

Charles R. Hildeburn, who wrote *Printers and Printing in New York*, gave a better description on De Foreest's background. Hildeburn described that De Foreest, who was

New York's first native printer, was born in 1712, and baptized at the Dutch Church November 2 of that year. His father, Barent De Foreest, was a son Hendrick De Foreest, who was a son of Isaac De Foreest, a native of Leyden who settled in New York about 1637. He was apprenticed to Bradford at an early age, served this time, and was admitted a freeman of New York City November 12, 1734. On the 24th of the following month he married Susannah, daughter of Benjamin Bill and widow of William Golding.³

With regard to De Foreest's career as a printer, Hildeburn reported that [De Foreest] remained with Bradford for some years after the expiration of his time, and about 1742 became a partner in the "New York Gazette." Towards the end of 1744 he acquired Bradford's interest in this paper, and on October 26 of that year changed its name and time of issue to the "New York Evening Post" ...⁴

De Foreest, who died sometime before August 1766,⁵ was one of the first newspaper publishers in the British North American colony. According to Thomas, *The New York Evening Post* which he published was the second evening paper in America, the first being *The Boston Evening Post* and the third being *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*.⁶ In New York, Thomas contended, the paper was the fourth newspaper being published in the city. In Hildeburn's opinion, however, De Foreest's paper was "the first afternoon paper published in America."⁷ Hildeburn believed that "the paper was unusually well printed and fairly edited," although it "was not

2 Isaiah Thomas LL.D., *The History of Printing in America* (New York: Weathervane Books, edited from the Second Edition by Marcus A. Mc Corison, 1970), 471.

3 Charles R. Hildeburn, *Sketches of Printers and Printing I Colonial New York* (New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1895), 55-57.

4 Hildeburn, 57.

5 Hildeburn, 58.

6 Thomas, 440.

7 Hildeburn, 57.

a success."⁸

Despite the different opinions on the paper's place in relations with other papers in the colonies, it was clear that *The Post* was published every Monday. Each issue comprised of four pages. The paper's first issue was published on Monday, November 1744, and came out at least until December 18, 1752.⁹

In his paper, De Foreest put great emphasis on foreign news. In a typical issue, foreign news was given about 60% of the paper's space, while advertisement and domestic news were given 30% and 10%, respectively. The emphasis on foreign news, mostly from Europe, was very obvious almost in every issue. The January 15, 1750, issue, for instance, reported foreign news without a single domestic item of news, except for the names of incoming and outgoing ships in the New York harbor. Despite the fact that the paper was published in New York, most of the domestic news came from other colonies, such as Boston, in Massachusetts, and Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania. There was very little news about New York itself.

Occasionally the paper published business news. This news, however, was often very limited in quantity, and mostly from Europe. Domestic business news was usually only about incoming and outgoing ships in the colonies' harbors, along with the cargo that each ship carried with it.

As previously noted, advertisement occupied almost 30% of each issue's space. There were various items being offered, such as books, farmlands, window glass, and wooden boats. Occasionally, slaves were advertised, indicating the legality of slave trade in this period. An advertisement on April 2, 1750, for instance, announced: "To be sold a likely Negro Wench, who can do most Sorts of Household Work, and is a

8 Hildeburn, 57. After 1752 De Foreest's *New York Evening Post* was discontinued for unknown reasons. In 1800 a paper with similar name, *Evening Post*, was published in New York by William Coleman (1766-1829). With regard to De Foreest's quality a publisher, Thomas argued that "if we may judge of the editorial abilities, and the correctness of the printer, by the following extract from the *Evening Post* of October 13, 1746, we shall not be led to rank him with the editor of the present *New York Evening Post*, who is one of the most able and celebrated conductors of a public journal in the United States." Thomas, 495.

