

Annotated Bibliography: The Immigrant Presses

Andersen, Arlow William. *The Immigrant Takes His Stand, the Norwegian-American Press and Public Affairs, 1847-1872*. Northfield, MN. Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1953.

This analysis involves the life and struggles of the people who contributed to the Americanization of Norwegian immigrants, specifically the social conditions of the people who were involved with the evolution of the immigrant presses. The text takes a very comprehensive view of the evolution of the immigrant press. The chronology starts with the date and location of the first recorded boat containing Norwegian immigrants, and continues with explicit detail, an analysis of the daily, weekly, and special interest publications of the Norwegian-American immigrants. The author does well to specify and highlight important movements that affected the process of Americanization that was affecting immigrants of all nationalities. His thesis directs the reader to take notice of the ways in which language affects the social structure of a specific culture, including the morals and ethics of that time.

Andersen, Arlow William. *Rough Road to Glory: The Norwegian-American Press Speaks Out on Public Affairs, 1875 to 1925*. Philadelphia, Balch Institute, 1990.

In his final analysis of the Norwegian-American press, the author has taken a more informed stance about the conditions in which these “Americanized” Norwegians assimilated with the industrial age. His appreciation for the hardships endured by the working man are explicit in the title, and this analysis is a more romantic account of that culture. The focus of this project seems to be a more comprehensive account of the Norwegian impact on the industry and politics of the Midwest.

Downs, Brian W. “Anglo-Norwegian Literary Relations 1867-1900.” *The Modern Language Review*, vol. 47, no. 4 (Oct., 1952), pp. 449-494. Modern Humanities Research Association.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3719698>, [2/10/09 12:56 pm]

This article focuses on the prior immersion of Norwegian culture with English literature. This line of inquiry could prove useful to research about the evolution of Scandinavian literature, but as a separate study, stands alone in the realm of its theory. It proved less than useful for the study of the early-American Immigrant press.

Larson, Laurence M. “The Norwegian Element in the NW.” *The American Historical Review*, vol.40, no. 1 (Oct. 1934) pp.69-81. American Historical Association.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/183865>, 1/27/09 8:57 pm

This article focused on the life and work of Norwegian immigrants who made their travel across the American continent and settled in the Northwest. The information in the article was not specific to the press. It seems that the Scandinavian influence on the presses was much less effective in this region, probably due to the lower population of these immigrants in the region, as opposed to the settlement of the Midwestern regions. This article is a good source for studies in multi-cultural influences of the Northwest settlers, but was not specific to my area of study.

Fritiof, Ander. "The Swedish-American Press and the Election of 1892." *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, vol. 23, no. 4 (Mar. 1957) pp.533-554. Organization of American Historians.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/188651>, 1/27/09 9:12 pm

The emphasis of this article pertained to the events that led up to, and the effects of a particular event in American history. Conclusions about the press, and the democratic capability to embody the popular interests of that time were articulated in detail, providing an integral perspective of the uses of foreign language press. The effectiveness of the press for making political agenda accessible to the public is the theme in this report.

Fritiof, Ander. "The Swedish American Press and the American Protective Association." *Church History*, vol. 6, no. 2 (Jun. 1937), pp.165-179. Cambridge University Press.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3160872>, [2/10/09, 11:40 am]

The core of this article focuses on the religious foundations of Swedish immigrants. The rhetoric points toward the connection between political action and the religious beliefs of these people. The study does very well to show how a collective of individuals can influence the interests of a larger community; specifically involving policy reform, work and labor movements, political integration of immigrants, and the work of government agencies to retain traditional beliefs and values.

Park, Robert Ezra. *The Immigrant Press and its Control*. New York, Harper. 1922. Ch: 1,2,9,10,13.

The author of this book takes an empirical perspective of the various forms of foreign-language and English publications that were founded and followed by immigrants of many nationalities. The reporting and rhetoric of the text are supplemented with comparative data, displayed quantitatively in charts and figures, which was very enriching as a tool to observe the ways in which these immigrant presses began, and were changed throughout the Americanization of foreign immigrants. This was the most comprehensive source on the subject of immigrant press and its evolution into American politics.

Zubrzycki, Jerzy. "The Role of the Foreign-Language Press in Migrant Integration." *Population Studies*. vol. 12, no. 1 (Jul, 1958). pp. 73-82. Population Investigation Committee.
<http://www.jsor.org/stable/2172213>, [2/10/09, 11:57 am]

The study in this article related specifically to the process of integration, referred to in other articles as, Americanization. The role of the press in this article was to inform and involve peoples in the institutions of America that pertained to labor and politics. The importance of language and culture were secondary to the ability of individuals to identify with a community, leading to eventual culmination of the migrant populous as a national body of settlers.