These scans of Miners Magazine were obtained from three large files made by Google and offered by Hathitrust, and from one large file found on Archive.org. They cover the period of June 1909 thru December 1913, with most of 1911 missing but most of the issues from the remainder of that period present.

The material created by Google is (appropriately, in my opinion) scanned in single bit BW mode, at 600 dpi. Unfortunately, there is much that was inappropriate about the files Google created for Hathitrust. It was badly... mostly too lightly... exposed. Many pages have distortion due to the page not having been flat when scanned. This I was unable to fix. A dozen or more pages had spurious addition of color due to a flawed algorithm Google uses when presenting scans. I fixed all of those. Sometimes pages were duplicated in scans of a given issue. I selected the best version avaialable of a given page for inclusion in the issue-files I created.

The most important (and time-consuming) "value added" contributions I provided in preparing the Google-created digital archive for display on Marxists.org was breaking giant six month and year long files into individual issue files, each with a rationally and functionally-designed file name. And that of removing the imperfect (and hard to remove!) OCR provided by Google in the files, and providing Acrobat 10 - based OCR, which (if you don't like it) is trivially replaced using the OCR program of your choice.

The one file obtained from Archive.org (roughly January - June 1912) was scanned in 24 bit color mode. Whoever used this managed to use it very skillfully, to produce especially clear, sharp images. I sliced this up into individual issues files, removed the [hugely inappropriate] use of pdf/A format (turning the file(s) back into ordinary pdf files), added OCR, and as with the Google-made files divided one big six month long file up into files of individual issues of the magazine, each with a functional file name.

The file name format here (and in many other archives presented by MIA, and preferred by MIA) is constructed so an alphabetized directory listing puts the files in chronological order, and so that the file names are easily and quickly "human readable" as to volume and issue number AND date. A few included "mini meta-data" as part of the file name, such as a word to identify damaged files or files with missing pages.

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---marty

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Riazanov Library digital archive projects