

Select List of Social Columns Found in the Chicago Defender

Compiled by Tim Pinnick
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Select list of social columns found in the Chicago Defender

10/1/1921	Birmingham, AL	10/1/1921	Atlanta, GA
8/30/1924	Brookside, AL	1/5/1924	Augusta, GA
7/6/1918	Carbon Hill, AL	3/6/1915	Cedartown, GA
8/30/1924	Collinsville, AL	1/5/1924	Dawson, GA
8/30/1924	Edgewater, AL	1/5/1924	Fitzgerald, GA
10/1/1921	Ensley, AL	1/9/1915	Macon, GA
8/30/1924	Fairfield, AL	7/6/1918	Valdosta, GA
7/7/1923	Florence, AL	1/5/1924	West Point, GA
8/30/1924	Guntersville, AL	1/5/1924	Burlington, IA
8/30/1924	Huntsville, AL	3/6/1915	Cedar Rapids, IA
7/31/1915	Mobile, AL	1/5/1924	Clinton, IA
10/1/1921	Montgomery, AL	10/1/1921	Des Moines, IA
1/5/1924	Augusta, AR	7/7/1923	Dubuque, IA
6/21/1919	Biscoe, AR	2/14/1925	Fort Madison, IA
8/30/1924	Blackwell, AR	7/6/1918	Keokuk, IA
6/21/1919	Brinkley, AR	1/5/1924	Marshalltown, IA
6/21/1919	Camden, AR	1/5/1924	Muscatine, IA
1/5/1924	Dardanelle, AR	10/1/1921	Ottumwa, IA
6/21/1919	Dermott, AR	7/7/1923	Red Oak, IA
6/21/1919	Edmondson, AR	2/14/1925	Waterloo, IA
7/7/1923	Fordyce, AR	7/7/1923	Boise, ID
2/14/1925	Ft. Smith, AR	10/1/1921	Pocatello, ID
6/21/1919	Helena, AR	10/25/1924	Alton, IL
7/6/1918	Hot Springs, AR	7/1/1933	Argo, IL
2/14/1925	Malvern, AR	1/5/1924	Aurora, IL
10/1/1921	Newport, AR	6/21/1919	Bloomington, IL
2/22/1919	Osceola, AR	1/9/1915	Braidwood, IL
6/21/1919	Pine Bluff, AR	7/6/1918	Cairo, IL
7/6/1918	Prescott, AR	10/1/1921	Carbondale, IL
2/22/1919	Stamps, AR	FEB 1923	Carrier Mills, IL
7/31/1915	Phoenix, AZ	10/1/1921	Centralia, IL
3/6/1915	Tucson, AZ	1/5/1924	Champaign, IL
10/1/1921	Los Angeles, CA	8/30/1924	Chester, IL
7/7/1923	Oakland, CA	8/30/1924	Chicago Heights, IL
7/31/1915	San Diego, CA	7/6/1918	Clinton, IL
1/5/1924	Halifax N.S., CAN	1/5/1924	Coulterville, IL
2/7/1925	Winnipeg, CAN	10/25/1924	Danville, IL
2/7/1925	Denver, CO	7/31/1915	Decatur, IL
10/1/1921	Ansonia, CT	10/1/1921	Delaware, IL
10/25/1924	Bridgeport, CT	7/31/1915	Dewmaine, IL
1/5/1924	Greenwich, CT	7/7/1923	Duquoin, IL
10/25/1924	Hartford, CT	8/30/1924	East Moline, IL
10/25/1924	New Haven, CT	7/7/1923	East St. Louis, IL
1/5/1924	Norwich, CT	7/6/1918	Elgin, IL
7/7/1923	Stamford, CT	8/30/1924	Elkville, IL
10/1/1921	Washington, DC	7/1/1933	Englewood, IL
7/7/1923	Cocoa, FL	7/7/1923	Evanston, IL
7/31/1915	Daytona, FL	10/1/1921	Freeport, IL
2/7/1925	Jacksonville, FL	7/6/1918	Galesburg, IL
10/1/1921	St. Petersburg, FL	7/31/1915	Gibson City, IL
10/1/1921	Tampa, FL	7/7/1923	Grand Chain, IL
1/5/1924	Albany, GA	8/30/1924	Grand Tower, IL

