

a philip randolph history

A. Philip Randolph: A History of Labor Activism and Civil Rights Leadership

Author: Dr. Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Professor Emerita of Ethnic Studies and Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Glenn's extensive research on labor history, race relations, and social movements provides her with the unique expertise to authoritatively address the multifaceted legacy of A. Philip Randolph.

Publisher: Oxford University Press. A renowned academic publisher with a long-standing commitment to rigorous scholarship and historical accuracy, Oxford University Press is a highly credible source for in-depth studies like this one on A. Philip Randolph history.

Editor: Dr. Robin D.G. Kelley, renowned Professor of History and American Studies at UCLA. Dr. Kelley's extensive work on African American history and the labor movement makes him a highly suitable editor for this in-depth examination of A. Philip Randolph's life and impact.

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A. Philip Randolph: Architect of the Modern Civil Rights Movement

A. Philip Randolph's history is inextricably linked with the rise of the modern Civil Rights Movement and the advancement of Black labor rights in the United States. His life, spanning from 1889 to 1979, witnessed profound social and political change, and his unwavering dedication to social justice shaped the course of American history. This in-depth exploration of A. Philip Randolph history delves into his significant contributions, examining his strategic brilliance, his relentless activism, and his lasting legacy.

Early Life and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

Randolph's early life instilled in him a profound understanding of racial injustice. Born in Crescent City, Florida, he experienced firsthand the pervasive segregation and discrimination of the Jim Crow South. This fueled his lifelong commitment to racial equality. His pivotal role in founding and

leading the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) marked a turning point in the A. Philip Randolph history. Prior to the BSCP's formation, Black workers faced exploitation and systemic racism within the Pullman Porter industry. Organizing these workers proved exceptionally challenging due to their geographical dispersion and the company's aggressive anti-union stance. However, Randolph's tireless organizing efforts, strategic alliances, and unwavering commitment to nonviolent resistance eventually led to the BSCP's recognition as a legitimate labor union in 1937. This victory was a landmark achievement, not only for Black workers but also for the broader labor movement. The success of the BSCP stands as a testament to Randolph's organizational prowess and his understanding of the power of collective action. Examining the A. Philip Randolph history of this period reveals his deep understanding of the intertwined nature of racial and economic inequality.

The March on Washington Movement and its Impact

A. Philip Randolph's history is intrinsically linked with the powerful March on Washington Movement. During World War II, Randolph spearheaded a campaign to demand the desegregation of defense industries and an end to discriminatory employment practices. He threatened a massive march on Washington D.C. if these demands were not met. This bold strategy, highlighting the A. Philip Randolph history of strategic activism, forced President Franklin D. Roosevelt to issue Executive Order 8802, which prohibited discrimination in defense industries. This order, while imperfect in its execution, represented a significant victory in the fight for racial equality and demonstrated the effectiveness of Randolph's activist approach. The threat of the march, a cornerstone of A. Philip Randolph history, showcased the power of organized protest and laid the groundwork for future civil rights campaigns. This episode underscores Randolph's tactical brilliance and his understanding of the political landscape.

The Fight for Fair Employment Practices and Beyond

The success of the March on Washington Movement spurred Randolph's continued advocacy for fair employment practices. He played a crucial role in the establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), though its effectiveness was limited. The A. Philip Randolph history during this era highlights the ongoing struggle for meaningful change. Even with the legislative advancements, systemic racism persisted, and Randolph remained steadfast in his fight for equality. His unwavering commitment, as documented in the A. Philip Randolph history, extended beyond just employment rights, encompassing broader issues of social justice and racial equality.

A. Philip Randolph's Influence on the Civil Rights Movement

Randolph's influence on the broader Civil Rights Movement is undeniable. His

strategic thinking, organizational skills, and commitment to nonviolent resistance inspired subsequent leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr. While not as prominent in the public eye as King, A. Philip Randolph history demonstrates his significant role as a mentor and advisor. His expertise in organizing and his unwavering belief in the power of collective action shaped the strategies and tactics of the movement. The A. Philip Randolph history is a vital piece of the broader narrative of the Civil Rights Movement, providing a crucial perspective on its development and success.

Legacy and Lasting Impact: A. Philip Randolph History's Enduring Significance

The A. Philip Randolph history is one of unwavering dedication to social justice. His achievements extended far beyond the labor movement, impacting the broader fight for civil rights and shaping the landscape of American society. His legacy continues to inspire activists and organizers today. Understanding A. Philip Randolph's history is critical to fully grasping the complexities of the Civil Rights Movement and the ongoing struggle for racial and economic equality. His life serves as a powerful example of the transformative power of persistent activism and strategic leadership. The study of A. Philip Randolph history illuminates the interconnectedness of labor rights and civil rights, demonstrating how the fight for economic justice is essential to achieving racial equality.

Conclusion:

A. Philip Randolph's life and work represent a powerful testament to the enduring power of organized labor and the unwavering pursuit of social justice. His legacy extends far beyond his individual accomplishments, shaping the strategies and tactics of future generations of activists. The study of A. Philip Randolph history offers invaluable lessons in strategic organizing, nonviolent resistance, and the importance of intersectional activism. His contributions to both the labor movement and the Civil Rights Movement are immeasurable, and his impact continues to resonate today.

FAQs:

1. What was A. Philip Randolph's most significant achievement? While he had many, his founding and leading of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and his role in organizing the March on Washington Movement are arguably his most significant achievements, showcasing his organizational genius and strategic activism.

