IOWA DIGITAL NEWSPAPER PROJECT
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Guide to Using Chronicling America

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Guide to Using Chronicling America

Start at the Chronicling America homepage: http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

There are 3 tabs in a blue bar at the top of the page that you can use to search or browse the digitized newspapers: **Search Pages**, **Advanced Search**, and **All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922**

The **Search Pages** tab gives you a quick and simple search option. You can:

- Select a **state** to limit your search
- Choose a **range of years** to search
- Enter one or more **search terms** in the search box

The **Advanced Search** tab gives you more options to refine your search criteria and narrow down the number of search results you will get back.

The top section of the Advanced Search box lets you put limits on your search before you enter your search terms. You can limit by:

- State
- Newspaper title

- Year range, or a more specific date range
- Front page or other specified page
- Language

Note: To select more than one state or newspaper title, hold down the Control (Ctrl) key and click the states or titles you want to select.

In the bottom half of the Advanced Search box, you can enter your search terms in any of the four search fields. Each one will treat your search terms a little differently and retrieve a different set of results. Your options are:

- With any of the words – this will treat your search terms as **separate keywords** and retrieve newspaper pages containing **any of the terms** you entered
- With all of the words – this will only retrieve pages that include **all of your search terms** on that page
- With the phrase – this will treat your search terms as a **single phrase** and will only retrieve newspaper pages containing the **phrase as you entered it**
- With the words…within [5, 10, 50, or 100] words of each other – this will retrieve only the pages that have your **search terms in whatever proximity you specify**. This is helpful if you don't know exactly how the phrase may appear.

Things to keep in mind:

- Search results are images of full newspaper pages, not individual articles. If your search terms appear in more than one article on the same page, it will still display as a single search result.
- Language used in historic newspapers may be different that the terms used today (i.e. The Great War instead of World War One). This has a big impact on the quality and quantity of results you'll get from your search.
- Try variations in spelling (even incorrect spellings), especially when searching for a person's name.
- You may need to try your search in a number of different ways before you find what returns the best results.

Working with Search Results

Here's an example of an advanced search for the phrase "**Iowa state fair"** in **Iowa newspapers** only:

After you choose your criteria and enter your search terms, you'll get a **gallery view** of your search results, with thumbnail views of each page labeled with the title, city and state, date, and image number (where that image falls within that issue).

At the top of your results gallery, you can:

- Choose to **show only front pages**, if you are only looking for articles that appeared on the front page of the issue
- Sort your results by
  - **Relevance** of results based on how closely they fit your search criteria. (There are a lot of elements to this, but, in general, this looks for exact matches for phrase searches, multiple occurrences of search terms, and how closely search terms are grouped together on a page.)
  - Alphabetically by **State**
  - Alphabetically by **Title**
  - Chronologically by **Date**
- Choose to display either 20 or 50 **results per page**.

Note: You can also choose a **list view** of your search results using the link at the top right corner of the results box, but an advantage of using the gallery view is that your search terms will be highlighted in red so you can see how many times they appear on each page.

Viewing a Newspaper Page

When you click on one of your search results, you'll go to the Chronicling America page viewer. You'll see the **title**, **date**, and **image number** above the viewer box, and right under the title you can link back to that newspaper's information page. Above the title, you can link back to the search result gallery or go to the directly to the next search result.

« Back to search results   1 of 1836 | Next »

The Denison review., August 14, 1912, Image 3
About The Denison review. (Denison, Iowa) 1867-current

The page you selected will be displayed in the viewer below. There are a number of options in the gray bar at the top of the viewing window to work with the image, navigate between images, or save an image.

