

THE PARENTS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

By IDA M. TARBELL



Among the many wrongs of history—and they are legion—there is none in our American chapter at least which is graver than that which has been done to the parents, and particularly the mother, of Abraham Lincoln. Of course, I refer to the widespread tradition that Lincoln was born of that class known to the South as "poor whites," that his father was not Thomas Lincoln, as his biographers insist on declaring, but a rich and cultured planter of another state than Kentucky, and that his mother not only gave a fatherless boy to the world, but herself was a nameless child. The tradition has always lacked particularity. For instance there has been large difference of opinion about the planter who fathered Abraham, who he was and

but the marriage is duly entered in a list of marriage returns made by Jesse Head, one of the best-known early ministers of Kentucky. It is now to be seen in the records of Washington county, Kentucky. There is even in existence a full and amusing account of the wedding and fanfare which followed by a guest who was present, and for years afterward was accustomed to visit Thomas and Nancy. This guest, Christopher Columbus Graham, a unique and perfectly trustworthy man, a prominent citizen of Louisville, died only a few years ago.

But while these documents dispose effectually of the parentage of Lincoln, they do not, of course, clear up the shadow which hangs over the parentage of his mother. Is there anything to show that Nancy Hanks was of as clean and clear lineage as her husband? There had been nothing whatever until a few years ago, through the efforts of Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hitchcock, of Cambridge, Mass., who had in preparation the genealogy of the Hanks family in

law as sufficient proof of paternity.

Now what sort of people were Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks? It has been inferred by those who have made no investigation of Thomas Lincoln's life that Nancy Hanks made a pretty poor choice of a husband. The facts do not directly warrant this theory. Thomas Lincoln had been forced from his boyhood to shift for himself in a young and undeveloped country. He is known to have been a man who, in spite of this wandering life contracted no bad habits. He was temperate and honest, and his name is recorded in more than one place in the records of Kentucky. He was a church-goer, and, if tradition may be believed, a stout defender of his peculiar religious views. He held advanced ideas of what was already an important question in Kentucky, the right to hold negroes as slaves. One of his old friends has said of him and his wife, Nancy Hanks, that they were "just steeped full about the wrongs of slavery and the rights of men, as explained by Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine." These facts show that he must have been a man of some intelligence. He had a trade and owned a farm.

That the two people who endured their hardships and made in spite of them a home where a boy could conceive and nourish such ideals and enthusiasms as inspired Abraham Lincoln from his early days should have their names darkened by unfounded suspicions is a cruel injustice against which every honest and patriotic American ought to set his face. If in carrying out the noble project of making a national park of the Kentucky farm where Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks made their first home the directors do nothing more than to set forth the facts of the parentage of Abraham Lincoln they will justify their undertaking.

ENGLISH INTEREST IN THAW TRIAL

London, February 23.—The Thaw trial is the chief subject of conversation everywhere in England. The newspapers are publishing columns of testimony daily, and several of the London evening papers issue 9 p. m. editions, an enterprise unprecedented since the Boer war. Many of the newspapers are publishing editorials discussing the "unwritten law" and the manners of the American "rapid set," based on the revelations of the trial.

John Strange Winter, the noted novelist, who in private life is Mrs. Stannard, has been reading the Thaw trial closely, and the novelist said:

"I think most women whose knowledge of the case depends on the reports of the trial heartily approve of Thaw's action. After Stanford White's atrocious conduct Thaw would have hardly been a man if he had not killed the brute. When an elderly man marries a young girl I am disgusted; but when a man like White deliberately disgraces a poor child, and after she marries the man, who at any price is better than himself, tries to ensnare her again, why shooting is too good for him.

"The law does not punish such villainy, and if the husband takes the law into his own hands he ought to have public sympathy with him.

"I am sure if Thaw were condemned and likely to be executed there would be an outcry against it all over the world. Thaw can never be executed, but it is right that he should be tried and the whole story investigated."

TEXAS SENATORS STAND BY OILY JOE

Austin, Texas, Feb. 25.—The senate passed a resolution today dismissing the Bailey investigating committee before it could prepare its report, and also exonerating Senator Bailey in every particular. The vote was 15 yeas to 11 nays.