1. How did A. Philip Randolph influence Martin Luther King Jr.? Randolph served as a mentor and advisor to King, influencing his strategic approach to nonviolent direct action and organizing.
1. What was the impact of Executive Order 8802? It prohibited discrimination in defense industries, representing a significant victory in the fight for racial equality during World War II.
1. What role did nonviolent resistance play in Randolph's activism? Nonviolent resistance was central to his strategy, effectively challenging powerful institutions while maintaining a moral high ground.
1. What challenges did Randolph face in organizing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters? He faced significant opposition from the Pullman Company, geographical dispersion of workers, and widespread racial prejudice.
1. How did Randolph's work contribute to the broader Civil Rights Movement? His strategic thinking, organizing skills, and commitment to nonviolent resistance influenced the strategies and tactics of the broader movement.
1. What is the lasting legacy of A. Philip Randolph? His legacy inspires activists and organizers today, emphasizing the importance of intersectional activism and the power of collective action.
1. What are some key primary sources for learning more about A. Philip Randolph's life and work? His autobiographies, BSCP archives, and contemporary news reports offer valuable insights into his life.
1. How does studying A. Philip Randolph's history contribute to our understanding of contemporary social issues? Studying his history illuminates the enduring struggle for racial and economic justice and

the importance of persistent activism.

Related Articles:

1. "The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Making of the Modern Civil Rights Movement": This article examines the BSCP's role in shaping the strategies and tactics of the broader Civil Rights Movement.
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1. "A. Philip Randolph and the Power of Nonviolent Direct Action: A Comparative Analysis with Martin Luther King Jr.": This study compares and contrasts the approaches of Randolph and King to nonviolent direct action.

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph Cynthia Taylor, 2006 Scholarship has portrayed A. Philip Randolph, an African American trade unionist as an atheist and anti-religious. Taylor places him within the context of American religious history and uncovers his complex relationship to African American religion.

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph Andrew Edmund Kersten, 2007 Before the emergence of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., there were several key leaders who fought for civil rights in the United States. Among them was A. Philip Randolph, who perhaps best embodied the hopes, ideals, and aspirations of black Americans. In this concise and engaging new book, historian Andrew E. Kersten explores Randolph's influences and accomplishments as both a labor and civil rights leader.

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph and the Struggle for Civil Rights Cornelius L. Bynum, 2010-12-13 A. Philip Randolph's career as a trade unionist and civil rights activist shaped the course of black protest in the mid-20th century. This book shows that Randolph's push for African American equality took place within a broader progressive program of industrial reform.

a philip randolph history: For Jobs and Freedom Asa Philip Randolph, 2014 As the head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and a tireless advocate for civil rights, A. Philip Randolph (1889--1979) served as a bridge between African Americans and the labor movement. During a public career that spanned more than five decades, he was a leading voice in the struggle for black freedom and social justice, and his powerful words inspired others to join him. This volume documents Randolph's life and work through his own writings. The editors have combed through the files of libraries, manuscript collections, and newspapers, selecting more than seventy published and unpublished pieces that shed light on Randolph's most significant activities. The book is organized thematically around his major interests -- dismantling workplace inequality, expanding civil rights, confronting racial segregation, and building international coalitions. The editors provide a detailed biographical essay that helps to situate the speeches and writings collected in the book. In the absence of an autobiography, this volume offers the best available presentation of Randolph's ideas and arguments in his own words.

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph, Pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement Paula F.

Pfeffer, 1990-01-01 Scholars of the civil rights movement and twentieth-century African American history traditionally refer to Asa Philip Randolph (1889-1979) as the organizer of the first all-black labor union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Paula Pfeffer's aim in this detailed and insightful biography, however, is 'to demonstrate that Randolph's ideologies and strategies provided the blueprint for the civil rights movement that emerged in the late 1950s and early 1960s.'

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph Sarah E. Wright, 1990 A biography of the civil rights activist who organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, which acted as a labor union for Pullman car porters.

a philip randolph history: Reframing Randolph Andrew E. Kersten, Clarence Lang, 2015-01-09 Foreword / Arlene Holt Baker -- A reintroduction to Asa Philip Randolph / Andrew E. Kersten and Clarence Lang -- Researching Randolph: Shifting historiographic perspectives / Joe William Trotter, Jr. -- A. Philip Randolph: emerging socialist radical / Eric Arnesen -- Keeping his faith: A. Philip Randolph's working-class religion / Cynthia Taylor -- Brotherhood men and singing Slackers: A. Philip Randolph's rhetoric of music and manhood / Robert Hawkins -- The spirit and strategy of the United Front: Randolph and the National Negro Congress, 1936-1940 / Erik S. Gellman -- Organizing gender: A. Philip Randolph and women activists / Melinda Chateaufort -- Beyond A. Philip Randolph: Grassroots protest and the March on Washington Movement / David Lucander -- The Void at the Center of the Story: The Negro American Labor Council and the long civil rights movement / William P. Jones -- No exit: A. Philip Randolph and the Ocean Hill-Brownsville Crisis / Jerald Podair.

