

PIONEER CONGRESS BEFORE REVOLUTION

MET AT ALBANY IN 1754

To Discuss Union of Colonies To Protect Frontiers and For Development, Says Historian

Long before there was thought of Revolution, many Americans favored a sort of union of the Colonies to act together in protecting their frontiers and fostering their development, writes R. Walton Moore, congressman from Virginia, in an interesting article on "The Genesis of Congress" in the January number of the National Republic. Delegates from six of the colonies met at Albany in 1754 during the French and Indian war, to discuss such a union. Mr. Moore states, but the attempt was a failure. Continuing Mr. Moore says:

Origin of Congress
"The Continental Congress had its definite origin in Virginia action. Twenty years had passed since the gathering at Albany, and in the latter part of that period parliament enacted statutes representing a new and unjust policy. Protest and repeal followed and then further offensive enactments. The Boston port bill was passed to go into force June 1, 1774. In the spring of that year, the House of Burgesses was in session at Williamsburg, the Virginia capital, a town to be forever remembered as the scene of events which have profoundly affected the progress of the world. A few members of the house conferred upon the expediency of taking formal notice of the Boston situation and agreed to propose that the first of June be set aside as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer to implore heaven to avert from us the evils of civil war, to inspire us with firmness in support of our rights and turn the hearts of the king and parliament to moderation and justice." The resolution was offered May 21, and adopted, but when it was brought to the attention of the royal governor his condemnation was so severe that he dissolved the house at once. Those mainly responsible for what was proposed afterwards served in the Continental Congress. They were Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, and the brothers, Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee.

Agreed on Statement
"On May 27, they and their fellow members assembled in the public room of the Raleigh Tavern near the capitol building, and agreed upon a statement more elaborate and emphatic than the resolution itself, advising that until the grievances of America should be redressed, the purchase and use of tea and other commodities subject to tax should be discontinued. But that was not all. The outstanding feature was he recommendation for 'Delegates from the several colonies of British America to meet in general congress at such place annually as shall be thought most convenient, there to deliberate on those general measures which the United Interests of America may from time to time require.' This was the genesis of the Continental Congress."

NOBODY EXCITED ABOUT WASHINGTON "EXPOSURE"

New Historians Have Nothing New to Tell and Interest Slight

Further "startling exposures" about George Washington come from the pen of a novelist turned historian — and cause less of a ripple than a pebble in the ocean. Once perhaps they stirred up some interest and a grain of resentment; now they cause as little excitement as a child's letter to Santa Claus. The reason is that the new-school historians have nothing new to tell. They are not scholars who have devoted their lives to tedious research. They have not sources of information denied to the ordinary historian. Nor, even, have they courage to tell the truth where others have told lies. Their chief tool not used by the others is a headline writer's sense of values. They magnify and minimize and distort until the smallest incident becomes a glaring flaw and the noblest action a petty gesture.—The Dearborn Independent.

HUGE TOLL OF LIFE ON U. S. HIGHWAYS

Revised figures of the American Motorists' association in co-operation with The Automobile Club of Illinois, show that during 1927 there were 23,431 in 1926, or an increase of approximately 10 per cent. Based on the number of automobiles in operation, this was one fatality, due to the operation of motor vehicles, for each 984 automobiles in operation. During which was one fatality for each 11, in automobiles at grade crossings, 1927 there were 1,974 persons killed 716 automobiles in use.

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EXPLAINS TURF BANK ALONG HADRIAN WALL

HAS PUZZLED SCIENTISTS

Embankment Paralleling Ancient Fortification Across Britain Subject of Research

What is the explanation of the wall of turf on the south side of the famous Hadrian's Wall that spans northern Britain from the Tyne to the Solway? This question which hitherto has puzzled the archaeological world, has according to R. G. Collingwood in a recent address on Hadrian's Wall, now been satisfactorily settled, through investigations during the past year, says a story from London in the Christian Science Monitor.

Description of Wall
What is known as Hadrian's Wall consists of a great stone wall with 17 forts, and the earthwork running parallel to it. "Until 100 years ago," said Mr. Collingwood, "it was thought that the stone wall was the work of the Emperor Septimius Severus, and that the earthwork alone was Hadrian's. But in the early nineteenth century inscribed stones were found which dated from the reign of Hadrian, and evidently implied that the wall dated from the same time."

"In the nineties arose a new problem. This was a wall of turf, built like bricks according to a well known Roman fashion, forming a loop line to the stone wall and extending for two miles. The theory was that Hadrian's original frontier-line consisted of a ditch or boundary mark, linking up a number of stone forts, and that later the Emperor decided to add a stone wall to increase the defensive strength of the frontier line. The turf wall, however, remained unexplained."

Result of Research
It was on this point, continued Mr. Collingwood, that last year's work brought most results. It was found that the turf wall was more extensive than formerly supposed and had later been replaced by a stone wall. A new section of its ditch was then cut to examine the nature of its contents. It was found that the filling consisted of blocks of leathery peat evidently thrown in by the Romans themselves.

The inference seems plain, he said, that the turf wall was a temporary work erected on the line prepared for the stone wall and, like all other frontier lines in the north of England, belongs to the reign of Hadrian.

EXTEND TIME FOR AUTO OWNER'S TAX RETURNS

An extension until September 29, to manufacturers of automobiles in filing returns for their excise taxes has just been announced by the Treasury Department, according to The Automobile Club of Illinois. Originally manufacturers were given until July 31, to file their complete returns, this time being granted for the purpose of creating a pool which will enable the manufacturers to rebate to the 53,000 automobile dealers of the country refunds under the tax repeal act. The dealers are entitled to a 3 per cent tax refund for each passenger car they had in stock when the tax was repealed on May 28, at 8 a. m.