Image: 3 ∨ of 12.   ← Page → All Pages   ← Issues → All Issues   Text PDF JP2 (5.0 MB)
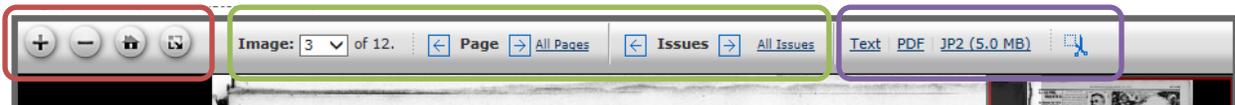
The 4 buttons on the left side of the gray bar give you options to **adjust the page view**:

- Zoom in
- Zoom out
- Return to the original view

- Expand to a full window view (you will still have the gray bar at the top so you can still navigate back and forth between pages and issues)

The middle of the gray bar is where you can **navigate between pages or issues**:

- **Image selection box** – go directly to a specific page from the issue you are using
- Navigate through the pages of the issue with the arrow buttons. Click **All pages** to see a gallery view of all pages in that issue.
- Navigate through the issues of the title you are using. Click **All Issues** to go to the calendar view and select a different date.

The right side of the gray bar provides options for **downloading and saving pages** or excerpts from Chronicling America:

- **Text** – see a plaintext version of the newspaper page. This can be a little hard to read – it is generated from the Optical Character Recognition (OCR) program and will contain some extra characters and different spacing than the newspaper page. However, this is a good option if you need to copy and paste a large section of text to quote an article in a new piece of writing.
- **PDF** – open a PDF version of the full newspaper page and save it to your computer. This is a good option if you want to save the full page, but still be able to zoom in and out to read the text easily.
- **JP2** – open a JP2 image file of the full newspaper page and save it to your computer. This is an easy way to use a full page image in another document you are creating.
- **Clipping tool** – clip a specific area of the page to print or download and save as an image file.

Using the Clipping Tool:

The clipping tool clips the section of the page that is displayed in the viewing window. The inset box in the upper right corner of the viewer shows a red frame around area of the page that is currently inside the viewing window.
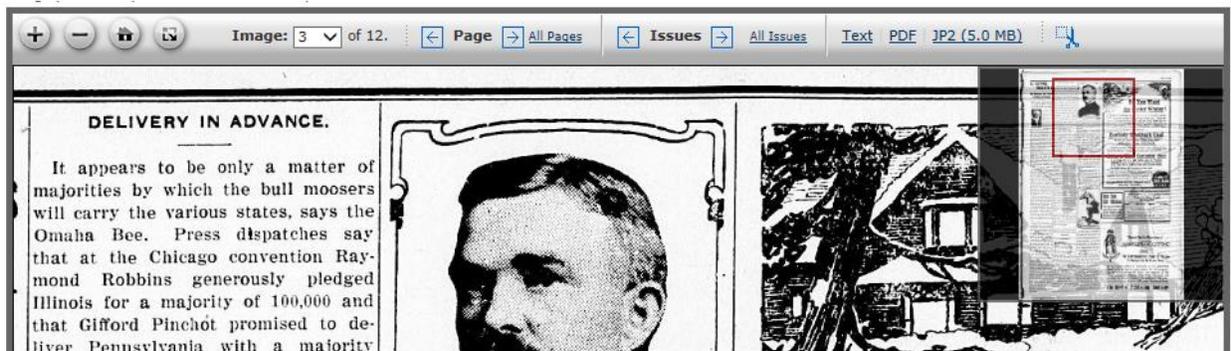
To clip an article or excerpt from a page, zoom in on the page until the article you want is readable but still completely within the viewing window. Then click the Clipping tool button. This will open a new

window with the image of the area you selected from the page. For example, if we clip the selected section from the page above, here's what we'll get:

The Denison review. (Denison, Iowa) 1867-current, August 14, 1912, Image 3

Image provided by State Historical Society of Iowa

Persistent link: http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84038095/1912-08-14/ed-1/seq-3/

🖶 Print this image | ⬇🖻 Download this image

DELIVERY IN ADVANCE.