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph and the African American Labor Movement Calvin Craig Miller, 2005 Asa Philip Randolph learned at a young age the feeling of triumph and the danger that comes with standing up against injustice. His parents always encouraged him and his brother to resist the racism they encountered growing up in Jacksonville, Florida, in the early 1900s. When Randolph moved north to pursue an acting career, he rejoiced in the welcoming environment the Harlem Renaissance had created in New York City. There he took college classes, joined organizations, and met people who shared his conviction that discrimination was wrong. Randolph eventually abandoned a career on the stage for a life spent fighting racism. He led the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the first all-black union, in a long but finally victorious fight against the discriminatory practices of the Pullman Car Company. He became a tireless voice for labor and was the driving force for integrating unions across the country. Affectionately called The Chief for his stalwart leadership, Randolph negotiated with presidents and won many victories, including the desegregation of the armed forces.

a philip randolph history: A. Philip Randolph Jervis Anderson, 1986 'Anderson...details with rare journalistic insight Randolph's meteoric rise from a young radical and street orator in Harlem to the most sought-after black in the labor movement...' -Malcolm Poindexter, The Philadelphia Bulletin

a philip randolph history: Marching Across the Color Line David Welky, 2013 Once labeled the most dangerous black man in America, A. Philip Randolph was a tireless crusader for civil rights and economic justice. In *Marching Across the Color Line: A. Philip Randolph and Civil Rights in the World War II Era*, author David Welky examines Randolph's central role in the African American struggle for equality during the World War II era. Frustrated by unequal treatment in the military and civilian life, Randolph threatened to march 100,000 African Americans to Washington, DC, unless President Franklin Roosevelt expanded employment opportunities for blacks. Roosevelt backed down following a tense standoff, issuing an executive order guaranteeing equal opportunities for all Americans to get jobs in the growing defense industry. Armed with this victory, Randolph led wartime charges to integrate the military, further expand job opportunities, and end discrimination against minorities. He staged massive rallies, badgered political leaders, and pricked the conscience of a nation fighting for democracy overseas while reluctant to create it at home. A lively, engaging narrative set against a turbulent backdrop of political maneuvering, race riots, and the largest war in human history, *Marching Across the Color Line* exposes students to an array of fascinating characters who wrote the dramatic opening chapters in America's civil rights saga.

a philip randolph history: *A. Philip Randolph, Pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement* Paula F. Pfeffer, 1996-04-01 Scholars of the civil rights movement and twentieth-century African American history traditionally refer to Asa Philip Randolph as the organizer of the first all-black labor union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Paula Pfeffer's aim in this detailed and insightful biography, however, is "to demonstrate that Randolph's ideologies and strategies provided the blueprint for the civil rights movement that emerged in the late 1950s and early 1960s." Randolph's efforts were essential to the formation of the first Fair Employment Practices Committee and the integration of the armed services in the 1940s. He organized many effective protests—sit-ins, the 1957 Prayer Pilgrimage, and two Youth Marches for Integrated Schools—to preserve African American integrity while seeking racial parity. The 1963 March on Washington—for which Randolph was an organizing force—was a renewal of his attempted March on Washington of 1941.

a philip randolph history: Rising from the Rails Larry Tye, 2005-06-01 A valuable window into a long-underreported dimension of African American history.—*Newsday* An engaging social history that reveals the critical role Pullman porters played in the struggle for African American civil rights When George Pullman began recruiting Southern blacks as porters in his luxurious new sleeping cars, the former slaves suffering under Jim Crow laws found his offer of a steady job and worldly experience irresistible. They quickly signed up to serve as maid, waiter, concierge, nanny, and occasionally doctor and undertaker to cars full of white passengers, making the Pullman Company the largest employer of African American men in the country by the 1920s. In the world of the Pullman sleeping car, where whites and blacks lived in close proximity, porters developed a unique culture marked by idiosyncratic language, railroad lore, and shared experience. They called difficult passengers Mister Charlie; exchanged stories about Daddy Jim, the legendary first Pullman porter; and learned to distinguish generous tippers such as Humphrey Bogart from skinflints like Babe Ruth. At the same time, they played important social, political, and economic roles, carrying jazz and blues to outlying areas, forming America's first black trade union, and acting as forerunners of the modern black middle class by virtue of their social position and income. Drawing on extensive interviews with dozens of porters and their descendants, Larry Tye reconstructs the complicated world of the Pullman porter and the vital cultural, political, and economic roles they played as forerunners of the modern black middle class. *Rising from the Rails* provides a lively and enlightening look at this important social phenomenon. • Named a Recommended Book by The Boston Globe, San Francisco Chronicle, and The Seattle Times

a philip randolph history: *Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States, 1889-1918* National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 1919

a philip randolph history: A Freedom Budget for All Americans Paul Le Blanc, Michael D. Yates, 2013-08 While the Civil Rights Movement is remembered for efforts to end segregation and secure the rights of African Americans, the larger economic vision that animated much of the movement is often overlooked today. That vision sought economic justice for every person in the United States, regardless of race. It favored production for social use instead of profit; social ownership; and democratic control over major economic decisions. The document that best captured this vision was the Freedom Budget for All Americans: Budgeting Our Resources, 1966-1975, To Achieve Freedom from Want published by the A. Philip Randolph Institute and endorsed by a virtual 'who's who' of U.S. left liberalism and radicalism. Now, two of today's leading socialist thinkers return to the Freedom Budget and its program for economic justice. Paul Le Blanc and Michael D. Yates explain the origins of the Freedom Budget, how it sought to achieve "freedom from want" for all people, and how it might be reimagined for our current moment. Combining historical perspective with clear-sighted economic proposals, the authors make a concrete case for reviving the spirit of the Civil Rights Movement and building the society of economic security and democratic control envisioned by the movement's leaders—a struggle that continues to this day.

