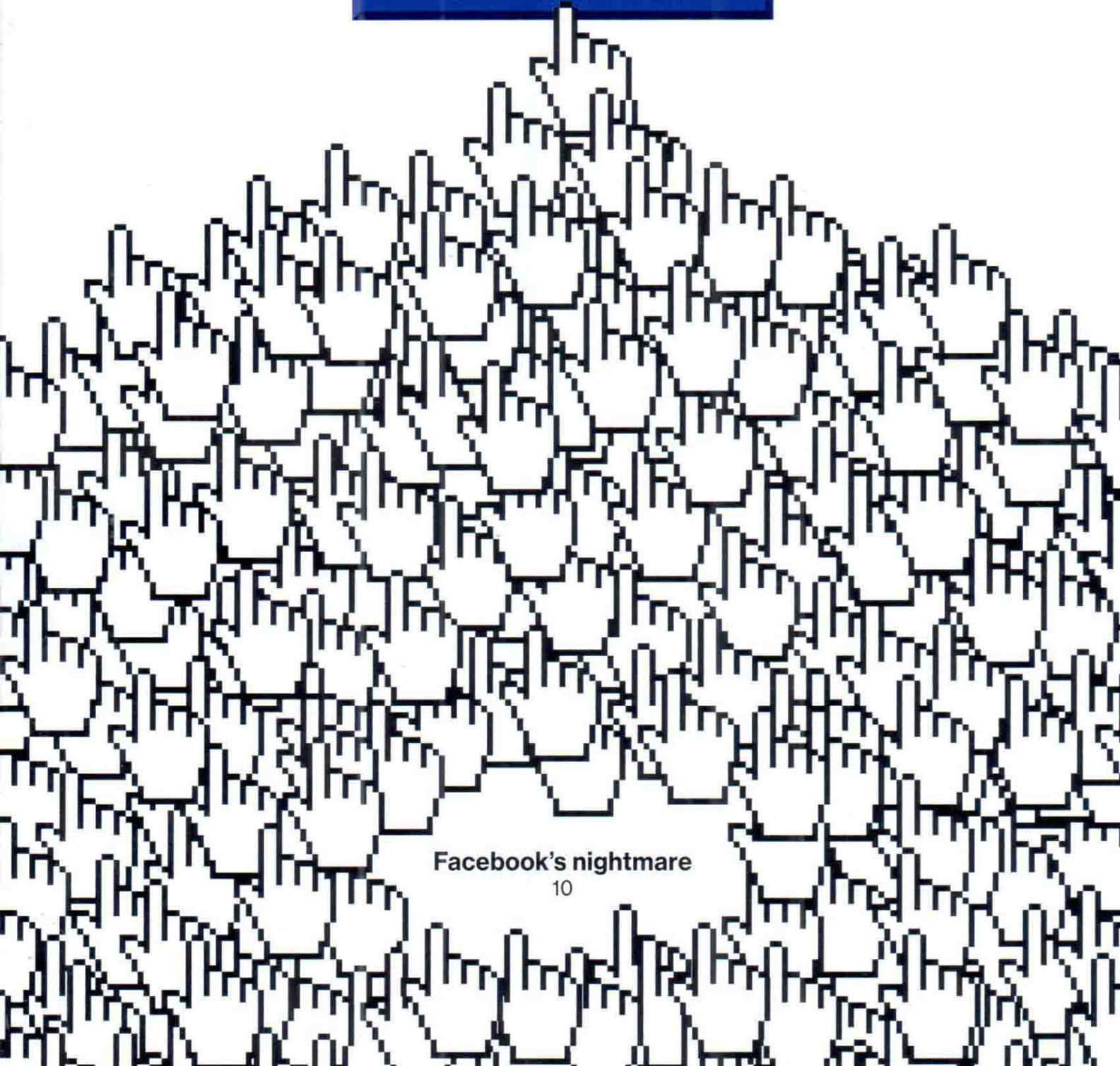


Bloomberg Businessweek

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Delete My Account



Facebook's nightmare

10

■ IN BRIEF

8 ● BofA whistleblowers make bank ● Aramco may go for a smaller IPO ● Bayer-Monsanto gets the EU OK

