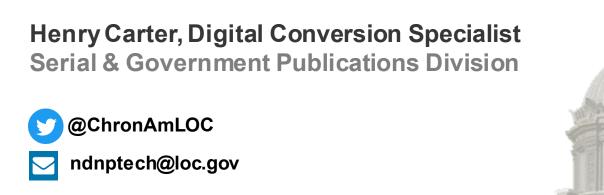


Using Chronicling America for Genealogical Research

Dirginian-Dile

Find your ancestors in the newspapers



Webinar Tips

Use the Q&A panel to ask questions.

This presentation will **NOT** be recorded.

National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)



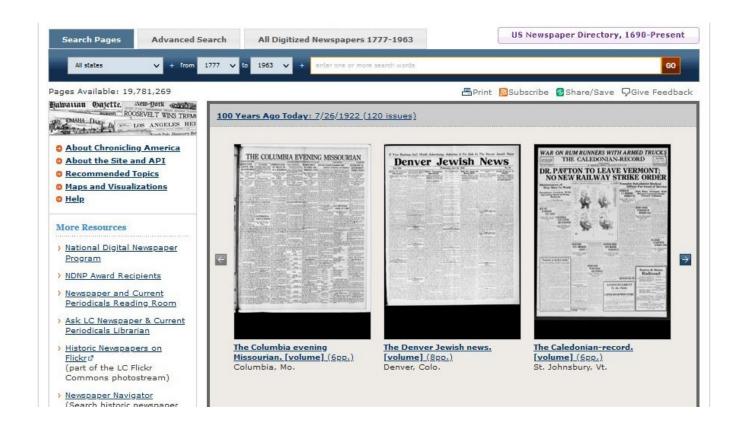


A joint venture between the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities



What is in Chronicling America?

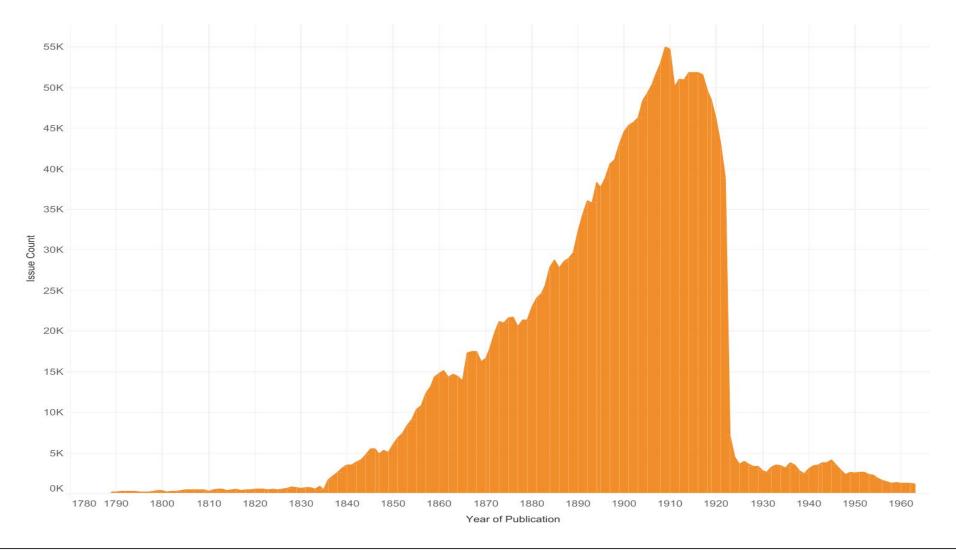
- Part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)
- Newspapers from 48 states and Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.
- 19,817,104 pages from 3765 titles.
- We expect to have 50 states and more US territories.
- We will continue to expand the collection for the foreseeable future.



https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/



Years available, 1777-1963





Copyright

- All newspapers included in the collection are in the Public Domain.
- Everything published before Dec. 31, 1926 is in the Public Domain.
- Everything published after Dec. 31, 1963 is considered to be under copyright protection.
- Anything published between those dates might be under copyright.
- This requires research.
- Some third party material might not be in the Public Domain.



Who decides what is included?

- In most cases, title selection is done by a local institution (one per state).
- They also oversee digitization.
- National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) partners.
- Usually a state historical society, library, or archive, or public university library.
- Criteria for selection varies.



Some considerations for inclusion

- Availability: does the title still exist and in what condition?
- Is it a "paper of record?"
- Historical significance.
- Diversity: geographic, ethnic, religious, political.



THE IMAGES

Scanning

- Most of our images were scanned from microfilm.
- Most of original paper copies have been destroyed.
- Quality of the microfilming process can affect the quality of the digital image.





Image formats

- Two image formats to download.
- JPEG2000
 - Higher resolution, more memory.
- PDF
 - Lower resolution but less memory required.
 - Better for printing.





OCR, Optical Character Recognition

- This is what you are searching.
- It is a transcript created by computer software without direct human intervention.
- It can vary in accuracy.
- Age and condition of the newspaper pages can impact OCR accuracy.
- Some non-English content poses special problems.
- You can see it by clicking on the Text link on the toolbar.

TWICE A WEEK TUESDAY A Virtual Shelf https://staff.loc.gov/wikis/display/NDNP2/ND Official Paper of the City of Amance VOLUME XXVIII. (Twelve Pages) ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEHUASKA, FRIDAY, APKIL 1, 1921 FOUR HUNDRED TEACHERS ARE : GUESTS OF CITY **jVORTHWEST SECTION OF STATE** ASSOCIATION HERE .At Least 450 Expected to be on Hand 'for Last Day of the Con vention Tomorrow Alliance is host this week to the northwest section of the Nebraska state teachers' association, and has ex tended a most hearty welcome to its guests. The chamber of commerce has taken upon itself the providing -of quarters for the visiting teachers; a large number of the merchants hee .made special decorations and are cf--fering special values, and the tench--ers themselves are finding something every minute to occupy their- atten tion. A big three-day program has been arranged for the meeting which is the first time the northwest section .has ever met apart from the rest cf the association. At noon today there were 390 who had registered their names at head quarters at the .Alliance hotel, but every incoming train brings more -teachers and it is expected that there https://staff.loc.gov/wikis/display/NDNP2/NDNP+Virtual+Shelf:+ndnp-20