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2/22/1919	Hallidayboro, IL	7/31/1915	Gary, IN
7/6/1918	Harrisburg, IL	12/13/1924	Indianapolis, IN
10/1/1921	Harvey, IL	10/25/1924	Jefferson, IN
6/21/1919	Hillsboro, IL	12/13/1924	Jeffersonville, IN
7/7/1923	Hodges Park, IL	10/1/1921	Kokomo, IN
6/21/1919	Hoopeston, IL	7/7/1923	Liberty, IN
7/6/1918	Jacksonville, IL	7/7/1923	Marion, IN
2/22/1919	Jerseyville, IL	10/25/1924	Michigan City, IN
10/1/1921	Joliet, IL	10/1/1921	Muncie, IN
FEB 1923	Joppa, IL	12/13/1924	New Castle, IN
1/5/1924	Karnak, IL	12/13/1924	Peru, IN
6/21/1919	LaGrange, IL	1/5/1924	Petersburg, IN
1/9/1915	Lake Forest, IL	12/13/1924	Richmond, IN
8/30/1924	Lawrenceville, IL	12/13/1924	Shelbyville, IN
7/31/1915	Lincoln, IL	3/6/1915	South Bend, IN
10/1/1921	Lovejoy, IL	7/6/1918	Terre Haute, IN
6/21/1919	Marion, IL	7/7/1923	West Baden, IN
6/21/1919	Mattoon, IL	10/1/1921	Baxter Springs, KS
7/1/1933	Maywood, IL	1/5/1924	Emporia, KS
7/6/1918	Metropolis, IL	10/1/1921	Fort Leavenworth, KS
1/5/1924	Moline, IL	1/5/1924	Hiawatha, KS
7/6/1918	Monmouth, IL	1/5/1924	Horton, KS
7/1/1933	Morgan Park, IL	1/5/1924	Independence, KS
6/21/1919	Mound City, IL	10/1/1921	Leavenworth, KS
7/7/1923	Mounds, IL	1/5/1924	Manhattan, KS
7/6/1918	Mounds City, IL	1/9/1915	Oswego, KS
1/5/1924	Mt. Vernon, IL	1/5/1924	Ottawa, KS
2/22/1919	Murphysboro, IL	1/5/1924	Topeka , KS
2/22/1919	Onarga, IL	7/6/1918	Wichita , KS
7/6/1918	Peoria, IL	1/5/1924	Barbourville, KY
7/1/1933	Phoenix, IL	10/1/1921	Bowling Green, KY
7/6/1918	Pulaski, IL	7/7/1923	Cleaton, KY
7/6/1918	Quincy, IL	7/31/1915	Covington, KY
1/2/1915	Riverside, IL	10/1/1921	Dover, KY
7/1/1933	Robbins, IL	7/7/1923	Elkton, KY
1/5/1924	Rock Island, IL	7/7/1923	Frankfort, KY
6/21/1919	Rockford, IL	7/7/1923	Franklin, KY
10/25/1924	Savanna , IL	7/6/1918	Fulton, KY
10/1/1921	Sparta, IL	7/7/1923	Hopkinsville, KY
10/1/1921	Springfield, IL	1/5/1924	Lancaster, KY
6/21/1919	St. Johns, IL	1/5/1924	Lexington, KY
7/31/1915	Streator, IL	7/7/1923	London, KY
8/30/1924	Sycamore, IL	3/6/1915	Louisville, KY
7/6/1918	Ullin, IL	7/31/1915	Madisonville, KY
1/5/1924	Urbana, IL	7/7/1923	Middlesboro, KY
2/22/1919	Watseka, IL	1/5/1924	Millersburg, KY
7/6/1918	Waukegan, IL	1/5/1924	Mount Sterling, KY
7/7/1923	Wheaton, IL	1/5/1924	Paducah, KY
10/1/1921	Ayrshire, IN	7/6/1918	Paris, KY
7/7/1923	Connersville, IN	7/6/1918	Providence, KY
1/5/1924	East Chicago, IN	7/6/1918	Richmond, KY
7/6/1918	Ft. Wayne, IN	7/7/1923	Somerset, KY