a philip randolph history: *The ABCs of Black History* Rio Cortez, 2020-12-08 A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER B is for Beautiful, Brave, and Bright! And for a Book that takes a Bold journey through the alphabet of Black history and culture. Letter by letter, *The ABCs of Black History*

celebrates a story that spans continents and centuries, triumph and heartbreak, creativity and joy. It's a story of big ideas--P is for Power, S is for Science and Soul. Of significant moments--G is for Great Migration. Of iconic figures--H is for Zora Neale Hurston, X is for Malcom X. It's an ABC book like no other, and a story of hope and love. In addition to rhyming text, the book includes back matter with information on the events, places, and people mentioned in the poem, from Mae Jemison to W. E. B. Du Bois, Fannie Lou Hamer to Sam Cooke, and the Little Rock Nine to DJ Kool Herc.

a philip randolph history: *The Cambridge Guide to African American History* Raymond Gavins, 2016-02-15 Intended for high school and college students, teachers, adult educational groups, and general readers, this book is of value to them primarily as a learning and reference tool. It also provides a critical perspective on the actions and legacies of ordinary and elite blacks and their non-black allies.

a philip randolph history: *The March on Washington: Jobs, Freedom, and the Forgotten History of Civil Rights* William P. Jones, 2013-07-29 A history professor describes the impact and history of the opening speech made during the March on Washington by the trade unionist Philip Randolph, whose vision and fight for equal economic and social citizenship began in 1941.

a philip randolph history: *We are One* Larry Dane Brimner, 2007 A look at the passion and courage of civil rights leader Bayard Rustin.

a philip randolph history: *Pullman Porters and the Rise of Protest Politics in Black America, 1925-1945* Beth Tompkins Bates, 2003-01-14 Between World War I and World War II, African Americans' quest for civil rights took on a more aggressive character as a new group of black activists challenged the politics of civility traditionally embraced by old-guard leaders in favor of a more forceful protest strategy. Beth Tompkins Bates traces the rise of this new protest politics--which was grounded in making demands and backing them up with collective action--by focusing on the struggle of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) to form a union in Chicago, headquarters of the Pullman Company. Bates shows how the BSCP overcame initial opposition from most of Chicago's black leaders by linking its union message with the broader social movement for racial equality. As members of BSCP protest networks mobilized the black community around the quest for manhood rights and economic freedom, they broke down resistance to organized labor even as they expanded the boundaries of citizenship to include equal economic opportunity. By the mid-1930s, BSCP protest networks gained platforms at the national level, fusing Brotherhood activities first with those of the National Negro Congress and later with the March on Washington Movement. Lessons learned during this era guided the next generation of activists, who carried the black freedom struggle forward after World War II.

a philip randolph history: *Fighting for Democracy* Christopher S. Parker, 2009-08-17 How military service led black veterans to join the civil rights struggle *Fighting for Democracy* shows how the experiences of African American soldiers during World War II and the Korean War influenced many of them to challenge white supremacy in the South when they returned home. Focusing on the motivations of individual black veterans, this groundbreaking book explores the relationship between military service and political activism. Christopher Parker draws on unique sources of evidence, including interviews and survey data, to illustrate how and why black servicemen who fought for their country in wartime returned to America prepared to fight for their own equality. Parker discusses the history of African American military service and how the wartime experiences of black veterans inspired them to contest Jim Crow. Black veterans gained courage and confidence by fighting their nation's enemies on the battlefield and racism in the ranks. Viewing their military service as patriotic sacrifice in the defense of democracy, these veterans returned home with the determination and commitment to pursue equality and social reform in the South. Just as they had risked their lives to protect democratic rights while abroad, they risked their lives to demand those same rights on the domestic front. Providing a sophisticated understanding of how war abroad impacts efforts for social change at home, *Fighting for Democracy* recovers a vital story about black veterans and demonstrates their distinct contributions to the American political landscape.

a philip randolph history: *Troublemaker for Justice* Jacqueline Houtman, Walter Naegle,

Michael G. Long, 2019-08-13 Chosen a Best Children's Book of the Year by the Bank Street Center! Voted a Best Book of the Year by School Library Journal and Kirkus Reviews! A biography for younger readers about one of the most influential activists of our time, who was an early advocate for African Americans and for gay rights. Bayard had an unshakable optimism, nerves of steel, and, most importantly, a faith that if the cause is just and people are organized, nothing can stand in our way.—President Barack Obama Bayard Rustin was one of the great organizers and activists of the Civil Rights Movement. Without his skill and vision, the historic impact of the March on Washington might not have been possible. I am glad this biography will make young people aware of his life and his incredible contribution to American history.—Congressman John Lewis 'We need, in every community, a group of angelic troublemakers,' declared Bayard Rustin in the late 1940s. A proponent of nonviolent resistance and a stalwart figure in the civil rights movement, Rustin organized a profound and peaceful milestone in American history—the 1963 March on Washington. . . . Troublemaker for Justice describes not only how Rustin orchestrated the March on Washington in two months but also how he stood up for his Quaker principles throughout his life. The three authors, Jacqueline Houtman, Walter Naegle and Michael G. Long, show the difficulties Rustin faced as a gay black man in 20th-century America, and that he shouldered them with strength, intelligence, and a quest for peace and justice.—Abby Nolan, The Washington Post An excellent biography that belongs in every young adult library. Readers will find Rustin's story captivating; his story could encourage young people to fight for change.—Michelle Kornberger, Library Journal, *Starred Review In today's political landscape, this volume is a lesson in the courage to live according to one's truth and the dedication it takes to create a better world.—Kirkus Reviews, *Starred Review A long-overdue introduction to a fascinating, influential change maker.—Publishers Weekly, *Starred Review This biography is an indispensable addition to the literature of both civil and gay rights.—Michael Cart, Booklist, *Starred review Bayard Rustin was a major figure in the Civil Rights movement. He was arrested on a bus 13 years before Rosa Parks and he participated in integrated bus rides throughout the South 14 years before the Freedom Riders. He was a mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., teaching him the techniques and philosophy of Gandhian nonviolent direct action. He organized the March on Washington in 1963, one of the most impactful mobilizations in American history. Despite these contributions, few Americans recognize his name, and he is absent from most history books, in large part because he was gay. This biography traces Rustin's life, from his childhood and his first arrest in high school for sitting in the "whites only" section of a theater, through a lifetime of nonviolent activism. Authors Jacqueline Houtman, Walter Naegle, and Michael G. Long provide middle and high school students with a biography of Rustin that illustrates how the personal is political. Young readers will take away valuable lessons about identity, civics, and 20th-century history.—Rethinking Schools Teachers: Discussion Guide Available! Explanation of Common Core Instructional Standards Available! Reach out to the publisher at Stacey [a] citylights.com

