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From: Morning Media
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Subject: Morning Media: Nancy Gibbs steps down -- Is tech ready to be regulated? -- Clinton's media postmortem

By Alex Weprin | 09/13/2017 05:38 AM EDT

'TIME' TURNOVER AS NANCY GIBBS STEPS DOWN: Nancy Gibbs is stepping down as editor-in-chief of Time magazine, after 32 years at the magazine, including four years leading it as editor. According to a statement from Time Inc., Gibbs will remain with the company through the end of 2017 as editorial director of the company's news group, a position she has held since last year. Gibbs, who is the first woman to have held the editor-in-chief role at Time, started at the magazine as a fact-checker in 1985. She who would go on to become a writer, before moving to management positions.

-No successor was named, but in an email sent to Time staff on Tuesday, Time Inc. CEO Rich Battista and Time Inc. chief content officer Alan Murray wrote: "Nancy is one of a kind and cannot be replicated. But we plan to move quickly to name a new editor-in-chief. Nancy has built not only a remarkable legacy but also a remarkable news organization, and we are determined to maintain its power and relevance in the years ahead."

-Gibbs gave an exit interview to Vanity Fair's Joe Pompeo. She told Joe that the decision to step down was hers, and that she hopes to contribute to Time in the future as a writer. As for what she will do next: "I've been thinking, are there places I could go and things I could do to address the challenges that are facing us as a country?"

CLOCK TICKS ON REGULATING TECH: It may be beginning to dawn on large technology companies that government regulation of some sort looms. With Facebook and Twitter acknowledging that firms with ties to Russia used their platforms to reach and influence voters, and tech companies disrupting and acquiring other businesses at a rapid pace, there is a general feeling in D.C. that something must be done about it. My colleague Nancy Scola notes that people on both sides of the ideological spectrum support some sort of change. "The free ride Silicon Valley has benefited from is finally coming to an end, and I see that on both sides of the political spectrum," said John Simpson, privacy project director at Washington-based Consumer Watchdog.

-BuzzFeed News editor-in-chief Ben Smith also does a good job explaining the problem: "The new spotlight on these companies doesn't come out of nowhere. They sit, substantively, at the heart of the biggest and most pressing issues facing the United States, and often stand on the less popular side of those: automation and inequality, trust in public life, privacy and security. They make the case that growth and transformation are public goods - but the public may not agree."

-Or, consider these comments made by CNN president Jeff Zucker at a dinner hosted by Credit Suisse in Toronto on Monday night. Zucker was interviewed by Tina Brown as part of her Women in the World Toronto Summit. "I think that Facebook has not been forthcoming in the

role that they played in the election and I think that their feet need to be held to the fire way more. I think it is outrageous that Facebook will not be more transparent about the advertising they took from Russia, and show those ads and release more information. The fact that they tried to bury that story in August when Congress was out of session is outrageous. ... I really do want to emphasize that Facebook's behavior in the election has NOT been transparent and this is a huge issue. I urge more folks to hold them to account."

-In some cases, it sounds as though tech is trying to get ahead of potential problems .

According to comments made by News Corp. CEO Robert Thompson at the Goldman Sachs Communacopia conference Tuesday, Google may be reconsidering its "first click free" policy which prioritizes content in front of a paywall in its search results. "Google has been involved in serious negotiations with us about the future of content, about our relationship with them directly, but more importantly, I think Sundar Pichai deserves a lot of credit for taking a different approach. Because it's not just us...when you look at fake news, when you look at false metrics, when you look at faux advertising, something has to change, both from a commercial perspective, content perspective but also from a social perspective," Thompson said. "I've probably been more critical in public of Google than any person, and I want to praise Sundar for heading in the right direction. There's a lot more to negotiate, there's a long way to go, but their willingness to end "first click free" should be celebrated by all publishers

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HURRICANE IRMA'S CNN BOOST: BuzzFeed News' Steven Perlberg [notes how coverage](#) of Hurricane Irma has reversed a ratings and relevance slide that had affected CNN in recent months, as more viewers turned to competitors MSNBC and Fox News for political programming. "It hasn't taken all the heat off of us, but it's definitely helped dial back the 'fake news' rhetoric from our critics," said one CNN reporter. "This is what we do," said CNN Executive Vice President Andrew Morse, who runs the network's news gathering as well as the digital business. "When something important happens in the world, people tune to CNN."

-In other Irma news, The Miami Herald [notes how](#) Florida Governor Rick Scott's tight control of information has taken on new meaning in the aftermath of the hurricane. The Trace meanwhile, [tracks how news outlets](#) that should know better, such as the BBC, spread false news about a Facebook rumor "encouraging" people to shoot their guns at the hurricane.