Image Quality

This produced



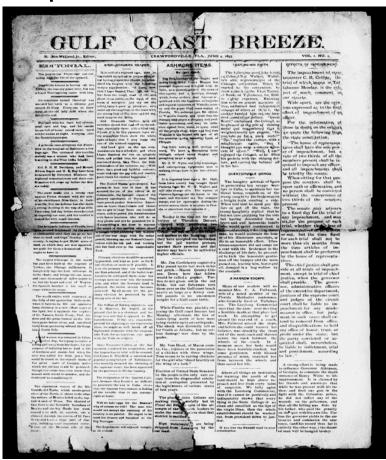
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TWICE A WEEK TUESDAY A Virtual Shelf https://staff.loc.gov/wikis/display/NDNP2/ND Official Paper of the City of Amarice VOLUME XXVIII. (Twelve Pages) ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY,' NEHUASKA, FRIDAY, APKIL 1, 1921 NO. 36 FOUR HUNDRED TEACHERS ARE : GUESTS OF CITY **jVORTHWEST SECTION OF STATE** ASSOCIATION HERE .At Least 450 Expected to be on Hand 'for Last Day of the Con vention Tomorrow Alliance is host this week to the northwest section of the Nebraska state teachers' association, and has ex tended a most hearty welcome to its guests. The chamber of commerce has taken upon itself the providing -of quarters for the visiting teachers; a large number of the merchants hce .made special decorations and are cf--fering special values, and the tench--ers themselves are finding something every minute to occupy their- atten tion. A big three-day program has been arranged for the meeting which is the first time the northwest section .has ever met apart from the rest cf the association. At noon today there were 390 who had registered their names at head quarters at the .Alliance hotel, but every incoming train brings more -teachers and it is expected that there will be from AEO to EOO have for the https://staff.loc.gov/wikis/display/NDNP2/NDNP+Virtual+Shelf:+ndnp-20



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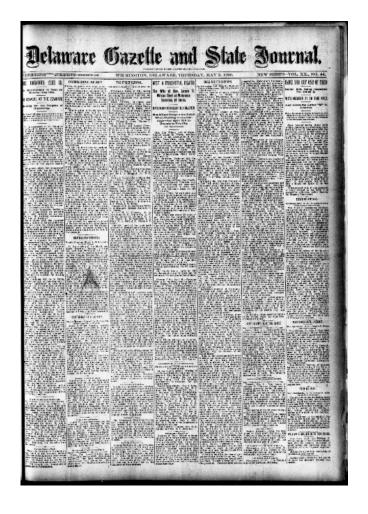
NEWSPAPER HISTORY



How newspapers evolved

1800





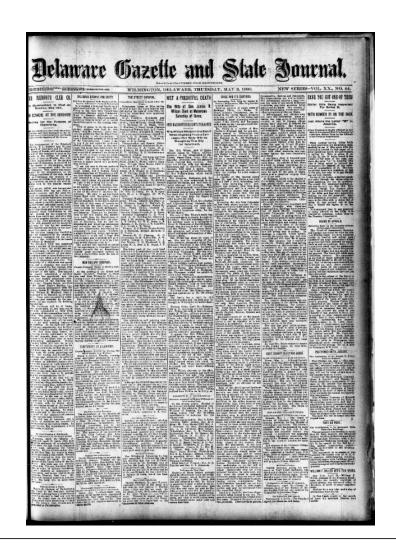


- 4 pages
- Mostly business and political stories.
- Paper is expensive and printing is labor intensive.
- No reporters, editor wrote most of the stories.
- The readership is mostly merchants and government leaders.





- 8 pages
- Paper is cheaper and printing more automated.
- Greater literacy.
- The news is still mostly economic and political.
- There are now sports stories, book reviews and wedding announcements.
- Some are starting society and women's columns and pages.
- Readership is still an "elite" but the elite is larger.





Bigger cities have bigger papers

- They now have reporters and are able to use wire services.
- There is usually still an editor but there are more staff making judgments.
- Many small town papers are still limited to 4 pages.





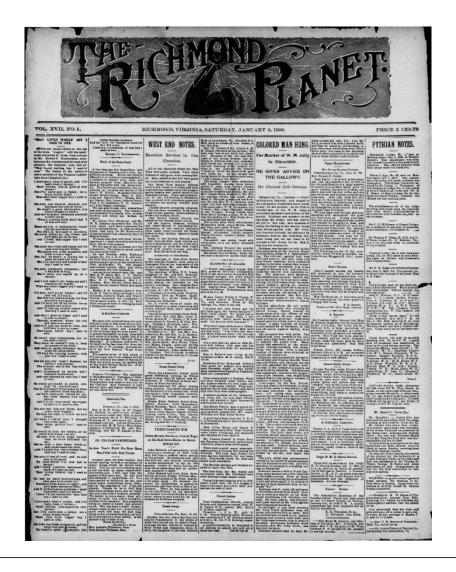
- Major metropolitan papers are now sometimes hundreds of pages.
- Paper is now very cheap and printing is heavily automated.
- There is a much greater variety of news coverage.
- Coverage is more comprehensive.





Minority Press

- Focused on religious and ethnic groups that see themselves as ignored or misrepresented by the bigger papers.
- Many non-English language publications have appeared for new immigrant groups.
- There are trade and labor titles.





Don't believe everything you read

- Papers often got things wrong in the past.
- Many had strong political agendas.
- They reflected the prejudices of the time.
- Some content maybe very offensive.
- Also spelling changes
- Aeroplane Airplane

PASSENGERS OF TITANIC IN CRASH WITH ICEBERG SAFE ON OTHER VESSELS

World's Greatest Liner, Badly Damaged, Now in Tow of the Virginian.

FIVE STEAMSHIPS ANSWER
S. O. S. CALL FOR ASSISTANCE

Many Notable Persons, Including Washingtonians, Among the 2,200 Aboard at Time of Accident.



Title Essays







The Evening Herald

In 1906, Fred Cronemiller and his wife launched a home-published newspaper, the *Evening Herald*, in the southern Oregon community of Klamath Falls, located just east of the Cascade Mountains. Two years later, Ed Murray and Wesley O. Smith bought the paper and, with the help of a linotype machine, turned the tabloid into a four-page broadsheet that ran every day except Sunday and cost five cents a copy. Murray and Smith had managed other papers in this town of 6,000 and sought to turn the *Herald* into the leading local newspaper.

