challenge.gov contest

CHRONICLING AMERICA
Historic Newspaper DATA CHALLENGE

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From 1836-1922...history's markers
National Digital Newspaper Program (2004- )

- Enhance access to American newspapers
- Develop permanent digital resource including selected historic content from all US states and territories
- Shared resources and cost distribution (LC/NEH/Awardees)
- Shared practices/specifications = community
- Paced scalability
- Plan for technical change and sustainability requirements
National Digital Newspaper Program (2016)

- 11.3 million pages online
- Approx. 75+ Tb online, 750+ Tb archival storage
- 3.9 million visits in 2015 (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)
- 44 states and territories participating

Also received:

- 1150 newspaper history essays
- 2100 bibliographic titles (of 153,000 titles published)
- 10,000 reels of microfilm (duplicate print negative)
Finding Our History

- **Page Search – Full text**
  - Search by place, time, keyword
  - Page information – Title, Date, Edition, Section, Page (Image)
  - Visual search results (Thumbnail view with hit-highlights)
  - Pan and Zoom
  - Full-screen view

- **US Newspaper Directory Search**
  - Search by place, time, keyword, format, subject, etc. (CONSER/WorldCat data)
  - Keyword search – e.g., “http” (external Web site links) or “times”
Mars has atmosphere, seasons, land, y! H water, storms, clouds and mountains. "H Mars has i-wr. "o - H only 3,700 miles awa.y and revolves around ?i it ni seven and a half 'houvs ? phoot-fcijj': ing star.

**Metadata**

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ChronAm: How do we make it available?

- Public website
- Open API – no login required
- Stable URLs
  - So helpful for so many reasons
  - Added bonus - URLs make sense (title/date/page)
- Industry standard endpoints – like OpenSearch
- Machine readable views (like JSON)
  - Easier to play with the stuff
- As pre-fab datasets (OCR bags)
The NEH Data Challenge

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers Data Challenge

About the Challenge

Create a web-based tool, data visualization, or other creative use of the information found in the Chronicling America historic newspaper database.

Posted By: National Endowment for the Humanities
Category: Software/Apps

How can you use open data to explore history? NEH invites members of the public to produce creative web-based projects demonstrating the potential for using the data found in the Chronicling America website, available at http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov.

Chronicling America is a website providing access to digitized U.S. newspapers and to information about historic newspapers. The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a joint effort between NEH and the Library of Congress, produces the site. Visit the Chronicling America website at http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov. For more about the humanities, visit the NEH website at www.neh.gov.

What are we looking for? NEH encourages contestants to develop data visualizations, web-based tools, or other innovative and interesting web-based projects using the open data found in Chronicling America.

There are over ten million pages of digitized newspapers in Chronicling America, published between 1836 and 1922, from towns and cities across the United States. The newspapers illuminate 19th and 20th century American life, with stories about politics, sports, shopping, music, food, health, science, movies, and everything in between. Entries should uncover trends, display insights, explore a theme, or tell a story.
America’s Public Bible

Biblical Quotations in U.S. Newspapers

For most of its issues in 1902, the Ellensburg [Washington] Down featured a quotation from Benjamin Franklin prominently on its front page. “A Bible and a newspaper in every house,” the masthead proclaimed, “are the principal support of virtue, morality, and civil liberty.”¹ Though the quotation from Franklin was doubtless spurious, the combination of newspapers and the Bible would have been familiar to readers. Throughout the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century, newspapers in the United States—even newspapers which were not published by a religious denomination or organization—had frequent recourse to the Bible. Newspapers printed sermons and Sunday school lessons, and ministers offered lessons through newspaper Bible clubs.² Newspapers featured jokes whose punchlines required familiarity with the Bible. They aired political commentary that cited the Bible on all sides of a given issue. They ran features on Thomas Jefferson’s edited Bible and Abraham Lincoln’s use of the Scripture.³ On Good Friday, Easter, and Christmas they reprinted long portions of the Scripture.⁴ They opined on revisions to the English Bible, and offered word-by-word comparisons of the changes in new translations.⁵ They made money from advertisements for Bibles of every kind, and some newspapers even sold Bibles directly as a way of raising revenue. But most of all,
First Prize: America's Public Bible
Second Prize: American Lynching

AMERICAN LYNCHING
Uncovering a Cultural Narrative
Second Prize: American Lynching

LYCHING, WHITES AND NEGROES, 1882 – 1968

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>WHITES</th>
<th>NEGROES</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Shame of America

Do you know that the United States is the Only Land on Earth where human beings are BURNED AT THE STAKE?