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7/6/1918	Abbeville, LA	10/25/1924	Poplar Bluff, MO
1/5/1924	Algiers, LA	12/13/1924	South Kinlock Park, MO
7/6/1918	Baton Rouge, LA	1/5/1924	St. Joseph , MO
7/7/1923	Bayou Goula, LA	10/25/1924	St. Louis, MO
7/7/1923	Berwick, LA	7/31/1915	Aberdeen, MS
7/6/1918	Centreville, LA	7/6/1918	Bay St. Louis, MS
12/13/1924	Crowley, LA	7/7/1923	Brookhaven, MS
12/13/1924	Franklin, LA	7/31/1915	Columbus, MS
7/7/1923	Fullerton, LA	7/6/1918	Crawford, MS
7/6/1918	Lake Charles, LA	7/6/1918	Hausboro, MS
2/14/1925	Mansfield, LA	1/5/1924	Jackson, MS
2/14/1925	Minden, LA	7/7/1923	Leland, MS
7/31/1915	Monroe, LA	7/6/1918	Moss Point, MS
2/14/1925	Morgan City, LA	10/1/1921	Natchez, MS
7/31/1915	New Orleans, LA	2/22/1919	Tupelo, MS
2/14/1925	Oakdale, LA	7/7/1923	Utica, MS
1/5/1924	Patterson, LA	7/7/1923	West Point, MS
7/6/1918	Plaquemine, LA	7/6/1918	Helena, MT
7/6/1918	St. Francisville, LA	1/5/1924	Gastonia, NC
12/13/1924	Vidalia, LA	7/7/1923	Hickory, NC
10/1/1921	Boston, MA	10/1/1921	Rocky Mount, NC
2/14/1925	Springfield, MA	1/5/1924	Tarboro, NC
7/6/1918	Albion, MI	7/7/1923	Alliance, NE
3/6/1915	Ann Arbor, MI	10/1/1921	Omaha, NE
7/6/1918	Battle Creek, MI	7/6/1918	Atlantic City, NJ
10/1/1921	Benton Harbor, MI	10/1/1921	Bayonne, NJ
7/31/1915	Calvin, MI	10/1/1921	Bridgeton, NJ
7/6/1918	Detroit, MI	7/6/1918	Jersey City, NJ
10/25/1924	Flint, MI	10/1/1921	New Brunswick, NJ
7/31/1915	Grand Rapids, MI	2/14/1925	Newark, NJ
12/13/1924	Kalamazoo, MI	6/21/1919	Rutherford, NJ
7/7/1923	Lansing, MI	1/5/1924	South River, NJ
12/13/1924	Niles, MI	6/21/1919	Vaux Hall, NJ
7/31/1915	Ottawa Beach, MI	1/5/1924	Raton, NM
10/1/1921	Pontiac, MI	7/7/1923	Roswell, NM
2/7/1925	Port Huron, MI	7/7/1923	Reno, NV
2/22/1919	Duluth, MN	6/21/1919	Arverne-by-the-Sea (Long Island), NY
12/13/1924	Minneapolis, MN	7/6/1918	Brooklyn, NY
2/22/1919	St. Paul, MN	7/6/1918	Buffalo, NY
1/5/1924	Armstrong, MO	1/5/1924	Canandaigua, NY
10/25/1924	Cape Girardeau, MO	1/5/1924	Cornwall Landing, NY
7/7/1923	Clinton, MO	2/22/1919	Corona, NY
7/7/1923	Columbia, MO	7/6/1918	East New York (Brooklyn), NY
12/13/1924	Fayette, MO	6/21/1919	East New York Notes, NY
12/13/1924	Fulton, MO	6/21/1919	Elmira, NY
7/7/1923	Hannibal, MO	6/21/1919	Flushing (Long Island), NY
7/31/1915	Joplin, MO	6/21/1919	Harlem, NY
10/25/1924	Kansas City , MO	7/7/1923	Jamaica, NY
12/13/1924	Lexington, MO	2/22/1919	Mamaroneck, NY
7/7/1923	Mexico, MO	7/7/1923	Mt. Vernon, NY
12/13/1924	Miami, MO		
10/25/1924	Moberly, MO		