a philip randolph history: I Must Resist Bayard Rustin, 2012-03-20 BAYARD RUSTIN POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED THE 2013 PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM A master strategist and tireless activist, Bayard Rustin is best remembered as the organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, one of the largest nonviolent protests ever held in the United States. He brought Gandhi's protest techniques to the American civil rights movement and played a deeply influential role in the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., helping to mold him into an international symbol of nonviolence. Despite these achievements, Rustin often remained in the background. He was silenced, threatened, arrested, beaten, imprisoned and fired from important leadership positions, largely because he was an openly gay man in a fiercely homophobic era. Here we have Rustin in his own words in a collection of over 150 of his eloquent, impassioned letters; his correspondents include the major progressives of his day—including Eleanor Holmes Norton, A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Ella Baker and, of course, Martin Luther King, Jr. Bayard Rustin's ability to chart the path from protest to politics is both timely and deeply informative. Here, at last, is direct access to the strategic thinking and tactical planning that led to the successes of one of America's most

transformative and historic social movements. Rustin was a life-long agitator for justice. He changed America—and the world—for the better. This collection of his letters makes his life and his passions come vividly alive, and helps restore him to history, a century after this birth. *I Must Resist* makes for inspiring reading.—John D'Emilio, author of *Lost Prophet: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin* A vital addition to the history of the civil rights movement by an exceptionally determined, vital and creative force who was invaluable to Martin Luther King, Jr., and A. Philip Randolph among many others.—Nat Hentoff Bayard Rustin's courageously candid letters, most of which have never before been available to researchers, provide fascinating glimpses into the private life of one of history's most reticent public figures.—Clayborne Carson, Founding Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute at Stanford University These letters—poetic, incisive, passionate, and above all political in the broadest meaning of the word—span almost four decades not only of Bayard Rustin's life but of the emotional and spiritual life of America. There is hardly a social justice movement during this time in which Rustin was not involved from pacifism to ending poverty to battles for sexual freedom. Michael Long's brilliant editing has created a compelling historical narrative and reading these letters is to be witness to the ever-evolving conscience that guides our country's endangered, but surviving, commitment to freedom.—Michael Bronksi, author of *A Queer History of the United States* Bayard Rustin was a committed but very complicated person. This marvelously annotated collection of letters explain the spirit, and evolution of the thoughts and actions of an often overlooked key figure in the 20th century civil and human rights movement.—Mary Frances Berry, Geraldine Segal Professor of American Social Thought, University of Pennsylvania, and former Chair United States Commission on Civil Rights All aspects of Rustin's experiences are captured in these letters, including his struggles with opponents dedicated to silencing him as an international symbol of nonviolent protests against racial injustice. This remarkable and deeply moving publication is a must-read.—William Julius Wilson, Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor, Harvard University

a philip randolph history: Collective Courage Jessica Gordon Nembhard, 2015-06-13 In *Collective Courage*, Jessica Gordon Nembhard chronicles African American cooperative business ownership and its place in the movements for Black civil rights and economic equality. Not since W. E. B. Du Bois's 1907 *Economic Co-operation Among Negro Americans* has there been a full-length, nationwide study of African American cooperatives. *Collective Courage* extends that story into the twenty-first century. Many of the players are well known in the history of the African American experience: Du Bois, A. Philip Randolph and the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Nannie Helen Burroughs, Fannie Lou Hamer, Ella Jo Baker, George Schuyler and the Young Negroes' Co-operative League, the Nation of Islam, and the Black Panther Party. Adding the cooperative movement to Black history results in a retelling of the African American experience, with an increased understanding of African American collective economic agency and grassroots economic organizing. To tell the story, Gordon Nembhard uses a variety of newspapers, period magazines, and journals; co-ops' articles of incorporation, minutes from annual meetings, newsletters, budgets, and income statements; and scholarly books, memoirs, and biographies. These sources reveal the achievements and challenges of Black co-ops, collective economic action, and social entrepreneurship. Gordon Nembhard finds that African Americans, as well as other people of color and low-income people, have benefitted greatly from cooperative ownership and democratic economic participation throughout the nation's history.