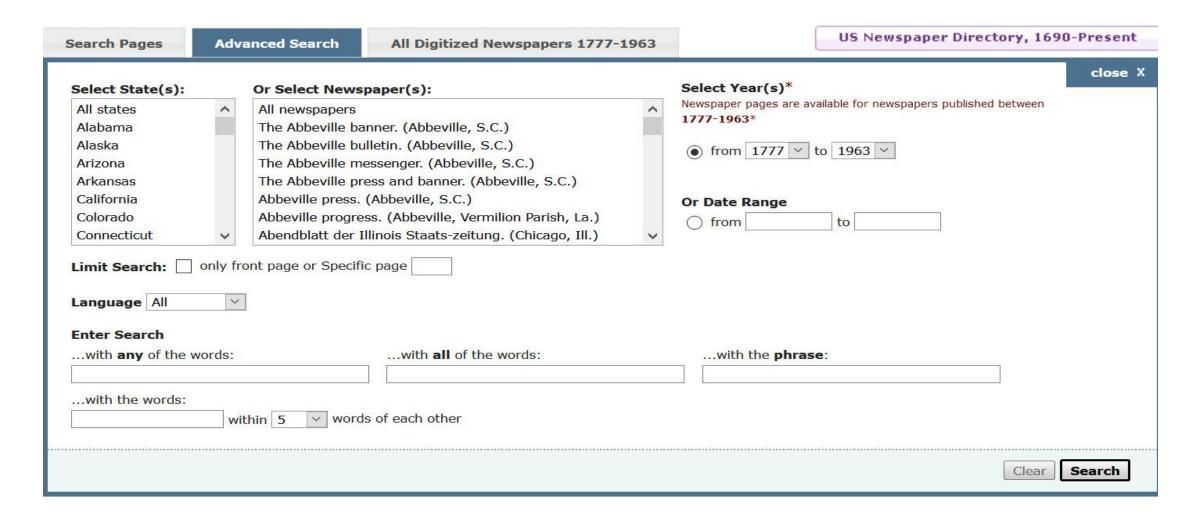
At this time Klamath County was a growing area, as evidenced by the paper's advertisements boasting cheap mill lots, the region's livability, and a low incidence of malaria. In 1912, there were two other local dailies: the <u>Klamath Falls Express</u> and the <u>Evening Chronicle</u>. Both papers were purchased and then canceled by Sam Evans, who in that



