



Washington  
**Secretary of State**  
SAM REED

**News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 4, 2010

Contact:  
Brian Zylstra  
Deputy Communications Director  
(360) 902-4173

## **State Library contributes *The Ranch* to Chronicling America**

***Site is home to 1.7 million historic newspaper pages***

**OLYMPIA...** *The Ranch* is among eight newspapers and more than 42,000 historic newspaper pages recently contributed to Chronicling America by the Washington State Library. Chronicling America is a project of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress.

*The Ranch* was an agricultural paper originally founded in Yakima, Washington in 1897 under the title *Ranche and Range*. In 1902 the newspaper moved its offices to Seattle and changed its name to *The Ranch*. The publication covered important developments in agriculture throughout the region, calling itself "a journal of the land and the home in the New West." In 1914 the title of the paper changed once again to the [Washington Farmer](#), which was published until 1971. People can read and research issues from *The Ranch* and other newspapers around Washington and U.S. for free at [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov).

"These historic newspapers are a rich resource for historians, genealogists and other researchers," said State Librarian Jan Walsh. "They provide names, dates, images and tell the story of a community or region in such a comprehensive way. They bring local history alive."

Chronicling America provides free and open access to over 1.7 million full-text searchable pages from 212 titles published between 1880 and 1922 in 15 states and the District of Columbia. More pages from other newspapers around Washington State will be periodically uploaded throughout 2010 as part of the [Washington State Library's National Digital Newspaper Program \(NDNP\) grant](#).

“It’s exciting to have this collection in Chronicling America. It will give researchers the ability to search across multiple collections of newspapers from various states at once,” said Deputy State Librarian Marlys Rudeen.

Part of the mission and purpose of the Washington State Library is to collect, preserve and make accessible to Washingtonians materials on the government, history, culture and natural resources of the state. [Read more about the State Library.](#)

Newspapers from Washington State currently included in Chronicling America are the Colfax Gazette, 1900-1912; Colville Examiner, 1907-1922; (Everett) Commonwealth, 1911-1914; Leavenworth Echo, 1904-1922; Pullman Herald, 1888-1893, 1907-1922; (Yakima) The Ranch, 1902-1914; Seattle Republican, 1903-1913; and Washington Farmer, June 15, 1914.

For more information about Chronicling America, contact Laura Robinson, Washington’s National Digital Newspaper Program manager, at [laura.robinson@sos.wa.gov](mailto:laura.robinson@sos.wa.gov) or (360) 570-5568.

The Washington State Library is a division of the Office of Secretary of State. You can visit the library’s web site at [www.sos.wa.gov/library](http://www.sos.wa.gov/library) .

###