It appears to be only a matter of majorities by which the bull moosers will carry the various states, says the Omaha Bee. Press dispatches say that at the Chicago convention Raymond Robbins generously pledged Illinois for a majority of 100,000 and that Gifford Pinchot promised to deliver Pennsylvania with a majority of 300,000.

Now, that is the right system to run a campaign. Let it be known in advance definitely just what to count on in each state and it will save much confusion and useless exertion, to say nothing of money, though, of course, to bull moosers money is not a matter of the least moment. Since we have Illinois and Pennsylvania to start with, let the roll proceed: Minnesota! How many, Senator Clapp? Kansas, Senator Bristow? New York, Mr. Perkins? New Jersey, Mr. Fort? And Texas, Colonel Cecil Lyon, how many thousand majority may we count on from you for the bull moosers in dear old Texas?

It is as simple as rolling off a log into a creek and about as safe.

PLENTY OF MONEY.

St. Louis Globe Democrat: Only one party in the field is able to report that it is abundantly supplied with campaign funds. This party, with a flush treasury, announced, by itself, is the one formally started in a national convention at Chicago last week. George W. Perkins, recently a partner of Pierpont Morgan, and one of the largest trust operators, publicly states that the new party has at command all the money needed to put it in motion in all the states and in its general organization. Mr. Perkins was chief financier in the recent

Patrick Conway at Iowa State Fair

Patrick Conway and his splendid concert band, with high class vocalists from New York, has been engaged this year for the Iowa State Fair and Exposition the last week in August.

The Conway band earned great repute at the last Iowa State Fair and his concerts were listened to with appreciation by the thousands of music loving Iowa people who attended these summer musical festivals.

The State Fair management has also secured the famous Liberati concert band for a series of concerts at the fair, also the Fifty-sixth regiment band of Ottumwa and two orchestras.

The State Fair musical program this year will be far and away better than anything of the kind ever given in the west.

D...
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ONE of the best way... thought to the kin... losing money if you do... clean, holds the heat and ha... store warm for hours with o... coal and we want you to kno... is now offered for sale in this...

Peabody Sh...

"Burns Like Old Hi...

Gives More I...

Peabody Shellbark comes... best to make a perfect fuel—high h... of good heat stuff in it. 13,000 Bri...

Comes in Thre...

Now you can use the links above the image to either print it directly from that screen or download the image file and save it to your computer.

<u>Saving a Persistent Link</u>

If you don't want to download or save a newspaper page, but want to be able to return to it later, you can save a **persistent link** that will always take you directly to that page. The persistent link is located below every newspaper image, at the bottom of the viewing window. It is preceded by the publication information you'll need to provide a **citation** for content found on Chronicling America.

Note: When you use the clipping tool as shown above, you'll also find the persistent link in the new window with your clipped image.

Browsing

If you'd prefer to browse rather than enter specific search terms, use the **All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922** tab.
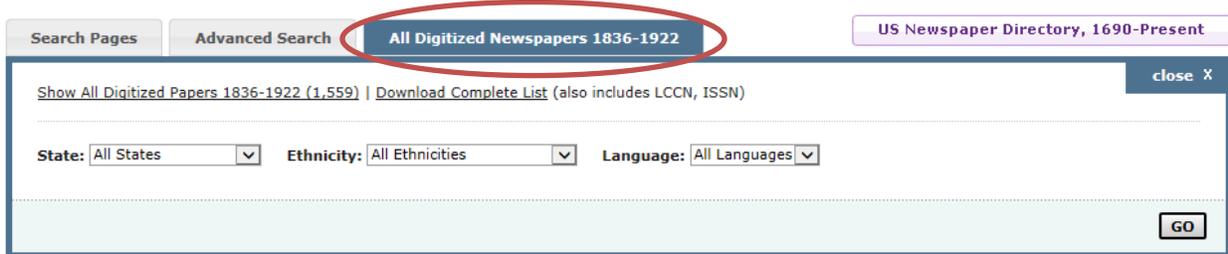
From here, you can access a list of **all newspapers** that have been digitized for Chronicling America by clicking the <u>Show All Digitized Papers 1836-1922</u> link at the top of the box, or you can limit your list by **state**, **ethnicity**, and/or **language** by selecting from any of the three dropdown menus.