9 In the microfilm of *The Post* produced by Readex Film Products, the earliest recorded issue was the December 17, 1744, issue. This issue, however, was number four edition. See *New York Evening Post*, December 17, 1744. The Marquette University Library on-line catalog, where this study was conducted, states that the paper's first issue was published on November 26, 1744.

very good Cook; any Person inclining to purchase the said Wench may apply to the printer for further Information."¹⁰

Advertisements did not change with every issue. Sometimes one se was republished in several issues. On that appeared in the October 2, 1749, issue for instance, was identically republished in the October 9, October 16, October 23, and October 30 issues.¹¹ A set of advertisements which appeared in the January 1, 1750, issue reappeared in issues of subsequent weeks until March 5, 1750. Some advertisements were even continued until April 9, 1750.¹²

The news reported covered a variety of topics, such as politics, economy, religion, crime, and others. The report on each set of news, however, was usually very short. A typical news item often took only one or two paragraphs of a column. In addition, most of the news was again reprints from other papers. Only rarely did *The Post* publish original news. Throughout the issues under study, only one had a letter originally intended for publication in *The Post*. This was a letter addressed to De Foreest regarding the writer's objection to the existence of the Free Mason secret society in America, and published on the paper's February 5, 1750, issue.¹³

Difference of opinion was not very evident in *The Post*. Most of the issues were dominated by news and advertisements which did not reflect difference of opinion. Only occasionally were there letters to the editor which contained a person's position on a certain issue, such as the one against the Free Mason society noted above.¹⁴

News on Europe's social, economic, and political issues dominated the paper. As previously noted, there was more news about Europe than about the colonies. Among European countries, England was obviously the main source of news. The paper often published matters concerning British internal affairs. The March 19, 1750, issue, for instance, published the letter of November 18, 1749, from the House of Commons to the King, and the King's response to the letter, both republished in full.¹⁵ The same

10 April 2, 1750, p. 4.

11 See *The New York Evening Post*, October 2, 1749, p. 4; October 9, 1749, p. 4; October 16, 1749, p. 4; October 23, 1749, p. 4; October 30, 1749, p. 4.

12 See *The New York Evening Post*, January 1, 1750, p. 4; January 8, 1750, p. 4; January 15, 1750, p. 4; January 22, 1750, p. 4; January 29, 1750, p. 4; February 5, 1750, p. 4; February 12, 1750, p. 4; February 19, 1750, p. 4; February 26, 1750, p. 4; March 5, 1750, p. 4.

13 February 5, 1750, p. 1.

14 February 5, 1750, p. 1.

15 March 19, 1750, p. 1.

issue also published an address which was presented to the King on November 17, 1749, and the King's response to the address.¹⁶ News about the death of Princess Christiana who was born Duchess of Mecklenbourg was reported on the October 30, 1749, issue.¹⁷

The paper also published news items on European economic issues. The April 2, 1750, issue, for instance, republished an excerpt of a letter from Dean Swift's third volumes of *Miscellanies*, containing "An infallible SCHEME to pay the public Debt of Ireland in Six Months." In the article the writer (whose name was not revealed) suggested that the British government should increase national revenue by "arising from the Tax on our Vices," such as taxes on perjury, fornication, drunkenness, swearing and slander.¹⁸ The letter took almost 70% of the issue's space. In October 16, 1749, it published news on compromising taxes in the Hague, Netherlands.¹⁹

A plan to start a fishery project in Scotland, which cost 5,000 Pound Sterling was reported in the October 16, 1749 issue.²⁰ The October 30, 1759, issue published news on the arrival of a Spanish ship from Algiers.²¹ The same issue reported news about a plan to find the remaining Moors in Spain and to transport them to work in America.²² An item from Vienna (August 26, 1749) reported the failure to drive away a great number of locusts which destroyed crops in Germany.²³

He October 2, 1749, issue reported an item from Madrid, Spain, dated July 9, 1749, that "His Catholic Majesty [of Spain] being determined to put and End to the illicit Trade carried on in America has sent the strictest Orders for that purpose to his Governors..."²⁴ The March 19, 1750, edition published "RULES proper to be observed in RADE" in which one of the rules was "the golden rule of *doing as you would be done unto*."²⁵

