

# Lincoln—His Spirit Is with the Ages

## Martyr, Emancipator, Myth, Abe Is 'Builed Forever'

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Like everything else in this political year, preparations for Lincoln's birthday in 1948 are chiefly a matter of scrambling through the Great Emancipator's writings to find a text for a highly-partisan outburst. But February 12 is the occasion for more than a barrage of political speeches.

To me Lincoln is real because he and my childhood conception of my grandfather are strangely blended. Both, like Merlin's Camelot, are builed forever because, to me, they never were builed at all—they were myth rather than fact—a myth not of my own making, but handed down through two generations.

My mother, as a little child, "saw Lincoln" (like a man "sleeping," she thought) as he lay in state in Chicago. My grandmother stood beside her swathed in the heavy mourning veil of the day which she felt perhaps was as much for Lincoln then as it was for her soldier-husband who had given his life in the same cause. To my mother, staring at that coffin in Chicago, there always remained a confused impression of mourning for the man she thought was not dead, but sleeping, and the father she never had seen. Perhaps that feeling was imparted to me.

My mother described the scene to me. It was clearly etched in her memory like the rest of the strange begira which she took westward with her widowed mother from a little town in New York state (as a bride, my grandmother had pioneered the West with her young New York state farm-born husband).

Of course, the memories were blurred and blended, undoubtedly, with later repetition of the event, but the picture was clear, and I only wish I could repeat it in my mother's own words. The train trip west, the arrival in the great city, the crowd about her as she advanced slowly with her mother into the great hall. Then the coffin which she did not know was a coffin for there was no such word in her tiny vocabulary.

Her mother let go the little girl's hand to move back her own heavy veil. Then the little girl remembered being lifted in the strong hands of the guard. About him she could recall only a blue tunic, shiny brass buttons and the smell of tobacco. Then the face of the "sleeping" man, and her mother's quiet tears.

(The body of the martyred President, as you know, was taken from the East Room of the White House to the capitol where it lay in state. Then it was carried across the country, pausing for homage in several cities until it reached Springfield, Lincoln's home.)

I repeated my mother's story after her death, as best I could on the air—and there were sequels. Letters—one from a lady in New England for whom the broadcast had awakened memories . . . her father had been one of the Union soldiers chosen to stand guard at the catafalque in Chicago. It might well have been he who lifted my mother.

The soldiers who had been chosen for that honored duty were permitted to divide the gold-fringed drape that covered the coffin, she wrote me, and she consigned to me a fragment which I cherish.

There were many other letters. One from the niece of one of Lincoln's cabinet members, William Pitt Fessenden; another enclosing the announcement shown in the cut.

Those were two sequels to the story of the little girl and her weeping mother. I think the everlasting sequel can be read again and again in the story of America, as the story of Lincoln is projected far on into history. I think I have seen it projected in the crowds who come to Washington, avid with guidebook and camera to collect "souvenirs."

Only this week, the garrulous cab driver who carried me from Union station was full of a story of "South Americans" who spent endless hours (according to his timing) at the Lincoln Memorial. The memorial remains a shrine for all visitors, native and foreign, a place where sippant chatter is stilled before that almost living replica warmed to life out of cold marble by the inspired hand of Daniel Chester French.

It lives as the spirit of Abraham Lincoln lives.

To the little child beside the catafalque, except for her mother's tears there was no mourning in that moment. Only something solemn, something important, something that touched old and young alike because it had in it the cosmic rhythm of the epic, and, as well, the simple, soul-touching melody of the folk song.

And I wonder if there was not some intangible, some eternal quality of what Lincoln did, or what his character has etched into the his-



TRUMAN ENLISTS . . . Clifford Edgar Truman, 17, of East Chicago, Ind., third cousin of President Harry S. Truman, has enlisted in the navy. He is being sworn in by Lt. (j.g.) Robert Rizzone for his three-year hitch, and will study aviation radio after his basic training.

## NEWS REVIEW Nazi-Soviet Pact Told; Too Much Aid: Hoover

The celebrated "cold war" has been enriched by another U. S. propaganda strike, probably the heaviest yet, against Russia.

It took the form of official state department publication of captured German foreign office records revealing the extent and nature of Nazi-Soviet relations from 1939 to 1941, the period covered by the non-aggression pact between the two nations which ended when Hitler attacked the Russians on June 22, 1941.

In the light of the U. S.-Russian wartime alliance, the Nazi documents, published in book form, tell a sordid story of secret agreements, global gambling with nations for stakes and the feverish fetish of political expediency which gripped the minds of German and Russian leaders before and during the war.

High point of the hitherto secret dossier was the revelation that in 1940 Adolf Hitler and V. M. Molotov of Russia agreed that Britain and the U. S. must be excluded from Europe, Asia and Africa.