The Myers banking syndicate, of San Francisco, which filed articles of incorporation with the American Savings Bank of Eugene a few days ago and which intends to establish banks all over the state, filed new articles with County Clerk Lee this morning. The incorporators are H. S. F. N. and M. S. Myers, and the name of the bank is to be the Lane County Savings Bank. The capital stock is given at \$5000. The principle place of business is Eugene.

They scowled and looked sour from morn until night. They never would agree; Now they're healthy, happy and bright. They both take Rocky Mountain Tea at night.

Linn Drug Co.

Medford has just sold \$45,000 of 5 per cent bonds to Morris Bros., of Portland, for \$46,900.

MILLIONS SPENT BY LEGISLATORS DURING SESSION

Although no official figures have as yet been compiled, and it is impossible to give more than an approximate estimate of the appropriations passed by the legislature until the bills of this nature are filed by the governor, the aggregate amount is \$3,125,673. The general appropriation bill carries \$1,267,070 of this amount, which provides for the maintenance of the various state institutions, salaries of officers and expenses of state officers.

Special appropriations are numerous and heavy, and range from a few hundred dollars to several hundred thousand. Educational appropriations were the heaviest on record, for each institution made demands in excess of its previous requests. For educational items alone the legislature appropriated \$597,000. The University of Oregon, with \$250,000, passed over the veto of the governor, was the largest individual account. The Oregon Agricultural College is a close second, with \$200,000. This is divided into a betterment fund of \$125,000 and \$75,000 for maintenance. For the four normal schools \$147,000 was given, and this sum caused more political scheming than any other appropriation measure before the two houses during the entire forty days' session.

For carrying out the Johnson road law an immense sum is to be raised by taxation. As the bill provides for a maximum appropriation for each county of \$20,000 this makes an aggregate of \$660,000 to be raised by this bill alone. Of course this sum will not be expended in one year, two, three or four. Another measure involving a large sum is the Port of Columbia bill. The commission is authorized to issue \$400,000 bonds but this is a burden borne by Multnomah, Columbia and Clatsop with 93 per cent of the expense devolving on Multnomah. For the Alaska-Yukon exposition is appropriated, \$25,000 to be available this year, \$50,000 in 1908 and \$25,000 in 1909.

There has been a strong lobby for an appropriation for armories to be built by the state, and \$100,000 was given for this purpose. An appropriation considered as one of the most deserving was one of \$110,000 for the establishment of a home for the feeble-minded. Out of this sum the state board is to purchase a site and erect buildings. The patients for this institution are now at the insane asylum, and by having a home of their own will greatly reduce the operating expenses of the asylum.

Marion county also received an appropriation of \$20,000 for the improvement of the state fair grounds. Itable institutions, such as the baby home, Patton home, Florence Crittenden home and the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society.

The fishing industry was remembered by \$20,000 for hatcheries on the coast, \$5000 for patrol boats and \$2500 for a clerk to serve the master fish warden, who is also given \$500 to clear a fishway in two southern Oregon rivers.

Several new ways of spending money were devised. These were principally in the direction of creating new commissions and new offices. Salaries, expenses, mileage and per diem provided for in these many offices will make inroads into the state treasury, but no round sum can be mentioned showing what these multitudinous items will amount to. Perhaps \$20,000 will cover those not already itemized.

Where Money Was Saved.

Whatever complaint is made that the legislature has been extravagant, there can be no question that in the closing hours the members applied the pruning knife in several directions. But for this streak of retrenchment the total appropriations would be much higher, for practically \$1,000,000 asked for was refused. Of these the biggest separate item was one of \$250,000 for the convict road law, and next came one of \$225,000 for the establishment of a jute mill at the penitentiary. The portage road appropriation, after a long struggle, was killed. It originally asked for \$70,000. Improvements asked for the normal schools amounted to \$85,000. This sum was not insisted on because of the agreement to obtain only the maintenance appropriation. For the improvement of Tillamook bay \$50,000 was asked and refused. The Jamestown appropriation of \$65,000 was refused. The tax commission bill was killed because it carried an appropriation of \$18,000. Other appropriation measures turned down were the state board of charities, \$10,000; relief of Indian war veterans, \$25,000; state auditor and deputy, \$40,000; extension of capital grounds, \$30,000; purchase of state

printing plant, \$30,000; relocation of deaf mute school, \$16,000; introduction of song birds, \$5000; mine inspector, \$6000.