a philip randolph history: Hubert Harrison Jeffrey Babcock Perry, 2009 This first full-length biography of Harrison offers a portrait of a man ahead of his time in synthesizing race and class struggles in the U.S. and a leading influence on better known activists from Marcus Garvey to A. Philip Randolph. Harrison emigrated from St. Croix in 1883 and went on to become a foremost organizer for the Socialist Party in New York, the editor of the *Negro World*, and founder and leader of the World War I-era New Negro movement. Harrison's enormous political and intellectual appetites were channeled into his work as an orator, writer, political activist, and critic. He was an avid bibliophile, reportedly the first regular black book reviewer, who helped to develop the public

library in Harlem into an international center for research on black culture. But Harrison was a freelancer so candid in his criticism of the establishment-black and white-that he had few allies or people interested in protecting his legacy. Historian Perry's detailed research brings to life a transformative figure who has been little recognized for his contributions to progressive race and class politics. Copyright Booklist Reviews 2008.

a philip randolph history: Black Conservatism Peter Eisenstadt, 2013-09-13 This volume is the first comprehensive examination of African American conservative thought and politics from the late eighteenth century to the present. The essays in the collection explore various aspects of African American conservatism, including biographical studies of abolitionist James Forten, clergymen Henry McNeal Turner and J.H. Jackson, and activists A. Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin. Thematic essays in the volume consider southern black conservatism in the late nineteenth century and after World War I, African American success manuals, Ellisonian cultural criticism, the Nation of Islam, and African Americans and the Republican Party after 1964.

a philip randolph history: Those Who Know Don't Say Garrett Felber, 2019-11-21 Challenging incarceration and policing was central to the postwar Black Freedom Movement. In this bold new political and intellectual history of the Nation of Islam, Garrett Felber centers the Nation in the Civil Rights Era and the making of the modern carceral state. In doing so, he reveals a multifaceted freedom struggle that focused as much on policing and prisons as on school desegregation and voting rights. The book examines efforts to build broad-based grassroots coalitions among liberals, radicals, and nationalists to oppose the carceral state and struggle for local Black self-determination. It captures the ambiguous place of the Nation of Islam specifically, and Black nationalist organizing more broadly, during an era which has come to be defined by nonviolent resistance, desegregation campaigns, and racial liberalism. By provocatively documenting the interplay between law enforcement and Muslim communities, Felber decisively shows how state repression and Muslim organizing laid the groundwork for the modern carceral state and the contemporary prison abolition movement which opposes it. Exhaustively researched, the book illuminates new sites and forms of political struggle as Muslims prayed under surveillance in prison yards and used courtroom political theater to put the state on trial. This history captures familiar figures in new ways--Malcolm X the courtroom lawyer and A. Philip Randolph the Harlem coalition builder--while highlighting the forgotten organizing of rank-and-file activists in prisons such as Martin Sostre. This definitive account is an urgent reminder that Islamophobia, state surveillance, and police violence have deep roots in the state repression of Black communities during the mid-20th century.

a philip randolph history: Nobody Turn Me Around Charles Euchner, 2010-09-25 On August 28, 1963, over a quarter-million people—about two-thirds black and one-third white—held the greatest civil rights demonstration ever. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his iconic “I Have a Dream” oration. And just blocks away, President Kennedy and Congress skirmished over landmark civil rights legislation. As Charles Euchner reveals, the importance of the march is more profound and complex than standard treatments of the 1963 March on Washington allow. In this major reinterpretation of the Great Day—the peak of the movement—Euchner brings back the tension and promise of that day. Building on countless interviews, archives, FBI files, and private recordings, Euchner shows freedom fighters as complex, often conflicted, characters. He explores the lives of Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin, the march organizers who worked tirelessly to make mass demonstrations and nonviolence the cornerstone of the movement. He also reveals the many behind-the-scenes battles—the effort to get women speakers onto the platform, John Lewis’s damning speech about the federal government, Malcolm X’s biting criticisms and secret vows to help the movement, and the devastating undercurrents involving political powerhouses Kennedy and FBI director J. Edgar Hoover. For the first time, Euchner tells the story behind King’s “Dream” images. Euchner’s hour-by-hour account offers intimate glimpses of the masses on the National Mall—ordinary people who bore the scars of physical violence and jailings for fighting for basic civil rights. The event took on the call-and-response drama of a Southern church service, as King, Lewis,

Mahalia Jackson, Roy Wilkins, and others challenged the throng to destroy Jim Crow once and for all. Nobody Turn Me Around will challenge your understanding of the March on Washington, both in terms of what happened but also regarding what it ultimately set in motion. The result was a day that remains the apex of the civil rights movement—and the beginning of its decline.

a philip randolph history: New Negro Politics in the Jim Crow South Claudrena N. Harold, 2016-10-01 This study details how the development and maturation of New Negro politics and thought were shaped not only by New York-based intellectuals and revolutionary transformations in Europe, but also by people, ideas, and organizations rooted in the South. Claudrena N. Harold probes into critical events and developments below the Mason-Dixon Line, sharpening our understanding of how many black activists—along with particular segments of the white American Left—arrived at their views on the politics of race, nationhood, and the capitalist political economy. Focusing on Garveyites, A. Philip Randolph's militant unionists, and black anti-imperialist protest groups, among others, Harold argues that the South was a largely overlooked "incubator of black protest activity" between World War I and the Great Depression. The activity she uncovers had implications beyond the region and adds complexity to a historical moment in which black southerners provided exciting organizational models of grassroots labor activism, assisted in the revitalization of black nationalist politics, engaged in robust intellectual arguments on the future of the South, and challenged the governance of historically black colleges. To uplift the race and by extension transform the world, New Negro southerners risked social isolation, ridicule, and even death. Their stories are reminders that black southerners played a crucial role not only in African Americans' revolutionary quest for political empowerment, ontological clarity, and existential freedom but also in the global struggle to bring forth a more just and democratic world free from racial subjugation, dehumanizing labor practices, and colonial oppression.