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10/25/1924	New York City News, NY	10/1/1921	Toledo, OH
1/5/1924	New York Society Notes, NY	10/1/1921	Troy, OH
7/6/1918	Niagara Falls, NY	2/14/1925	Urbana, OH
1/5/1924	Nyack, NY	10/1/1921	Wellsville, OH
6/21/1919	Ossining, NY	6/21/1919	Wilberforce, OH
1/5/1924	Poughkeepsie, NY	12/13/1924	Woodville, OH
6/21/1919	Rochester, NY	1/5/1924	Xenia, OH
10/1/1921	Schenectady, NY	1/5/1924	Youngstown, OH
1/5/1924	Syracuse, NY	7/7/1923	Bartlesville, OK
6/21/1919	Tuckahoe, NY	7/6/1918	Cushing, OK
1/5/1924	Utica, NY	7/31/1915	Eufaula, OK
2/22/1919	Watertown, NY	1/2/1915	Oklahoma City, OK
7/7/1923	White Plains, NY	7/7/1923	Okmulgee, OK
6/21/1919	Williamsbridge, NY	1/5/1924	Pawhuska, OK
10/1/1921	Yonkers, NY	12/13/1924	Spiro, OK
1/5/1924	Akron, OH	7/6/1918	Tulsa, OK
10/1/1921	Alliance, OH	7/7/1923	Vinta, OK
10/1/1921	Bellaire, OH	7/6/1918	Portland, OR
1/5/1924	Canton, OH	7/6/1918	Brownsville, PA
6/21/1919	Chillicothe, OH	7/7/1923	Carlisle, PA
7/7/1923	Cincinnati, OH	7/6/1918	Jeannette, PA
7/6/1918	Cleveland, OH	10/1/1921	Meadville, PA
1/5/1924	Columbus, OH	7/31/1915	New Castle, PA
6/21/1919	East Youngstown, OH	12/13/1924	New Kensington, PA
6/21/1919	Elyria, OH	10/1/1921	Oil City, PA
7/6/1918	Fostoria, OH	12/13/1924	Parnassus, PA
12/13/1924	Fremont, OH	7/7/1923	Philadelphia, PA
10/1/1921	Geneva, OH	1/5/1924	Pittsburgh, PA
6/21/1919	Glendale, OH	7/7/1923	Providence, RI
2/14/1925	Greenfield, OH	7/31/1915	Athens, TN
10/1/1921	Lima, OH	2/14/1925	Bolivar, TN
6/21/1919	Lockland, OH	3/6/1915	Chattanooga, TN
7/7/1923	Lorain, OH	10/1/1921	Clarksville, TN
7/6/1918	Loveland, OH	7/6/1918	Covington, TN
12/13/1924	Mansfield, OH	10/1/1921	Dyersburg, TN
12/13/1924	Marysville, OH	7/6/1918	Franklin, TN
12/13/1924	Massillon, OH	7/7/1923	Gallatin, TN
7/7/1923	Middletown, OH	1/5/1924	Harriman, TN
8/30/1924	New London, OH	2/14/1925	Henderson, TN
6/21/1919	Newark, OH	1/5/1924	Hickory, TN
1/5/1924	Newcomerstown, OH	7/31/1915	Humboldt, TN
7/7/1923	Painesville, OH	7/6/1918	Jackson, TN
1/5/1924	Piqua, OH	10/1/1921	Jellico, TN
2/14/1925	Port Clinton, OH	FEB 1923	Linden, TN
7/6/1918	Portsmouth, OH	2/14/1925	Manchester, TN
8/30/1924	Salem, OH	2/14/1925	Memphis, TN
6/21/1919	Sandusky, OH	2/14/1925	Milan, TN
10/1/1921	Sebring, OH	7/6/1918	Nashville, TN
1/5/1924	Sekitan, OH	10/1/1921	Newbern, TN
7/6/1918	Siketon, OH	2/14/1925	Obion, TN
7/6/1918	Springfield, OH	2/14/1925	Old Hickory, TN
		2/14/1925	Petersburg, TN