The book told also how, in 1940, Stalin had offered to join the German-Italian-Japanese axis if Hitler would give Russia a free hand in Finland, a military base near the Dardanelles and a dominant voice in the oil-rich Middle East. Then the documents show Hitler, disdaining even to answer Stalin's proposition, ordered his armies to prepare "to crush Soviet Russia in a quick campaign."

One of the major factors which precipitated the German attack on Russia was the Soviet demand for dominant control of the Balkans. Hitler, who was as aware as any man of the political, economic and strategic value of the pivotal Balkan area, turned thumbs down on that Russian desire also.

Sum and substance of the state department's spectacular publication of the Nazi documents was little more than an emphatic indication of an already well-known fact: That Russia, with aggressive consistency, has been hungering for years for leadership in the Balkans, for pre-eminence in the Dardanelles, for expansion in Central Asia and for a free hand in Finland and Poland.

Value of the publication of these documents at this time is questionable, despite the flagrantly apparent anti-Russian propaganda they can and will inspire. State department's action obviously was aimed at rallying public support behind the Marshall plan, soon to come up for congressional action, but it also would serve to aggravate and inflame the already dangerously touchy "cold war."

### Rubber Bill

Legislation to establish a permanent, government-regulated American rubber industry with a 675,000-ton annual capacity and a required annual production of at least 225,000 tons a year has been introduced by Rep. Paul Shafer (Rep., Mich.).

The bill refers throughout to the product in question as "American-made rubber." The word "synthetic," as the term for factory-made rubber, is not mentioned.

### FOREIGN AID: Hoover Plan

Herbert Hoover, former U. S. president, has urged congress not to commit this nation—even "morally"—to a four-year European recovery program, and advised a reduction of the 6.8-billion-dollar outlay proposed to carry the Marshall plan through its first 15 months.

In the 4,000-word statement which he filed with the senate foreign relations committee Hoover expressed his opposition views to the administration's foreign aid plans. Of greater significance, however, was the fact that Hoover's own opinions amounted to a documentary of the entire right-wing, conservative element of thinking which rejects an "internationalist" foreign policy on the grounds that U. S. resources should be concentrated at home.

Decrying even a "moral commitment" for the four-year period contemplated in the state department's proposals, he asserted the U. S. should keep itself entirely free "to end our efforts without recrimination."

He expressed, too, the fear that a lavish outpouring of aid would weaken the American economy to the extent that all world recovery would be defeated.

The volume of exports and funds proposed in the Marshall plan, he opined, might aggravate the already serious inflation, draining our national resources and continuing high tax rates, "all of which might bring depression and thus destroy the strength of the one remaining source of aid to a world of chaos."

Hoover recommended further that the Marshall plan, if it is adopted, be run by a bipartisan commission, and suggested that up to three billion dollars in food, coal, fertilizers and cotton be labeled frankly as "gifts" because unsecured loans "will not and cannot be repaid."

### REFUSAL: Prediction

About all the average U. S. citizen knows about Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower is that he either will or will not get into the campaign for the Republican presidential nomination this year.

But Roy A. Roberts, president of the Kansas City Star and leading promoter of pro-Eisenhower sentiment, now says he definitely will not.

Roberts' prediction was that the general soon would remove himself from all consideration along those lines. Said Roberts:

"I'll venture a guess that before June the general may take himself completely out of the political picture. I am sure the message will come when he lays aside his military uniform February 15."

He emphasized, though, that he was not speaking for Eisenhower.

With Alf Landon, 1936 Republican presidential nominee, Roberts had been doing most of the political drum-beating for Eisenhower.



IT WAS easy enough to understand why Ewell Blackwell was baseball's best pitcher in 1947, and why he might easily be baseball's best pitcher in 1948.

After meeting Blackwell again out here in Los Angeles, I began to study his physical make-up. Six feet five and a fraction, for a starter he looks slimmer than a quill, thinner than a drink of water. Your first guess would be that the Red's able sniper would weigh in at 160 or 165 pounds.

"I do better than that," Blackwell said. "Make it 198 pounds, and you'll be right." Which means there is a lot of fiber and muscle on those long bones.

"This coming National league race should be the best in baseball history," the Red bean pole said. "The American league race will be a two-club scramble — Red Sox and Yankees. In the National league, they already are talking about the Dodgers, Braves, Cardinals and Giants. These will all be tough. But the Reds won't be any push-over."

"We'll be stronger than we were last season. We'll get much better pitching. We'll score more runs. We'll botter more teams. Johnny Neun is planning a drive at that first division and we won't be far away."

"Just how do you figure the race?" I asked the human sky-scraper. "A very tough race," Blackwell said, "too tough for me to pick. But I can promise you this. Boston is going to make a big effort to have a Boston world series. It could happen. With the new stars brought in, Stephens and Kramer and other help, the Red Sox have the edge in the American league. Not a big edge, but a margin to work on. It would be a killing margin if we knew that Hughson, Harris and Ferriss would be O. K."