SEARCH STRATEGIES

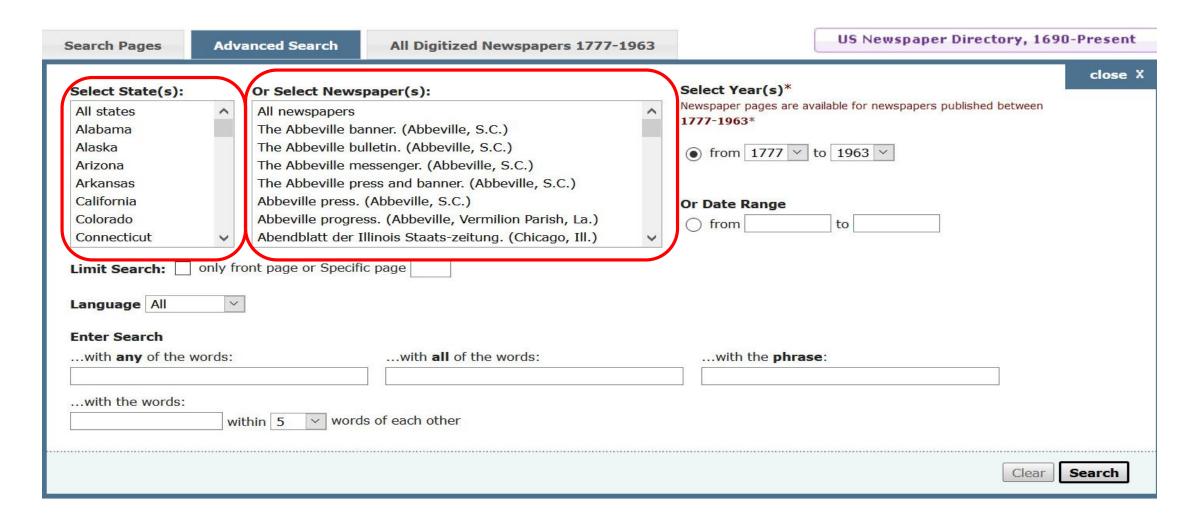


The Advanced Search Tab



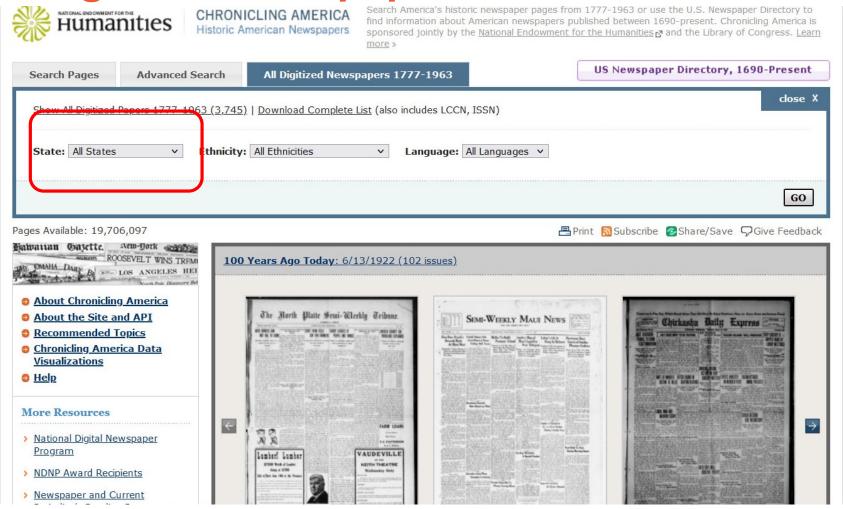


Location: Geographic Limits



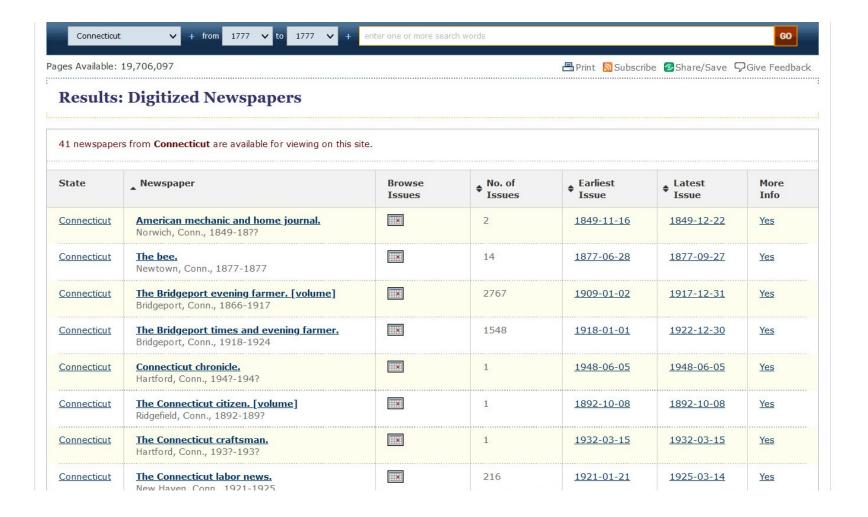


The All Digitized Newspaper tab

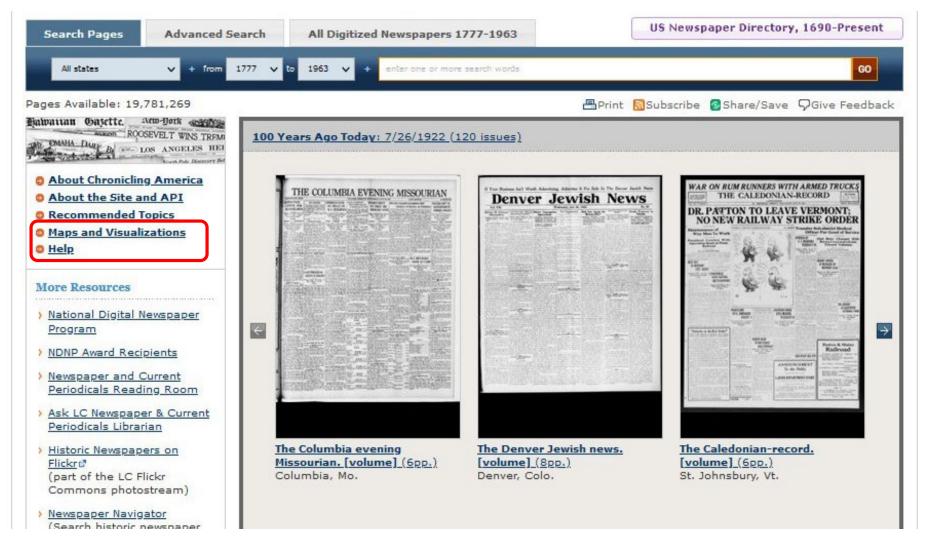




A list of all titles published in a State





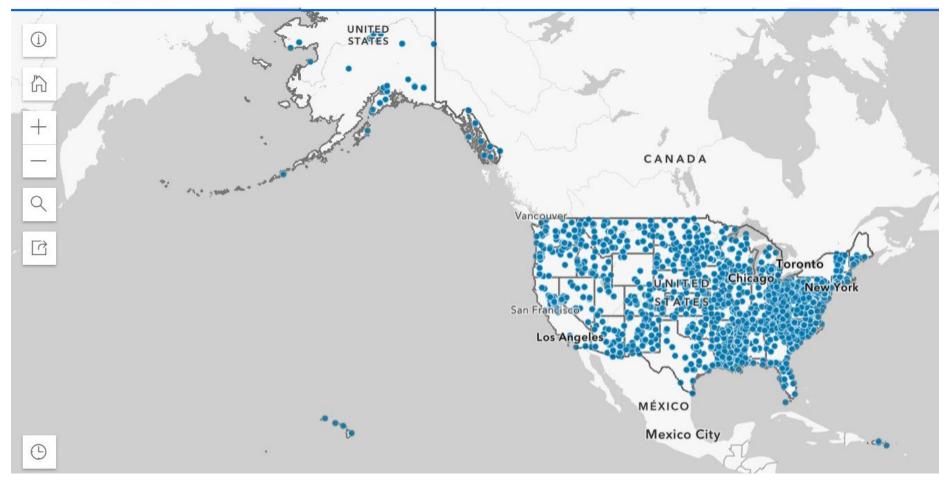


The Link to the map and other features is on the homepage





Exploring Chronicling America Newspapers



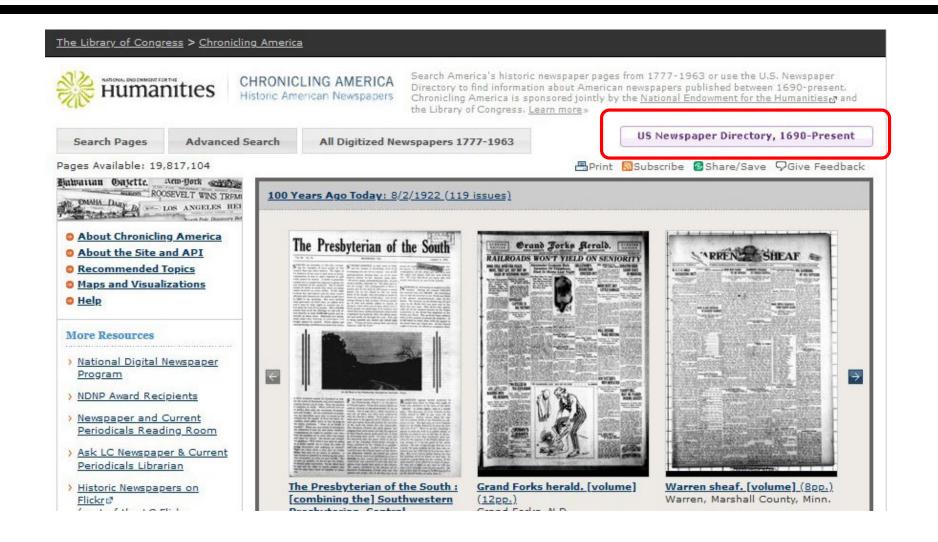
An interactive map of titles by time and location



Click on the dot and that will give you a title







We also have this additional database: the US Newspaper Directory



All Newspapers

This has a listing of all Newspapers published in the United States, 1690 to today.

