



National Archives at Kansas City Newsletter

Jackie Robinson Symposium: Civic, Legal, and Political Legacy Offered at Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

On **Monday, April 1, from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**, the National Archives at Kansas City in partnership with the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum will host a public symposium *The Jackie Robinson Symposium: Civic, Legal, and Political Legacy*. This event will be held at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, 1616 East 18th Street, Kansas City, MO, and will include lunch.

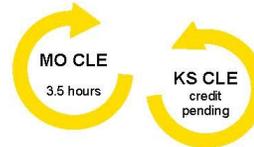
The Jackie Robinson Symposium is held in collaboration with the University of Missouri - Kansas City Law School and Park University. The event also serves as a Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program for regional lawyers, judges, and legal professionals. Participants can register to receive the CLE credit (\$150) or as a Non-CLE (\$50) participant. **Registration is required.** This symposium is ideal for legal history, military history, African American history, and sports history scholars and enthusiasts.



The Jackie Robinson Symposium: Civic, Legal, and Political Legacy

Monday, April 1, 2019
Negro Leagues Baseball Museum
1616 East 18th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64108

Registration fees:
\$150.00 for CLE Registrants / \$50.00 for Non-CLE Registrants



Symposium Schedule:

8:00 a.m. - Registration/Coffee followed by Welcome and Introductions by Dr. Raymond Doswell, Vice President, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

8:45 a.m. - Opening Remarks with Frank White, Jr., Jackson County Executive, Kansas City Royals Hall of Fame Member

9:00 a.m. - *Black Soldiers and American Military Justice, 1917 to 1948-50* with Dr. Jonathan Lurie, Rutgers University; and *Truman's Executive Order to Desegregate the Military* with Mark Adams, Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum

10:20 a.m. - *The Court Martial of Jackie Robinson Revisited* with John Vernon, National Archives (retired)

11:30 a.m. - *Out of Left Field: Politics and the Campaign to End Baseball's Color Line* with Dr. Chris Lamb, Indian University-Purdue University Indianapolis; and *It Wasn't for Lack of Trying: Jackie Robinson and the Eisenhower Administration* with Tim Rives, Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library.

12:30 p.m. - Luncheon and adjourn

April 2019

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Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- **APRIL 1 - 8:00 A.M.**
*THE JACKIE ROBINSON SYMPOISUM
- **APRIL 2 - ALL DAY**
MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY: POLLING SITE
- **APRIL 8 - 6:00 P.M.**
FILM SCREENING: WYLIE AVENUE DAYS
- **APRIL 10 - ALL DAY**
RESEARCH ROOMS CLOSED
- **APRIL 18 - 6:00 P.M.**
PANEL DISCUSSION: AMERICAN INDIANS 101

*DENOTES ACTIVITY IS OFFSITE.

2018-2019 Film Series Concludes with American Jazz Museum and Greater KC Black History Study Group

On **Monday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with the American Jazz Museum and Greater KC Black History Study Group, will host an evening film screening of **Wylie Avenue Days**. This film is the last in this year's series focused on Black Migration. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.



Wylie Avenue Days focuses on the Great Migration in Pittsburgh, primarily the Hill District section. The film depicts the heyday of Pittsburgh's Hill District that lasted from the 1930s through the 1950s, when many African Americans migrated to the North for jobs in factories and mills. This film captures the experiences that attracted African Americans to Pittsburgh including the music clubs, the Negro League baseball teams, church picnics, and family businesses that comprised the essence of life in this vibrant neighborhood. Post-film discussion will follow the screening.

Upcoming Facility Reminders

- **Tuesday, April 2** - Election Day - the National Archives at Kansas City is a polling site. Increased foot traffic and limited parking is expected.
- **Wednesday, April 10** - Research Rooms will be closed for a staff in-service/training day. Regular research hours will resume on April 11.
- **Monday, May 27** - Memorial Day Holiday - facility closed.

Panel Discussion - *American Indians 101: What We Know, What We Don't Know, and What We Need to Know*

On **Thursday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City will host a panel discussion titled ***American Indians 101: What We Know, What We Don't Know, and What We Need to Know***. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.