For example, selecting **Iowa** from the **State menu** and clicking the "Go" button will take you to a list of **all Iowa newspapers** that have been digitized for Chronicling America:

Results: Digitized Newspapers

15 newspapers from **Iowa** are available for viewing on this site.

State	▲ Newspaper	Browse Issues	⬍ No. of Issues	⬍ Earliest Issue	⬍ Latest Issue	More Info
Iowa	**Cresco plain dealer.** Cresco, Howard County, Iowa, 1913-1945	🗓	409	1913-02-07	1920-12-31	Yes
Iowa	**The Denison review.** Denison, Iowa, 1867-current	🗓	534	1910-09-07	1920-11-24	Yes
Iowa	**Der Demokrat.** Davenport, Iowa, 186?-1868	🗓	171	1862-07-03	1865-12-28	Yes
Iowa	**Der tägliche Demokrat.** Davenport, Iowa, 186?-1918	🗓	526	1917-01-02	1918-09-07	Yes
Iowa	**Evening times-Republican.** Marshalltown, Iowa, 1890-1923	🗓	3297	1910-02-01	1920-12-31	Yes
Iowa	**Iowa state bystander.** Des Moines, Iowa, 1894-1916	🗓	1105	1894-06-15	1916-01-14	Yes
Iowa	**The Leon reporter.** Leon, Iowa, 1887-1930	🗓	504	1910-11-03	1920-06-24	Yes
Iowa	**Manchester Democrat.** Manchester, Iowa, 1875-1930	🗓	548	1911-07-05	1921-12-28	Yes
Iowa	**Ottumwa semi-weekly courier.** Ottumwa, Iowa, 1916-1918	🗓	176	1916-09-29	1918-06-04	Yes
Iowa	**Ottumwa tri-weekly courier.** Ottumwa, Iowa, 1903-1916	🗓	1030	1910-03-01	1916-09-26	Yes
Iowa	**Twice-a-week plain dealer.** Cresco, Howard County, Iowa, 1895-1913	🗓	309	1910-03-01	1913-01-31	Yes
Iowa	**Webster City freeman.** Webster City, Hamilton County, Iowa, 1884-1946	🗓	568	1911-07-11	1922-05-29	Yes
Iowa	**The bystander.** Des Moines, Iowa, 1916-1922	🗓	303	1916-01-21	1921-12-31	Yes
Iowa	**The daily Gate City and constitution-Democrat.** Keokuk, Iowa, 1916-1922	🗓	1470	1916-04-03	1920-12-18	Yes
Iowa	**The daily Gate City.** Keokuk, Iowa, 1855-1916	🗓	640	1914-03-20	1916-04-02	Yes

⬆ Top

Using this list, you can find more information about the newspapers themselves and browse through the digitized issues.

- Click on a **newspaper title** to see the **publication information** and read a short essay about the newspaper's history (example below)
- Click the **calendar button** next to a title to **browse through issues** of that title starting at a specific date
- Go directly to the **Earliest Issue** or **Latest Issue**
- Clicking the **Yes** link in the **More Info** column will also take you to the page with that title's publication information and **historical essay**. If this column says No, it means that an essay has not yet been uploaded for that title.

This is the title information page for the Cresco Plain Dealer:

About Cresco plain dealer. (Cresco, Howard County, Iowa) 1913-1945
Cresco, Howard County, Iowa (1913-1945)

Browse Issues | About | Libraries that Have It | MARC Record

Title:
Cresco plain dealer. : (Cresco, Howard County, Iowa) 1913-1945

Alternative Titles:
• Plain dealer

Place of publication:
Cresco, Howard County, Iowa

Geographic coverage:
• Cresco, Howard, Iowa | View more titles from this: City County, State

Publisher:
Mead Pub. Co.

Dates of publication:
1913-1945

Description:
• Vol. 54, no. 24 (Feb. 7, 1913)-v. 87, no. 6 (Sept. 27, 1945).

Frequency:
Weekly

Language:
• English

Subjects:
• Cresco (Iowa)--Newspapers.

Notes:
• "Official paper of the city and county."
• Archived issues are available in digital format from the Library of Congress Chronicling America online collection.

LCCN:
sn 87058075

OCLC:
15528466

ISSN:
2374-586X

Preceding Titles:
• Twice-a-week plain dealer. (Cresco, Howard County, Iowa) 1895-1913

Succeeding Titles:
• Howard County times. (Cresco, Iowa) 1870-1945
• The Howard County times and Cresco plain dealer consolidated. (Cresco, Iowa) 1945-1951

Related Links:
• http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/lccn/sn87058075/issues

Holdings:
➲ View complete holdings information

View
➲ First Issue ➲ Last Issue

Cresco plain dealer. February 7, 1913, Image 1

Browse:
⊞ Calendar View

All front pages

First Issue | Last Issue

Twice-a-week Plain Dealer and Cresco PlainDealer

As the seat of Howard County, the city of Cresco serves a largely agricultural community in northeast Iowa. In fact, the city's name is Latin for "I grow." Cresco has recently gained recognition as the birthplace of Nobel Peace Prize laureate and founder of the World Food Prize, Norman Borlaug.

The *Cresco Plain Dealer* actually began in the small community of New Oregon a few miles south of Cresco. Originally known as the *New Oregon Plain Dealer*, the paper was founded by H. Lick and William R. Mead, who published the first issue on August 20, 1859. The paper moved to Cresco in May 1867, at which time the title was changed to the *Iowa Plain Dealer*. Also in this year, T.P.R. Brown joined Mead as an editor. In 1895, the paper became the *Twice-a-week Plain Dealer* to reflect a change in its publication schedule; then in 1913 it reverted back to a weekly paper and became the *Cresco Plain Dealer*.

The *Plain Dealer* was published and edited primarily by the Mead family throughout most of its history. Soon after the paper was started, William's brother, Francis J. Mead, purchased Lick's share of the business and took over as publisher. William Mead continued as editor until his death in 1905, when his nephew Francis Dana Mead assumed this role. When Francis D. Mead died in 1932, his sons, George and Donald, took over operation of the paper. In 1935, Donald Mead was appointed postmaster, leaving his brother George to manage the paper on his own until the *Plain Dealer* was purchased by Louis P. Barth in 1945. Barth also owned the *Howard County Times* and consolidated the two papers into a single publication called the *Times-Plain Dealer*.

From its establishment, the *Plain Dealer* reflected the views and values of the Democratic Party. The *Cresco Times* was founded in 1867 to provide a Republican alternative. In 1870, this paper became the *Howard County Times*. There was something of a circulation war between the *Plain Dealer* and the *Times*, particularly from 1890 to 1910. In 1890, both papers were published on Thursdays and each had a circulation of about a thousand subscribers. By 1896, the *Plain Dealer* had become a semiweekly paper and increased its circulation to over 2,100. The *Howard County Times* continued to publish only once a

In the left column, all the **publication information** available for the Cresco Plain Dealer is displayed. The **Preceding/Succeeding Title** information can be especially helpful, since many newspapers have gone through title changes and mergers that can be difficult to follow. Under **Related Links**, you can go directly to the calendar view to browse digitized issues for this title.

In the right column, you can see the image of the **front page of the first available issue** for the Cresco Plain Dealer. Next to this, you can browse through the **calendar view**, browse only the **front pages**, and go directly to the **first or last issue**. Under the image and browsing options, you will find the **essay** about the newspaper's history.