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WANTS INDETERMINATE SENTENCE ABOLISHED

Chairman of State Parole Board in Talk at Waukegan Tells of Abuses

Hinton G. Clabaugh, chairman of the state board of pardons and paroles in an address last week before the Waukegan Rotary club said that he advocated a change being made in laws so as to abolish indeterminate sentences.

Instead of sending a person to the penitentiary to serve from one to twenty years or for terms of this nature it would be better for society if the jury had the power to fix the exact number of years," Mr. Clabaugh declared. "The jury hears all the evidence in the case and can look over the witnesses and thus is in the best position to say just how much punishment should be meted out for crimes."

Loeb Case Loophole
The head of the state board of pardons and paroles repeated statements made in a talk in Evanston a few days ago, that Nathan Leopold, Jr., and Richard Loeb, who murdered Bobby Franks in 1924, might not remain until death. He said they might be able to get out on parole in seven more years.

"Despite the denials of Judge John R. Claverly, who sentenced the Chicago murderers, and State's Attorney Robert E. Crowe who conducted the prosecution of the case, an error was made in the records, which might result in Leopold and Loeb getting out of prison in 1935," Clabaugh said. "They say no mistake was made, and I say if no mistake were made then we must think something worse happened in this matter."

PRIVILEGES ALLOWED TOURISTS BY CUBANS

American motorists, touring Cuba, may use their automobiles for a ninety-day period, with a thirty-day extension, under the terms of a new free entry permit between the two countries, according to an announcement of The Automobile Club of Illinois. A small bond is required, under the free entry agreement, to insure the vehicle's exportation or to enforce payment of the prescribed duty after the four months expire.

HUGE PEACH CROP IN ILLINOIS THIS YEAR

Total Nearly 66 Millions of Bushels, According to State Report

Survey of the Illinois Department of Agriculture forecasts a peach crop in the state of Illinois approximating 65,981,000 bushels. This will exceed the 1917 crop by fully twenty million bushels and the average crop for the past five years by approximately fourteen million bushels.

The apple crop of the state is estimated at 4,954,000 bushels or one-half million bushels in excess of the crop for 1927, but two million bushels below the five years' average.

The outlook for pears in the state is six per cent under the average for the ten years' period, but slightly in excess of that for 1927. Illinois is expected to produce 497,000 bushels as compared to 312,000 bushels for last year.

The grape crop is more than favorable. The condition in Illinois is given as 81 per cent as compared to a 50 per cent crop for 1927.

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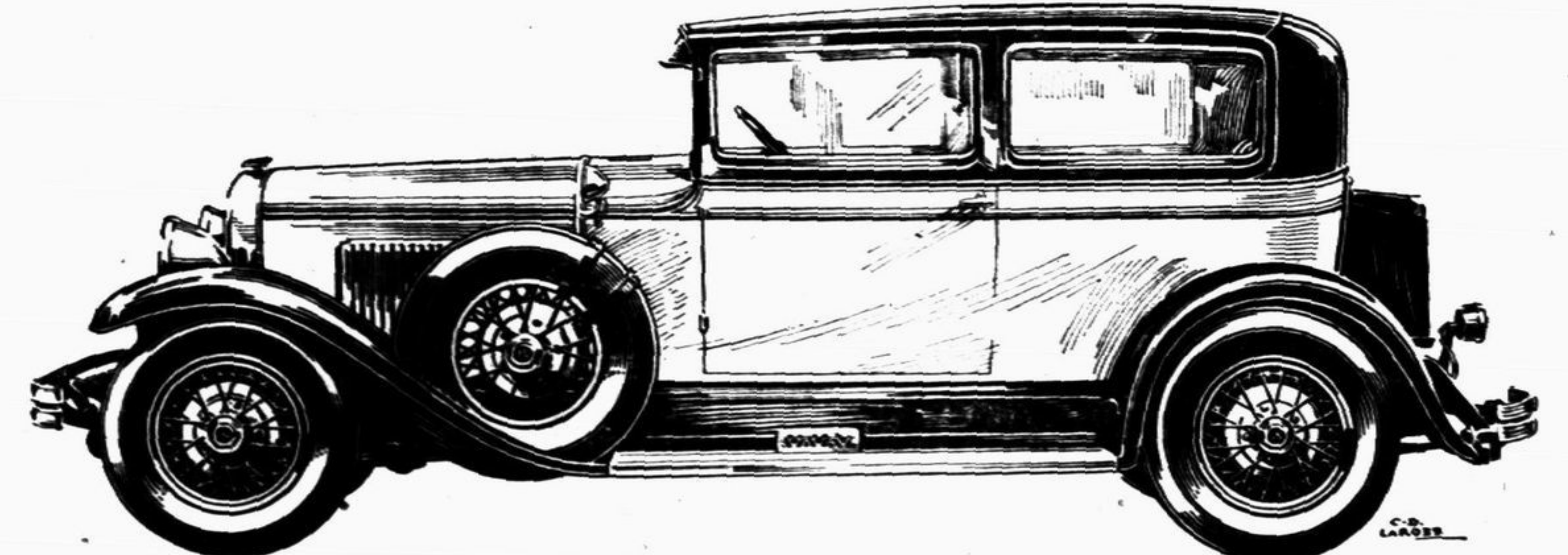
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