“History’s Rough Draft”

Local, Regional, National - Communities, Interests, Voices

Public Ledger, (Maysville, KY), Aug 11 1916

Hood River Glacier (Hood River, Oregon), Feb. 11, 1915

The Evening World, (New York, NY) June 24, 1922
Working with U.S. Newspapers

- Many types of users, high demand for access

- No single U.S. collection – 150,000 titles published since 1690 (collected across the country)

- Broad range of subjects

- Many ways to use once in digital form

Newspapers = fundamentals of U.S. history
Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers
http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/
Title Selection

- Awardees select titles from their states
  - Research value
  - Microfilm quality
  - Geographic and community diversity
Historic Themes and Tools

- **Example:**
- **Suffrage for Women and African-Americans**

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**Discriminating Against Mother**

Who Is Agitating the Woman Suffrage Movement?
- Not the Mother of America: "The Hail National Suffrage League Are Children Women"
- Not the Mother, but those who have been disfranchised or the "best men.

Who Would Vote if Woman Suffrage Came?
- Not the Mother, but those who have been disfranchised or the "best men.

What Women Held Office Under Woman Suffrage?
- Not the Mother, but those who have been disfranchised or the "best men.

Who Profits Under Woman Suffrage?
- Not the Mother, but those who have been disfranchised or the "best men.

What Is the Suffrage Attitude Toward the Mother?
- Not the Mother, but those who have been disfranchised or the "best men.

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**Women's Suffrage**

On June 4, 1919, the United States Senate approved the 19th amendment to the Constitution, which states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment.

**Historical Background**

This triumph was the result of centuries of struggle, culminating in the late 19th century in a burst of public activism and civil disobedience that not only secured voting rights for women, but also helped define new possibilities for women's participation in the public sphere.

Early Suffrage Rights and Rights

Early in the history of the United States, women in New Jersey could legally vote, provided they met property requirements. However, this changed in 1869 when the State Assembly passed a law limiting suffrage to free white males. There would not be another law explicitly giving the vote to women until 1869, when Wyoming Territory granted women over 21 years of age the right to vote in all elections.

While some states explicitly prohibited women from voting, in 1873 New York did not, opening the door for Susan B. Anthony and a small group of suffragists to register and vote. They were arrested three weeks later on a charge of "criminal voting." Anthony was fined $100 and fined $500 for court costs.

Early Activism and Organizations

The first large gathering of those fighting for women's rights occurred in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York. One outcome of the Seneca Falls Convention was the drafting and signing of the Declaration of Sentiments, modeled on the Declaration of Independence. The suffrage movement faced legal, social, political, and religious obstacles for women. Women also formed the Seneca Falls Convention to become the leaders of a generation of suffrage activists.

In the decades that followed the Seneca Falls Convention, formal groups were established to lead American women in their bid for voting and other rights. Well-known organizations include the National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association.
Historic Themes and Tools

- **Example:**
- **President Lincoln’s Death**

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**Topics in Chronicling America - Lincoln Assassination**

On April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln is shot by John Wilkes Booth during a special performance at Ford’s Theater. A nine-car funeral train carries the body of the President to Springfield, Illinois, where he is buried on May 4th. Although many of the co-conspirators in this crime are captured, John Wilkes Booth is shot after escaping before his arrest at Bowling Green, Virginia, on April 24th. The other co-conspirators in the assassination plots on President Lincoln, Secretary Seward, and Vice President Johnson are later tried and convicted by an army military commission. Read more about it.

The information and sample articles below provide access to a sampling of articles from historic newspapers that can be found in the Chronicling America: American Historic Newspapers digital collection (http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/). Use the Suggested Search Terms and Dates to explore this topic further in Chronicling America.

**Jump to: Sample Articles**

**Important Dates:**
- April 14, 1865: Abraham Lincoln is shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford’s Theater in Washington, D.C. while attending a special performance of the comedy “Our American Cousin.” Secretary of State William Seward is shot by Lewis Payne at the same time at his home near the White House.
- April 21, 1865: Lincoln’s body departs Washington in a nine-car funeral train. The 1,700 mile trip back to Illinois would essentially be over the same tracks that carried the then President-elect in 1861. Cities along the route that host funeral processions include Philadelphia, New York City, Buffalo, Cleveland, and Chicago.
- April 26, 1865: John Wilkes Booth and accomplice David Herold are captured by the military at a farm near Bowling Green, Virginia. Although Herold surrenders, Booth is shot and killed.
- May 4, 1865: Abraham Lincoln is laid to rest in a tomb at Springfield’s Oak Ridge Cemetery.
- May 10, 1865: An army military commission is convened to try Mrs. Mary Surratt, David Herold, Lewis Payne, George Atzerodt, Edman Spangler, Michael O’Laughlin, Samuel Arnold, and Dr. Samuel Mudd for their parts in the conspiracy to assassinate President Lincoln. Surratt, Herold, Payne, and Atzerodt will eventually be given the death penalty, while the remaining defendants are sentenced to imprisonment.
- July 7, 1865: Four co-conspirators, Lewis Payne, George Atzerodt, David Herold, and Mary Surratt, were executed by hanging at the Old Penitentiary, on the site of present-day Fort McNair, for their part in the assassination conspiracy.

