

The American Eagle:
A Unique Florida Weekly Newspaper

By
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A THESIS PRESENTED TO THE GRADUATE COUNCIL OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATIONS

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Chairman: Dr. Harry H. Griggs
Major Department: College of Journalism and Communications

Just prior to the turn of the century there appeared on the lower West Coast of Florida a group of pioneers who intended to found a Utopian community based on a "religious and fraternal commonwealth." These people--The Koreshan Unity--in 1906 founded a weekly, secular, political newspaper of the highest quality, which through the years has rendered great service to the people of the State of Florida by defending their civil liberties and recording in a scientific fashion the agricultural and horticultural potential of the State.

There have been four eras in the history of The American Eagle--political, agricultural, horticultural and the conservation of natural resources. During these periods the Eagle enjoyed the services of three competent, imaginative, and innovative editors, aided by the external influence of a world-renowned scientist. The author's study of the half-century history of The American Eagle shows that this paper has made valuable and concrete contributions to the history of Florida and is worthy of being recorded as part of the history of journalism in this State.

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