At the end of the title essay, you'll see a link that says **Provided by: State Historical Society of Iowa.**

Related Links:
- http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/lccn/sn87058075/issues

Holdings:
⊙ View complete holdings information

View
⊙ First Issue ⊙ Last Issue

From its establishment, the *Plain Dealer* reflected the views and values of the Democratic Party. The *Cresco Times* was founded in 1867 to provide a Republican alternative. In 1870, this paper became the *Howard County Times*. There was something of a circulation war between the *Plain Dealer* and the *Times*, particularly from 1890 to 1910. In 1890, both papers were published on Thursdays and each had a circulation of about a thousand subscribers. By 1896, the *Plain Dealer* had become a semiweekly paper and increased its circulation to over 2,100. The *Howard County Times* continued to publish only once a week and grew its circulation to 1,500 copies. Four years later, the *Plain Dealer's* circulation had declined to 1,750 and the *Times'* had risen to 2,200. By 1910, the *Plain Dealer* was back on top with 1,800 subscribers versus 1,350 for the *Howard County Times*. The two papers remained fierce competitors until they merged in 1945. The *Times-Plain Dealer* continues publication in Cresco to the present day.

Provided by: State Historical Society of Iowa

This link will take you to an overview of Iowa's contributions to Chronicling America, including when batches of new content were ingested, what was included in each batch, and page counts for each batch. This is followed by links to the title essays and the dates each one was uploaded.

Awardee: State Historical Society of Iowa

Below is some summary information about contributions to Chronicling America from the NDNP Awardee, State Historical Society of Iowa. Summary information about all awardees is also available.

Batches

Ingested	Batch Name	Total Pages
July 23, 2013, 2:03 p.m.	batch_iahi_ames_ver01	6,820
March 21, 2014, 3:27 p.m.	batch_iahi_bettendorf_ver01	8,519
Jan. 31, 2014, 8:52 a.m.	batch_iahi_clinton_ver01	7,169
April 2, 2014, 3:07 p.m.	batch_iahi_decorah_ver01	9,174
May 1, 2014, 12:57 p.m.	batch_iahi_elgin_ver01	9,202
May 1, 2014, 1:58 p.m.	batch_iahi_ferguson_ver01	8,116
June 2, 2014, 4:37 p.m.	batch_iahi_grimes_ver01	7,792
May 20, 2014, 10:53 a.m.	batch_iahi_hawkeye_ver01	7,721
June 9, 2014, 10:24 a.m.	batch_iahi_imogene_ver01	7,817
Aug. 15, 2014, 10:05 a.m.	batch_iahi_jolley_ver01	7,433
July 18, 2014, 10:46 a.m.	batch_iahi_kalona_ver01	7,861
Aug. 1, 2014, 9:46 a.m.	batch_iahi_letts_ver01	7,810
Oct. 22, 2014, 3:40 p.m.	batch_iahi_marion_ver02	8,194

Essays

Essay Title	Created
Der Demokrat, Der Wöchentliche Demokrat and Der Tägliche Demokrat	Feb. 21, 2014
Evening Times-Republican	April 4, 2014
Manchester Democrat	Feb. 21, 2014
Ottumwa Tri-weekly Courier and Ottumwa Semi-weekly Courier	Feb. 21, 2014
The Daily Gate City and The Daily Gate City and Constitution-Democrat	Feb. 21, 2014
The Denison Review	Feb. 21, 2014
The Leon Reporter	Feb. 21, 2014
Twice-a-week Plain Dealer and Cresco PlainDealer	Feb. 21, 2014
Webster City Freeman	Feb. 21, 2014

This information is not particularly relevant to searching Chronicling America, but it gives you an idea of the process involved in Iowa's NDNP participation.

100 Years Ago Today

Another interesting feature of Chronicling America is the **100 Years Ago Today** display on the homepage. You can browse through the front pages of all participating states' newspapers from 100 years ago using the arrow buttons on either side of the display box.

You can also quickly find all the Iowa newspapers from this group without having to click through every one.