**Suggested Search Strategies:**
- Try the following terms in combination, separately, or as phrases using Search Pages in Chronicling America: Lincoln’s assassination, conspirators, Trial of President Lincoln’s assassination.
Topics in Chronicling America, 1836-1922

- Influenza of 1918
- Newsboys
- Halley’s Comet
- Prohibition
- World’s Fair
- Carnegie Libraries
- Basketball
- Railroad Strike of 1886
- Titanic
- Bloomer Girls
- Carrie Nation
- Boston Subway
- Assassinations
- Babe Ruth
- Race Riots
- President Roosevelt
- Early Cinema
- World War I
- Buffalo Bill
- Chicago Fire
- Civil War Maps
- Mark Twain
- Ellis Island
- Charlie Chaplin
- Boston Fire
- Houdini
- Brooklyn Bridge
- Panama Canal
- Yosemite National Park
- League of Nations
- Influenza of 1918
- Jessie Fowler – Phrenologist… and more
Teaching with Chronicling America...

K-12 Resources

- NEH EDSITEment Teacher Resources for Chronicling America
  - http://edsitement.neh.gov/search/content/%22chronicling%20america%22

- LC Teacher Resources for Chronicling America
  - http://www.loc.gov/search/?in=PartOf%3ATeachers&q=%22chronicling+america%22

- National History Day special prize for best use of Chronicling America
  - http://www.nhd.org/ (sponsored by NEH)
**Lesson Plans**

**Lesson Plans:**
- Back to Classroom Materials
- Teacher-created, classroom-tested
- By Topic
  - Jump to topic:
    - African American History
    - American History
    - American Indian History

**Lesson Plans:**

**Lesson Plan: Chroning America: Uncovering a World at War**

**Introduction**

I have been a pacifist and, to a certain extent, I still am one; and, therefore, I am able to understand their point of view. I can see no reason that any right-thinking person can refuse to follow the president in his course concerning the war. Most of the pacifists' positions are not only logical, but holy. —Clarence Darrow, The Daybook, April 28, 1917

One hundred years ago, the European nations were embroiled in a Great War. The United States attempted to continue trade and diplomatic relations with a world in conflict. This lesson gives students the opportunity to interact with historical newspapers available through Chronicling America and read the conflicting viewpoints of America's opinion leaders and ordinary citizens. Students will engage in dialogue as they struggle to decide: Should the United States remain neutral or join the fight?

**Preparation**

- Source Analysis Tool
- The first picket line, Feb 1917 (Colaguera)
National History Day

- >600,000 students in 2016
- Local, affiliate, national levels
- Year-long competition
- Special Prize sponsored by NEH for best use of Chronicling America –
  - in 2016, winners were
    - Junior Individual Website
      Nikola Tesla: Exploring Electricity (Indiana)
    - Senior Individual Performance
      The Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange of Elisha Kent Kane, (West Virginia)

- 2017 Theme = “Taking a Stand in History”
  - Themebook Resource from NHD: [Ten Strategies for Using Chronicling America in your Classroom](#)
Professional Development for Educators

- LC Summer Teacher Institutes
- Teaching with Primary Sources
- University Summer Courses
Social Media for Outreach

- Educational Outreach
  - Twitter (@teachinglc and @EDSITEment and 11 states)
    - Specific hash tags - #APUSH and #sschat
    - Content-specific - #chronam and #chroniclingamerica
  - Blogs
    - Teaching with the Library of Congress
    - EDSITEment! Closer Readings
    - State project blogs
    - LC blogs – 10 Stories…
  - Pinterest and Facebook too (e.g., #teachcivilwar)
    - Embedded image metadata

- Genealogists
  - #twitterstorians

- History Bots
  - @Paperbot, @TrendingHx (Trending History Bot), @snippet_jpg
Open Access through APIs and Bulk Download

- Open data
  - Documented API
  - Standard Web protocols – JSON and RDF
  - Linked Data
  - Persistent URLs

- Bulk data for download
  - OCR sets for text analysis

- A variety of ways to use
NEH Chronicling America Data Challenge

- Challenge.gov (part of digitalgov.gov)
  - Platform to support US government agency-driven crowdsourcing competitions and foster innovation
- NEH recently announced 6 winning projects
    - American Public Bible: Biblical Quotations in U.S. Newspapers
    - American Lynching: Uncovering a Cultural Narrative
    - Historical Agricultural News
    - Chronicling Hoosiers
    - USNewsMap.com
    - Digital APUSH: Revealing History with Chronicling America
Thank you!

- NDNP Public Web
  http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/
  - Extra! Extra!  http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/extras/

*Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*
http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

- Contact us at ndnptech@loc.gov