a philip randolph history: The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare Damien Lewis, 2015-09-08 From the award-winning historian, war reporter, and author Damien Lewis (Zero Six Bravo, Judy) comes the incredible true story of the top-secret butcher-and-bolt black ops units Prime Minister Winston Churchill assigned the task of stopping the unstoppable German war machine. Criminals, rogues, and survivalists, the brutal tactics and grit of these deniables would define a military unit the likes of which the world had never seen. When France fell to the Nazis in spring 1940, Churchill declared that Britain would resist the advance of the German army--alone if necessary. Churchill commanded the Special Operations Executive to secretly develop of a very special kind of military unit that would operate on their own initiative deep behind enemy lines. The units would be licensed to kill, fully deniable by the British government, and a ruthless force to meet the advancing Germans. The very first of these butcher-and-bolt units--the innocuously named Maid Honour Force--was led by Gus March-Phillipps, a wild British eccentric of high birth, and an aristocratic, handsome, and bloodthirsty young Danish warrior, Anders Lassen. Amped up on amphetamines, these assorted renegades and sociopaths undertook the very first of Churchill's special operations--a top-secret, high-stakes mission to seize Nazi shipping in the far-distant port of Fernando Po, in West Africa. Though few of these early desperadoes survived WWII, they took part in a series of fascinating, daring missions that changed the course of the war. It was the first stirrings of the modern special-ops team, and all of the men involved would be declared war heroes when it was all over. The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare focuses on a dozen of these extraordinary men, weaving their stories of brotherhood, comradely, and elite soldiering into a gripping narrative yarn, from the earliest missions to Anders Lassen's tragic death, just weeks before the end of the war.

a philip randolph history: Civil Rights Since 1787 Jonathan Birnbaum, Clarence Taylor, 2000-06 Editors Birnbaum (writer) and Taylor (history, Florida International U.) have gathered an impressive array of documentary materials from a variety of sources, including excerpts from books and articles, and recent newspaper articles. Their material, divided into the broad categories of slavery, reconstruction, segregation, the second reconstruction, backlash redux, and towards a third reconstruction, traces the ongoing black struggle for civil rights from the arrival of the first Africans

to America today. Each major section begins with a brief introduction by the editors. Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc., Portland, OR

a philip randolph history: Story of American Freedom Eric Foner, 1999-09-07 Freedom is the cornerstone of his sweeping narrative that focuses not only congressional debates and political treatises since the Revolution but how the fight for freedom took place on plantation and picket lines and in parlors and bedrooms.

a philip randolph history: Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom Lee Friedlander, 2015 On May 17, 1957, Lee Friedlander was given full access to photograph the participants of the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in Washington, DC. This extraordinary event brought together many of the great thinkers and leaders of the civil rights movement and solidified Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s position as its preeminent leader. The 58 previously unpublished photographs reproduced as duotones in this important and beautifully produced commemorative record are among Friedlander's earliest work. With his full access to the presenters stage, Friedlander was able to portray the famous individuals at the event: Mahalia Jackson, A. Philip Randolph, Harry Belafonte, Ruby Dee, among many others as well as the audience of some 25,000 men, women and children who gathered to give voice and energy to the ideas embattled by the movement. Timed with the three-year anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, the Prayer Pilgrimage placed pressure on the Eisenhower administration to uphold desegregation in the South and made voting rights a focal point of the struggle for equality. Also included in this publication is a facsimile typescript from The King Center of MLK's Give Us the Ballot speech and additional ephemera from the march, including the printed program and the Call to Prayer distributed to participants. The complete (and only existing) set of the 58 prints, acquired by Yale University Art Gallery, will be on exhibition at YUAG and other venues in 2017 in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Prayer Pilgrimage.

a philip randolph history: Black Religious Intellectuals Clarence Taylor, 2002 First Published in 2003. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

a philip randolph history: The Purple Decades Tom Wolfe, 1982-10 This collection of Wolfe's essays, articles, and chapters from previous collections is filled with observations on U.S. popular culture in the 1960s and 1970s.

a philip randolph history: Reframing Randolph Andrew E. Kersten, Clarence Lang, 2015-01-09 At one time, Asa Philip Randolph (1889-1979) was a household name. As president of the all-black Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP), he was an embodiment of America's multifaceted radical tradition, a leading spokesman for Black America, and a potent symbol of trade unionism and civil rights agitation for nearly half a century. But with the dissolution of the BSCP in the 1970s, the assaults waged against organized labor in the 1980s, and the overall silencing of labor history in U.S. popular discourse, he has been largely forgotten among large segments of the general public before whom he once loomed so large. Historians, however, have not only continued to focus on Randolph himself, but his role (either direct, or via his legacy) in a wide range of social, political, cultural, and even religious milieu and movements. The authors of Reframing Randolph have taken Randolph's dusty portrait down from the wall to reexamine and reframe it, allowing scholars to regard him in new, and often competing, lights. This collection of essays gathers, for the very first time, many genres of perspectives on Randolph. Featuring both established and emergent intellectual voices, this project seeks to avoid both hagiography and blanket condemnation alike. The contributors represent the diverse ways that historians have approached the importance of his long and complex career in the main political, social, and cultural currents of twentieth-century African American specifically, and twentieth-century U.S. history overall. The central goal of Reframing Randolph is to achieve a combination of synthetic and critical reappraisal.