News and articles on public morality were given a fair amount of prominence in *The Post*. On Monday, November 27, 1749, for instance the paper republished a story on such a topic from *The London Magazine* of August 1749. Using a character by the name of Volpone, the story was intended to discourage people from deceiving others: "Of all evils that

16 March 19, 1750, p. 1-2.

17 October 30, 1749, p. 2.

18 April 2, 1750, p. 1-2.

19 October 16, 1749, p. 1.

20 October, 16, 1749, p. 2.

21 October 30, 1749, p. 1.

22 October 30, 1749, p. 1.

23 November 20, 1749, p. 1.

24 October 2, 1749, p. 1.

25 March 9, 1750, p. 2.

disturb and interrupt the peace of civil society, there is scarce any one comparable to a public cheat and impostor."²⁶

An article published on October 2, 1749, issue discussed the importance of honor and virtue in life. It stated that

true Honour is the Applause of right reason, which always attends virtue, As the Shade attends the Substance, and is inseparable from it. True honour, like the Sun's Light, is Virtue's Examination, which though not always seen, yet always shines. Virtue is the Child of right reason, as Vice is that of Folly; and, tho' any nation should be so far plunged in Sensuality and Corruption, as to dispise Virtue, and pay all outwar Honours to Vice, yet such nation would thereby only dishonor itself; for Virtue will always have its intrinsick Honour, nor does the Swine's not esteeming the Pearl, diminish at all its real Value; from hence it appears that Darkness may sooner proceed from the Sun, than true Honour from any vicious Action.²⁷

On January 8, 1750, the paper republished a letter to the editor which was taken from *The London Gazette*, of September 2, 1749. The writer, who used a pseudonym "Britannicus," emphasized the role of vice and virtue in the rise and fall of nation. His letter occupied almost the entire first page of the issue, or almost a quarter of the whole paper. In the same issue the paper republished an extensive composition criticizing the practice of gambling in society, "An Essay on Gaming." The essay, which did not include the name of the writer, declared that

a gaming table is the school of iniquity, where all the vices of the age are taught and practiced, the temple of Lucifer, in which immortality and profaneness (*sic*), drunkenness and debauchery, cheating and lying, rabine and murder, have their place of residence; nor can any man enter, without great danger of infection: But, what is still worse, the distemper is of such a malignant nature, that whoever has the misfortune to catch it, remains incurable; for there is not one in a thousand that ever recover. Age and experience, Time and reflection, have in some cases reformed numbers, and turn'd them aside from their favorite vices.²⁸

The October 16, 1749, issue republished an article from a British magazine, *The Gentleman's Magazine*, about the lack of morality in society. It declared that "the scandalous connivance at brothel houses, and the "

²⁶ November 27, 1749, p. 1.

²⁷ October 2, 1749, p. 1.

²⁸ January 8, 1750, p. 2.

methods used to furnish them with fresh supplies of women is too shocking to be mentioned! It is high time for reformation."²⁹

The Post often reported news on European social issues. On October 16, 1749, for instance, it published news from Hamburg about a riot in the town of Altena, which was caused by a conflict between "a Jew and a Journeyman Taylor."³⁰ The same issue reported a flood in Rome caused by heavy rain.³¹ On August 11, 1749, came the news that four alleged "conspirators" were executed in public rather sadistically in Malta. The four had been "carried through the principal Streets of the Town, where they were pinched with red hot Pincers, and had boiled Pitch poured into the Wounds, they were afterwards strangled, and their Bodies burnt."³² On August 18, 1749, it was reported that a Jew and a Grecian were executed in Malta for involving in a "conspiracy" and for "seducing slaves." The two died shortly after being "put into sacks and thrown into the sea."³³