A distinguished panel of Native community members will speak of contemporary Indian life while connecting the history of the United States government's policies and historical events to those experiences and future implications. Topics to be discussed include suicide rates, missing/abducted women, drug addiction, education, and health. Program panelists include: **Shelley Bointy**, WRAP specialist with Lawrence Public School District, is Ihanktonwan Dakota Winyan and an enrolled member of Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux of Montana; **Dr. Sean Daley**, professor of anthropology at Johnson County Community College; **Jordyn Gunville**, research assistant with American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance, is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Mnicoujou Lakota; **Jason Hale**, assistant director for community engagement and education at the Center for American Indian Community Health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, is an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation; and **Charley Lewis**, research instructor of family medicine at the Center for American Indian Community Health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, is Navajo and an enrolled member of the Utu-Utu Gwaitu Paiute tribe of California.

This program is presented in collaboration with the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City and supported by The Center for American Indian Studies at Johnson County Community College and the American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance.

Hidden Treasures from the Stack

Movie Night at the Boarding School

"I am interested in movie films to be played during the school year for the benefit of the young Indian pupils ranging in age from six to seventeen years," wrote R. C. Craige, Superintendent of the Cheyenne River Indian Agency, to the United Artists Corporation, film distributors, in a letter dated June 17, 1926.

The Cheyenne River Agency was established in 1869 near Fort Sully, SD, to oversee the Miniconjou, Sicasapa, Oohenunpa, and Itazipco bands of the Lakota, and the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation was created in 1889, covering most of Dewey and Ziebach counties, with the agency headquarters at Eagle Butte, SD. Indian day schools were created across the reservation for children living with their families. A reservation boarding school was also established, and parents were encouraged to send their children there to live and study in an immersive experience. Speaking, reading, and writing English were high in the curriculum, as well as rudimentary arithmetic, science, U.S. history, Christianity, and vocational training, all aimed at assimilating the Indian children into American society.

What kind of movies was the Cheyenne River Superintendent interested in showing to his boarding school students? From our perspective nearly a century later, we might expect him to seek educational films based on the curriculum, travelogues, historical re-enactments, or documentaries.

We would be mistaken.

"The features supplied by you a year ago this winter, such as *Dorothy Vernon at Haddon Hall*, *Way Down East*, *Tailor Made Man*, etc. were quite satisfactory, and something on that order is desired," he added in a postscript to the letter. His examples include an Elizabethan historical romance starring Mary Pickford; a D. W. Griffith-directed romantic drama featuring Lillian Gish's rescue from an icy waterfall; and a tale of an imposter proving himself a worthy hero!

United Artists responded with a list of films available for rental, all popular silent films making the rounds of local theaters. The stars included Mary and Jack Pickford, D. W. Griffith, Douglas Fairbanks, Samuel Goldwyn, and other movie idols.

Cheyenne River Agency records from the mid-1920s include interesting correspondence between the Superintendent and film distributors, discussing film selections, bookings, and rental fees, as well as related contracts. Many of the proffered titles suggested the exotic, such as *Thief of Bagdad*; *Mark of Zorro*; *One Exciting Night*; *Orphans of the Storm*; *The Vulgar Yachtsman*; and *The Ruling Passion*. Others underwrote the American ideal of Manifest Destiny, such as *His Majesty the American* and *Wild Justice*, or portrayed some idealized portrayal of U.S. history, including *Tumbleweeds*, *The Iron Trail*, and *The Hill Billy*. Literary classics like *The Three Musketeers*, *Pollyanna*, and *Little Lord Fauntleroy* were offered, as well as pure excitement and adventure—*Fighting Blood*, and *Swords and the Woman*.

The film distributors enclosed sensational leaflets pushing specific films. Promo material for *If Marriage Fails* laid out the moral dilemma, "My wife is drifting way from me! . . . She is never home—her life is one continuous round of jazz parties and cabarets—and there are other men!!"

Another film's flyer aroused heightened expectations: "With the breathless thrill of a run-away train! With the breathtaking poignancy that only Laura Jean Libbey can give, *A Poor Girl's Romance* brings to the screen an evening of suspense and delight such as you have never before experienced! See it! See it! See it!" The leaflet continues, "Heart throbs and soul tingles surge madly through this pounding, thrilling love drama! A story that will fascinate and delight every flesh and blood human in the world!"

The exact correlation of these swashbuckling marquee titles to boarding school curriculum and culture is perhaps cloudy. The isolation of life on the South Dakota plains might have been a factor to which the Superintendent tips his hand in that 1926 letter to United Artists: "As stated before the pictures are intended for the school children, yet it will be necessary to procure a picture that will be suitable to attract the attendance of employees and a few outside people who are charged a small admission fee, in order that the show will be self-supporting as the government funds are not applicable." After all, the Hollywood film industry was booming in the mid-1920s, and the Agency staff wanted a bit of the broader culture, too.

