

## Lesson 11.3

### INFLUENCE HISTORY: EDIT A NEWSPAPER

**Objective:** Students will learn to judge the importance of current events and to estimate their future impact on history by editing their own newspapers and comparing their editorial decisions with those of their classmates.

**Materials:**

- **Sheet 11.3A:** Influence History: Edit a Newspaper student assignment sheet
- **Sheet 11.3B:** Influence History: Edit a Newspaper self-evaluation form
- **Doc 11.3A:** Front page of the *Bangor Daily News*, City edition, September 14, 1954.
- **Doc 11.3B:** Front page of the *Bangor Daily News*, Hancock County edition, September 14, 1954.
- **Doc 11.3C:** Front page of the *Bangor Daily News*, Washington County edition from September 14, 1954.
- **Doc 11.3D:** Front page of the *Portland Press Herald* from September 14, 1954.
- Finding Katahdin Textbook [front pages of *Bangor Daily News* and *Portland Press Herald*, as printed in Chapter Eleven]
- Copies of four or five different current newspapers from the same day. Suggestions are the *Bangor Daily News*, the *Portland Press Herald*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Kennebec Journal*, and the *New York Times*.
- Continued subscription or student access to newspapers for a month (Some newspapers may give out free issues of their papers to students, especially if you can wait a day to get them. Also, try asking local stores for yesterday's papers.)
- Large pieces of newsprint or construction paper
- Gluesticks, markers, scissors, rulers

**Timing:** 4-6 weeks

**Background Reading:** Chapter Eleven

**Procedure:**

1. Discuss with students the role that newspapers play in shaping history. By presenting the events of the day to the public, newspaper editors influence history. They must choose which events are printed as banner headlines, which articles make the front page and which are relegated to the inside pages, and which articles do not get printed at all. Their decisions influence what their readers learn about the world. Review the front pages printed in Chapter Eleven of the textbook. What events made banner headlines? What events did not? Why?
2. Show students the four different front pages from September 14, 1954. First compare the Washington and Hancock County editions of the *BDN*. The Washington County edition, which probably came out first, reports Governor Cross is ahead in a close contest with his challenger, Edmund Muskie. The Hancock County edition, printed

later that evening, reports that Governor Cross was beaten by Muskie. The City edition ran the same headline as the Hancock edition, but a different set of photographs and a revised article underneath the banner headline. Ask students to come up with the differences on their own. Use questions like the following:

- What differences do you notice between the three front pages of the *BDN*, printed on the same day?
- Why do you think the banner headlines are different?
- Why do you think different photographs were chosen for the City edition?
- Why was the article that accompanied the headline rewritten three times?
- How is the banner headline worded on the Portland Press Herald's front page?
- What does the way the headline is written say about the newspaper? (Cross Beaten by Muskie, rather than Muskie Upsets Cross)
- What other differences do you notice about these front pages?
- If you had been the editor of these newspapers, would you have made any decisions differently?

3. Now, look at the front pages of the four or five different current newspapers. Ask students questions like the following:

- What headlines did each paper print?
- What emerges as the most important story on each paper? Are they the same? Different?
- What stories are printed below the fold? Do these differ according to each paper?
- From the choices the newspaper editors made, can you tell what the paper's readership is like? Are they politically conservative? Liberal? Moderate? Are they interested in world events, or mostly local events? Are they well educated?
- What is the political orientation of the newspaper? Conservative? Liberal? Neutral? How can you tell?
- Are there stories from these front pages that you think might go down in history? Why?
- How do the decisions of the newspaper editors affect history?

4. Break students up into four or five newspaper editorial boards. Tell students they will have an opportunity to tell their own version of history by making the same kinds of decisions that newspaper editors have to make. For a month, students will read the daily newspaper, and will clip articles that they feel to be important. They will meet in their editorial groups once or twice a week, sort through the articles that the members of their group have clipped, and decide on which ones to include in their collection. At the end of the month, each group should have ten to twenty articles and headlines they have chosen as being the most important events of that month: the events that will go down in history. See student assignment sheet for more details.

