

Slavery Abolished Just 100 Years Ago

This year, 1863 marks the 100 year that slavery was abolished.

In the year 1859 John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry roused the most bitter antagonism in the South. The Democratic Party was practically divided and two sets of candidates were nominated, one by the Northern wing and the other by the Southern wing. The former was Stephen D. Douglas, of Illinois, and Herschel V. Johnson of Georgia; the latter John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, and Joseph Lane of Oregon. The Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, and Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, while a third party, the successor of the American party, now known as the Constitutional Union party nominated John Bell of Tennessee, and Edward Everett of Massachusetts. Lincoln was elected.

The election of Lincoln was the signal for the South to take measures to overcome the overwhelming opposition to them in the United States government and it resulted in the secession of South Carolina Dec. 20, 1860. Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee followed within the next six months, and a new nation, known as the Confederate States of America, was organized at Montgomery, Ala., in February, 1861. Presi-

dent Buchanan opposed secession, but denied his right to restrain the seceding states to return to the Union, therefore, he made little effort to protect government property in the South, which was being taken over as rapidly as possible by the seceding states. Efforts at compromise were made during Buchanan's administration, but without effect. A resolution introduced into the Senate by Senator Crittenden proposed to divide the Union into a slave country and a free country.

Civil War

In his inaugural address President Lincoln urged all sections and classes to come to the support of the government, but expressed his determination to prevent secession. Accordingly, he soon called for volunteers. The Confederate government also called for volunteers and retaliated for Lincoln's proclamation of a blockade by licensing privateers to prey upon North Commerce. The war began with the bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 14 and its surrender.

In April 1862 Congress purchased and emancipated all slaves in the District of Columbia; two months later it abolished slavery, throughout the territories and the domain, and on January 1, 1863 100 years ago, President Lincoln issued his famous Emancipation Proclamation, which he had announced the previous September, after the battle of Antietam.

This proclamation set free all the slaves in states then in rebellion against the United States.

During the war President Lincoln did not have the undivided support of the North. His suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, the suppression of newspapers and of public gatherings, the Conscription Act of 1863 and the apparent failure of the Union

Armies in the field during the early years of war, led to a serious opposition and criticism. The financial problems of the war also necessitated taxes and other extraordinary measures, which became exceedingly unpopular. However in the election of 1864 the Democratic party, in spite of the nomination of a popular general, George B. McClellan, was defeated, and Lincoln was triumphantly reelected.

West Virginia which had been separated from the old State of Virginia was admitted to the Union in December 1862. The war, practically came to a close, on the surrender of General Lee in April 1865, but the rejoicing was soon overshadowed by universal sorrow at the assassination of President Lincoln April 14.

The Emancipation Proclamation, a state paper issued by President Lincoln Jan. 1, 1863, by which all slaves in the states or parts of states actually engaged in warfare and unrepresented in Congress or not in possession of the Union armies, were declared free, according to the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution. Very little has been accomplished in these past 100 years, equality and rights, such as jobs, better living conditions. In some parts of the states the Negro has not been able to vote or enjoy the little things as using parks, buses, trains except in segregated parts, or school, lunch counters, theatres, places of amusement and many, many more unprivileged places and activities, that would make for a happy, peaceful, loving people. Accepting this great freedom from slavery, humbly, they have gone along trying to inspire and educate their children even if it meant sending them elsewhere if need be, to learn what Freedom and Liberty stood for, and this they did having had to struggle and undergo many knocks, hardships and abuses. What more can be asked of human beings?

When asked to defend their

homeland they have always been fighting a just cause, hoping on returning home a better reception would await them not a return to the old routine of segregation. In many of their hearts the question why are we fighting and for what reason are our children being killed? But the older parents console them by telling them of their forefathers and how they endured and of Lincoln's Proclamation and if they will be a little more patient true recognition will eventually come. Thus, for 100 years they have waited and suffered, made to the numerous past presidents each doing very little, until President H. J. Kennedy was elected in the fall of 1960. To him they took their problems and in him after one hundred years of suf-

fering being deprived of true Freedom, a very disturbed and depressed people found a second Abraham Lincoln.

President Kennedy ended his period of watchful waiting and called for the American Congress to take action to make civil rights commitment, which has been shyed away from for a century. He pointed out that a change is coming and that "our task" our obligation is to make that revolution, that change peaceful and constructive for all.

The Negro people the world over, also many minority groups along with a goodly number of loving peaceful people, are praying for this act to come into true existence. Their hearts and prayers go with him, God Bless President Kennedy on what he and his executive stand for.

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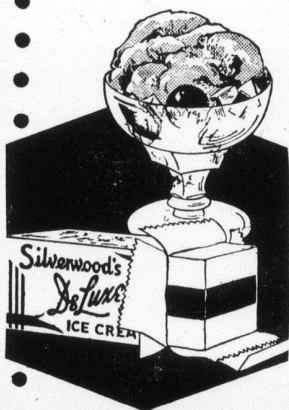
LONDON — ONTARIO

THE CITY OF LONDON EXTENDS A CORDIAL WELCOME

To the visitors from various parts of Canada and the United States on your ANNUAL CELEBRATION to be held at Springbank Park, Civic Holiday, Monday, August 5, 1963.

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Within two years the Italian Swiss Colony wineries in several states, including California, including the Valley of the Great Lakes, in dessert wine.

Congratulations To The

It is not of the newspaper has lauded the efforts of the same city. It is a rare occasion for the Negro newspaper to have the editor of the downtown Press.

But not so happy as nothing but the excellent series of the racial problem. Not that the Negro have racial problems and we know one city are the greatest in number. It isn't an accident of federalism are reminded of the Minister of the Jamaica. Ottawa permitting a little hundred Jamaicans to enter this country a few years and a few cents, and skills. Which we know just since Jamaica and automatically should be allowed and go freely to the Commonwealth Nations.

It would be an achievement for a representative of this before it smouldering flames.