Glittering Dust, Dormant Treasure: 
Press, Public Memory and Georgia's “Forgotten” Gold Rush 
By Janice Hume and Noah Arceneaux

This article examines nineteenth-century local, regional and national newspaper coverage of the first American gold rush, which began in 1828 when as many as 20,000 people headed to the hills of northern Georgia to seek their fortunes. So much gold was discovered that a United States Mint was established in Dahlonega, Georgia, a town named for the Cherokee word for gold. The mint produced more than $100,000 during its first year, and more than one-and-a-half million coins by the time it closed in 1861. Accounts of this gold rush are “as fascinating as fiction,” yet unlike the storied gold stampedes in California, Colorado, Alaska and the Black Hills, the Georgia rush has been lost to American collective memory. The purpose of this article is to seek to understand why. Despite boosterism and increasing nostalgia in coverage, the story was overshadowed by the Civil War, the exploitation of the Cherokee, the hardships of Reconstruction and the sensationalized gold rushes in the American West.

A Pathfinding Radio Documentary Series: 
Norman Corwin's One World Flight 
By Matthew C. Ehrlich

Norman Corwin was the most celebrated writer of American radio’s golden era. This article examines his 1947 CBS series One World Flight that was based upon a round-the-world trip he had taken the previous year to assess the prospects for postwar peace. Corwin’s series provided a unique look at the world as it was slipping into the Cold War. It also helped pioneer the actuality-based broadcast documentary by using recordings as opposed to dramatizations and by helping end a longstanding ban that CBS and NBC had imposed against using recordings on the air. More broadly, One World Flight pointed toward network radio’s decline, as the networks soon afterward shifted their energies and revenues toward television. In addition, the series signaled the transition from the “good war” against fascism to the age of McCarthyism, with
Corwin’s One World Flight scripts being subpoenaed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and Corwin himself landing in the pages of Red Channels.

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Libel, Freedom of the Press, and the New Yorker
By Kathy Roberts Forde

An American icon and important press institution, the New Yorker magazine has actively protected its freedoms of expression against the chilling effect of libel law since its inception in 1925. This history examines how the magazine and the law firm Greenbaum, Wolff & Ernst created editorial and legal procedures and strategies to combat libel complaints in the New Yorker’s first forty years of existence. During these years, libel threats influenced the New Yorker’s editorial decision-making and processes, content, and use of human and financial resources. Although the history of American libel law is well documented, the social effects of libel law on particular publications are not. This study helps to fill the gap.

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Images of Brutality: The Portrayal of U.S. Racial Violence in News Photographs Published Overseas (1957-1963)
Carol B. Schwalbe

During the early years of the cold war (1957-1963), photographs of civil rights brutalities tarnished America’s reputation as a just and fair nation at a time when it hoped to contain communism and reshape the world in its image. By drawing upon U.S. government sources and international press coverage, this study examines four milestones in the civil rights struggle where photographs generated intense overseas reaction: school desegregation in Little Rock, Arkansas (1957), attacks on Freedom Riders in Alabama (1961), James Meredith’s enrollment at the University of Mississippi (1962), and the crisis in Birmingham, Alabama (1963). In the days before television became a global medium, still photographs of racial violence created difficulties for U.S. diplomats overseas and policymakers at home by aiding America’s enemies and raising serious concerns among its allies and the unaligned nations. By showing the world the civil rights injustices that undermined democracy, these images of brutality helped force the United States to reaffirm its democratic ideals.

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