



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 24, 2010

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

**State Library contributes *Industrial Freedom* to
Chronicling America
Site is home to nearly 2.7 million historic newspaper pages**

OLYMPIA... *Industrial Freedom* is among seven newspapers and more than 23,000 historic newspaper pages recently contributed to Chronicling America, making Washington State's contribution to the program a total of 23 titles and over 115,000 pages.

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.

In September 1897, the Equality Colony was founded near the town of Edison in Skagit County, Washington, as the site for an experiment by the Brotherhood of the Cooperative Commonwealth (BCC) to prove that general prosperity was possible in one location under a socialist system. The group decided to publish [*Industrial Freedom*](#) in Edison. Norman Wallace Lermond purchased a double cylinder press in late April 1898. George E. Boomer, a former staff member of the socialist weekly *Appeal to Reason*, arrived in Edison to work as pressman. Seven thousand copies of the first issue of the *Industrial Freedom* were printed on May 7, 1898. People can read and research issues from this and other newspapers around Washington and U.S. for free at chroniclingamerica.loc.gov.

"These historic newspapers are a rich resource for historians, genealogists and other researchers," said Acting State Librarian Rand Simmons. "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 nearly 2.7 million full-text searchable pages from 348 titles published between 1860 and 1922 in 22 states and the District of Columbia. The [Washington State Library's National Digital Newspaper Program \(NDNP\) grant](#) was renewed through June 2012, allowing more pages from other newspapers around Washington State to be uploaded over the next two years.

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

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:

- [Cayton's Monthly](#), 1921
- [Cayton's Weekly](#), 1917-1921
- [Co-operative News](#), 1917-1921
- [Colfax Gazette](#), 1900-1912
- [Colville Examiner](#), 1907-1922
- [Commonwealth](#) (Everett), 1911-1914
- [Daily Republican](#) (Seattle), 1896
- [Industrial Freedom](#), 1898-1901
- [Islander](#), 1891-1898
- [Leavenworth Echo](#), 1904-1922
- [Northwest Worker](#), 1915-1917
- [Pullman Herald](#), 1888-1922
- [The Ranch](#) (Yakima), 1894
- [The Ranch](#) (Seattle), 1902-1914
- [Ranche and Range](#) (Yakima), 1897-1902
- [The Republican](#) (Seattle), 1896-1898
- [San Juan Islander](#), 1898-1914
- [Seattle Republican](#), 1900-1913
- [Seattle Star](#), 1899-1910
- [Tacoma Times](#), 1903-1918
- [Washington Farmer](#) (Spokane), 1914
- [Washington Socialist](#), 1914-1915
- [Yakima Herald](#), 1893-1912

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

The Washington State Library is a division of the Office of Secretary of State. Visit the library's web site at www.sos.wa.gov/library .

###