

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Learning Lagniappe: Educator Extras

Daniel, Al Fred, Photograph Collection

PI/1999.0001

http://www.mdah.ms.gov/arrec/digital_archives/series/daniel

The Daniel, Al Fred, Photograph Collection consists of 586 photographs from three studios managed by the Albert Frederick Daniel family in Jackson, Mississippi, as well as copy prints of other photographers' work. Most of the photographs were taken in Jackson, although there are groups of images of the tung oil industry in south Mississippi and Boy Scouts at campgrounds around the state. Other subjects include businesses, churches (interior and exterior), colleges, floods, hospitals, politicians, public buildings, schools, and street scenes. Of special interest are panoramic photographs of early floods in downtown Jackson, images of the Mississippi Farmers Market and the Farish Street business district, and multiple images of both the Old Capitol and the Mississippi State Capitol buildings.

Subjects that can be addressed within this Digital Archive:

1927 Mississippi River flood, agriculture, Mississippi's economy, early Mississippi government, education, segregation, transportation, children, and early twentieth century life in Mississippi.

For more lessons and activities based on the Digital archives and other collections visit the Classroom Materials page on our website at

<http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/learn/classroom-materials/lesson-plans-and-teaching-units/>

Teacher Discussion Guide

Use images from the MDAH Digital Archive entitled “Daniel, Al Fred, Photograph Collection,” (found at http://www.mdah.ms.gov/arrec/digital_archives/series/daniel) to lead your class in a discussion analyzing and interpreting the following images:

1. Type in “Clarion Ledger circa 1912” in the “search for keyword” box.

- a. What types of stories can you read about in newspapers and in what way are they valuable to the local community? Local and national news, sports, opinion, food, entertainment, etc. Local newspapers are able to provide in-depth analysis of major local and national news stories. They provide readers with a greater connection to and sense of their communities.
- b. How do the reporters get this information? Is it reliable? Why or why not? Journalists get most of the information for their stories through personal interviews with their sources. Many reporters have a list of trusted contacts, but the process of writing a good article or story often involves interviewing new people and fact checking their statements. Newspapers try to ensure their information and sources are as credible as possible, but corrections occasionally have to be printed.
- c. What are sources of competition for print newspapers today? The fast-paced digital world does pose a threat to newspapers. Online, television, and radio news sources have the advantage of quickly updating their readers or viewers, keeping them constantly informed.
- d. Is the *Clarion Ledger* still active today? How do you think it has changed? Yes. The *Clarion Ledger* is one of the few newspapers in the nation that continues to circulate statewide. Like many newspapers, the *Clarion Ledger* now has a website with additional features that are not available in the print version, such as access to blogs, videos, and links to other news sources. Digital subscriptions, digital advertising, and social media platforms are all relatively recent changes as well.

2. Type in “Interior of Westbrook Restaurant” in the “search for keyword” box.

- a. What items and prices are advertised on the signs behind the counter? Beef tenderloin for 40 cents, coffee for 5 cents, waffles for 15 cents, and hamburgers for 10 cents.
- b. What would these items typically cost today? Depending on the quality of each item, you can usually find a cup of coffee for \$2, a hamburger for \$5, or an order of waffles for \$2-\$5.
- c. Why is there such a difference? Inflation (or the sustained increase in the general level of prices and goods) causes these changes. Inflation is measured as an annual percentage and most countries attempt to keep it at around 2%-3% a year. At first glance, inflation might seem like a bad thing, but economists generally agree that it indicates economic growth. Wages are usually adjusted to account for these increases in price.

3. Type in “June 27, 1952” in the “search for keyword” box. Select the fourth image.

- a. What types of items do you see available for sale here? Most easily identifiable amongst the variety of fruits and vegetables are watermelons, beans, onions, and crates of Coca-Cola.
- b. Are farmers markets still around today? Have you ever been to one? Yes. Evidence shows that the number of farmers markets in Mississippi has increased in past years.
- c. What are the benefits of shopping at a farmers market? The produce is grown locally, meaning it is fresher, healthier, is sometimes cheaper and supports local food production. Buying fruits or vegetables directly from the farmer cuts out the middleman (shippers, distributors, store owners, etc.) and allows the grower to keep a larger portion of the profit.
- d. How would the consumer’s shopping experience differ from ours today? At the time this photograph was taken, farmer’s markets would have been one of the few ways for consumers to purchase fruits and vegetables, making the choices somewhat limited. Today, grocery stores and superstores provide the consumer with endless options day or night.