Communist Historical Newspapers
Publications of the Communist Party USA, 1919-2013

A UNIQUE LOOK AT HISTORY, through the eyes of the Communist Party USA. Workers’ rights, social issues, national and international politics, culture and Party activity are just some of the topics to be explored on the pages of these Communist Party newspapers, featuring such notable contributors as writer Richard Wright, folk singer Woody Guthrie and political cartoonist Robert Minor.

These publications were not only used by Party members to share news and exchange ideas. A large number of subscribers in the late 1950s-1960s were CIA agents or front companies linked to the CIA, according to ex-agent Philip Agee. He claimed that funds from CIA subscriptions prevented one of the titles, Daily Worker, from having to shut down.

While much of the content in these newspapers focuses on workers’ rights and organized labor (a boon to scholars in these fields), other articles and ads reveal a glimpse of the people who made up the Communist Party. Reviews of books and performances, invitations to social events, analysis of international news and events from a decidedly left-wing perspective make Communist Historical Newspapers a unique resource across the curriculum.

Curriculum Focus

- American Culture
- Arts & Media
- Civil Rights
- Communist Studies
- Labor Studies
- International Affairs
- Multidisciplinary
- Political Science
- Race Relations
- Social Sciences
- Social Movements
- U.S. History

Why Communist Historical Newspapers?

- Full access to historical newspapers: Users can study the progression of issues over time by browsing issues of newspapers from the Communist Historical Newspapers, which offers coverage of 1919-2013, including news articles, photos, advertisements, classified ads, obituaries, cartoons, and more.
- Insight into multiple perspectives: Not only does presenting this newspaper on the ProQuest platform allow for cover-to-cover searching and browsing of complete issues of this newspaper, but users can find a broader view of issues and events by cross searching all of ProQuest’s complete runs of historical newspapers.
- User-friendly support tools to facilitate research: Digitized at the page level, users can focus on relevant information quickly with hit-term highlighting, searchable PDFs, and image downloads in PDF format.
- Award-winning, user-friendly interface: ProQuest was awarded Best Interface in the 2015 Charleston Advisor Reader’s Choice Awards: “It is much more intuitive and easy to use than previous versions. It includes improved document viewing, easier navigation...Kudos to ProQuest.”

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