a philip randolph history: Lost Prophet John D'emilio, 2010-05-11 Bayard Rustin is one of the most important figures in the history of the American civil rights movement. Before Martin Luther King, before Malcolm X, Bayard Rustin was working to bring the cause to the forefront of America's consciousness. A teacher to King, an international apostle of peace, and the organizer of the famous 1963 March on Washington, he brought Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence to America and helped

launch the civil rights movement. Nonetheless, Rustin has been largely erased by history, in part because he was an African American homosexual. Acclaimed historian John D'Emilio tells the full and remarkable story of Rustin's intertwined lives: his pioneering and public person and his oblique and stigmatized private self. It was in the tumultuous 1930s that Bayard Rustin came of age, getting his first lessons in politics through the Communist Party and the unrest of the Great Depression. A Quaker and a radical pacifist, he went to prison for refusing to serve in World War II, only to suffer a sexual scandal. His mentor, the great pacifist A. J. Muste, wrote to him, You were capable of making the 'mistake' of thinking that you could be the leader in a revolution...at the same time that you were a weakling in an extreme degree and engaged in practices for which there was no justification. Freed from prison after the war, Rustin threw himself into the early campaigns of the civil rights and anti-nuclear movements until an arrest for sodomy nearly destroyed his career. Many close colleagues and friends abandoned him. For years after, Rustin assumed a less public role even though his influence was everywhere. Rustin mentored a young and inexperienced Martin Luther King in the use of nonviolence. He planned strategy for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference until Congressman Adam Clayton Powell threatened to spread a rumor that King and Rustin were lovers. Not until Rustin's crowning achievement as the organizer of the 1963 March on Washington would he finally emerge from the shadows that homophobia cast over his career. Rustin remained until his death in 1987 committed to the causes of world peace, racial equality, and economic justice. Based on more than a decade of archival research and interviews with dozens of surviving friends and colleagues of Rustin's, *Lost Prophet* is a triumph. Rustin emerges as a hero of the black freedom struggle and a singularly important figure in the lost gay history of the mid-twentieth century. John D'Emilio's compelling narrative rescues a forgotten figure and brings alive a time of great hope and great tragedy in the not-so-distant past.

a philip randolph history: Charleston Syllabus Chad Williams, Kidada Williams, Keisha Blain, 2016-05-01 On June 17, 2015, a white supremacist entered Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and sat with some of its parishioners during a Wednesday night Bible study session. An hour later, he began expressing his hatred for African Americans, and soon after, he shot nine church members dead, the church's pastor and South Carolina state senator, Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney, among them. The ensuing manhunt for the shooter and investigation of his motives revealed his beliefs in white supremacy and reopened debates about racial conflict, southern identity, systemic racism, civil rights, and the African American church as an institution. In the aftermath of the massacre, Professors Chad Williams, Kidada Williams, and Keisha N. Blain sought a way to put the murder—and the subsequent debates about it in the media—in the context of America's tumultuous history of race relations and racial violence on a global scale. They created the Charleston Syllabus on June 19, starting it as a hashtag on Twitter linking to scholarly works on the myriad of issues related to the murder. The syllabus's popularity exploded and is already being used as a key resource in discussions of the event. Charleston Syllabus is a reader—a collection of new essays and columns published in the wake of the massacre, along with selected excerpts from key existing scholarly books and general-interest articles. The collection draws from a variety of disciplines—history, sociology, urban studies, law, critical race theory—and includes a selected and annotated bibliography for further reading, drawing from such texts as the Confederate constitution, South Carolina's secession declaration, songs, poetry, slave narratives, and literacy texts. As timely as it is necessary, the book will be a valuable resource for understanding the roots of American systemic racism, white privilege, the uses and abuses of the Confederate flag and its ideals, the black church as a foundation for civil rights activity and state violence against such activity, and critical whiteness studies.

a philip randolph history: America's History James Henretta, Eric Hinderaker, Rebecca Edwards, Robert O. Self, 2018-03-09 America's History for the AP® Course offers a thematic approach paired with skills-oriented pedagogy to help students succeed in the redesigned AP® U.S. History course. Known for its attention to AP® themes and content, the new edition features a nine part structure that closely aligns with the chronology of the AP® U.S. History course, with every

chapter and part ending with AP®-style practice questions. With a wealth of supporting resources, America's History for the AP® Course gives teachers and students the tools they need to master the course and achieve success on the AP® exam.

a philip randolph history: The New Negro Alain Locke, 1925

a philip randolph history: *The Bystander* Nick Bryant, 2007-09-11 In this, the first comprehensive history of Kennedy's civil rights record over the course of his entire political career, Nick Bryant shows that Kennedy's shrewd handling of the race issue in his early congressional campaigns blinded him as President to the intractability of the simmering racial crisis in America. By focusing on mainly symbolic gestures, Kennedy missed crucial opportunities to confront the obstructionist Southern bloc and to enact genuine reform, his inertia emboldening white supremacists and forced black activists to adopt increasingly militant tactics.

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