

Ethnic American Newspapers from the Balch Collection, 1799-1971

New opportunities to explore the American immigrant experience



Quick Facts

More than 130 fully searchable newspapers in 10 languages from 25 states, including many rare 19th-century titles

Extensive coverage of many of the most influential ethnic groups in U.S. history

Covers immigrant contributions to U.S. business, music, science, education, labor movements and war efforts

“... opens a marvelous window into immigrant life in America.... essential details of immigrant life, including their divisions, their controversies, and their struggles to adapt to the American environment.”

—James M. Bergquist, Emeritus Professor of History, Villanova University

Overview

Featuring more than 130 fully searchable newspapers in 10 languages from 25 states—including many rare 19th-century titles—this online collection provides extensive coverage of many of the most influential ethnic groups in U.S. history. With an emphasis on Americans of Czech, French, German, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Jewish, Lithuanian, Polish, Slovak and Welsh descent, this unique resource will enable students and scholars to explore often-overlooked aspects of this nation's history, politics and culture.

Two centuries of immigrant life in the U.S.

Spanning the Early Republic's Open Door Era to the Era of Liberalization in the mid-1960s, *Ethnic American Newspapers from the Balch Collection* covers two centuries of immigrant life in the United States. Nineteenth-century topics include the denial of citizenship to “nonwhites”; the founding of nativist political movements, including the anti-immigrant “Know-Nothing” party; the 1849 discovery of gold in California, which lured people from all over the world; New York City's place as the world's largest Irish city in 1860 with more than 200,000 Irish-born citizens; and the Immigration Act of 1882, which levied a tax on all immigrants landing at U.S. ports.

In addition to the major contributions of immigrants to business, music, science, education, labor movements and war efforts, later topics include the Naturalization Act of 1906, which for citizenship required immigrants to learn to speak English; the 1921 Emergency Quota Act, which favored northern and western Europeans; the 1942 internment in “War Relocation Camps” of Japanese Americans, several of whom published newspapers; Truman's 1953 Commission on Immigration and Naturalization, which revealed the positive impact of immigrants; and much more.

Partnership with a leading ethnic research center

This new resource features newspapers from the former Balch Institute of Ethnic Studies—arguably the best known ethnic research center in America, which merged with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in 2002—and the collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania itself, one of the largest and oldest family history libraries in the nation. *Ethnic American Newspapers from the Balch Collection* is the third collection in the Readex *American Ethnic Newspapers* series, which also includes *African American Newspapers, 1827-1998*, and *Hispanic American Newspapers, 1808-1980*. It can be cross-searched with all other *America's Historical Newspapers* series, including *Early American Newspapers* and *Caribbean Newspapers*.



UNLOCK HISTORY.

For more information on this and other Readex collections, call 800.762.8182, email sales@readex.com or visit www.readex.com

Readex
A Division of NewsBank