

The National Prohibitionist

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Following Lincoln to Victory

Celebration of the Emancipator's Ninety-Ninth Birthday Anniversary to Be Made the Occasion for a Grand Assault upon the Liquor Traffic's System of Fraud and Deception

The effort of THE NATIONAL PROHIBITIONIST to secure, through the Tenth Legioners, 5,000 new subscriptions on Lincoln's birthday deserves hearty support.

As never before we shall need in the pending Presidential canvass the leverage of our loyal party press in thousands of new homes where "hopeful" voters may be reached with the truth.

The effort to increase the subscription list of THE NATIONAL PROHIBITIONIST should, however, not be limited to members of the Tenth Legion, but in addition to the 5,000 subscriptions they are asked to secure, there should be at least as many more furnished by other readers of this paper.

Chicago, January 27.

CHARLES R. JONES,

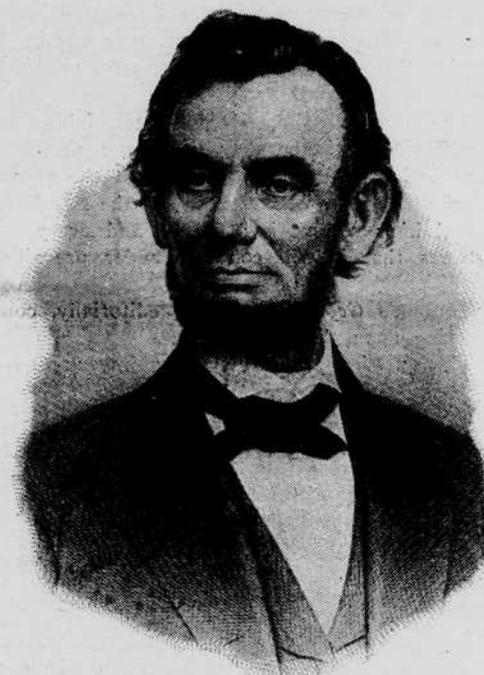
[Chairman National Prohibition Committee.]

Whether or not the world would be vastly benefited by a total and final banishment from it of all intoxicating drinks, seems to me not now an open question. Three-fourths of mankind confess the affirmative with their tongues; and, I believe, all the rest acknowledge it in their hearts. Ought any, then, to refuse their aid in doing what the good of the whole demands? To all the living, everywhere, we cry, "Come, sound the moral trump, that these may arise and stand up an exceeding great army! Come from the four winds, oh, breath! and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." If the relative grandeur of revolutions shall be estimated by the great amount of human misery they alleviate, and the small amount they inflict, then, indeed, will this be the grandest the world shall ever have seen.—ABRAHAM LINCOLN, February 22, 1842.

The proposition made last week to celebrate the ninety-ninth anniversary of the birth of ABRAHAM LINCOLN by a splendid dash in the "Great Forward Movement" to put *The National Prohibitionist*, as the foremost representative of the greatest reform of modern times, into the homes of thousands of the American people, meets with cheering approval everywhere, and the enthusiasm of our workers has led to the decision to place the matter before all readers in this prominent fashion.

Of the fitness of such a work for the celebration of such a day no one can for a moment question. Of all the great men of American history no man was ever more uncompromisingly the enemy of the drink curse than LINCOLN; no man saw its peril to the nation more clearly. Born in Kentucky, less than a year after the first temperance society was organized in New York, in a day when total abstinence was still rare he became a total abstainer. Enlisting in the early Prohibition movement in Illinois, his adopted state, he served enthusiastically, until the more imminent importance of the slavery question and the question of national union overshadowed it. Scarcely had the guns of the Civil War ceased to thunder, when his mind reverted again to the intermitted struggle, and on the very morning of the day when the act of a drunken fool inflicted upon both North and South the most terrible disaster of all the bloody years of the war, wrestling with the great problem of rebuilding the nation, he announced as the "next great question" for solution, the liquor traffic.

Had LINCOLN lived, not only we had escaped many of the dire disasters of the reconstruction



AFTER RECONSTRUCTION THE NEXT GREAT QUESTION FOR SOLUTION IS THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.—ABRAHAM LINCOLN, April 14, 1865.

period, not only would the North and South have come together in a new Union, in the spirit of brotherhood in which GRANT and LEE clasped hands at Appomattox, but with such a leader the new nation would have freed itself of the worse slavery of drink, long decades ago.

There is a peculiar fitness that we seize the celebration of the birthday of such a man as the day on which to make the greatest stroke in the reform's history toward accomplishing the work that was dear to him.

The proposition is simple. It is just this: That every reader of *The National Prohibitionist*, in so far as such service comes within the range of his or her possibilities, utilize the anniversary day of LINCOLN's birth, Wednesday, February 12, for the securing of the largest number of subscriptions to *The National Prohibitionist* that it is possible to obtain.

Of course, this does not mean that work prior to that date is to be intermitted or in any way neglected; it centralizes and focalizes our efforts

upon that day to give us all the inspiration of a great united effort.

There are just two things, perhaps, that need to be said.

The first is a statement of the necessity: There never was a day in the reform's history when the Prohibition paper was so vital a necessity as it is today. With the liquor traffic rallying to spend its millions to deceive the people; with uncounted pages of the daily press spreading falsehood and misrepresentation abroad, the reform cannot make its way save it be championed by a journal of unquestionable ability, resistless power and universal circulation. The very fact that there are other papers which today begin, more or less, to present something of Prohibition information, the very fact that new alignments are expected, makes it necessary that there shall be, everywhere throughout the country, a central rallying point that will not swerve nor falter, but will keep the standard full high advanced every moment.

The second thing that needs to be said is a word of incentive: Let us take for illustration the Salvation Army. Comparatively few, poor, ostracized to an extent, that organization by its special days, its "weeks of self-denial," its rallying for united effort on the part of its wide-scattered forces, has made itself one of the mightiest of engineering for good in the world and has belted the earth with its centers of power. With a devotion and an earnestness that anywhere nearly approach the devotion of the Salvationist, the Prohibitionists who read this paper can make the twelfth day of February count for an advance before which the saloon's power of hell will tremble—and not only tremble but crumble.

Now, for practical items:

1. Take every subscription that you can get, every day, between now and February 12.
2. Send in subscriptions, preferably in groups of five, every subscription accompanied by the money to pay for it, just as fast as you can.
3. Avail yourself of the 60-cent rate which we give to all workers. The regular price of this paper is \$1.00 per year, and you are conferring a favor upon any man to whom you sell a year's subscription to it at that price, but we give you the 60-cent rate to help you pay your expenses.
4. If you want to buy in advance Post Card Subscription Certificates, send \$3.00 for five, each