Following are the principal appropriations made:

Appropriations Itemized.	
General appropriation bill.	\$1,267,070
New buildings. O. A. C.	125,000
Oregon Agricultural College.	75,000
Betterment state institutions.	161,750
Alaska-Yukon exposition (\$5,000 first year).	100,000
University of Oregon.	250,000
Feeble-minded home and maintenance.	110,000
Deficiency appropriation bill.	58,888
Weston Normal.	35,000
Ashland Normal.	40,000
Monmouth Normal.	45,000
Drain Normal.	27,000
Port of Columbia commission.	400,000
National guard armories.	100,000
Johnson road law (maximum for each county \$20,000).	660,000
Indian war veterans.	50,000
Cheese and dairy inspector.	50,000
John Mullian claim.	9,465
Clerk to fish warden.	2,500
Patrol boats.	5,000
Enforcing quarantine regulations.	2,000
Third Eastern Oregon Agricultural Society.	5,000
Seventh Oregon District Agricultural Society.	3,000
Experiment station at Union.	15,000
State fair improvements.	25,000
Fish hatcheries (Coos and Curry).	20,000
State library commission.	12,000
Boys' and Girls' Aid Society.	8,000
Crittenden Home.	6,000
Patton Home.	10,000
Baby Home.	6,000
Oregon Historical Society.	10,000
Soldiers' Home.	15,500
Labor Commissioner.	2,500
Portage road commission.	10,000
Juvenile court.	10,000
Removing reefs in river for fish.	500
Interest on claims.	20,000
Sheep commission and inspector.	16,000
Central Oregon Agricultural District.	2,000
Deputy fish warden for Southern Oregon.	3,000
Total.	\$3,125,673

APPOINTMENTS.

Governor Chamberlain has appointed Hon. W. T. Slater, of Salem, and Hon. Will R. King, of Ontario, to be commissioners of the supreme court. Each is a well-known Democrat. Mr. King was the nominee of his party for governor nine years ago, and was defeated by Governor Geer. Mr. Slater resides in Salem, is a son of former United States Senator Slater, and is a leading member of the bar.

In all except the name these appointments are judges of the supreme court and get the same salary, \$6000 per year. The positions hold good for two years.

Mr. Slater is a man eminently qualified for the place by native ability and training. He is also highly esteemed and respected by all who know him, in every part of Oregon.

Mr. King will be in Salem Tuesday to begin work. He and Mr. Slater will assist the court this week, after which Mr. King will ask for a short vacation, when he will return to Malheur county and arrange to move his family to Salem.

CONTRACTOR LOSS PRESSED FOR MONEY

Drain, Or., Feb. 24.—A. C. Emmons, a prominent Portland lawyer, W. B. Reed and J. S. Holland, all in the employ of the C. E. Loss Company, were arrested here today on a charge of technical burglary and placed under \$1000 bail each.

The offense with which they are charged is the breaking into a building and taking valuable books and records relative to the affairs of the C. E. Loss Company, which has the contract for grading the Drain branch of the Southern Pacific.

Sub-contractors have come in from the camps along the line of construction to await the outcome of the affair. It is said that Loss has secured the estimates for several months, but has not turned over the money due the sub-contractors, with the result that many creditors, whose claims in the aggregate amount to \$50,000, are waiting for their money.

Advice to mothers. Don't let your children waste away. They can be strong, healthy and vigorous with Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. It's a swift-winged messenger of health. 35 cents, tea or tablets. Linn Drug Co.

"I Consider Pe-ru-na The Finest Remedy

On The Market And Worthy Of The Confidence Of All Good People."

Mrs. Celeste Covell.



Recommending Pe-ru-na to Her Friends.

Mrs. Celeste Covell, formerly President of the Patsy Ross Educational and Benevolent Society, writes from 1432 Harrison street, Chicago, Ill., "Only those who have suffered with influenza and have been cured can appreciate how grateful I feel that such a splendid medicine as Pe-ru-na has been placed at the door of every man and woman. I only wish that all knew of its fine qualities.

"In cases of catarrh of the stomach and head I have seen some remarkable cures through its use. I consider your Pe-ru-na the finest remedy on the market and worthy of the confidence of all good people."

Recommends Pe-ru-na.

