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It Happened in Illinois



By EDWARD EMERINE
WNU Features

IT WAS a hot day the late summer of 1673 when Father Marquette and Louis Joliet with their party, after a futile journey down the Mississippi, came back up a stream later known as the Illinois river to claim the land for the glory of France and to convert the heathen for the glory of God. That event introduced Illinois to modern history books, but long, long before that...

A great inland sea lay over all of Illinois, with huge sharks and armored fishes swimming in it. Ages later, the sea levels were lowered, and there were vast coastal marshes with forests of tall fern trees. Decaying vegetation fell into black water to be compressed and hardened and later to become coal. Eventually the sea dried up, and out of the north came the cold wind to change the tropical climate of Illinois.

Growing glaciers moved southward, crunching and grinding, until there was a sheet of ice covering all but a small tip of the state. Birds and animals retreated before it, or died.

And then came a day when Illinois lay in the sun again, wet and muddy and smooth. Plants reappeared. Grass grew luxuriantly, new kinds of trees sprang up. Lakes were changed to marshes, and marshes transformed into prairies.

By and by, men came to live along the rivers and bury their dead in mounds. Known as mound dwellers, they were followed by others whom we know as Indians. In those days, herds of bison roamed the lush prairies and drank from the mud-holes.

In 1671, La Salle crossed the portage from the Chicago to the Illinois river — probably the first white man to visit Illinois. He later fortified a camp near the present site of Peoria, which he called Fort Crevecoeur.

About 1700 two settlements were formed by Indians, wandering traders and missionaries — one at Kaskaskia, the other at Cahokia. In 1717, these settlements were annexed to the province of Louisiana,



DWIGHT H. GREEN
Governor of Illinois

as the district of Illinois. The name "Illinois" was derived from Illini, a confederation of Indian tribes. In 1720, Fort Chartres and three new villages were established by the French, and the entire district was yet under a military commandant. By the treaty of Paris in 1763, Illinois was ceded to the English, but they couldn't take possession until they made a treaty with Chief Pontiac two years later. Then Illinois became a part of Quebec province in 1774. It was not until 1783 that it was formally ceded to the United States, and then largely because an expedition of Virginians under Gen. George Rogers Clark resulted in virtual conquest of the region. Virginia, Massachusetts and Connecticut all held claims to Illinois at one time, but finally ceded their interests to the United States, and the region became a part of the Northwest Territory.



MOTTO:
National Union and
State Sovereignty

From 1800 to 1809, however, the state we know as Illinois was a part of Indiana territory! It was then organized as the territory of Illinois, the seat of government being at Kaskaskia. The first territorial legislature convened in 1812, and Illinois was admitted to the Union in 1818. Shadrach Bond was the first governor.

Serious Indian troubles beset those who ventured early into Illinois. The Sacs and Foxes were eventually moved across the Mississippi river in 1823, and Black Hawk was defeated in 1832. Settlement then proceeded rapidly.

Chicago, the state's greatest city and second in size of all American cities, was almost left out of Illinois. When Illinois became a full-fledged state, a strip of land 51 miles wide was added to the northern boundary of the original territorial limits. Today this strip of land, with its Lake Michigan shoreline, contains 55 per cent of the state's population—and Chicago!

A lot has happened in Illinois. Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon church, was killed at Nauvoo in 1844. The Illinois and Michigan canal was built in 1848, and the Illinois Central railroad was constructed from 1850 to 1856. In 1848, the state barred slavery, and there followed the historic debates of Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas. Illinois sent 214,133 soldiers into the field during the Civil war. In 1871 occurred the great Chicago fire, and the railroad and Haymarket riots took place soon after. Chicago was host to the World's Columbian exposition in 1893, and to the Century of Progress exposition in 1933-34. And there was, of course, the gang warfare of prohibition days!

In Illinois, John Deere gave to

the world the steel plow. Wild Bill Hickok, the western sheriff, was born south of Mendota. Ulysses S. Grant was an Illinois cobbler when the Civil war broke out. At Starved Rock, a band of Indians starved to death rather than surrender to their enemies. Headed by the Harpe brothers, an outlaw gang used Cave in Rock on the Ohio river as headquarters. One of the oldest settlements in the state, Shawneetown, was recently moved in its entirety to higher ground to escape flood waters. Vandalia was once the capital of the state, before Springfield was selected. Indian mounds, built basketful by basketful of earth, carried by man, may be seen at Cahokia.

The list grows long. All happened in Illinois, where Abraham Lincoln split rails, kept a store, and wooed Ann Rutledge.

With an elevation of 267 feet at Cairo and 1,241 at Charles Mound, Illinois is covered for the most part with a deep layer of glacial drift, but in the river bottoms are deposits of alluvial silt, forming a rich loam of unusual fertility. It is a land of corn and grain, fat livestock and fine homes. In the south part of the state, known as "Egypt," is an extension of the Ozarks, with fruit orchards, coal mines, scenic grandeur. There's Jo Daviess county in the northwestern part with beautiful Apple River canyon. Everywhere in Illinois are landmarks hallowed by the name of Abraham Lincoln.

