

LINCOLN LORE

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A ROSTER OF LINCOLN IMPERSONATIONS

Occasionally it is refreshing to pick up a Lincoln book which makes little claim of objectivity and no claim of being a definitive work. Such a publication is Frank McGlynn's "Side-lights on Lincoln." The publishers state that: "The book does not pretend to be an authoritative history or a complete biography." It does contain many of the personal experiences and reminiscences of the earliest of our actors who impersonated Abraham Lincoln.

We are now able to trace through McGlynn's observations one of the primary sources for the general use of the emphasis given to the three prepositions "of," "by," and "for" in the concluding paragraph of the Gettysburg Address. The popularizing of the expression of "Now, he belongs to the ages," instead of "He belongs to the ages now," as first used by Stanton, according to Tanner, our best authority, is explained. Many other conclusions about Lincoln himself which have crept into the thinking of Americans who have witnessed McGlynn's presentations are traced to the interpretations of the actor.

Frank McGlynn may be mentioned as our earliest American actor who received any considerable popular acclaim in the role of Lincoln. However, the name of William Rea, a Belfast Irishman with a provincial brogue and but five feet eight inches tall, six inches shorter than Lincoln, was the first actor to be assigned the leading role in Drinkwater's play when it was first produced in England.

The appearance of this book has suggested the compilation of a list of the better known players and impersonators who have come before the general public in the role of Abraham Lincoln. Of course the great number of those participating in local productions and others who occasionally dress up like Lincoln for some occasion are omitted.

Plays where characters have merely referred to Lincoln such as the reference in *Anna and the King of Siam* or in the popular presentation of the Gettysburg Address by Charles Laughton in *Ruggles of Red Gap* are not included in the following list. Some other plays where there is a mere appearance of Lincoln or utilized primarily for amateur productions are not mentioned, in fact there is no attempt to present a complete bibliography of plays written, where Lincoln appears as one of the characters.

Title of Drama and Name of Actor Who Played Abraham Lincoln

Abe Lincoln in Illinois
Raymond Massey

Abraham Lincoln (Hart)
Frederick Burton

Abraham Lincoln (Drinkwater)
Frank McGlynn

Abraham Lincoln (Griffith)
Walter Huston

Abraham Lincoln the Christian
John L. Parsons

Birth of a Nation, The
Joseph Henaberry

Copperhead, The
N. Schroell

Crisis, The
Sam D. Crane

Dramatic Life of A. L., The
George A. Billings

Heart of Lincoln, The
Charles E. Bull

If Booth Had Missed
Daniel Poole

In the Days of Buffalo Bill
Joel Day

Iron Horse, The
Lawrence Coughlan

Lincoln at the White House
Arthur Lincoln Cogliser

Littlest Rebel
Frank McGlynn

Man of the People, A
Howard Hall

Mrs. Bixby Gets a Letter
Paul McGrath

Of Human Hearts
John Carradine

Perfect Tribute, The
Chick Sale

Plainsman, The
Frank McGlynn
John Miljan
Porter Hall

Plank Road
Charles Webster

Prisoner of Shark Island
Frank McGlynn

Prologue to Glory
Stephen Courtleigh

Seventh Son, The
Ralph W. Ince

Sons of Democracy, The
Ben Chapin

Spirit of Lincoln, The
Dennis Connel

That Man Lincoln
Hugh Studebaker

Wells Fargo
Frank McGlynn

Young Mr. Lincoln
Henry Fonda

A Fragmentary List of Persons Who

Have Impersonated Abraham Lincoln

AYDELOTTE, L. D., Buffalo, N. Y.
BENNETT, ARTHUR M., Worcester, Mass.
BLACKWELL, W. C., Belleville, Ark.
CAMPBELL, WILLARD, Phoenixville, Ill.
CARROLL, EDWIN, Lawrenceville, Ill.
CASSWELL, LINCOLN, New York, N. Y.
CONNEL, DENNIS, Washington, D. C.
DREW, ARTHUR C., New Bedford, Mass.
GREEN, GUY B., Indianapolis, Ind.
HOLLER, JOHN E., Cincinnati, Ohio
HUME, SOPHIA A., Los Angeles, Cal.
JONES, ROLLO, Bloomington, Ill.
LEHRER, GEORGE J., Sandusky, Ohio
LINCOLN, LYNN ABRAHAM, Union City, Mich.
MILES, CHARLES ROSCOE, Long Beach, Cal.
SHIRK, ALTON I., Bellwood, Pa.
SLADE, SAM I., Detroit, Mich.
SUMMERVILLE, H. L., Phoenix, Arizona
WASTE, JOHN, Rochester, N. Y.
YOUNG, MAX J., Indianapolis, Ind.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL SPEAKING ITINERARY OF LOUIS A. WARREN

Speaking engagements for Dr. Warren's appearances in the following cities are now being made. Readers of Lincoln Lore might contact the local office of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company in these cities if they would care to have Dr. Warren appear before groups with which they are affiliated on days designated in the itinerary. There is no obligation whatever incurred by such appointments.

Kansas City, Mo., January 19, 20;
Wichita, Kansas, January 21-22;
Amarillo, Texas, January 23, 24; El Paso, Texas, January 25-27; Phoenix, Arizona, January 28; San Diego, Calif., January 29-31; Fresno, Calif., February 1-2, Pasadena, Calif., February 3, 4; Long Beach, Calif., February 5, 6; Los Angeles, Calif., February 8; Beverly Hills, Calif., February 9, 10; Los Angeles, Calif., February 11-14; San Francisco, Calif., February 15-17; Oakland, Calif., February 18-19; Sacramento, Calif., February 20-21; Portland, Oregon, February 23, 24; Seattle, Washington, February 25, 26; Spokane, Washington, February 27, 28; Salt Lake City, Utah, March 1-3; Denver Colorado, March 4-7; Omaha, Nebraska, March 8, 9; Sioux Falls, S. D., March 10-11; Des Moines, Iowa, March 12.