Mrs. Alice J. Borden, 1311 Maple Ave., Harrisburg, Pa., writes: "I have found a cure in Pe-ru-na. I cannot recommend Pe-ru-na enough. I also thank you for your kind attention to me. I am as well as could be ever since I began taking Pe-ru-na."

A Letter to the Public.

Mr. Tefft Johnson, 1929 85th street, Bath Beach, Brooklyn, N. Y., writes: "In all my experiments with medicines in the effort to improve a condi-

tion impaired by overwork, I have found nothing that has done so much good as Pe-ru-na. As a tonic it is great. "I take pleasure in recommending to professional people and to the public in general."

Praise For Pe-ru-na.

Miss Ella L. Matthews, box 111, E. City, Tenn., writes: "From experience I have decided there could be no greater medicine in the world than Pe-ru-na. I am ever ready to praise Pe-ru-na to my friends."

SESSION'S WORK ENDED IN HOUSE THIS FORENOON

Guard Special Service.

Salem, Feb. 23.—At 11:15 the house finished its last bill and the work of the session was practically at an end. A recess was taken until noon, when the house convened again long enough to pass a resolution thanking the press for its uniform courtesy and to listen to a closing speech from Campbell, who said his chief regret was that he had been forced to oppose throughout the session the wishes of the majority of the Multnomah delegation, especially as regards appropriations. He then told a Philippine story, paid a tribute to his comrade-at-arms, Freeman, and practically ended the session.

Because the senate had not yet finished the house bills, the house cannot formally adjourn, but only a mere handful was left at 12:30, practically all but the Marion county members taking a special train north. The house will formally remain in session until the senate gets through with its work, and the speaker can sign the bills sent in from the senate.

The usual rush for desk furnishings by Salem brigands is on, and ink stands, waste paper baskets, blotters, envelopes, bill books, files, calendars and stationery are disappearing, leaving the nearly deserted chamber looking as though it had been sacked.

All Normal Schools Stay.

So far as the house is concerned there will be four normal schools in Oregon with full appropriations, until the next session of the legislature.

The members of the house did not want to authorize the continuation of four normal schools, but the governor had killed the bill that would have appointed a commission to select two schools, and the senate had voted for Monmouth and Drain and had not voted for Ashland or Weston, the two that had been given appropriations by the house. It was feared that if the house did not authorize the schools at Monmouth and Drain the senate would turn down the house appropriation bill relating to Ashland and Weston, and that there would be no normal schools at all, and perforce the house amended senate bill No. 93, authorizing an appropriation for Drain and Monmouth.

Many Bills Killed.

The most important bills killed this morning were one regulating the closed season for salmon and one providing for printing of supreme court decisions. The latter was considered in the light of graft. The senate appropriated \$60,000 for sundry claims, \$26,000 for orphans and wayward

girls, and \$2500 for improvements at Champeog and various amounts.

Gas Franchise Stands.

In a battle of wits the amendment repealing the Portland Gas Company's perpetual franchise was on the table in the senate shortly before the sine die adjournment this afternoon, after the house had refused to concur in the amendment. The amendment made the repeal effective December 31, 1907, after board of arbitration had adjudged the compensation for the company.

Among the closing act of the legislature was the defeat of a \$400,000 portage road appropriation, and the passage of the amended state highway bill.

More Vetoes Coming.

With the adjournment of the legislature comes more vetoes. The governor will probably veto S. B. 18, the voting machine bill; S. B. 424, regarding the killing of elk; S. B. 367, for the protection of birds.

The governor is holding back the Johnson road bill, which has \$600,000 for road improvement, and the axe may fall on other bills now under consideration.

Gas Bill Tabbed.

The gas franchise bill was laid on the table and will probably never be taken up.

The Chapin bill is now in the governor's hands.

FAMILY WIPED OUT BY TRIPLE CRIME

Denver, Feb. 25.—Mrs. Benjamin C. Wright and her five-year-old daughter are dead and the husband and father is unconscious and dying today at their home in this city. Traces of cyanide of potassium were found in all the bodies, indicating deliberate case of murder and suicide or a triple suicide.

Dr. and Mrs. J. O. Van Winkle, Wendling, were in the city today.

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Troubles from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Bowel Complaints. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Headache, Stomach Troubles, Torpid Liver, and regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature.

REFUSE SUBSTITUTES