5. When each editorial board's newspaper is complete, have students present their papers to the class. Compare each group's newspaper to the others. Did some events stand out as being clearly the most important events of the month? Were others subject to debate? Why did each board make the decisions they did? How did the interests of individual editors influence which events were included in the newspaper?

**Evaluation:** Give students both an individual and a group grade. Present students with a rubric when you assign the project. Students should be graded on their own daily reading of the newspaper, the consistency with which they clipped articles, and their participation in the group. Groups should be graded according to the quality of their newspaper and presentation. Average the two grades together for a final grade. Students may include the project in their portfolio, if they choose.

**Follow-up Activities:**

- Do this newspaper project at the beginning of the year, and then return to it at the end of the year. Have student perspectives changed? Do they still believe the same stories are as important as they were eight months ago?
- Select a given topic in Maine history, and have students create their own front pages that summarize that topic. They should use the library's newspaper index and microfilm to find information on their topic.
- Have students research a specific day in Maine history, as covered by the newspapers (their birthday, for example).

**Alignment with the Learning Results:**

Grade Level: **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

Content Area: Social Studies: **APPLICATIONS**

Standard: **Researching and Developing Positions on Current Social Studies Issues**

Students research, select, and present a position on a current social studies issue by proposing and revising research questions, and locating and selecting information from multiple and varied sources.

Descriptor **A1f:** Evaluate and verify the credibility of the information found in print and non-print sources.

Grade Level: **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

Content Area: Social Studies: **HISTORY**

Standard: **Historical Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns**

Students understand major eras, majoring enduring themes, and historic influences in the history of Maine, the United States, and various regions of the world.

Descriptor **E1d:** Analyze interpretations of historical events that are based on different perspectives and evidence.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Project Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**INFLUENCE HISTORY: BE A NEWSPAPER EDITOR  
ASSIGNMENT SHEET**

Newspaper editors have important jobs. They make decisions about which headlines are put on the front page and which stories are printed. Their decisions influence which stories are remembered by the people that read them.

In this project, you will act as a newspaper editor, making many of the same kinds of decisions. Follow the directions below with your group to create an issue of your own newspaper that reports on recent events.

**Directions:**

1. During the first meeting of your editorial board, choose roles. You should have one of each of the following:
  - a. General News Editor: Decides which news stories will appear in the paper.
  - b. Sports Editor: Decides which sports stories will appear in the paper.
  - c. Arts and Lifestyles Editor: Decides which arts and lifestyles features will appear in the paper.
  - d. Business Editor: Decides which business stories will appear in the paper.
  - e. Science and Technology Editor: Decides which science and technology stories will appear in the paper.
2. Each person in your group should read a daily newspaper, looking for important articles in his or her section of the paper. Clip the articles you consider to be most important or interesting, and bring them in for your group to discuss. Each member of the group should clip at least two articles per week.
3. Your group will meet \_\_\_\_ times a week for \_\_\_\_ minutes. During these meetings, each member of the group will be expected to present and discuss the clips he or she brought in, arguing why they should appear in your group's final newspapers. Your group members should express their opinions about the importance of the clips.
4. After \_\_\_\_ weeks, you will select the articles and headlines that will appear in your newspaper. Include no less than ten and no more than twenty articles in your newspaper.

Together, plan the layout of your newspaper, deciding which headline should appear as the banner headline of the month, which articles should appear on the front page and where on the front page they should go, and which articles should appear inside the paper. Remember that the stories you consider to be the most important should appear as prominent headlines on the front page, while those you consider the least important should go inside the paper.

5. After you have planned out where each article will go, paste the articles with their headlines on the pages of your newspaper. Be neat--your newspaper should look good!

6. Choose a member of your group to present your newspaper to the class. Be prepared to defend your editorial decisions.

7. Have fun!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**INFLUENCE HISTORY: EDIT A NEWSPAPER  
SELF-EVALUATION**

**Individual Grade:**

<u>Task</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>	<u>Points Given</u>
I read my section of the newspaper daily.	10	
I brought in at least two clippings per week.	10	
I participated fully in group discussions.	10	
I made careful judgments about which articles to include in the final paper.	10	
I listened carefully to my fellow group members.	10	
<b>Total Individual Points:</b>	<b>50</b>	
 <b>Group Grade:</b>		
My group met ____ times a week for ____ minutes.	5	
Our group discussions were respectful and everyone had a chance to speak.	5	
We produced a well-planned, well-presented final paper.	30	
We presented the paper to the class and defended the editorial decisions we made well.	10	
<b>Total Group Points:</b>	<b>50</b>	
<hr/>		
<b>Total Points:</b>	<b>100</b>	

**Comments:**

**Teacher Evaluation:**

Individual Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

Maine's LARGEST Daily Newspaper Yesterday's Sale 75,141

Bangor Daily News

BANGOR, MAINE, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1954

SIX CENTS

The Weather Full Report on Page 1 Light Rain

McCarthy Loses In Final Move As Hearings Wind Up

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (AP)—The McCarthy Hearings ended today with Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) apparently defeated in a last-minute move to have the investigating committee brought to a new staff of lawyers...



EDMUND S. MUSKIE, U.S. Senator

20-Year GOP Grip Broken; Republicans Win Other Contests

By BILL LANGFELT PORTLAND, Tuesday, Sept. 14 (AP)—Democrats broke a 20-year Republican grip on Maine by electing 20-year-old Edmund S. Muskie governor in yesterday's state election...

Puerto Rican Nationalists Also Plotted To Attack President, Says Ex-Leader

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (AP)—A former Puerto Rican leader testified today that nationalists who planned the March 1 kidnapping in Congress intended to attack President Eisenhower...

Spotlight On The News

Thieves... Chain Record... Man Of Action... Queensly Trip... Hurricane-Struck Maine Areas Named Disaster Regions By Eisenhower... Flood Threat Diminishes Here Monday Evening... Inside THE NEWS

Muskie Given Comfortable Margin By Bangor Voters In Contest For Governor

Bangor, with its 100,000 voters, gave Democratic Edmund S. Muskie a comfortable margin over Gov. Eugene M. Cross (R) in the contest for Governor of Maine...

Dover Seeking Showdown With Woolen Firm

DOVER, Pa., Sept. 13 (AP)—The Pennsylvania State Woolen Company is seeking a showdown with the American Woolen Company...

Hurricane-Struck Maine Areas Named Disaster Regions By Eisenhower

PORTLAND, Sept. 13 (AP)—Hurricane devastated regions of Maine tonight were designated disaster areas by President Eisenhower after the Federal Civil Defense Administration surveyed New England...

18 Doctors Favor Fluoridation, Four Leave It To Dentists, Nine Decline Comment, One Is Opposed

When the SWSA collected 18 local physicians' views on fluoridation, they expressed opinions to it. Eighteen said they favored it, four left it up to the dentist, and nine declined comment.

Canada To Take Portion Of Troops Out Of Korea

OTTAWA, Sept. 13 (AP)—Canada will withdraw 10,000 troops from the Korean peninsula, according to a statement by the Canadian government...

Eden, Adenauer Agree To Seek European Unity

BRNO, Germany, Sept. 13 (AP)—British Prime Minister Clement Attlee and German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer agreed today to seek European unity...

Flood Threat Diminishes Here Monday Evening

The main threat that has been threatening the Bangor area at night appeared to be a small flood danger that is waning as the water recedes from the city...

Digs 27 Feet Under Kitchen In Gold Hunt

The case came in light about a 27-foot hole dug in the kitchen of a house in Bangor...

20 Killed In Wreck Of Portugal Train

Lisbon, Portugal, Sept. 13 (AP)—Twenty people were killed and 40 others injured in a head-on collision between two passenger trains in Portugal...

Eden, Adenauer Agree To Seek European Unity

BRNO, Germany, Sept. 13 (AP)—British Prime Minister Clement Attlee and German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer agreed today to seek European unity...

Table with 2 columns: Section Name and Page Number. Includes sections like 'Maine's LARGEST', 'Spotlight On The News', 'Hurricane-Struck Maine', etc.