Click the **100 Years Ago Today** heading at the top of the display box. This will take you to a gallery view of every newspaper page in Chronicling America that was published 100 years ago. At the top of the results gallery, click the **Show only front pages** box, and choose **State** from the **Sort By** menu.

From there, just scroll down until you reach the Iowa issues

<u>U.S. Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present</u>

From the Chronicling America website, you can also access the **U.S. Newspaper Directory** by clicking the pink button at the top right, above the blue search bar.


The U.S. Newspaper Directory provides information about newspapers published in the United States since 1690 and currently includes **over 153,000 titles**. Each listing provides the paper's publication information, preceding and succeeding titles, and how you can get **access** to issues of the paper.

You can **browse** the directory by title using the alphabet links in the light blue box at the top of the page:

Or, you can use the search options below to find newspapers from **particular place** or published during a **specific time period**.
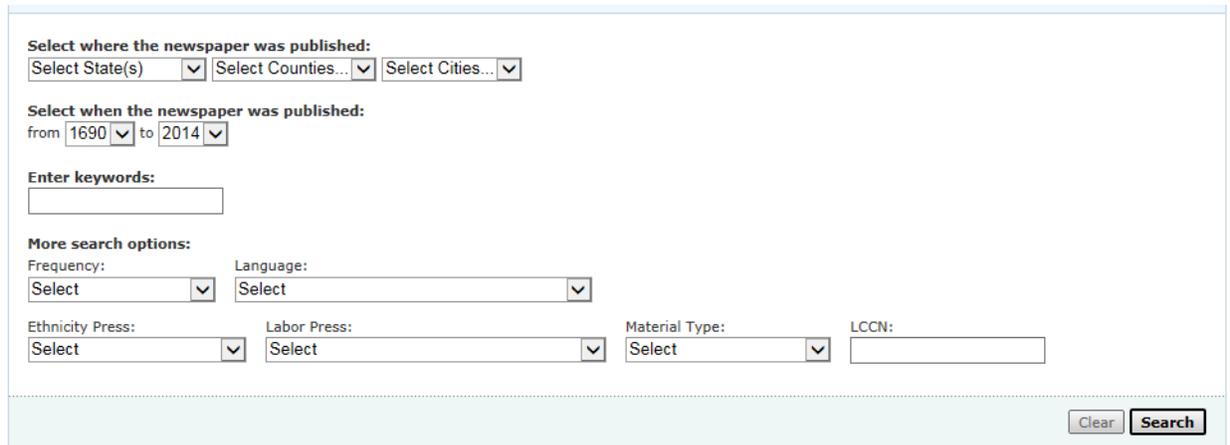
If you are looking for a **specific title**, try selecting the state and city (if you know them) and then entering the title in the **Enter keywords** box.
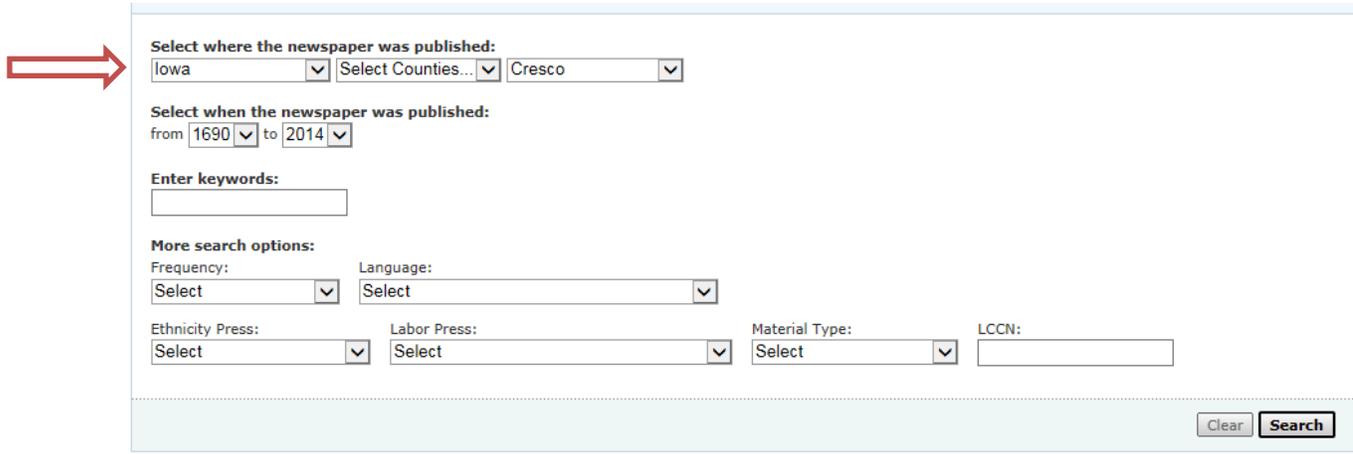
You can **limit** your search further with the dropdown menus at the bottom, where you can select the **frequency** of publication, **language**, **ethnicity press**, **labor press**, and/or **material type**.