A lot of things have happened in Illinois — enough, in fact, to make it one of the great livestock, dairy, farming, mining, oil-producing and industrial states of the Union, nor does it lack in the development of education, science, literature and art. It is truly a great state. Its people made it that way.



An Innocent Bystander:

The conflicting stories from Iran recall a quip that was popular with overseas newsboys during the war: It concerns the Ministry of Information carrier pigeon, leisurely flying to its destination, when it was jostled by a second pigeon that shouted: "Get a move on. I've got the denial!"

A N. Y. editorial writer stated that Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. cannot hope to be President because he was born in Canada and a Chief-Exec must be a native-born American.

Overwhelming weight of legal opinion: Anyone who is born of American parents in a foreign country and properly registered can be President. . . . Ho, hum. Any other questions?

Another reason for our tense relations with Russia is that the Americans Russia respected (and trusted most) can no longer help us Iran out differences: FDR, Harry Hopkins and Wendell Willkie.

It happened at the Brooklyn income tax bureau recently. . . . Two men named Thomas McNally and Joseph Sweeney were having their tax forms filled out by an agent when they suddenly began speaking to each other in Yiddish. . . . Questioned by the startled income tax agent—McNally and Sweeney explained they were Dublin-born Jews.

Talk about blaxing red faces: A few days after Lord Halifax publicly opined that Goering was anxious to prevent war—Goering testified (at the war crimes trial) and took every opportunity to praise Hitler—the Nazi system—and everything the Nazis did.

A quip causing tee-hees in some of the back rooms in Argentina concerns the recent incident when Mrs. Peron turned up at a social soiree. . . . During the evening one of the guests turned to his neighbor and remarked: "Well, there sits Argentina's First Lady." "That's no lady," was the retort. "That's his wife!"

The State Dept't has been shoved around like a revolving door. But now it has been complimented—the Rankin Committee plans to probe the SD. . . . Rankin's witch-hunting spree recalls the time a Dies Committee member (Cong. J. Parnell Thomas) ranted that the WPA theater was a "hot-bed of communism" and demanded the investigation of a play titled "Prologue to Glory."

The play concerned an American named Abe Lincoln.

Quotation Marksmanship: John W. Raper: 'A man picks a wife the same way an apple picks a farmer. . . . D. Yates: Bold as the bark of a puppy. . . . Voltaire: The ear is the road to the heart. . . . Muriel Gaines: His wrinkles are overlaid with decisions. . . . Singapore Sal: The only difference among women is their faces. . . . James Kelly: She walked as though she were carrying a chip on her hip. . . . Nancy Donovan: An actor, full of ambition. . . . Chinese Proverb: The broadminded see the truth in different religions; the narrowminded see only their differences. . . . Seaman Jacobs' opinion of a guy with no initiative: He's always in there catching. . . . Wm. Schiller: Our friendship with Russia seems to be strictly platonic. . . . Eileen Deneen: War do we go from here?

Sallies in Our Alley: A Broadway showman walked up to a newcomer-lovely last night and asked: "Want to work in my night club as a showgirl?" . . . To which her companion (agent Paul Small) said: "I offered her a receptionist's job only today at \$25 a week and she laughed at me." . . . The showman indignantly rejoined: "You're not offering people \$25 a week these days?" . . . "Who are you to talk?" barked the agent. "You'd offer it to a star!" . . . Ozzie Nelson says when a show's a success the producer knocks wood. When it isn't, he knocks critics.

Midtown Vignette: At the Bernard Baruch dinner for Mr. Churchill, Cardinal Spellman was also an honored guest. . . . Baruch is a tall man—Churchill is a shorty—and they were having quite a time of it with the microphone. . . . Until, that is, a volunteer got up to help. . . . The mike-adjuster (raising it high or low) was the Cardinal.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

State Department Blueprints International Atom Control; House Probes Spy Intrigue

Released by Western Newspaper Union.
(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Pictured (from bottom to top) during tense UNO talk on Iran are Andrei Gromyko, representing the Soviet; Sir Alexander Cadogan of Britain, and Edward Stettinius and James Byrnes of the U. S.

WORLD RELATIONS: Atom—Russ

Even as the United Nations Organization's security council strove to compose differences with Russia over the Iranian question, the U. S. state department issued a special report calling for the creation of an international agency to control all phases of atomic energy and avert atomic rivalry among the major powers.

Written by a distinguished board of scientists and technicians the report recommended the establishment of an atomic development authority that would own and lease property and conduct mining, manufacturing, research, licensing, inspection or other operations. While the authority would possess absolute control over the production of atomic weapons, it would permit utilization of atomic energy in such civilian fields as medicine, biology, chemistry and physics.