(Continued on page 7)

Cheyenne River Indian Agency,
Cheyenne Agency, S. D.

June 17, 1926.

United Artists Corporation,
503 Loeb Arcade.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Gentlemen:

In response to your letter of the 7th.,
I am interested in movie films to be played during the
school year for the benefit of the young Indian pupils
ranging in age from six to seventeen years. The next
school year begins in September and will close early in
June, 1927, and plan on showing pictures every other
week.

As stated before the pictures are intended
for the school children, yet it will be necessary to pro-
cure a picture that will be suitable to attract the attend-
ance of employees and a few outside people who are charged
a small admission fee, in order that the show will be self-
supporting as the government funds are not applicable.

Suggest that you mail me a list of the features,
with a short synopsis for each picture which will aid us in
determining which ones are the best adapted for our use.
In furnishing this information you might also furnishing
us the prices and other terms under which they are furnished.

Very truly yours,

R. C. Craige
Superintendent.

EE.

P.S. The features supplied by you a year ago this
winter, such as Dorothy Vernon at Haddon Hall,
Way Down East, Tailor Made Man, etc. were quite
satisfactory, and something on that order is
desired.

RCC.

Booking dates for Moving Pictures
 School term 1926-1927. Contracts
 with United Artists Corporation,
 503 Loeb Arcade, Minneapolis.

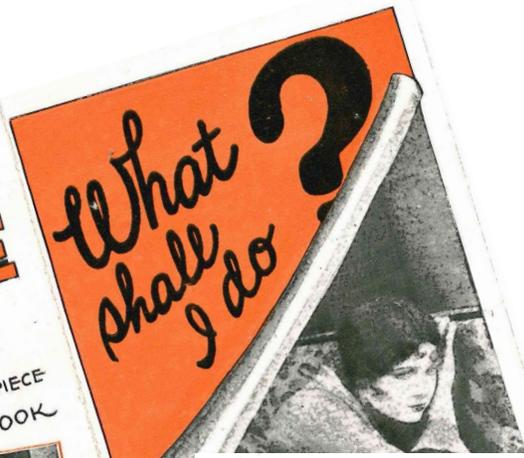
Play Date	Feature	Reels	Star	Rental
1926 9/10.	Tumbleweeds	7	W. S. Hart	\$10.00
9/24.	The Iron Trail (story)	7	Rex Beach (author)	7.50
10/8	Polyanna	6	Mary Pickford	10.00
10/22.	Wild Justice	6	Peter the Great	10.00
11/6.	His Majesty the American	8	D. W. Griffith	10.00
11/19.	Partners Again	6	Samuel Goldwyn	15.00
12/3.	Waking Up the Town	6	Jack Pickford	7.50
12/17.	Rosita	9	Mary Pickford	15.00
12/31.	America	11	D. W. Griffith	15.00
1927. 1/7.	Garrisons Finish	8	Jack Pickford	7.50
1/28.	The Only Way	6	Martin Harvey	10.00
2/11.	Orphans of the Storm	11	D. W. Griffith	15.00
2/25.	Mark of Zorro	8	Douglas Fairbanks	15.00
3/11.	The Hill Billy	7	Jack Pickford	7.50
3/25.	Don Q. son of Zorro	11	Douglas Fairbanks	25.00
4/8.	Little Annie Rooney	10	Mary Pickford	15.00
4/22.	One Exciting Night	10	D. W. Griffith	10.00
5/6.	The Mollycoddle	6	Douglas Fairbanks	10.00
5/20.	Thru the Back Door	7	Mary Pickford	10.00
6/2.	Thief of Bagdad	12	Douglas Fairbanks	25.00

Above: List of Films Available for Rental, 1926-1927. Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cheyenne River Agency, Records Relating to Equipment and Supplies and Related Contracts. National Archives Identifier 117689263.

Left and below: Promotional Leaflet for *If Marriage Fails*, ca. 1926. Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cheyenne River Agency, Records Relating to Equipment and Supplies and Related Contracts. National Archives Identifier 117689263.

"IF MARRIAGE FAILS"

C. GARDNER SULLIVAN'S DRAMATIC MASTERPIECE
STARRING
JACQUELINE LOGAN and CLIVE BROOK



Dear Harry:-

I am desperately in need of advice! You and I have been chums for years and I feel I can talk to you about a matter I would not breathe to anyone else.

My wife is drifting away from me!