U.S. Newspaper Directory & Chronicling America

The U.S. Newspaper Directory provides a single place to search for a newspaper title and find a way to **access** it, either **physically** through a specific library's collection of newspapers or microfilm, or **digitally** through Chronicling America or another online resource. When you search for a title that is part of Chronicling America, you will be taken to the same page as if you had gone through the search or browse options outlined above.

For example, if you search for newspapers in Cresco, Iowa, through the U.S. Newspaper Directory:

You'll get a list of results like this one:

Clicking on Cresco Plain Dealer (#9) will take you to the same title information page we found earlier through the list of Iowa titles in Chronicling America:

About Cresco plain dealer. (Cresco, Howard County, Iowa) 1913-1945
Cresco, Howard County, Iowa (1913-1945)

Browse Issues | About | Libraries that Have It | MARC Record

Title:
Cresco plain dealer. : (Cresco, Howard County, Iowa) 1913-1945

Alternative Titles:
- Plain dealer

Place of publication:
Cresco, Howard County, Iowa

Geographic coverage:
- Cresco, Howard, Iowa | View more titles from this: City County, State

Publisher:
Mead Pub. Co.

Dates of publication:
1913-1945

Description:
- Vol. 54, no. 24 (Feb. 7, 1913)-v. 87, no. 6 (Sept. 27, 1945).

Frequency:
Weekly

Language:
- English

Subjects:
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Notes:
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- The Howard County times and Cresco plain dealer consolidated. (Cresco, Iowa) 1945-1951

Related Links:
- http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/lccn/sn87058075/issues

Holdings:
- View complete holdings information

View
- First Issue Last Issue

Cresco plain dealer. February 7, 1913, Image 1

Browse:
Calendar View

All front pages

First Issue | Last Issue

Twice-a-week Plain Dealer and Cresco PlainDealer

As the seat of Howard County, the city of Cresco serves a largely agricultural community in northeast Iowa. In fact, the city's name is Latin for "I grow." Cresco has recently gained recognition as the birthplace of Nobel Peace Prize laureate and founder of the World Food Prize, Norman Borlaug.

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Titles included in Chronicling America will often also have a separate listing in the U.S. Newspaper Directory as online resources. Here is one for the Twice-a-week Plain Dealer (Cresco, Iowa):

These listings look slightly different – the term **online resource** follows the title, and the historical essay, page image, and browsing links shown in the right column in the previous image are not present. However, clicking the link under the **Related Links** heading will take you to the title's calendar browse view in Chronicling America.

Note: If a title is digitized somewhere other than Chronicling America, it will also be listed as an online resource and a link to the electronic content will be provided under the Related Links heading. If you want to find how to get access to a title that has not been digitized, click the **Libraries that Have It** link at the top of the title listing, or the **View complete holdings** information under the Holdings link in the listing.