

# LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Foundation - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor  
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 1294

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

January 25, 1954

## THE LINCOLN BOOK OF THE YEAR — 1953

*The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln* a 1953 production is accepted generally as the most important publication relating to the sixteenth President of the United States that has ever come from the press. It is not likely that any future work on Abraham Lincoln will surpass it. Even before its publication it was concluded that it would be chosen by the Foundation Advisory Group as the Lincoln Book of the Year. The publication represents contributory work by many secretaries associated through the years with the Abraham Lincoln Association at Springfield, Ill. The staff which finally brought the book from the press was composed of editor, Roy P. Basler with assistant editors Marion Dolores Pratt and Lloyd A. Dunlap. The book to receive honorable mention for 1953, Mrs. Ruth Painter Randall's *Mary Lincoln*, is also worthy of recognition and will rank high among all books published on the Lincoln story. Not since the Lincoln National Life Foundation began its "Lincoln Book of the Year" feature have there been so many cloth bound volumes appearing during twelve months as in the year 1953. The titles follow:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION. *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*.

The most urgent need of Lincoln students has been met by the publication of *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*. The bringing together under one title the writings and speeches of Abraham Lincoln has been by far the most ambitious project ever undertaken in the field of Lincolniana. Eight volumes with one more (the index) to come answers the dreams of all those interested in what has been termed "Basic Lincolniana."

BRIGGS, HAROLD E. and ERNESTINE B. *Nancy Hanks Lincoln. A Frontier Portrait*.

This book is an effort to bring together under one cover the story of Abraham Lincoln's mother and to orient on the frontier the pioneer family of Hanks, into which Thomas Lincoln married in the year 1806. The book will contribute much to a better understanding of Lincoln's maternal ancestry and the problems which confront genealogists in this field.

DORRIS, JONATHAN TRUMAN. *Pardon and Amnesty under Lincoln and Johnson*.

An objective approach to one of the most important public relation problems introduced by the war with an introduction of unusual interest by the late J. G. Randall. A book of merit which should have a place among the careful studies of the basic elements which directed the reconstruction efforts.

EIFERT, VIRGINIA S. *Three Rivers South*.

We are happy to welcome into the fellowship of Lincoln authors one of the west's most interesting writers in the field of natural history, Virginia S. Eifert of Springfield, Illinois. *Three Rivers South* is a story of young Abe Lincoln's flatboat trip which took him and his companions down the Sangamon, down the Illinois, and down the Mississippi to "the roaring city of New Orleans." The river and the city incidents have been highly and entertainingly dramatized with Abe as the central figure.

HORNER, HARLAN HOYT. *Lincoln and Greeley*.

The author has been a long time student of both Abraham Lincoln and Horace Greeley and therefore is well qualified to develop his argument through contrast and comparison approaches. The author makes you feel as if he had been a close personal friend of both men.

LINDSTROM, RALPH G. *Lincoln and Prevention of War*.

A brief treatise on the avoidance of war in which the author examines the conceptions of the federal system

as understood by Lincoln and places these conclusions over against the viewpoints of modern schools of thought who hold war to be irrepressible or the result of stupid statesmanship.

NEVINS, ALLAN. *The Statesmanship of the Civil War*.

The place Allan Nevins occupies in American Letters assures one that a monograph bearing his name can be read with confidence that the subject will be approached objectively. Many tributes have been paid to Lincoln's statesmanship but Nevins' appraisal of the President's genius is best put by one of the author's reviewers who states: "He portrays a man who represented that rare phenomenon of genuine greatness which transcends nationality."

NOLAN, JEANNETTE COVERT. *Abraham Lincoln*.

One of the many story books in the juvenile fiction class which utilizes the dialogue method to make the episodes realistic. The author has written several other books on famous historical characters.

PAULMIER, HILAH. *Abe Lincoln. An Anthology*.

Most anthologies make interesting reading and the one by Hilah Paulmier is no exception. The modern trend, however, is away from a mixture of folklore and tradition interspersed with a few objective contributions which leave the reader somewhat bewildered as to what actually occurred in the story-book life of Lincoln.

RANDALL, RUTH PAINTER. *Mary Lincoln, Biography of a Marriage*.

Here is a study that is going to serve as a sourcebook for all future students of Lincoln who desire to write objectively about Mary Todd Lincoln and the home environment she created for her illustrious husband. Those who want to hold to Herndon's old folklore fables about Lincoln's wife better not read the volume.

RENINGER, MARION WALLACE. *My Lincoln Letter*.

This monograph is prompted by a member of a family, related to the Lincolns by marriage, to share a precious heirloom in her possession in the form of a letter written by Abraham to her kinsman, Edward Wallace. Edward's brother William married Frances Todd, sister of Mrs. Lincoln. The publication is beautifully printed and a nicely bound brochure.

SANTOVENIA, EMETERIO S. *Lincoln in Marti*.

Donald F. Fogelquist has made a fine contribution to our understanding of the international Lincoln by translating from the Spanish, Santovenia's monograph entitled *Lincoln in Marti*. The centennial of Marti's birth observed in Havana, Cuba, where he was born on Jan. 28, 1853, apparently called attention to the great influence which Lincoln had in the life of the founder of the Cuban Revolutionary Party.

WALTON, CLYDE C. JR. *The Bollinger Lincoln Lectures*.

Upon the dedication of the Bollinger Collection of Lincolniana at the State University of Iowa on November 19, 1951, lectures were delivered by Paul M. Angle, Benjamin P. Thomas, Harry E. Pratt, Charles J. Lynch and Louis A. Warren. These addresses with a preface by the President of the University, Virgil M. Hancher and an introduction by Clyde C. Walton, Jr., Curator of Rare Books, comprise the contents.

WILSON, RUFUS ROCKWELL. *Lincoln In Caricature*.

Although this book first appeared in 1945 it did not have as wide a circulation as it deserved and this reprint with an introduction by R. Gerald McMurtry should bring it to the attention of a larger circle of readers. Its title is descriptive of its contents.