The Amateur Record

Published out of Atlanta, Georgia, this issue includes poems, short stories, and literature reviews. In an article titled “Amateur Journalism in the South,” an author writes about the great importance of amateur newspapers to the youth and exhibits its many virtues. Amateur journalism was central to the lives of many young people and serves as an enduring record of their thoughts on the world.

The Bangor Boys

This monthly amateur publication from Maine includes social commentary, amateur newspaper trade news, as well as advertisements for products such as medicinal salarita and life insurance. In the lead article of this issue, author E.F. Studley pens a satirical comparison of the “barbarous” Chinese to “civilized” Americans, juxtaposing the “barbarous” Chinese with which to compare the differences in coverage of events, and revealing fascinating insight into how young people were influenced by traditional news sources and vice versa.

The West Coast Edition of East Coast Earbender

This cleverly named newspaper was published in W. Hempstead, New York at an unspecified date. Much of the paper’s content is comprised of short stories that amount to gossip about other amateur journalists, and offers fascinating and entertaining insight into the social scene of “amateurdom.” The introduction to the paper is emblematic of the often humorous—sometimes absurd—style of writing that can be found in many of the newspapers in the collection.

YOUTH CULTURE FINDS ITS VOICE

Amateur Newspapers from the American Antiquarian Society

This extensive collection is an indispensable digital archive that offers students and researchers the opportunity for thorough analysis of amateur newspapers and periodicals from the 19th century. Comprising 3,900 individual titles, it provides an abundance of resources for researchers looking to make connections with the era, and provides compelling insights into the lives and young adults viewed the world around them in the 1800’s.