

Lincoln Papers Add Treasures

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mother, about the Booth assassination plot, or the suspicion in some historical quarters that there was near-treasonous action within his cabinet.

EDITOR'S NOTE—The press association reports on the Lincoln Letters do not clarify the four items mentioned with regard to the President's troubles. The overall picture, however, has been well known for years.

Discussion on Ulysses Grant's drinking habits fills many biographies both of the general and Lincoln. Also, one of the President's earliest troubles with "petticoat politics" arose in 1861 when Jessie Benton Fremont, wife of the general in command of the Union army in Missouri, took a special trip to Washington to intercede for her husband.

Likewise, volumes already have been written on the quarrels between cabinet members. Edwin M. Stanton, secretary of war, was at cross purposes with William H. Seward, secretary of state, throughout most of the conflict.

Passengers Rescued From Burning Ship

LAKE GENEVA, Wis. (AP)—Thirty-five passengers were rescued from a blazing excursion boat Saturday after an explosion rocked the vessel about a quarter mile off shore.

Richard Brugger, 23, captain and pilot of the "Majestic," was the only casualty. He suffered severe burns but aided in distributing life preservers while eight speed boats and a rescue patrol vessel headed to the rescue. Several hundred bathers heard the explosion and the screams of the passengers. At the first sound of the blast, speed boat operators started their crafts toward the flaming vessel.

The passengers backed away from the flames and were taken over the open side of the Majestic. The flames burned off the boat's superstructure and scorched its metal hull to the waterline. Brugger was taken to a hospital where his condition was reported good. Cause of the explosion was not known.

Santa Claus Faces Eviction

CLEVELAND (AP)—"Santa Claus" is facing eviction and needs a place to live.

He is Bert Elsbury, 66, possessor of a natural Kris Kringle beard, and president of the Santa Claus Club of Cleveland, an organization of 18 men who do professional duty each Christmas season in local department stores.

For the past two years Elsbury, his wife, 39, and their two young children have been living in an apartment in the old Myron T. Herrick mansion at 2425 Euclid Ave. Elsbury has an old age pension and works in a parking lot at times.

Last February Penn College purchased the property for an expansion program and nine of the 15 families living there found other quarters. Elsbury was among those who could find none.

An eviction hearing was scheduled for Saturday in municipal court.

Stassen Opines GOP Race Is 'Wide Open'

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Former Minnesota Governor Harold Stassen predicted Saturday the race for the Republican presidential nomination "would be wide open now that Governor Dewey has failed to get his bandwagon going on his western trip."

Stassen, an announced candidate for the GOP nomination in 1948, said the New York governor hadn't succeeded on his trip because he didn't give his position on major issues and because the tour was made too early in the campaign.

He said he anticipates an intensive campaign next winter for the nomination. Western states will be an important factor in the 1948 Republican convention, and they must be carried by the party if it wants to put a President in the White House, he said.

AMVETS GET CHARTER

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman Wednesday signed legislation providing a national charter for the American Veterans of World War II. Ray Sawyer, Amvet national commander, said the action makes Amvets the first World War II veterans' organization to be recognized officially by Congress.



SOMETHING PRETTY—For the Civic and Industrial parade last week, Western Lane County Chamber of Commerce's float featured pretty girls, a light house, and marine life.

Robert Lincoln--the Unknown Son of the Famous President

By REX GUNN

It is a strange, but consistent thing that Robert Todd Lincoln, the man who made it possible for America to uncover Saturday a wealth of material on the life of his father, President Lincoln, is hardly ever mentioned by the American press except as the son of the Civil War president.

It is strange, because Robert Todd Lincoln had a brilliant career of public service in his own right. It is consistent because that service was never publicized even when it was being rendered.

Robert Todd Lincoln was the eldest of Abraham Lincoln's four sons and the only one who lived to an advanced age. He died July 26, 1926, at the age of 83. Minister to England.

He was secretary of war under President James A. Garfield in 1881 and United States minister to England under President Benjamin Harrison in 1889. A Harvard graduate, Robert Lincoln's prime interest was law. He attended only one political rally of any importance, the Republican State Convention of 1880 in Illinois, and there is little doubt that he went in the latter's futile bid for a third term nomination.

Except for those activities Lincoln stuck pretty close to his private law practice. President of Pullman Co.

He was for 20 years chief counsel for the Pullman Co. in New York. When Founder George M. Pullman died in 1897 Robert Lincoln became at first acting executive of the company and later its president.

Lincoln went to great pains to avoid political favors which were often urged upon him by friends and professional politicians who had known his father. During the last 15 years of his life he went into almost complete seclusion and busied himself with golf and astronomy.

No Interest in Himself
Shortly before he died, he directed in his will that his father's personal papers be bound and sealed and kept in the Library of Congress at Washington to be opened exactly 21 years after Robert's own death.