### Pick Braves to Beat

"The Braves will be tough to handle in the National. They have two star pitchers in Spahn and Sain. They have a star manager and a flock of good ballplayers. The Dodgers should be just as good and the Cardinals will be better than a year ago. But the Braves still have a good chance in a very tough scramble."

"After winning 22 games last season, I was sorry that I was halted by an injured knee and a bad back," Blackwell said. "I was no good the last three weeks. I'd like to slip by that 25 mark this year."

Johnny Lindell, another 6 foot, 4 or 5-inch athlete, came by a few minutes later.

Lindell is one of the most underrated ballplayers in the game. Johnny was an all-around star in California — baseball, football, tennis, track and field and golf. This covers quite a span. In baseball he can pitch, play the outfield, first base and hit.

Lindell refuses to concede the Red Sox any pennant. "I know how much those Browns will help," he said, "but I'm not sure they'll cover the 12-game margin we piled up last fall. Here's another angle — what wins pennants? Pitching, of course. We'll have another strong staff again, backed up by Joe Page. But who knows how good Tex Hughson, Mickey Harris and Boo Ferriss will be? All had bad arms in 1947. None of the three was any too effective. An operation could help Hughson. But it also could help Spud Chandler, one of the best I've ever seen."

### Tiger Hurling Best

"What about Frank Shea — one of the best young pitchers I ever saw? His arm was O. K. again at the end of the season and this should mean at least a 22-game winner. We'll have a better pitching staff than the Red Sox, and that will make a big difference."

"I know it's tough to beat out a club that has Ted Williams, Vern Magglio and so many other good ones, but we had a pretty fair ball club, too. We ran up 19 in a row with our two best pitchers on the bench or in the hospital. We also have a few fellows who can hit when you need hits."

"The Tigers may have the best pitching in either league. Their infield doesn't look any too hot and their outfield is a guess. Cleveland will be a much tougher team to beat. Bob Feller will have or should have a much better year after a much longer rest. But the race should be between the Yankees and the Red Sox."

### The Pennant Races

You can't blame the west coast in taking a deep interest in the two big league pennant races. The west coast gave the two Di-Maggios, Joe and Dom, to the Yankees and the Red Sox. The west coast sent Joe Gordon and Johnny Pesky to the Indians and the Red Sox and Jack Robinson to the Dodgers.

This is only a beginning. Ted Williams left San Diego to join the Red Sox and he still stands as the best all-around batter in baseball.

## PEARL: COME HOME

It was all my fault, Pearl. I admit I was surly and grumpy. No wonder that even the kids were scared of me. But everything's better now. I've found out that constipation caused by lack of bulk in my diet can be licked! Believe me, I advise others who suffer the same way to do what I did: just eat a bowlful of KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN every day and drink plenty of water. They say it's America's most famous laxative cereal—believe me, it sure gets my vote. Or make it up into muffins — they taste grand too . . . Come home, dear, and find a bran new man waiting for you. That's me—your ever-lovin' husband, JOE.



Get this quick 3-WAY RELIEF!

- Offensive cough due to colds, smoking? Get this prescription-type formula of proven cough-relief ingredients long used by doctors. Quick, long-lasting relief 3 important ways:

- 1. Eases throat tickle
- 2. Soothes raw, irritated membranes
- 3. Helps loosen phlegm



## EATS New Kind of CANDY Loses 65 Lbs. Wears Size 12 Again

Once 180 lbs., Dorothy J. Miller, 2033 W. 70th St., Chicago, lost 6 lbs. weekly for 13 weeks, with the remarkable NEW AYDS Candy Reducing Plan and she now wears size 12 again. AYDS is a doctor's amazing discovery. PROOF POSITIVE! Eminent physicians supervised clinical tests and report quick and safe losses of 14 to 15 pounds, with over 100 users. WHY EXPERIMENT? No exercise. No laxatives. No drugs. Eat plenty. NO DIETING! You simply take AYDS before meals which automatically curbs the appetite. The result is you eat less and lose weight. Only \$2.99 for a full 30-day supply—possibly more than you will need. Your money refunded on the very first box if you fail to lose weight. Come, please or write.

Wherever Drugs Are Sold Tear Out This Ad as a Reminder

## Beware Coughs from common colds That Hang On

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

## CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

## SPEEDED-UP COMFORT for so-called KIDNEY SUFFERERS

Backaches, leg pains, broken sleep, painful passages usually go so much quicker if you switch to Foley (the new kidney-bladder) Pills. They stimulate sluggish kidneys; then ALLAY BLADDER IRRITATION. That's the cause of most pains, aches, urges once thought entirely due to kidneys. So for quicker, longer-lasting relief, soothe bladder as well as stimulate kidney action. Do this: use Foley (the new kidney-bladder) Pills; they also have direct sedative-like action on bladder. At your druggist. Think you find them far more satisfactory, DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK.