These are Library Catalog Records.

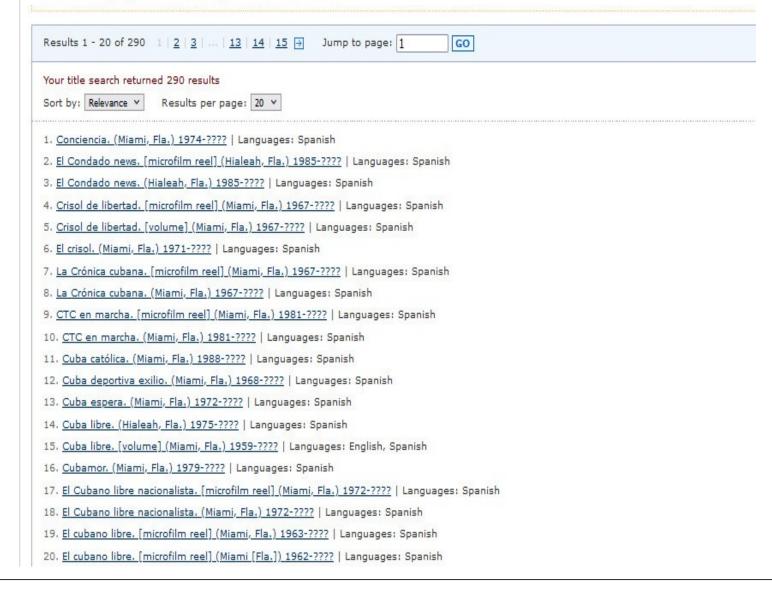
This is not limited to what is in our collection or what is digitized.

You can limit it to only digitized content.

Select "Online Resource" from the Material Type menu.

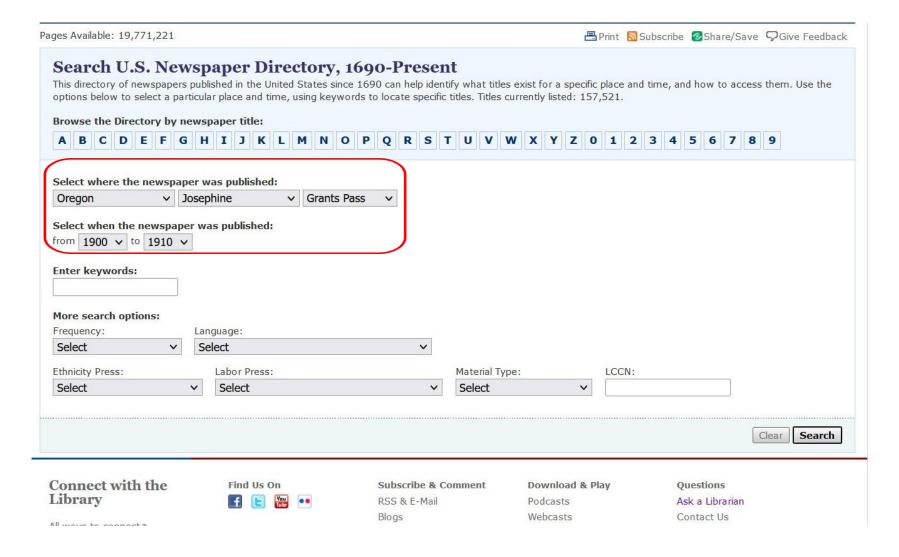
Some maybe behind a paywall.

US Newspaper Directory Search Results



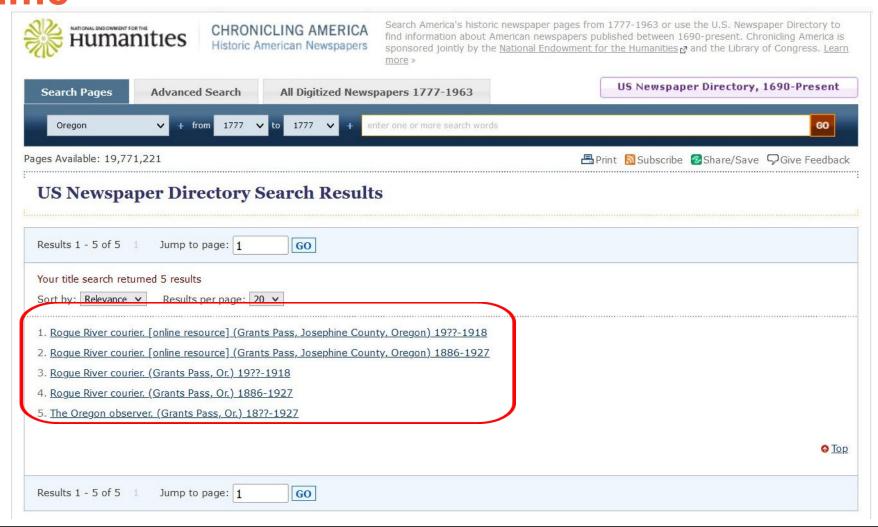


This is our newspaper directory





Here is a list of all the newspapers published there at that time





Catalog record





Where to find other titles

About | Libraries that Have It | MARC Record

HOLDING: Oregon Hist Soc Libr, Portland, OR

View more titles from this institution

Available as: Microform

(Microfilm=v.9:no.46-v.36:no.49 1901:01:05-1927:12:28 0,5,8 Holdings incomplete)

Last updated: 10/1998

HOLDING: Univ of Oregon Libr, Eugene, OR

View more titles from this institution

Available as: Microfilm Service Copy

Dates:

- <1892:2:13-1911:1:25>
- <1912:2:7-1927:12:28>

Last updated: 07/1997

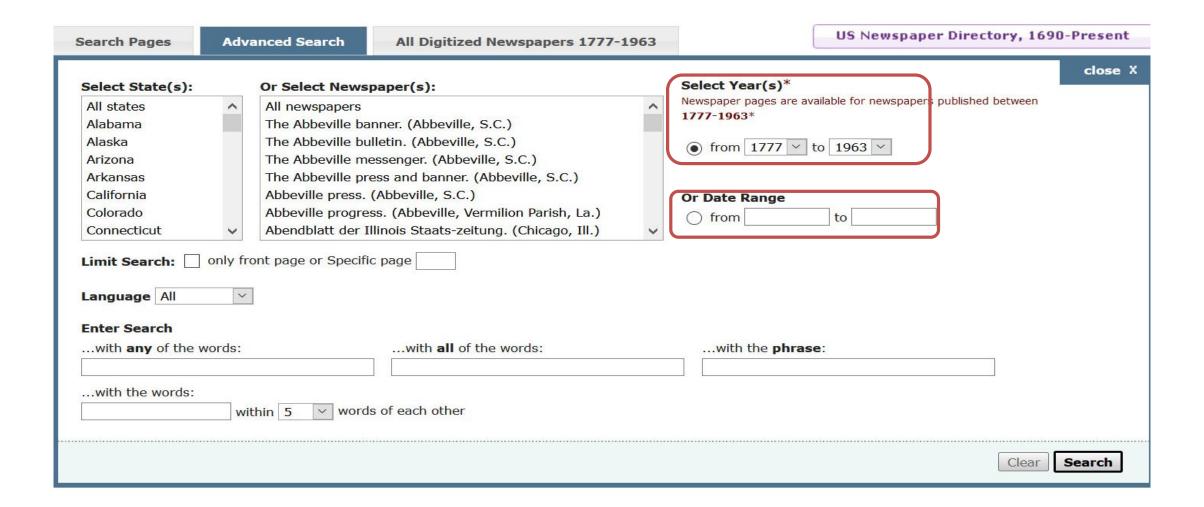
Available as: Microfilm Master

Dates:

- <1892:2:13-1903:2:28>
- <1904:2:20-10:29>
- <1905:1:14-7:5>
- <1916:1:5-12>
- <1921:12:1-1923:10:10>
- <1925:6:24-9:30>