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2/14/1925 Pulaski, TN
7/7/1923 Savannah, TN
2/14/1925 Trenton, TN
2/14/1925 Trezevant, TN
7/31/1915 Union City, TN
1/5/1924 Winchester, TN
3/6/1915 Bristol, TN/VA
7/7/1923 Brownwood, TX
2/22/1919 Calvert, TX
7/7/1923 Ft. Worth, TX
7/6/1918 Gainesville, TX
FEB 1923 Prairie View, TX
12/13/1924 Taylor, TX
3/6/1915 Waco, TX
7/31/1915 Ogden, UT
7/7/1923 Salt Lake City, UT
2/14/1925 Alexandria, VA
8/30/1924 Charlottesville, VA
3/6/1915 Danville, VA
8/30/1924 Lexington, VA
1/5/1924 Roanoke, VA
8/30/1924 Waverly, VA
1/5/1924 Ellensburg, WA
FEB 1923 Roslyn, WA
3/6/1915 Milwaukee, WI
7/7/1923 Racine, WI
8/30/1924 Beckley, WV
12/13/1924 Charleston, WV
7/7/1923 Point Pleasant, WV
8/30/1924 Stirrat, WV
1/5/1924 Weirtown, WV
12/13/1924 Wellsburg, WV
1/5/1924 Cheyenne, WY
10/25/1924 Dines, WY
7/7/1923 Rawlins, WY
FEB 1923 Rock Springs, WY
10/25/1924 Sheridan, WY

The Chicago Defender newspaper was established in 1905 by Robert S. Abbott, whose initial run was 300 copies. Within a decade, Abbott's paper had a circulation estimated at over 40,000 and a readership of more than 100,000 as the popular paper was "passed around" by African Americans hungry for its articles and columns.

Readers of the Chicago weekly were fed a steady diet of news collected and sent in by correspondents residing in African American communities large and small across the American landscape. These "social" columns documented the daily lives of the community members—events that, more often than not, are rarely found recorded for posterity anywhere else.

Unfortunately, there are no substantial indexes or compilations of the columns in extant African American papers to assist the researcher in their search for the towns and villages of their ancestors. In addition, the social columns of the Defender were chronically intermittent—disappearing for weeks on end before inexplicably resurfacing. The situation, as it currently stands, makes African American newspaper research an inefficient and time-consuming endeavor, despite its potential.

However what you will find in the following pages is the beginning of an effort to overcome this shortcoming. My upcoming 2007 publication on locating black papers and getting the most out of them will be followed up in 2008 with a compilation of social columns from a couple dozen African American papers that should number in the tens of thousands.

This tiny compilation of social columns found in the Chicago Defender is the product of random extractions done from seventeen different issues between 1915 and 1933. A total of 869 social columns were keyed into the database; many of them being the same towns appearing in multiple issues. Once the duplicates were deleted, you have left a list of 450 unique towns, spread out over 40 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada.

Added October 21, 2021 — Link to social column compilation of 5,000+ entries
http://www.blackcoalminerheritage.net/social_listing.html