## GIRLS! WOMEN! try this if you're NERVOUS

On 'CERTAIN DAYS' Of Month—Do female functional monthly disturbances make you feel nervous, irritable, so weak and tired out—at such times? Then do try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. It's famous for this! Taken regularly — Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such distress. Also a great stomachic tonic!

## LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

## BACKACHE TORTURE?

## SORETONE Liniment's Heating Pad Action Gives Quick Relief!

For fast, gentle relief of aches from back strain, muscle strain, lumbago pain, due to fatigue, exposure, use the liniment specially made to soothe such symptoms. Soretone Liniment has scientific, sub-facient ingredients that act like glowing warmth from a heating pad. Helps attract fresh surface blood to superficial pain area. Soretone is different! Nothing else "just like it." Quick, satisfying results with 15¢ jar or money back. 50¢ Economy size \$1.00. Try Soretone for Athlete's Foot. Kills all 5 trees of common fungi — on contact!

**PROGRAMME OF Funeral Ceremonies! IN HONOR OF PREST LINCOLN**  
To be held in the ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL on Thursday, May 4th, 1865, at 3 o'clock P. M.  
1. Funeral Drags. By Band  
2. Reading of Scriptures. By Rev. B. F. Foster  
3. Hymns. By Choir  
"COME YE DISCONSOLATE."  
Come ye disconsolate, wherever ye languish,  
Come ye here and be comforted,  
Come ye here and be comforted.

story of America, that gives Americans the assurance that his spirit, especially in these times when evil gods make their black magic to be-muse the minds of men, is not dead, but sleeps, waiting only the clarion call of the people whom he loved to wake it into action.

### Free Speech, Russian Style

The Russians celebrated Christmas with a public criticism of Russian factories by the commercial director of Mostorg, the Soviets' largest department store. The director complained that the factories were producing inferior products. He wanted more and better goods, more washing machines, vacuum cleaners, refrigerators and decent furniture.

Are you surprised that such criticism is permitted? If you are, you don't understand the Soviet system. Criticism is allowed as a sound method of correcting faults — although it doesn't necessarily displace the "cure," which means banishment temporarily or permanently to Siberia, just as in the good old days.

I am reminded of columnist Lowell Mellett's story about the scope of Russian criticism. On his trip to Russia, he was shown around by a very clever female guide. Mellett asked her about freedom of the press, and she said, "Oh, yes, they had a free press, the press continually criticized things, including government enterprises."

Well, would they be allowed to criticize Stalin, Mellett wanted to know.

"Why!" the girl was surprised. "What has that got to do with it? You couldn't criticize him because there is nothing about him to criticize!"

Secretary Marshall wants the European recovery plan to be run by a single administrator, not an eight-man board as has been suggested. If the old saw that the best-working committee is a committee of three with two members out of town is correct, perhaps Marshall is right.

January saw three presidential messages presented to congress. Each document had many a passage born only to waste its fragrance on the desert air of an unsympathetic majority.

Too bad the Republicans don't care for Mr. Truman's budget. The budget message was printed up so nicely, bound so neatly, and it IS unique—unique in that it is the biggest peacetime budget ever presented to any congress.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

## This Won't Happen Again Until 1976

You like to have holidays fall on weekends? Then 1948 should be a year of great promise.

Most of the major holidays this year will fall on Saturdays and Sundays, which is either good or bad, depending on how you feel about getting time off down at the old mill.

Sundays, whereon fall Washington's birthday, Memorial Day and Independence Day, aren't too bad because the government and most other employers observe the Mondays following as legal holidays and so extend holiday benefits to their employees.

both Christmas and New Year's Day (1948) fall on Saturdays.

Of the three remaining holidays, two come on weekends without the aid of any idiosyncracies on the part of the calendar.

Labor Day, September 6 this year, arrives on Monday simply because it always falls on the first Monday of September instead of on any one numerical day in the month. Same goes for Thanksgiving on Thursday, Armistice Day just happens to come on Thursday this year.

Study of the calendar and holidays for 1948 also developed another odd angle. The year's three Sunday holidays can happen only once every 28 years.

So, the last time February 22, May 30 and July 4 all fell on Sundays in the same year was in 1920. The next time after this year will be in 1976. The deciding factor is the extra day (February 29) every seven leap years.

Now this is the place for someone who knows calendar law to argue that since the coming year 2000 (a century year divisible by 400) is not a leap year, it will be 32 more years, or 2008, after 1976 before the three holidays again appear on Sundays.

However, this is not a subject to spend much time worrying about. Besides, who'll be alive to take a holiday in the year 2008?