The U. S.'s secret processes in development of atomic energy would be gradually unfolded to the United Nations authority as plans progressed for its development. Release of preliminary information necessary to discussion of setting up the agency would be followed by revelation of industrial know-how in manufacture and finally the method of constructing the A-bomb.

In releasing the report, Secretary of State Byrnes pointed out that the recommendations did not constitute official U. S. policy but could be considered as a basis for discussion of the creation of an international atomic authority.

Meanwhile, the security council worked on means to adjust the difficult situation posed by Russia's withdrawal from the UNO's consideration of Iran's complaint against the Soviets for failure to withdraw Red troops from the country. While Russia's withdrawal from the deliberations jolted UNO, the Soviets were quick to explain that their action did not mean they were withdrawing from the United Nations, but rather objecting to security council procedure.

SPY INTRIGUE: House Acts

Hard upon the arrest of a 29-year-old Russian naval officer for espionage by the FBI in Portland, Ore., the house committee on un-American activities, headed by Representative Wood (Dem., Ga.) voted to send investigators up to Canada to probe possible connections between the Soviet spy ring uncovered in the dominion and agents in this country.

Revealing that the committee had been aware of the FBI's investigation of the Soviet naval officer, Lt. Nicolai Redin, the committee counsel said that the group soon would hold hearings on subversive activities and call on a number of witnesses, including atomic scientists and government employees.

Meanwhile, Redin, nabbed for obtaining information about the destroyer tender USS Yellowstone, charged "the whole thing is a build-up for political purposes." A member of the Soviet lend-lease purchasing staff in the U. S., Redin enjoys no diplomatic immunity and was held on \$25,000 bond.

GERMAN ASSETS: Uncovered in Spain

Enjoying the co-operation of the Franco government, the U. S. and Britain, acting for the Allied control council, have uncovered more than 100 million dollars in German assets in Spain and taken possession as the ruling force of the vanquished reich.

Included in the assets are controlling shares in extensive holding companies; 30 ships and other facilities of three shipping companies; 100 buildings; gold worth \$1,125,000; German paintings used for propaganda purposes, and a huge stock of champagne which was to be sold to obtain foreign exchange.

Discovery of stock of the Sociedad Financiera Industrial in a vault under the German embassy in Madrid gave U. S. and British officials control over a far-flung holding company comprising 17 corporations. Organized at the beginning of the Spanish civil war to supply goods and munitions to Franco, the holding company was supported by the Nazis.

Among the German businesses taken over were makers of tires and rubber, medical and electrical equipment, electrical appliances, radio sets and telephones, and light bulbs. Krupp's extensive licensing of patents and processes at a 3 per cent royalty also were subject to Allied administration.

FARM EXPERIMENT: Dropped by Ford

In line with its announced policy of abandoning activities not directly connected with the manufacture of automobiles, the Ford Motor company will dispose of 10,000 acres of farmland in Michigan originally acquired for experimenting in the adaptation of agricultural products to industrial use.

The company also decided to give up the model school project organized for the communities surrounding the huge land holdings. One-room schools were remodeled, kindergartens opened for three- and four-year-olds, and studies shaped to permit practical application of textbook teachings.

Under the new policy pushed by Henry Ford II, the company will not resume manufacture of some of its own tires and a tugboat used for Ford piers on the Detroit river has been sold. Operated by a foundation separate from the company, the Ford museum and Greenfield village will not be affected.

Found: An Honest Man!



Honesty still is the best policy to Frank Barone, 71, who has worked hard operating a shoe repair shop in Chicago, Ill., for 40 years and knows the value of money. While reeling some footwear for an unknown customer, the cobbler discovered \$1,100 in ten and twenty dollar bills stuffed deep inside the shoes. When the customer returned, Barone handed over \$1,000, insisting on withholding \$100 as a reward.

PEARL HARBOR: Reopen Hearings

Pondering lengthy testimony on the Pearl Harbor disaster of December 7, 1941, the congressional committee named to investigate the catastrophe decided to reopen public hearings to obtain more detailed information from top military and naval officers as to their whereabouts on the evening preceding the attack.

Decision to call General Marshall, Admiral Stark and Rear Admiral Beardsall back for questioning followed late testimony of Comdr. L. R. Schulz that President Roosevelt had sought to contact Stark on the night of December 6 after receipt of the first 13 parts of the Japanese message indicating a rupture in diplomatic relations.

While Marshall and Stark had told the committee they could not recall their whereabouts on the night of December 6, Schulz said that Mr. Roosevelt was informed that Stark was attending a theater. Beardsall was said to have been dining with the late Admiral Wilkinson, chief of naval intelligence. Schulz's testimony may serve to refresh their memories, Committee Chairman Barkley said.