The bequest was duly carried out and, when Lincoln died, there was a brief flurry of public interest, but not in Lincoln himself. Even his death notices were largely given over to conjecture on what was contained in his father's private papers. Robert Todd Lincoln probably would have smiled at that. That's the way he wanted it.

Slippery Streets Cause Four Minor Accidents

Slippery streets and highways in the Eugene area caused four accidents involving 14 motor vehicles Saturday.

Seven automobiles were involved in one pile-up about one mile south of Goshen when two cars collided and five more skidded into the accident area before traffic could be halted. A baby was reported injured but a check of local hospitals failed to verify the report.

A bus, a jeep and a Consolidated Freightways truck collided at First and Washington Sts. about 10:40 a.m. No one was injured.

Two other accidents occurred in Eugene proper, the first at Sixth Ave. and Olive St. at 8:12 a.m.; and the second at Fifteenth Ave. and Orchard St., at 4 p.m. An Albany woman, reported injured in the latter accident, was not hospitalized.

Five-Foot Snake Wrestles With Man

DETROIT (AP)—A five-foot snake came out of the grass in a residential neighborhood Saturday.

For a time there was considerable unrest.

The snake, said motorist Oscar Gettle, tried to crawl into his parked automobile. A helpful passerby seized the snake.

By the time Patrolmen Grove Bushaw and Anthony Steins got there at the summons of alarmed residents they said the passerby was engaged in a virtual wrestling match.

The officers pitched in and won control. The stranger didn't wait around long enough to be identified.

The snake, identified as a harmless blue racer, was put to death in the dog pound's gas chamber after the Detroit zoo said it wasn't interested.

Ninety per cent of China's tea export is handled by four of five firms.

Lived in Hut; Left \$125,000

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An aged Covina, Cal., recluse, who died as he lived—in a packing box shanty with only the spiders for company—was revealed Saturday to have left a fortune of \$125,000.

For years William Heckel, 80-year-old German immigrant, lived in his tin-and-board shack on the outskirts of Covina. The place was festooned with spider webs which

he never disturbed. "They are my friends," he told neighbors.

His death was discovered last week when the neighbors noticed he had not been out for several days. In the dusty shack county investigators found bank books and the keys to two safety deposit boxes.

When the accounting was completed Saturday it was found the old man had \$65,000 in the bank and securities worth an additional \$60,000 in his safety deposit boxes.

Chief Deputy Public Administrator E. A. Winstanley said Heckel had come to the United States

Ice and Snow Claim Bodies of Marines

SEATTLE (AP)—The ice and deep crevasses of Tahoma Glacier high on Mount Rainier may have claimed forever the bodies of 32

at the age of 14 and had amassed his fortune through astute playing of the stock market.

The money, Winstanley said, probably will go to a nephew in Germany.

Marines who died when a transport plane flew into a mountain last Dec. 16. It was dedicated Saturday by the Navy by searchers back from a second climb of the glacier.

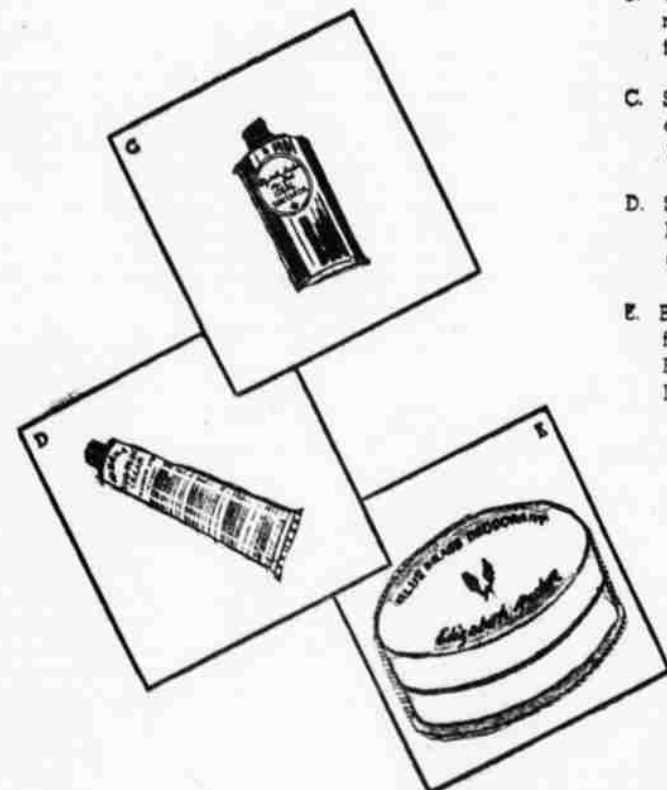
"We will make occasional trips into the area for observation weather and other conditions permit," said Capt. A. O. Hall, an officer in charge of the search. The climbers said they recovered additional evidence of identity of the plane and much more wreckage that cannot be reached, but failed to locate a single body.



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