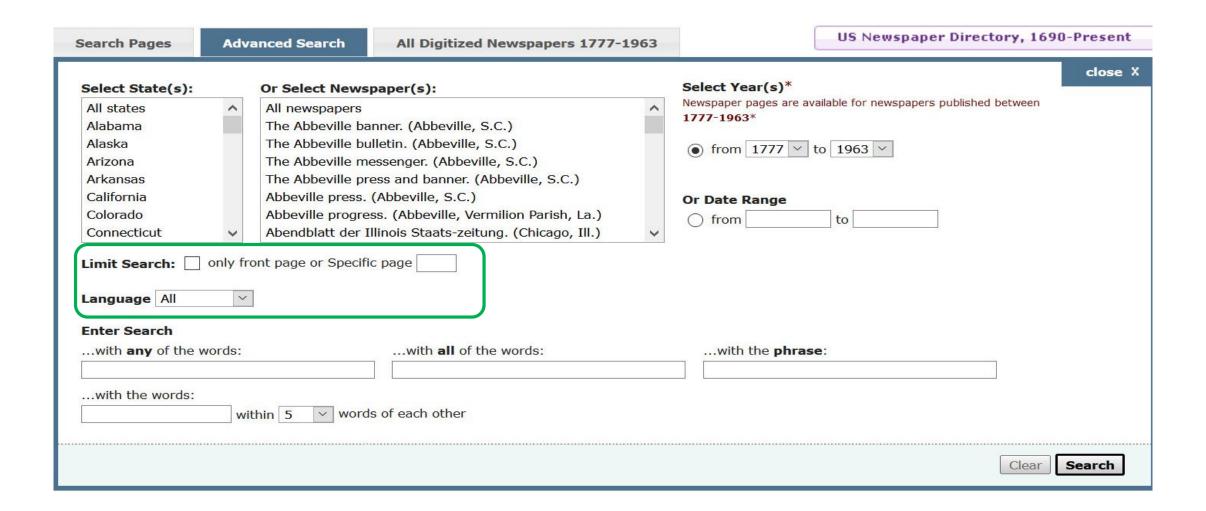


Date limitations



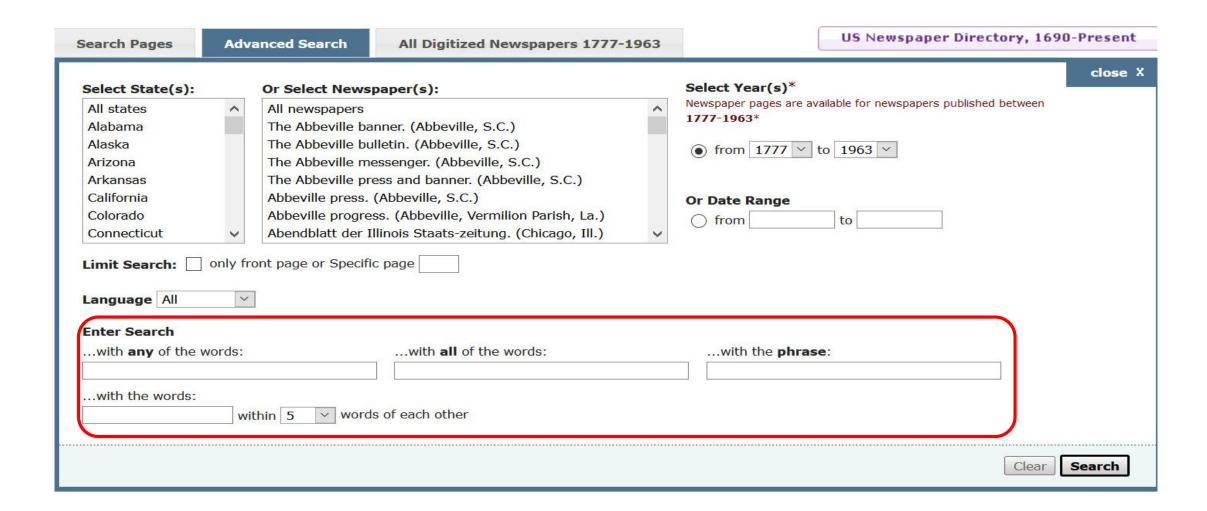


Other limits



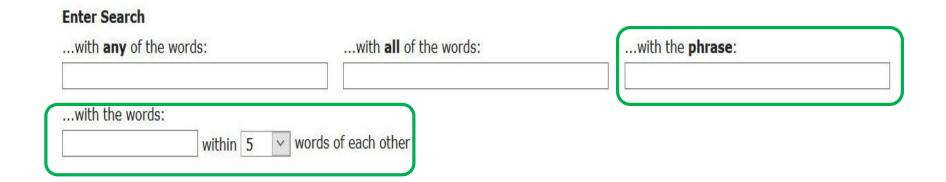


Search fields





When searching for individual's names



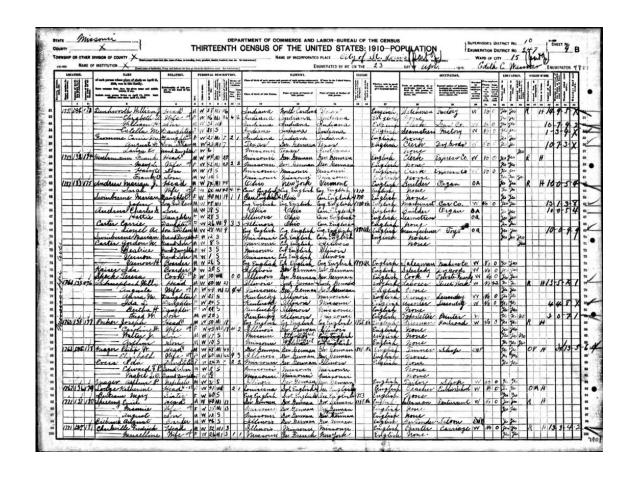


THE MORE YOU KNOW THE EASIER IT WILL BE



The more you know about your subject the easier they are find

- Name.
- Where did they live?
- When did they live there?
- Occupation or professional title.
- Did they use initials (C. R. Walker)
- Names of spouse, parents, other relatives.
- Women were often referred to by their husband's name.
- Mrs. John D. Price. (her name was Martha).
- The Census has this information.





Other resources

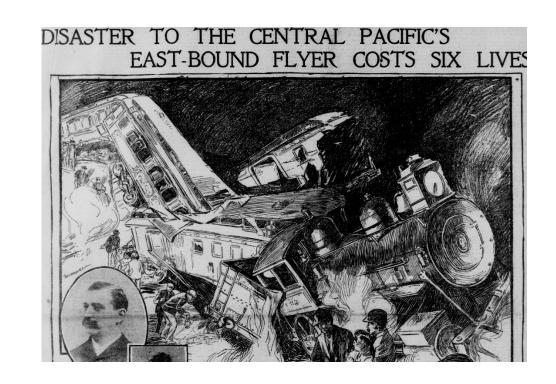
- Genealogical groups: local and national
- Local historical societies.
- Local public libraries.
- The Library of Congress has a Local History and Genealogy Division.
- https://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy



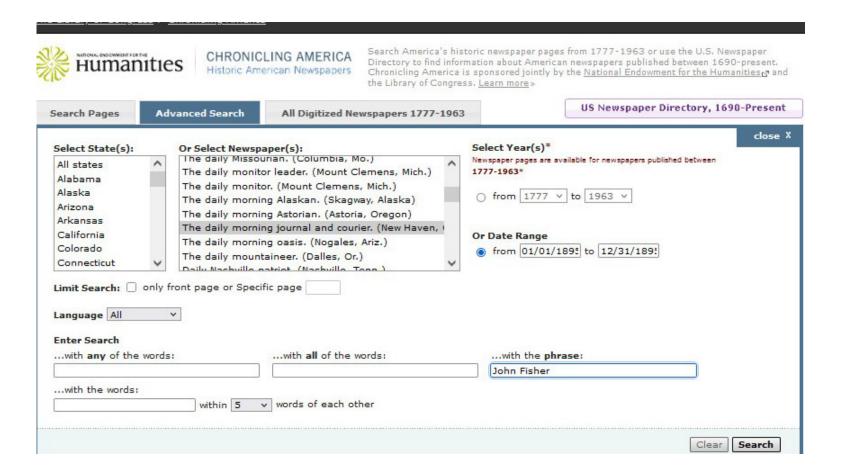


So why would this person be in the newspaper?

- Unfortunately people often became newsworthy because of an unfortunate event.
- Sensational accident or crime
- Scandal and gossip.
- Involved in politics or community organizations.
- There are many other reasons but these are going to be easiest to find.







So now you are ready to start your search



Thumbnails

- The orange rectangles (highlights) show the locations of the search terms on the page.
- The exact matches should appear first.
- Larger fonts get extra points (headlines).
- So does the number of times the term(s) appear on the page.
- After exact matches the search looks for similar spelling (Fisher, Fish, Fishing).





What to look for

- If you are searching a full name:
 John Parker
- Look for highlights that are close together or overlapping at the top.
- If it is in the headline even better.
- Then other highlights in the same column below.
- The person will usually be referred to by their full name first John Fisher then as Fisher later in the story.





Scattered highlights

- If you see highlights scattered about on the page.
- These are less likely to be accurate returns.
- It is possible this is something you are looking for.
- Depends on the time and effort you are willing to put in.





SEARCH STRATEGIES: EXAMPLES



Uncommon names are sometimes easier to find

Riffelmacher

Personen, die sich segen en Augenblick ben Stuhl at in bem Orte The= Menschenleben getoftet. lagb wurde ber Stuhl hrling fortgezogen; bie erlitt eine schwere Ber= agrats. Sie vermochte ger Zeit verfchieb. eb mehr zu rühren und fcredlichen Leiben ge

Idenbura.

ebtfeger in Bledenstedt, renvent Dochmaffer fur Die Court fon portheilhaft erweisen wirb.