In Four Years, 1918-1921, Twenty-Eight People were publicly BURNED BY AMERICAN MOBS

3436 People Lynched, 1889 to 1921

Is Rape the “Cause” of Lynching?

OVER 3,000 LYNCHINGS IN TWENTY YEARS.
Second Prize: Historical Agricultural News

Welcome to Historical Agricultural News, a search tool for exploring the Library of Congress Chronicling America database for information on the farming organizations, technologies, and practices of America’s past. Agricultural history is often presented in terms of economics; once we get beyond subsistence, agriculture is, after all, a business. But farming is also a window into communities, social and technological change, and concepts like progress, development, and modernity. These agricultural connections are of significance to those interested in various topics including immigration and assimilation, language use and communication, education and affiliations, and demographic transitions.

The long human history of agriculture—approximately 10,000 years—offers a mostly static arc of development. It is within the 19th and 20th centuries that we see big changes emerging, as new practices, mechanization, and chemical science begin to shape farming into the industry we recognize today. The time period encompassed by the Chronicling America newspaper collection is perhaps the most crucial in terms of paradigm shifts, for it is within these 86 years (1836 to 1922) that many breaks with past practices occurred, and new inventions, science, and technology first appeared.
Second Prize: Historical Agricultural News

Article

Word that the United States Department of Agriculture is especially interested in the revival of the sheep industry in Vermont is brought by J. A. Sturtevant, a sheep expert attached to the state college of agriculture, who is now making a survey of the status of the sheep industry in Vermont and who has been spending the past three days in Addison. While most of the Addison county sheep men of former days or their successors have now become dairymen, Mr. Sturtevant is finding some encouragement.
Introduction

The origin of the word "hoosier" has been long sought by historians and native Indiana residents. While this research project began as a technology-supported hunt for the earliest appearance and original meaning of the word, ultimately the most intriguing discoveries were the variety of meanings hoosier has encompassed through time and by geography. We believe as many before us that the origin of hoosier lies in an oral tradition. Originally published sources such as newspapers, books, literature, and pamphlets likely come well after the word enters the vocabulary of pioneering Americans. Evidence to support this includes a Pittsburgh Statesman article from 1833 or 1834 that already ponders the origin of the word and proposes one origin theory (Unknown, 1932).

"Hoosier" - The Hoosier State - The good citizens of our sister State (Indiana) have been called Hoosiers for some time past at home and abroad, sometimes honorably and sometimes the reverse, as the term has become general it is high time that its origin and definition should be as generally known as before that section of the public lands were regularly surveyed - many families located and were called squatters the surveyors on finding on of those would ask who's here, and place the name on their map - the question became so familiar that on the first view of the smoke of a cabin, the exclamation often then "who's here" became equally so until it evanized in the general term "Hoosier."
A HOOSIER WEDDING.

The ceremony of tying the nuptial knot is very much simplified in the Hoosier State, as the following scene will show:

Scene opens, discovering the bride in her robes of office, alone, red damask dressing gown, comfortably encased behind an enormous wooden bowl of hasty pudding and milk. Three surprise.

"What is your name, sir?"

"Marry?

"Any relatives of Van Buren?"

"No.

"What is your name, Miss?"

"Polly."

"Marry, do you love Polly?"

"Well, I don't love her!"

"Polly, do you love Marry?"

"Yes, I do.

"Well, then you want to be tied?"

"I reckon so.

"Then, I pronounce you man and wife."

Great along journey wilder illinois

tho indiana queeque

people yesterday cross

life say girl city
do western
tori paper stranger

eal smile broad river

fairy sucker follow will

west write among

NDNP / Chronicling America
Third Prize: USNewsMap.com
K-12 Prize: Digital APUSH

Digital APUSH
Projects from AP U.S. History students at Sunapee High School

2016

Revealing History with Chronicling America —

An Introductory Note from the Teacher

The 2015 Digital APUSH work was inspired by a crowdsourced history project begun by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2015, one where "citizen historians" look within sources like newspapers.com for nationwide coverage of the Holocaust. Like these volunteer researchers, students in the 2015 AP U.S. History class searched for specific news items within a large collection of digitized historical newspapers. Using the Library of Congress' Chronicling America database, APUSH students looked for patterns of coverage, or lack of coverage. One goal of this work, like that of the Holocaust...
K-12 Prize: Digital APUSH
Some Thoughts

- Know your collections
- Contest as motivation
- Teams and collaboration
- Academic and intellectual value
- Learn from users
Thank you!

NEH Division of Preservation & Access

LC NDNP Public
http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/

Chronicling America
http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

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