You know how I worshipped her - you know how I have worked and striven to give her everything her heart desired and now I am wondering whether I have given her too much. Whether I have surfeited her with things to such an extent that she is looking for other things - other thrills that I cannot give her.

She is never home - her life is one continuous round of jazz parties and cabarets - and there are other men!

I want to be fair to her - but I also want to be fair to myself.

I'll admit to you that in my loneliness, I have formed a wonderful

friendship with another woman. I know this woman loves me but if there is a possibility of bringing back my former happiness, I will never allow love for this woman to enter my mind.

Is my wife holding on to me purely as a financial anchor? Is she keeping my name, posing as my wife as a cloak to cover moral indiscretions on her part? These are the questions I am trying to decide - the questions that must determine my actions!

I am in a quandary, Harry! I don't know which way to turn! What would you do if you were in my place?

Yours, Joe W.

You will learn the answer to this absorbing question when you see.

Heart throbs and soul tingles surge madly through this pounding, thrilling love drama! A story that will fascinate and delight every flesh and blood human in the world!

With the breathless thrill of a run-away train! With the breath-taking poignancy that only **Laura Jean Libbey** can give

"A POOR GIRL'S ROMANCE"

brings to the screen an evening of suspense and delight such as you have never before experienced!

See it! See it! See it!
at the

LAURA JEAN LIBBEY'S
A POOR GIRL'S ROMANCE
with Creighton Hale Gertrude Short and other great stars

The finger of luxury beckoning! Young love urging her on! She hesitated on the brink of -- what?

BY THE ONE WOMAN IN THE WORLD WHO KNOWS HOW TO WRITE LOVE STORIES.

ORIGIN U.S.A.

Right and above: Promotional Leaflet for *A Poor Girl's Romance*, ca. 1926. Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cheyenne River Agency, Records Relating to Equipment and Supplies and Related Contracts. National Archives Identifier 117689263.

(Continued from page 3)

So what films were finally booked for the Cheyenne River Boarding School students to see during the 1926-1927 school year? After some haggling over rental fees, twenty titles were contracted: *Tumbleweeds*; *Pollyanna*; *His Majesty the American*; *Waking Up the Town*; *Garrison's Finish*; *Mark of Zorro*; *The Mollycoddle*; *The Iron Trail*; *Wild Justice*; *Partners Again*; *Rosita*; *The Only Way*; *The Hill Billy*; *One Exciting Night*; *Thru the Back Door*; *Little Annie Rooney*; *The Thief of Bagdad*; *Don Q., Son of Zorro*; and *America*. A lively education!

The National Archives at Kansas City has thousands of documents relating to the Cheyenne River Agency, as well as many other Bureau of Indian Affairs agencies and reservations. For more information, email kansascity.archives@nara.gov or visit the National Archives [Catalog](#).

Upcoming Free Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

Teaching with the Records of Congress

Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time

Join the Center for Legislative Archives for a special webinar highlighting resources for teaching about Congress. Explore DocsTeach activities, lesson plans, eBooks, and more featuring historical documents that can be used to teach about representative democracy, how Congress works, and the important role Congress has played throughout American history. This webinar is designed for middle and high school educators. [Registration](#) is required.

The Making of Indian Treaties

Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time

Join us for an overview of the new [treaties digitization project](#), including related educational materials and resources, and classroom application related to these important documents and their history. *This webinar is part of our Native American professional development series. Each program features new resources for locating and using Federal records related to American Indians and Alaska Natives.* [Registration](#) is required.

America and the World: Foreign Affairs in Political Cartoons, 1898–1940

Thursday, May 30, at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time

Explore political cartoons for engaging students in a discussion of American foreign policy from the Spanish American War to the eve of World War II. The Clifford K. Berryman cartoon collection at the Center for Legislative Archives provides insights into the institutions, issues, and events that shaped a critical period of American history. Learn about additional resources for bringing these cartoons into your classroom. This webinar is designed for high school educators. [Registration](#) is required.

Beyond the Bureau of Indian Affairs: Accessing American Indian Records from the National Archives

Wednesday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time

Explore different types of American Indian documents across multiple record groups and discover different ways of incorporating these important primary sources into your classroom. *This webinar is part of our Native American professional development series. Each program features new resources for locating and using Federal records related to American Indians and Alaska Natives.* [Registration](#) is required.



NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

KANSAS CITY

GENERAL INFORMATION: The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108. The National Archives at Kansas City is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email kansascity.educate@nara.gov or visit www.archives.gov/kansas-city. Tweet us @KCArchives or #KCArchives. Find and follow us on Instagram at: [kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives). Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity.