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Re-discovering ILLINOIS
by LESTER B. COLBY
ILLINOIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Persons living in Lincoln, Illinois, talk of the "water-melon incident" much as the Bostonese speak of the tea party or a Chicagooan might mention "the fire." The legend carries us back—

Twenty-four cities in the United States bear the name Lincoln. Only one of them was named in honor of the martyred president before he died. That one, the Lincoln of this story, was named for him before he was even famous. More—it was christened Lincoln by Abraham Lincoln himself and the baptismal fluid was the juice of a watermelon.

There's a bit of human interest in the story.
In his younger years as surveyor and lawyer Abraham Lincoln lived in a town that was a meager group of small dwellings. It was called Postville and was a bit short of thirty-five miles northeast of Springfield. Lincoln was sent to the legislature from there.

New County Created
So it came about that in 1839 Lincoln fathered a bill creating a new county and Postville became the county seat. At Lincoln's suggestion this new county was named Logan in honor of Dr. John Logan, of Murphysboro, close friend and fellow legislator. John A. Logan, son of the medico-politician, became one of the most famous of the Civil war generals and U. S. senator from Illinois.

A railroad came through Logan county in 1852. Three pioneer promoters bought a section of land near Postville, on the railroad, and began to lay out a rival town. Lincoln was their legal advisor. What to name the town? One of them suggested Lincoln.

Legend says that Lincoln good-naturedly gave his consent but with the warning:

"I think you're making a mistake. Nothing named Lincoln, as far as I know, ever amounted to much."

Sale day for the first batch of lots came. Envision the scene. Ox wagons, hoesmen, men with whiskers, women with calico dresses and sunbonnets, probably music, barbecue. Probably men with jugs. Perhaps kegs of beer, for those were carefree and untrammelled days.

How Christened
Came into this picture the gaunt Abraham Lincoln, sallow and homely, lank, ungainly, whimsical. Came Abraham Lincoln with two massive watermelons bought from a vendor. Gathering his three sub-dividers he halved the melons and handing the pieces to his associates said, "Now, we will christen the baby town."

Legend records that Lincoln, with humorous flourish, squeezed a handful of red melon-meat and performed the rites of jocund baptism. Thus the village was christened Lincoln by Abraham Lincoln—with watermelon juice!

Plates and Saucers
I thought I knew my plates and saucers. Little did I know about plates and saucers until I went through the pottery in Lincoln. Here I was told is the only pottery in Illinois making "whiteware" for dining room tables. I met bluebird sets and other familiars—

Every piece of this decorated semi-porcelain is fired three times, I learned. The first, it seems, is merely a baking process. The second, after it has been dipped in a milky fluid, is to put on the white glaze. Turn your plate over at dinner this evening and examine its bottom. You will find three spots. They show where it rested on three pyramidal points during this baking. After the glazing comes the decorating. A third firing fixes that permanently.

In making a pitcher a plaster mold is set up and a gray-like grayish mixture poured in. The plaster absorbs moisture and the clay is deposited against the mold. Fifteen minutes later the mixture is poured out. Remove the mold and—a wet clay pitcher that manages to stand alone. Trim off the rough edges and marks left by the joints in the mold. Bake and then—a pitcher. We will now make a plate.

Shaping Pottery
A waffle-shaped piece of clay, puttylike in consistency, is thrown over a revolving mold. A man lowers a tool which shapes and scrapes it with a single movement. A plate is made bottom-side-up. The tool is stationary while the plate, on the form, revolves swiftly. The inside of the plate is shaped by the mold.

Making a cup is much the reverse of making a plate or saucer. A ball of clay is thrown into a mold which is revolving. The tool comes down inside, shaping the inside of the cup, the mold forming the outside. Cup handles are poured. They are made in pairs in molds, three dozen pairs at a time. They are attached to the cups by hand while both cup and handle are still moist.

Decorations are mostly put on with "transfer paper"—remember when we were kids? The method is merely a scientific refinement of boyhood's "school store" tattoo. Stripping is done semi-freehand, the dish revolving while the brush is held still.

Approximately 185 persons work in the Lincoln pottery, owned by the

Big Greenhouses
In Lincoln I found somewhat to Illinois China company. The output

is about 2,000 dozen dishes a day. My surprise, a greenhouse plant covering sixteen acres—all under glass, the "cut" in this greenhouse this year will be more than 3,000,000 roses. Add to that chrysanthemums, carnations, cyclamen and other commercial flowers. This, I was told, is the second largest greenhouse plant in Illinois.

It is owned by Gullett & Son and was started sixty-one years ago. Most of the expansion has come since 1914. It was then that realization came that a greenhouse here might supply the national market and need not remain a local affair. Illinois, you should know because of geographical position, rail service and other conditions, produces more commercial flowers than any other state in the union. Illinois ships flowers to California and Florida.

It Takes Sand
Lincoln is the home of the McGrath boys—Jim and Tom and Ted. They cry to the world, succinctly, "It takes sand to make money." Jim and Tom and Ted are the McGrath Sand & Gravel Co. plants in Mackinaw, Chillicothe, Pekin, Forreston and Shawneetown. Ted is president of the Illinois Sand & Gravel association.

Hundreds of miles of Illinois' concrete roads, thousands of blocks of sidewalks, great bridges, culverts, many dams, among them the dam forming Decatur Lake, are made of McGrath materials. It is one of the biggest sand and gravel industries in the country; general offices in Lincoln because Jim and Tom and Ted grew up here.

Then there's the Lincoln Sand & Gravel Co. whose millions of tons of materials shipped out has left a series of lakes in the edge of Lincoln, 45 feet deep, connected, filled with icy clear water. Some day, the plan is, here a beautiful park with winding drives and lagoons.

Lincoln is the home of one of the best known Chautauquas in the central west; 21 years old. Here, too, is the state school for feeble minded children; 2,300 there now. Lincoln supplies domicile for an orphans home fathered by the Odd Fellows and here is Lincoln college.

Another Industry
And I found in Lincoln some pertinent facts about caskets. At the plant of the Lincoln Casket company, where fifty men are employed, I learned something of the evolution of the "narrow house." Forty years ago the average casket cost the buyer \$40. Today the average casket costs \$225. Forty years ago in buying a casket you had two choices—black or white. And there were five color-tints used in coverings, all standardized. Today?

Bless you, caskets are done happily in vari-hued woods and variety of metals. I saw cast bronze and sheet bronze caskets, caskets of copper, caskets of new Armco metal and monometal. Workmen told me of up-to-date and modern finishes, caskets in Duco like your motor car, caskets in semi-transparent lacquers, delicately tinted nitrocellulose finishes.

And the casket maker today maintains a stout treasure vault to house his costly silks, some snowy white, some silvery, some lavender, champagne color, many hues. And he carries today not less than seventy-five kinds of embossed plushes where a few years ago he carried not one! We are learning to send our friends in luxury on that Great Journey into the Farther Out.

Population
They told me that Lincoln, which long ago absorbed Postville, has about 14,000 inhabitants. The manner of the city? Rather substantial. There seems to be money in it. A small clothing plant started operation the day I was there. Labor is plentiful. In closing let me dedicate a paraphrase to philosophy. In old towns like Lincoln men often welcome me as some sort of historian. I rather resent that for I fear historians keep their faces backward. I want to look into the future. It is from now on that interests me. Whenever I write of the past it is only to paint the picture.

And to all old towns, I would say, if asked for advice:

"Beware the hours lost talking history. Leave that to old men whose work is done. Keep your faces forward and build. The thing that counts is from this day on. That my grandfather drove an ox car means little. What my son will drive is all-important. Progress is human achievement."

CHILEAN STUDENTS ARE CORRESPONDENTS

Have a Desire to Write Business Letters to Others in America

Business and commercial students fagasta, Chile, desire to correspond in fagasta, Chile, desire to correspond in English or Spanish with pupils pursuing similar courses in the United States, announces George D. Hopper, American consul at Antofagasta. About 40 boys are enrolled in the commercial course, which includes the study of English, and they range in age from 12 to 18 years. Their object is improvement in the use of languages, a broader acquaintance with commercial geography, and cultivation of more friendly relations with commercial students in the United States. This school is a public institution, and honor graduates are sometimes sent by the Chilean government to the United States to complete their education. Communications should be addressed to Prof. Regino Mesa, Prat 1028, Castilla (P. O. box) 300, Antofagasta, Chile.

STRIKING



The diamond-shaped pocket is particularly smart on this sports coat of black and gray wool plaid. Patricia Avery explains that she didn't lose the other pocket—it is supposed to be that way. The very newest! The gray fox collar is very flattering.

WEST POINT BAND REGIMENTAL AIRS

FEATURES CADET PARADE

Interesting Facts About Some of Marches Played; History Marked by Music of The Army

A very fine custom introduced by Brigadier General Merch B. Stewart, superintendent of the Military Academy, is that which has the Military Academy band play various Regimental marches at the cadet parades which occur each evening (except Wednesday and Saturday evenings during September) and on Sunday evenings during October and November.

This custom was started by General Stewart last summer and is being continued through the fall parades. It will form hereafter a feature of every cadet parade whenever possible. One purpose of this custom is to bring the corps of cadets into closer touch with the rest of the army. The music for a particular regiment is played on a date as near as practicable to that of the organization day of the regiment concerned.

Officers Invited
All officers and former officers of the regiment so honored, whether stationed at West Point or not, are cordially invited to be present. Seats in the rear of the reviewing officer are especially reserved for them on the occasion.

Concerning the twenty-three marches being played this fall, there are several interesting points. Three regiments have adopted songs to the tunes of "The Girl I Left Behind Me," "Semper Fidelis," and "Annie Laurie." One regiment, the 42nd infantry made up of enlisted men from Porto Rico, has for its march "Ecos de Borinquen," whose name indicates its origin, Borinquen, being the old Indian name for Porto Rico. Two regiments, the 43rd Infantry and the 11th Infantry, have adopted a march called "Le Regiment de Sambre et Meuse," in commemoration of their having fought along these rivers during the World war. One regiment, the 45th Infantry, stationed in the Philippines, has adopted a march of Spanish origin called "Alerta Voluntarios." One regiment uses the tune of the "French National Defile March."

Regimental Marches.
Among the many regimental marches several deserve special mention. The 7th Infantry, for instance, which has adopted, "The Girl I Left Behind Me," first heard this tune played by the British band during the battle of New Orleans in 1815. When the band of the 7th Infantry (then a drum and fife corps) caught the air, they played it also, and the tune was at once adopted as the regimental march of the 7th Infantry. The seventh was the only regular army regiment in that battle. The words were given to the regiment by an Irish officer captured during the New Orleans engagement. The regimental march of the 7th U. S. Cavalry, "Garry Owen," is first recorder as having been played at the battle of Washita, in 1868. It was played at dawn as the signal for the charge of the 7th Cavalry on Black Kettle's Cheyenne Indian village.

Historical Episode
An interesting historical episode in connection with this march is that it is known to have been Custer's favorite song and tune. At 5:00 a. m. on May 17, 1876, during the final review and parade at Fort Lincoln, the band played the song. This was the march by which General Terry left

the Fort on the expedition to the Little Big Horn which was to end in Custer's massacre.

One other regimental march worth calling attention to is that of the 9th Infantry. The march is called "The Old 9th Infantry." The music to this song came from the old light opera "Sergeant Kitty," but the composer of the words is unknown. It is believed to have been first sung at a minstrel show given by the 9th Infantry, March 2, 1907.

Following the instructions of General Stewart, Lieutenant Colonel Campbell E. Hodges, commandant of cadets, intends to carry on this regimental march idea for cadet parades throughout the remainder of the year. New regimental marches will be played as the music for the some is obtained.

TEACH PUPILS TO KNOW OWN CITY
Courses for This Purpose Are Opened In Detroit Schools; Four Semesters

"Let's Know Detroit" courses are offered in the academic high school of Detroit by the vocational education department. They are industrial mechanics courses designed to meet the demand for industrial information by persons in profession and commercial pursuits. The principal industries of the city are represented in the four courses, which embrace metal industries, automobile industries, building industries, electric construction, and woodworking industries. The courses are arranged to cover four semesters. Instruction is given in general shops with a great variety of equipment, supplemented by specialized shops. Suitable books, group excursions, student reports, class discussions, talks by specialists, and shop practice are all utilized in teaching. In five high schools 441 students were enrolled in the industrial mechanics courses in the past school year.

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STORE NEWS



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The choicest materials of the new fall season—Lustrosa, Suedes, Pile Fabrics, Smooth Finish Cloths, Plaids, Novelty Weaves—all beautifully tailored into the very smartest of styles.

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A complete assortment interpreting the latest in silks, satins, twills and jerseys for autumn. Clever novelty fabrics that please—all in a price range that is complete from

\$15.00 to \$59.75