

# LINCOLN LORE

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The editor of Lincoln Lore would be unappreciative indeed if he did not embrace the earliest available opportunity to express his sincere appreciation to those who gave direction and personally contributed to the 1000th issue of Lincoln Lore. Many months ago the president of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company began to receive letters suggesting some recognition of the anniversary number of the publication.

Unbeknown to the editor and wholly independent from any suggestion of the Foundation personnel or its sponsor, the project was launched by two subscribers, Carl Haverlin of New York, and Holman Hamilton of Fort Wayne. They made the preliminary arrangements for setting up the project and after getting an approval from the executives of the sponsoring institution, invited other interested parties to share in the effort. I am advised that two of my former associates in the Foundation library, R. Gerald McMurtry, and Maurice Cook, with the assistance of John White, prepared the biographical material, and Holman Hamilton was given the task of gathering and editing the many testimonials. They should receive my first expression of appreciation for the dedication issue.

Two other indirect contributors to the special bulletin, if the illustrative matter may be considered a contribution, should be acknowledged. While visiting in Springfield, Illinois, a year ago Herbert Wells Fay, the venerable curator at the Lincoln Tomb issued a decree that I should not leave the city without having some photographs made and specified that on his order the work should be done by the Georg Studio. To Mr. Fay for his persuasive command, and to Mr. Georg for the artistic effort with a poor subject, I should express my thanks.

The editor has received on many occasions expressions of appreciation for the reception of Lincoln Lore, but he was entirely unprepared for the highly complimentary testimonials which were published in the commemorative issue. While the generous compliments referring to the editor's contributions in the field of Lincoln historical research is appreciated, possibly more impressive is the general tenor of good-will which permeates the entire compilation of comments. They recall to mind this axiom coined by Lincoln: "The better part of one's life consists of his friendships." To all of those who contributed personal notes for publication in the bulletin I will always feel greatly indebted. In the same group as the above mentioned contributors there should be included others whose commendations came too late to publish.

Words of gratitude should also appear in this series of acknowledgments for telegrams, long-distance calls, and personal visits received on June 7th, the date of the 1000th issue of the publication.

The congratulatory notes which began to arrive immediately upon the release of the issue, and which are still coming in with every mail, indicate that the sponsors would have been able to greatly extend the number of testimonials if the space would have per-

mitted. These comments which commend Lincoln Lore and the Foundation indicate that a large percentage of the bulletins are not only preserved but permanently bound.

I should not fail to express my gratefulness for the compliments which I have received both orally and in writing from my business associates, many of whom have been my companions for over twenty years. They have been very generous with their commendations.

While expressions of appreciation are in order I would be remiss indeed if I did not acknowledge with most profound gratitude the long-time support and encouragement of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, which for nearly twenty years has sponsored Lincoln Lore with no commercial strings whatever attached to its distribution. Without this sympathetic interest and generosity there would have been no Lincoln bulletin.

All of the complimentary remarks about Lincoln Lore which have been received should not only be shared with the Company, but with the personnel of the Lincoln National Life Foundation who have compiled source material, typed copy, and read proof of the publication.

The immediate task on the consummation of the 1000th issue is the preparation of an adequate index to supplement the one made at the close of the 500th issue. It will follow the general plan of its predecessor so that the two indexes combined may allow an immediate approach to the contents of the publications. A minimum charge, covering the cost of the index, will be necessary to assure that the limited number printed will be judiciously distributed among those who contemplate compiling and binding the bulletins in a permanent form. A few copies of the index covering the first 500 issues of the bulletin will also be available.

The experience at the conclusion of the 500th issue probably is indicative of the request for back numbers which will now be made in order to complete broken files. Practically none of the first 500 copies and a constantly diminishing number of the next 300 issues are available. There are some scattered issues of more recent numbers which we would be pleased to forward without charge for filling missing gaps. The only recourse for acquiring other copies is through the rather expensive process of photostating. The Foundation can supply up to five copies at 40 cents each and over five copies at 25 cents each.

While the present editor could not anticipate guiding Lincoln Lore through another thousand issues, he has a fond hope that it may continue on into the years. With the acquisition by the Foundation of a microfilm which reproduced in facsimile all of the 18,000 papers in the Lincoln collection at the Library of Congress, and with the general reaction in mind to the question propounded by Professor James G. Randall, "Has the Lincoln theme been exhausted?" we cannot believe a shortage of source material will ever be experienced, or that interest in the subject will diminish.