

The Daily Press.



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LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY.

A man who the South is appreciating more and more as time goes on is Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday will be celebrated quite extensively in the North today. The student of history and of Lincoln in particular can now see that Lincoln wanted to be a friend of the South and it is an agreed fact that if his life had been spared the pages of history of the reconstruction would have been of an entirely different character. Far from diminishing as time goes on, the observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln in the country which he loved so well, is altogether likely to increase. He was a man, not for a day, but for all the time. The fact that the anniversary of the coming into the world of the "rail splitter" who conquered the regard of the whole world, falls in our calendar so near the natal day of Washington, has been undoubtedly influential in the past to hinder a more general observance of "Lincoln Day" than it has found in recent years. Yet a trend of things has set in with marked force which must clearly mean that Lincoln's birthday is a day destined to live long in honored memory in the United States most assuredly.

Placed in nomination as Abraham Lincoln was as president of the United States, against the opposition and half expressed fears of almost the entire East, who sincerely doubted his ability to lead the nation in the grave crisis which threatened, not a few observers of the epoch marking situation to which this country was brought in the days of 1861, have characterized the Lincoln candidacy in a very true and real sense "providential." And in truth, without entering upon any consideration of the question whether the assassination of Lincoln and the succession to the Illinoisan in authority at the White House of Andrew Johnson were "providential" also, the strange career of Abraham Lincoln and the marvelous development of his character under severest and most protracted stress may well command the thoughtful attention both of his fellow countrymen and lovers of the progress of humanity everywhere.

Rising to most exalted station from a sphere of most humble life in the West, it was by virtue of steady persistency in a cause which he made his own, and through a union of marked ability and a shrewd humor which are seldom indeed, found in one man, that it was given to Abraham Lincoln to wage a battle that even in retrospect seems marvelous. The Republicanism of the East, which called loudly for Seward as leader in 1860, realized long since how pitifully far short of meeting the responsibilities, which Lincoln never shirked, the famous and distinguished New Yorker would have fallen. With manifold disadvantages to contend against through lack of early advantages, with many a handicap to hinder his onward way, it was the fortune of Abraham Lincoln to win the heart of his country. Attacked, abused, slandered many times during life, his startling death cleared away in an instant all mist of misunderstanding and doubt

and showed him in the eyes of the world a most kindly, much enduring, much suffering man, always courageous, always devoted to a sense of high duty.

Certain is it that as year follows year the just renown and honored distinction to which the name of Abraham Lincoln is entitled will be accorded his memory in fullest measure by Americans whether they peculiarly cherish memories of "Dixie," or hold in especial honor the well remembered strains of the "Star Spangled Banner."

CURRENCY REFORM PROJECT.

There are such large possibilities in the project of currency reform legislation that it is important, to follow in the public interest every step taken by Congress. The currency reform desired by New York speculators is one thing that recommended by sound financial authorities in the public interest is another thing.

The House committee on banking and currency is generally organized so as to reflect the views of the New York bankers, as the committee on ways and means is organized to reflect the views of the protected interests. For this reason the legislation it frames from session to session seldom gets beyond the House and sometimes does not even get out of the committee.

That is likely to be true of the bill already prepared by the committee this year, unless it should undergo material modifications. It is the bill recommended by the American Bankers' association with a slight increase in the tax on the first 25 per cent of credit currency taken out. Under this bill every national bank may issue \$25,000 of notes without special security under a tax of 3 per cent, for every \$100,000 of capital, and \$12,500 more for every \$100,000 of capital under a tax of 5 per cent.

The last installment is the only part of the whole that can properly be called an emergency currency. It is a poor bank that could not use notes so as to make them pay profitable interest above a 3 per cent tax. Most of them are willing to pay that on deposits now. Under such a law it is estimated that the national banks of the country could issue \$200,000,000. That is a large amount of currency to throw into circulation without other security than the general credit of all the national banks, good bad and indifferent together. The notes will be good, in every case, because they are guaranteed by the government.

That is to say the United States becomes an indorser of the unsecured notes of the banks for a bonus of 3 per cent. That would be considered rather small compensation in private business for the loan offered as good as that of the United States.

SECRET SPY SYSTEM.

At last the leaders in Congress, both in the House and the Senate, have awakened to a situation of which many people outside of Washington have been cognizant for years. It is the nefarious system, which has been practiced in many of the departments of the federal government, of foisting upon the people an army of "secret" inspectors, a clan joined together by a freemasonry of their own and from whom no business, no occupation, no industry and no social or family can keep a secret. These men are not of the class or rank provided for the regular secret service of the government, but are, it has developed, the hired agents of official departments whose duty it too often is to promote the personal ambitions or develop the secret schemes of their immediate superiors.