■ REMARKS

10 **We need an agency to clean up toxic data spills**

■ VIEW

12 It's time to call out the idea of arming teachers for the cynical threat to kids' safety that it is

1 BUSINESS

15 Spotify remade the music biz and nabbed 70 million paying subscribers. But can it make a profit?

19 The king of streaming music sees itself as the next Netflix. It's not

2 TECHNOLOGY

20 Facebook's 2 billion users are no longer in a forgiving mood

21 A father-daughter startup digs deep into nuclear waste

24 America's first solar-powered city slowly rises in the Sunshine State

3 FINANCE

27 Jes Staley has big ambitions for Barclays—and not much time

29 Insider trading is rampant in Mexico's stock market. Enforcement, less so

30 If only guitar maker Gibson could shred its crushing debt load

4 ECONOMICS

32 The Fed may not know much about inflation after all

34 China's new central banker will wield tremendous economic power—but he'll do it with a shorter leash

5 POLITICS

37 Ex-con and former coal baron Don Blankenship wants Joe Manchin's Senate seat

39 Lobbyists quietly plan to insert a Big Business wish list into a Nafta rewrite

41 Russian oligarchs battle over a Siberian metals company

+ SOLUTIONS/ DATA PROTECTION

42 The EU's new data privacy rules carry a hefty price tag for global companies

44 The Austrian activist who took on Facebook may soon be coming after your company

45 Are the new EU regulations a roadblock for your blockchain business?

FEATURES

46 Why is Huawei so scary?

50 "I've forgotten and forgiven": Prince Alwaleed on his detention

56 The nursing-home operator who wants to save Minnesota mining



PURSUIITS



63 Can dance companies outlive their founders?

67 American cocktail drinkers get bitter

68 Add some new zing to your old bling



70 The Critic: It's getting easier to shop for flights. And airlines aren't happy about it

71 The One: Arccos 360 golf swing tracker

72 Game Changer: Thelma Golden, art curator, artist advocate

Correction: "Washington's Most Controversial Restaurant" (Pursuits, March 19, 2018) stated that almost 70 percent of Washington's population voted for Hillary Clinton in 2016; in fact, more than 90 percent did.

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15 Taylor Swift



20 Mark Zuckerberg



30 B.B. King



63 Martha Graham



Cover: Illustration by 731



Asia

● Billionaire James Packer stepped down as director of the Crown Resorts



casino empire, citing mental health issues. Packer, who

owns 47 percent of the company, recently led its exit from Macau and the U.S. to focus on Australia.

● With surging oil prices relieving pressure on its budget, Saudi Arabia scaled back its ambitions for Aramco's 2019 initial public offering.

It will offer shares only on the Saudi stock exchange.

Americas

● Mark Anthony Conditt, the man thought to be responsible for the string of deadly explosions that terrorized Austin, blew himself up as police closed in on his vehicle. Investigators are still looking for a motive.

● The Securities and Exchange Commission said it would pay three whistleblowers a record

\$83m

for reporting malfeasance at Bank of America. The payout is tied to a \$415 million settlement the bank agreed to in 2016.

● China began merging its state media platforms into a single propaganda machine, the Voice of China. With a combined staff of 14,000, it'll be one of the world's largest broadcasters.

● Alibaba invested another

\$2b

in Lazada Group, an online shopping mall battling Amazon.com and Shopee in Southeast Asia. The Chinese conglomerate previously spent \$2 billion for an 83 percent stake in the platform.

● Stocks of Apple's Asian suppliers swooned after Bloomberg reported the company has been experimenting on its own touchscreens at a secret factory. Apple is testing MicroLED screens that would allow for slimmer, brighter, and more efficient phones.

LG Display (ADR) share price



● The Trump administration banned U.S. citizens from using the petro, a cryptocurrency created by Venezuela. The country has turned to digital money as its economy crumbles and inflation surges by an estimated 13,000 percent.

● A pedestrian stepped in front of an autonomous Uber vehicle in Tempe, Ariz., becoming the first driverless car fatality.

● In Jerome Powell's first meeting as chairman, the Federal Reserve raised its target interest rate range to 1.5 percent to 1.75 percent. ▷ 32

Europe

● After months of contentious negotiations, officials worked out a transitional Brexit agreement that keeps the U.K. operating under current EU rules until 2021. Talks on the future trading relationship will begin at the end of March.

● Bayer got a green light from European regulators to buy Monsanto for \$62.5 billion after agreeing to sell certain assets to rival BASF.

Bayer and Monsanto must still persuade U.S. regulators, who are pushing the companies to divest more assets.



● Riot police block protesters attempting to disrupt an auction of foreclosed properties in Athens on March 21. The Greek government has been attempting to relieve banks of nonperforming loans, prompting left-wing demonstrations.

● “Today, you go to a restaurant in New York City—or any major metropolitan area, for that matter—and you have a wine list and you have a beer list.”



Anheuser-Busch InBev CEO Carlos Brito told Bloomberg Television he's bullish on his business.

● Cambridge Analytica suspended CEO Alexander Nix after an undercover video appeared to show him discussing bribery and entrapment of politicians. It was recently disclosed that the firm, which worked closely with Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign, gained access to the private data of 50 million Facebook users. > 10, 20, 44

● Ryanair agreed to pay \$61.7m for a 75 percent stake in Niki, a discount carrier created by the now bankrupt Air Berlin.

● Russian President Vladimir Putin prevailed, scoring a goal and two assists in an exposition hockey game in Sochi. He also won a fourth six-year term in office, securing more than three-quarters of the vote.



Africa

● Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy was held for questioning about allegations that he received illegal campaign contributions from the late Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. The corruption probe has been under way since 2013. Sarkozy has called the charge “grotesque.”



● South African miners gathered outside government offices in Pretoria to protest diminishing job prospects and declining salaries.

● The last male northern white rhino, Sudan, died in Kenya, leaving only his daughter and granddaughter in the species.