Rotha. S. Die Frau des Maurers Mich. Riffelmachers wollte aus bem Rleiberschrante eine Hose heraus= nehmen, tam babei an eine im Schrante aufbewahrte Schießwaffe, biefe ent= lub fich und traf bie Frau fo unglud= lich in ben Unterleib, baß fie nach tur=

Lam. Bei ber Wahl wollte eine Partei ben Tobtengraber gum Bürger= meifter haben. Da fich aber bie Be= meinbebürger noch nicht begraben laf= burg. Der in Rot= fen wollten, fo liegen fie ben Tobten=

Translation from online software

- Riffelmacher wanted out
- a pair of pants out of the closet
- take, came across one in the closet
- ke stored handgun, this one
- lub himself and met the woman so badly
- Lich in the abdomen that after kur
- different time
 - a w a



Common Names: John Beach

CURT

June 23d, 18

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John Beach

of the conscious Hayward Miss M Wright James position, which Huddlyton Sam H Wells John Pat arly indicate, as Hall Augustus Wilford Henry Pat this fashion by Hickman Sol Pat Young Benjamin Persons calling for these letters will please say they are "advertised." TYPO. R. H. WARDEN, P. M. Tress parameters June 30th, 1851. ren county, lo-Rev. Samuel AVING purchased the entire stock of STREET BROTHERS, at Agency City, is VES, of this NN, daughter prepared to sell goods at their old stand on e first named as reasonable terms as they can be bought the trading co Dry Goods and Groceries, Bonts and stockis compri Shoes, Hats, Caps, Iron, Nails, Castings, Queensware, &c. &c. &c., g. 22, 1849. always on hand. He will be glad to see ir: a few weeks his friends and the public generally. Come of your Oint- on and see what an impression the Dimes June 23d, 1851.tf. of yours, and gone. If you Sale of Real Estate. will remit you NOTICE is hereby given that on the orm you may 21st day of July next, at 1 o'clock P. M. in pursuance of an order of the Pro-

bate Court in and for the county of Polk in the State of Iowa, I will offer for safe

at the door of the Court House in Ottum-

wa. Wapello county, in said State, the fol-

The South East quarter of Section No.

lowing Real Estate, to-wit:

Major John Beach

DIED

Major John Beach, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Wapello county, died at his residence near Agency City, at 6 minutes past 2 o'clock, on Monday morning, August 31st, in the 63d year of his age.

Major Beach was a son-in-law of Gen. Street, the latter being the first agent of the Sac and Fox Indians at the Military Post, which was then located near the present site of Agency City. Upon the death of Gen. Street Major Beach was appointed as his successor about 1838 by President Van Buren, which office he held until the Indians were removed from this section, and possibly longer.

He was probably better posted about the early history of Wapello county, and in fact of the Des Moines Valley, than any one of our pioneers, and it is hoped that his manuscript data touching these matters will be peserved and pass into the hands of our Old Settlers' Society for publication.

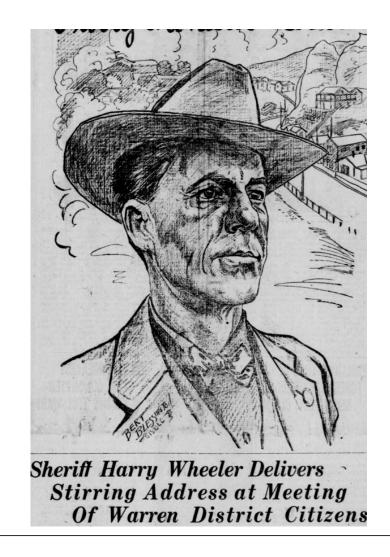
After retiring from his Indian agen-



CE & SON.

It helps if your ancestor was a celebrity

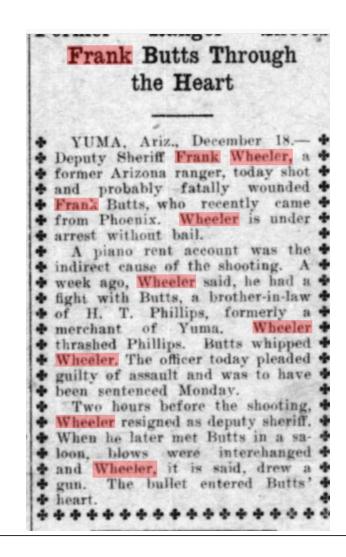
- I was helping a patron who was searching the Arizona papers for an ancestor.
- This fellow appeared often in our search results.
- This is Harry Wheeler.
- Last of the old west gunfighter/ lawman.
- Lived in Arizona and his career spanned turn of the 19th to the 20th century.
- Very well known at the time and was written about frequently in the papers.





Problem was we were looking for this guy

- Frank Wheeler also a lawman in Arizona at the same time.
- Also a long and storied career, just not as "romantic".
- We did find many mentions of Harry turning up in the searches.
- A regular problem when searching for common names.
- As we learned more about Frank, we found other people involved in the various incidents.
- We used their names to search; including the unfortunate Mr. Butts here.





Birth and Death Announcements

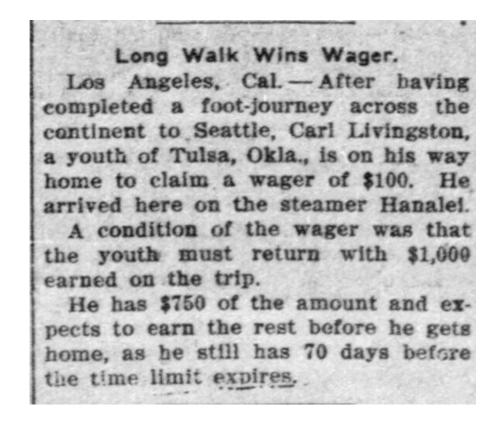
- These became more common as newspapers expanded.
- These become more frequent in 1880s and 1890s.
- Frequently this depended on the whims of the Editor.
- They often preferred friends and prominent citizens.
- Sometimes these had to be paid for.
- They were often lacking in detail.
- Usually printed on the same page.





Try different searches because you never know what you will find.

- Try different combinations of terms.
- Add to the your list of terms as you learn more.
- Time and effort can pay off.



Bisbee daily review. [volume] (Bisbee, Ariz.) 1901-1971, October 15, 1909



Questions

National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)

https://www.loc.gov/ndnp

Chronicling America

https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

Ask a Librarian (Research Questions)

https://ask.loc.gov/newspapers-periodicals

Follow Chronicling America on Twitter @ChronAmLOC

Technical Questions: ndnptech@loc.gov

Webinar Tips

Use the Q&A panel to ask questions.

This presentation will **NOT** be recorded.

