

Running Resources from the LOC

TPS DePaul University, 2015

One of the largest sources of content for running in the LOC collections is newspapers and photojournalism. Chronicling America, the Chicago Daily News Collection (1902-1933), George Bain Collection, and National Photo Company Collection have a significant amount of material from the early to mid-20th Century.

Chicago Daily News Collection: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/ichihtml/>

Also see the “runners” subject page at

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/ichihtml/cdnSubjects280.html>

George Bain Collection: Photograph news agency collection from 1860-1930.

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/ggbain/>

National Photo Company Collection: (1850-1945)

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/npc/>

Newspaper Reading Room Subject Guide: The Marathon Craze

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/topics/bostonmarathon.html>

Chronicling America (1836-1923): <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Remember to vary your search terms. ‘Popular’ vocabulary changes over time! Some examples are: “track athletes” and track/field related terms (e.g. Olympics), “foot race”, and “road race.” Browsing subject headings can yield results that may not have “running” in the title.

Running (subject heading): <http://www.loc.gov/search/?fa=subject%3Arunning>

Running Race (subject heading):

<http://www.loc.gov/search/?in=&q=%22running+race%22&new=true&st>

The LOC also has **digitized books** from the 1900s about running, including:

Distance and Cross Country Running <http://lcn.loc.gov/03012825>

How to Sprint <http://lcn.loc.gov/05034436>

How to Run 100 Yards <http://lcn.loc.gov/06008873>

Practical Track and Field Athletics <http://lcn.loc.gov/10009936>

Research some of the **legislative history of physical fitness** on Congress.gov, like the history of National Physical Fitness and Sports Month:

<https://www.congress.gov/search?q={%22source%22%3A%22legislation%22%2C%22search%22%3A%22National+Physical+Fitness+and+Sports+Month%22%22}>

The **1904 Olympic Marathon**, which took place during the St. Louis World's Fair, may be one of the craziest in history:

Smithsonian Article: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-1904-olympic-marathon-may-have-been-the-strangest-ever-14910747/?no-ist>

Excerpt from the Washington Times (1904):

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026749/1904-09-04/ed-1/seq-9/#date1=1904&index=4&rows=20&words=MArathon+Marathon&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1904&proxtext=marathon&y=0&x=0&dateFilterType=yearRange&page=1>

Other notable items:

1981 Boston poster: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/96525031/>

Marathon Mania Cartoon (1909): <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2011647388/>

Marathon Craze Cartoon (1909): <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2010716194/>

Denver 4th of July 100yd Dash (1911): <http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/AMALL:@field%28NUMBER+@band%28codhawp+10007003%29%29>

Blind Boy at finish of 100 yards (n.d.): <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/ggb2004003340/>

E Clark, Monroe School, 100 yards (1923): <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/npc2007008504/>

Amateur Athletic Union: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hec/item/hec2009012210/>

Prince Frederick Karl running <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/ggb2005017479/>

Rum Cay, Bermuda <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/det1994022405/pp/>

Effect of the marathon craze <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2010716194/>

Finally, check out the **National Archives**

(http://research.archives.gov/search?expression=marathon&pg_src=group&data-source=all)

and the **Digital Public Library of America** (Digital Public Library <http://dp.la>) for further research options.