THE SCARAMUCCI POST? The former White House communications director shared some [new social media accounts](#) Tuesday night for something called "The Scaramucci Post." What is it? Is "The Mooch" trying to make a media play? Well, that isn't entirely clear. Scaramucci registered www.scaramuccipost.com on Aug. 22, but right now there is nothing on the site. www.thescaramuccipost.com was registered yesterday. Scaramucci is no stranger to media, having appeared for years on CNBC, Fox Business and the cable news channels. For now, we may have to wait and see what he has up his sleeves.

CLINTON'S MEDIA POSTMORTEM: There are a number of common threads that have come up in former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's book tour. One of them: The media does not realize or accept the role it played helping to elect Donald Trump. Consider the comments Clinton made on the Pod Save America [podcast](#) : "The other side has dedicated propaganda channels, that's what I call Fox News. It has outlets like Breitbart and crazy InfoWars. In this particular election, it was aided and abetted by the Russians and the role Facebook and other platforms played. We did not understand how a reality TV campaign would so dominate the media environment."

FOX-SKY DEAL IN JEOPARDY? 21st Century Fox's deal to buy the shares of U.K. telecom giant Sky has hit a speed bump, as U.K. regulators seek a full review of the deal. While Variety [spoke to](#) analysts that suggest the review may not be enough to derail the deal, it will certainly delay it, and risks undoing it. Bloomberg Gadfly's Chris Hughes [puts the odds](#) at 50-50. Here's how Fox [responded](#) to the news.

-The [letter from OfCom](#) is worth looking at, in part because it analyzes Fox News programming, which opponents of the deal said proved that it would not be good for consumers. OfCom stressed that none of the 10 Fox News segments cited warranted further investigation. In addition to noting that Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity and Fox & Friends are not news programs, and thus not subject to the same scrutiny news programs are, OfCom also addresses FoxNews.com's handling of the since-retracted story about DNC staffer Seth Rich.

"While Ofcom has no jurisdiction over online articles, we generally take retractions to be indicative of a commitment to accuracy and to proper behaviour, rather than the converse," OfCom wrote. "However in essence Mr Wheeler's complaint is more than that a mistake was made in reporting. He suggests that Fox News knowingly faked a news story for political purposes. If true, this would clearly be of relevance to the degree of public concern arising from a plurality issue. Whether it might also be of relevance to commitment to broadcasting standards would depend on a number of factors, including in particular the degree (if any) of knowledge and culpability within Fox News beyond the journalist concerned. If evidence of wider wrongdoing were to emerge at some future date it may be significant."

REVOLVING DOOR:

-It's official: Hope Hicks [is now](#) White House communications director, dropping the "interim" from her current title.

-Meanwhile, Mercedes Schlapp is joining the White House communications team, which means, as Jeremy Barr [notes](#), that her Fox News contributor deal will end.

-Nina Garcia has been named editor-in-chief of Elle magazine. Garcia had been creative director of Marie Claire since 2012. She succeeds Robbie Myers, who had been at the helm of Elle since 2000.

-A number of key [personnel changes](#) at The New York Times: Alex MacCallum has been named head of new products and ventures, which will include crosswords, cooking, and other

opportunities that are slightly outside the Times' core digital experience. She had been assistant managing editor for video. Alex Rainert has been named head of product and design. Matthew Ericson and Ben French are also joining that team.

EXTRAS:

-New York Times reporters Maggie Haberman and Glenn Thrush have inked a book deal with Random House. The topic? President Trump, of course. Random House editor-in-chief Andy Ward told Joe Pompeo: "This is the story of our time and I think they're well-positioned to write it."

-ESPN reporter Jemele Hill found herself in hot water after calling President Trump a "white supremacist" on Twitter. ESPN had to release a statement saying, "The comments on Twitter from Jemele Hill regarding the President do not represent the position of ESPN. ... We have addressed this with Jemele and she recognizes her actions were inappropriate."

-HBO has renewed "Last Week Tonight" with John Oliver for three more seasons, keeping it on the channel through 2020. Each season will have 30 episodes.

-Bloomberg and Twitter will livestream Bloomberg's Global Business Forum on Sept. 20. Justin Trudeau, Emmanuel Macron, Recep Erdogan and Sergey Lavrov will be among those appearing. It will be the second event Bloomberg livestreamed on Twitter this year, following coverage of James Comey's testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee.

-Here's what Amazon has in store for its "Thursday Night Football" games.

-On the topic of Amazon, there's this news about the news from Recode's Peter Kafka. "Why did three sites pass on a story about an Amazon exec before it landed at The Information?"

-Two pieces of news from OZY Media: the first is a redesigned homepage. The second is the launch of a new podcast series, "The Thread."

-When Hulk Hogan is profiled for Harvey Levin's Fox News show "OBJECTified," he plans to show off a legal notepad he doodled on during the Gawker trial.

To view online:

<http://www.politico.com/media/tipsheets/morning-media/2017/09/13/nancy-gibbs-steps-down-is-tech-ready-to-be-regulated-clintons-media-postmortem-001347>

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