The thing that has finally opened the eyes of so many of the members of the House and Senate is the fact that it has been found necessary to make an annual appropriation of \$7,500,000 to maintain this army of sleuths. Is it any wonder a halt is to be called?

One Republican leader, in discussing the situation, said that ten years ago the total number of these paid "investigators" did not exceed 162 and that the annual appropriation required for their support and maintenance was about \$1,000,000. But now, without any authority, taken for granted because the bills have been paid annually out of the people's treasury, the number has been increased to more than 3,000 by ambitious and designing department officials, and Uncle Sam is asked to foot the bill, just \$7,500,000 per annum.

Many complaints, it seems, have been lodged with members of Congress that these special agents, in conducting their inquiries, are busying themselves with many of the domestic affairs of the people and causing unnecessary irritation. Every department now has

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its corps of investigators, and many are going beyond the pale of their authority, and that, in a large number of cases, their work is unnecessary and harmful.

WITH THE PARAGRAPHERS

There is a pointer for the thinkers who theorize about government management of railroads, government control of utilities and government meddling in general in the government experience in the construction of battleships. It cost the government \$259,425 more to build the Connecticut than was paid to private shipbuilders for the Louisiana, a sister ship of the same size and equipment. That government is most economical that does nothing itself which it can hire done by private hands.—Philadelphia Record.

We are on a new track entirely in the political discussion in this country. The claim is that the institutions of the republic, its charters and its statutes, are for the people, and there can be no concession to privilege in which the public welfare is not to be first subserved. This is the foremost thought of the day; not the sputtering of demagogism, but the inmost truth of our evolution and our progress.—Ohio State Journal.

What a disappointment it will be to Mayor Dunne if, after all, Mr. Hearst, of New York will not permit him to run for reelection!—Chicago News.

Among the notable changes to be made in the Sixtieth Congress, brought about by the fall elections, will be the reconstruction of the committee on ways and means of the House of Representatives. Of the twelve Republican members of the committee, five are to be retired leaving but one west of the Mississippi river—Needham of California. The vast country lying between the Mississippi river and the Pacific has no representation on this committee, with which lies the directing and usually controlling power in leading legislation, especially that which relates to the tariff.—Denver Republican.

The process known in heavenly parlance as "talkin' it over" has many estimable advantages when controversies arise. Full and free discussion of the facts with the elected sockmen of any state is peculiarly in order on the part of the President in a case where the interests and the public sentiment of that commonwealth are vitally and especially concerned. Even through failure to reach an acceptable adjustment should occur, such a consultation is in accordance with the principles of sound statesmanship and popular government.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Exports from this country to Cuba were exceptionally heavy last year, is it possible that Secretary Taft and the army of pacification have been included to swell the total?—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

According to the observant Washington Herald 3,000 microbes can stand on a single pin point. They certainly can't be blamed if they don't sit down.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Bob Taylor's pleasant ways will be a boon to the Senate, but it has less need at present of a first violin than of a new end man.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Can this be the same little Jap whom we were applauding so warmly only a short time back when he was doing things to our ever faithful friend the Russian Empire?—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

France has declared war on mosquitoes, which may serve as a notice to New Jersey and Staten Island to lock after their fortifications.—New York Herald.

The Kentucky Racing Commission yesterday granted a license to the new Louisville Jockey Club, to Douglas Park, of Louisville, Ky.; to the Racing Association, at Lexington, and to the Latonia Racing Association. Dates will be allotted for the various meetings this week.



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UNHAPPINESS DISPELLED.

Men and Women Unanimous About It. Many women weep and wail and refuse to be comforted because their once magnificent tresses have become thin and faded. Many men incline to profanity because the flies bite through the thin thatch on their craniums. It will be good news to the miserable of both sexes, to learn that Newbro's Herpicide has been placed upon the market. This is the new scalp germicide and antiseptic that acts by destroying the germ or microbe that is the underlying cause of all hair destruction. Herpicide is a new preparation, made after a new formula on an entirely new principle. Anyone who has tried it will testify as to its worth. Try it yourself and be convinced. Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c. in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich. Two sizes—50 cents and \$1.00. Allen's Drug Store and Hanger & Gulick, Special Agents.

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