



Secretary of State  
SAM REED

News Release

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**State Library contributes *Seattle Republican* to  
Chronicling America  
Site is home to 1.7 million historic newspaper pages**

**OLYMPIA...**The *Seattle Republican* 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 *Seattle Republican* was Seattle's first truly successful African American newspaper. First issued on May 19, 1894 and continuing until 1913, the paper (initially called simply the *Republican*) represented the political views of the Republican Party, but not without critical scrutiny by its publisher and editor Horace Cayton Sr. Born into slavery in 1859, Cayton became a college educated intellectual and made his paper a strong and respected voice in the rapidly growing city of Seattle. People can read and research issues from the *Seattle Republican* 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) .

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