

LINCOLN LORE

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NOTES JOTTED DOWN ON A LINCOLN ITINERARY

The editor of Lincoln Lore on his annual February speaking itinerary this year renewed acquaintances with many members of the Lincoln fraternity residing in the old colonial states. He has jotted down a few notes which may introduce the readers of this bulletin to some of the nation's best-known Lincoln authorities and likewise point out some collections of Lincolniana worthy of mention.

MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester—As a special luncheon guest of Chandler Bullock at the Worcester club met Judge Wahlstrom, President White and Atty. Reidy among the Lincoln students present.

Boston—Delightfully entertained at a dinner in the Algonquin Club by Edward Stone along with fifteen other Lincoln admirers including two associate justices of the Massachusetts Supreme Court—Spaulding and Wilkins, Professor Howell of Harvard, Editor Bullard, Publisher Jenkins and Judge Wahlstrom.

Boston—Conferred with an enthusiastic Lincoln student, J. L. McCorison, who is hard at work on a Lincoln volume.

Melrose—Spoke at evening convocation of churches in community of Lauriston Bullard who was present.

N. Middletown—Purchased the Lincoln collection of the late Herbert S. Sylvester, for thirty-five years an authority on Lincoln photographs and a collaborator with Frederick H. Meserve.

RHODE ISLAND

Kingston—Renewed acquaintances with the President and members of the faculty of Rhode Island State College interested in Lincoln and kindly received by the student body.

Providence—Addressed the Sphinx Club of Brown Univ., a group of professors and students interested in the classics. Spent a profitable and enjoyable morning in the magnificent Lincoln rooms at Brown with the scholarly librarian, Mr. Van Hoesen, who pointed out many of the treasures in the collection presented to the university by John D. Rockefeller.

Providence—Dined with Mr. Starke, president, and Mr. Roelker, director-librarian of the Rhode Island Historical Society, in the president's beautiful home and later addressed a meeting of the society.

CONNECTICUT

Bridgeport—Gave several Lincoln addresses in this town where Lincoln spoke enroute from Cooper Institute to Exeter Academy. A tablet on the wall of the City Hall memorializes Lincoln's visit on March 10, 1860.

NEW JERSEY

Newark—Made headquarters at the Athletic Club but it did not seem like the same place without the Bjorkman collection of Lincolniana there.

MARYLAND

Baltimore—Called in Baltimore on the family of the late E. L. Bangs known to nearly all the Lincoln students, and purchased from the estate the collection of Lincolniana gathered by Mr. Bangs over a period of more than thirty years. Besides his Lincoln books, pamphlets, and magazines over four hundred medals and eight hundred Lincoln postals were included in the collection, which has already been made a part of the Lincoln National Life Foundation display.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington—It was an unforgettable experience to address an audience that filled Ford's Theater on the Sunday afternoon previous to Lincoln's birthday. The meeting was sponsored by the Interior Department with Secretary Chapman presiding and Mr. Kelly of the National Park Service actively engaged in making ar-

rangements, assisted by the Lincoln group of the D. of C. of which Mr. Powell and Mr. Sheldon were the moving spirits. One of the new members of the group, Rep. Clyde Doyle, was formerly president of the Long Beach California Lincoln Club and contributed his influence in making this annual observance possible.

Washington—Many years ago during the ministry of Dr. Sizoo, the editor of Lincoln Lore had the pleasure of addressing the Lincoln Birthday Dinner held annually in the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. A return engagement this year allowed the speaker to again enjoy the pleasure of speaking in the church where Lincoln worshipped.

Washington—One of the rare experiences of the itinerary was the privilege of introducing to each other two very elderly women, one Helen Nicolay, daughter of John Nicolay and the other Dorothy Lamon Teillard, daughter of Ward H. Lamon.

Washington—The Lincoln manuscript collection in the Library of Congress, eligible through the bequest of Robert Lincoln to be opened in July 1947 was responsible for a conference with Mr. Mearns of the Reference Department, Mr. Siousatt, Division of Manuscripts and also Mr. Powell under whose supervision the manuscripts are being catalogued. It is hoped the Library of Congress will have a significant announcement to make about the availability of the papers when the proper time presents itself.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia—Several personal interviews with Lincoln students who live in Philadelphia were enjoyed. Gordan A. Block exhibited some of his rare items. H. S. Sickel discussed his work on the Thanksgiving Proclamation. Samuel Moyerman talked about Lincoln Manuscripts. Edmund Babe was enthusiastic about organizing a Philadelphia Lincoln group.

Gettysburg—Met several members of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania in the home of John D. Lippy, Jr., the new curator of the Lincoln Room in the Wills Building where the President slept the night before delivering his Gettysburg Address. Henry E. Luhrs, the new president of the fellowship, presided at the informal meeting.

Lancaster—With Mr. Martin, Mr. Heiges and Mr. Pepper, I visited the Lincoln Room in Franklin Marshall College which houses the Greist collection of Lincoln portraits.

Meadville—An engagement to speak at Allegheny College, allowed a visit to the Lincoln Room. The collection of Lincolniana was presented to her alma mater by the late Ida M. Tarbell. Mr. Benjamin and Seely are in charge of the collection.

Two cities outside the colonial states were visited on the trip which provided interesting Lincoln contacts. At Detroit, Tom Starr introduced the editor to four hundred of his business associates gathered for a Lincoln luncheon. Starr has been a most active member of the Detroit Lincoln Group.

Opportunity to meet some of the members of the Ohio Lincoln group including the secretary, Mr. Cramer, was provided by an engagement to speak before the Western Reserve Historical Society which has one of the finest collections of early Lincolniana extant. The meeting was presided over by Director Benton and held in the beautiful and spacious home presented to the society by the daughter of John Hay. The day as well as a long itinerary was brought to a close with an evening spent in the home of R. D. Packard where he has a special room provided for his working collection of Lincolniana.