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VOL. 66, NO. 76

BANGOR, MAINE, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1954

HANCOCK The Weather Fall Report on Page 1 Light Rain

Bangor Daily News

SIX CENTS

GO! CROSS BEATERS

McCarthy Loses In Final Move As Hearings Wind Up

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (AP)—The McCarthy counter-hearings ended today with Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) apparently directed by a host of lawyers to quit them by writing their resignation.



AS BANGOR VOTERS WENT TO POLLS—One of the Bangor's oldest voters, DAVID SMITH, 92, of 176 Olive St., is shown above, LEFT, at the striped from a voting booth at Ward 1, Precinct 1. Afterward he had a drink at the bar. Other voters are shown at the bar. From left to right are Mrs. Barbara Goodrich, Bealed, left to right, are Mrs. Kitchell, Baker, ward clerk, and Mrs. Warren Cheek, ward clerk. (Staff photos by Malley)

Puerto Rican Nationalists Also Plotted To Attack President, Says Ex-Leader

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (AP)—A former Puerto Rican party chief insisting today that Nationalists who plotted the attack on President Eisenhower also intended to attack President Eisenhower.

Hurricane-Struck Maine Areas Named Disaster Regions By Eisenhower

FORTLAND, Sept. 13 (AP)—Fortland is designated as a region of Maine struck by Hurricane Florence after the federal civil disaster relief act was approved.

Flood Threat Diminishes Here Monday Evening

The spot where the water was overflowing the Bangor area all day yesterday as it was being held back by the dam.

Inside The NEWS

Table with 2 columns: Section Name and Page Number. Includes items like 'Classified Page', 'Editorial and Feature', 'Editorial', 'Sports', 'Weather'.

Spotlight On The News

Storm Thieves... Claim Reward... Man of Action... Queenly Trip... Quake Strikes... Digs 27 Feet Under Kitchen In Gold Hunt... 20 Killed In Wreck Of Portland Truck

Waterville Democrat Upsets Tradition; Leads Rival By 11,000 Votes

FORTLAND, Tuesday, Sept. 13 (AP)—Traditionally Republican Maine today had elected a Democratic governor for the first time in two decades.

McIntire On Top

Rep. Clifford G. McIntire also appeared to have won in the Third District, Republican Rep. Robert Hall, in the first and Charles P. Nelson, in the second, had fair margins.

In Muskie Column

Intensive Muskie campaigning brought with it the fact that the state's largest Republican newspaper, the Bangor Daily News, had been taken over by the Democratic Party.

Governor Trailing Muskie At Penobscot County Polls As Half Precincts Talled

Democratic strength in usually Republican Penobscot County, had a commanding lead of approximately 500 votes over Governor Frank S. Crowe as 50 of the county's 78 precincts were tallied in the state election.

Eden Adenauer Agree To Seek European Unity

Frankfurt, Sept. 13 (AP)—German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab today agreed to seek European unity.

Cabin Operator Badly Burned By Gas Explosion

BARRETTOWN, Sept. 13 (AP)—A cabin operator was badly burned today when a gas explosion occurred in the cabin of a boat on the Penobscot River.

'Vital Interests' Defense Continues As U. S. Policy In Far East, Says President

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (AP)—President Eisenhower today said that American policy in the Far East is based on the vital interests of the United States.

18 Doctors Favor Fluoridation, Four Leave It To Dentists, Nine Decline Comment, One Is Opposed

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (AP)—Eighteen dentists today said they favor fluoridation of public water supplies, while four said it should be left to dentists, nine declined comment and one was opposed.

Canada To Take Portion Of Korea Out Of Korea

OTTAWA, Sept. 13 (AP)—Canada is to take a portion of the Korean peninsula out of the United Nations Command's control.

20 Killed In Wreck Of Portland Truck

PORTLAND, Sept. 13 (AP)—Twenty people were killed today when a truck carrying 20 passengers overturned on a highway near Portland.

Spotlight On The News

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Dover Seeking Showdown With Woolen Firm

DOVER, Pa., Sept. 13 (AP)—The American Woolen Co. today sought a showdown with the American Woolen Co. over a contract for the purchase of wool.

Man of Action

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (AP)—A man of action, a former Puerto Rican party chief, today insisted that Nationalists who plotted the attack on President Eisenhower also intended to attack President Eisenhower.