Religious news often appeared in *The Post*. The October 30, 1749, issue, for instance, reported the persecution of the Christians in the Empire of China.³⁴ It also published news from Rome about the Pope prohibiting activities which he thought might profane the Holy year, such as "opera, comedy, or other theatrical piece."³⁵ The issue reported that "as these are some of the principle entertainment of the noblesse, several cities have made representation upon this subject, intreating the pope at least to permit the exhibiting of spiritual piece; but his holiness persists in an absolute prohibition."³⁶ Occasionally there were remarks which reflected an anti-Catholic sentiment, such as speaking of the "Popish clergy."³⁷

Despite the fact that the paper frequently published articles on public morality, including a criticism on gambling, it often published news and advertisement on lottery. The January 1, 1750, issue, for instance, published an advertisement on "The Scheme of a Lottery in Woodbridge, in the county of Middlesex" which appeared in every single issue, until March 5, 1750.³⁸

29 October 16, 1749, p. 2.

30 October 16, 1749, p. 2.

31 October 16, 1749, p. 1.

32 November 20, 1749, p. 1.

33 November 27, 1749, p. 2.

34 October 30, 1749, p. 2.

35 May 7, 1750, p. 2.

36 May 7, 1750, p. 2.

37 April 2, 1750, p. 1.

38 See the paper's editions of January 1, 8, 22, 29, 1750; February 5, 12, 19, 26, 1750; March 5, 1750.

Philadelphia. No wonder that among the news printed only 10% was domestic, compared to the 60% of foreign news.

Third, with regard to the source of news, it is not clear whether De Foreest had his own journalists. Since most of the news were reprints from other papers one is inclined to refer that De Foreest did not have his own journalists. Besides, except De Foreest's own name, there was no mention of other staff members' names in *The Post*. This probably indicated that De Foreest was probably more a printer than a newspaper editor. He reprinted in his paper whatever material available from other papers. His main concern must have been to attract advertisers in his paper, rather than to offer fresh news to his readers.

In comparison to *The Post*, modern newspapers are very different. The two and a half centuries since its publication have brought great changes in the newspaper publication in America. The mid-Eighteenth-century paper was much simpler compared to today's papers, such as *The New York Times*. While *The Post* was dominated by foreign news, *The Times* is full of domestic news. *The Times* issue of November 28, 1996, for instance, only had less than 20% of its space which was dedicated for foreign news.⁵⁰ Europe is no longer the only source of foreign news. The same issue of *The Times* present source of news such as Zaire, Indonesia, Mexico, and Korea.

Clearly today's newspapers use superior mass communication technologies. Most of the news today reaches the readers by the following day. The news about the meeting between China's president Jiang Zemin with India's Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda which occurred in November 29, 1996, for instance, reached the readers of *The Times* on the following morning.⁵¹ In addition to the paper's edition, which on published daily not weekly as in the case of *The Post* *The Times* also provides a computerized on-line service on the World Wide Web, which is updated several times each day.

Unlike *The Post*, *The Times* has its own numerous journalists who are assigned to gather news from different parts of the world. On the editorial page there is a list of names, not only of the publisher, but also of the other principal staff members of the paper.⁵² This of course does not include the names of numerous journalists and many other people who work for the paper. Further, each issue of *The Post* comprised only of four pages. *The Times* has over fifty. The December 3, 1996, issue of *The Times*, for

⁵⁰ *The New York Times*, November 28, 1996.

⁵¹ *The New York Times*, November 30, 1996, p. 1.

⁵² See for instance on *The New York Times*, November 30, 1996, p. 18.

instance, had 20 pages in the main section, 16 pages of "the Living Arts" section, and 16 pages of the "Business Today" section. *The Times* also publishes many more news topics than *The Post* ever did. *The Times* publishes not only social and political news, but also news on arts, mink farms, fashion, sports events, weather, entertainment information, and others. In *The Times* much of the news and advertisement are accompanied by pictures something that *The Post* did not have. Needless to say, just as the simplicity of *The Post* reflected certain aspects of life in the mid-eighteenth-century America, the complexity of *The Times'* publication reflects the complexity of life in the late twentieth-century America.

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