Queenly Trip

LONDON, Sept. 13 (AP)—The queen's trip to the United States today was being watched with interest by many Americans.

Quake Strikes

FORTLAND, Sept. 13 (AP)—Fortland is designated as a region of Maine struck by Hurricane Florence after the federal civil disaster relief act was approved.

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NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (AP)—A former Puerto Rican nationalist leader testified today that nationalists who planned the March 1 shooting in Congress had also intended to attack President Eisenhower...

Hurricane-Struck Maine Areas Named Disaster Regions By Eisenhower

DENVER, Sept. 13 (AP)—President Eisenhower today designated hurricane-hit regions of Maine as major disaster areas qualified for federal aid.

Flood Threat Diminishes Here Monday Evening

The only threat that remains of a major flood here is the possibility of a heavy rain shower tonight to swell the tide of the Kennebec River...

Inside THE NEWS

Table with 2 columns: News Item and Page Number. Includes items like 'Lansdowne News', 'Lansdowne and Eastern News', 'Lansdowne News'.



AN BANGOR VOTER WENT TO POLLS—One of Bangor's oldest voters, David Smith, 87, of 179 Cedar Street, is shown above, left, as he emerged from a voting booth at Ward 3, Precinct 1, after marking his ballot in Monday's state election. At RIGHT is a typical election scene taken at Ward 3, Precinct 2, showing one of the 100 voters who went to the polls at that station. From left to right are: Mrs. Kenneth Baker, ward clerk, and Mrs. Warren Goodson, station. (Left photo by Baker, right photo by Smith.)

Spotlight On The News

STORM THREATS—The National Weather Service today issued a forecast of a storm system moving into the Northeast...

Clain Record

RECORD—The Maine State Bar Association today announced that it had elected a new president...

Man Of Action

INDIAN POLICE, Sept. 13 (AP)—Police in Indian Territory today arrested a man suspected of being involved in the recent bombing of a school bus...

Quincy Trip

LONDON, Sept. 13 (AP)—The transatlantic liner the Queen Mary today left New York for London...

Quake Strikes

BREITENBURG, Sept. 13 (AP)—A strong earthquake was felt in many parts of the Soviet Union today...

Digs 27 Feet Under Kitchen In Gold Hunt

ANN ARBOR, Sept. 13 (AP)—A man who started digging in his kitchen today because it had been shaking during an earthquake...

20 Killed In Wreck Of Portugal Train

LISBON, Portugal, Sept. 13 (AP)—Some 20 persons were killed and 200 injured today in a head-on collision between two passenger trains...

'Vital Interests' Defense Continues As U. S. Policy In Far East, Says President

DENVER, Sept. 13 (AP)—President Eisenhower declared today that American policy in the Communist-ruled Far East continues to be determined by the "vital interests of the United States..."

Dover Seeking Showdown With Woolen Firm

PROPOSED legislation by the Administration today would require the Federal Textile Administration to show a firm in the woolen industry that it is not producing more than it can sell...

18 Doctors Favor Fluoridation, Four Leave It To Dentists, Nine Decline Comment, One Is Opposed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (AP)—Eighteen dentists today endorsed a resolution favoring the fluoridation of public water supplies...

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Cabin Operator Badly Burned By Gas Explosion

BANGOR, Sept. 13 (AP)—A cabin operator today was badly burned by a gas explosion in the engine room of a ship...

Eden, Adenauer Agree To Seek European Unity

BRUSSELS, Sept. 13 (AP)—British Foreign Secretary Aneurin Bevan today announced that he had agreed with German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer to seek European unity...

Governor Leads Muskie By Only 11 Votes In Early Penobscot County Returns

PROBABLE ELECTION returns today showed Governor Warren leading Muskie by only 11 votes in the early returns from Penobscot County...

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Muskie Drops Behind After Early Lead: Other Republicans Out Front

PORTLAND, Sept. 13 (AP)—An early Democratic lead for the badly-contested Maine governorship faded quickly as returns from Maine's closely-watched state election mounts tonight...

Lighter Vote

THE more than 200,000 voters who cast ballots in the state election today were expected to vote in a lighter vote than in the 1950 election...

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