

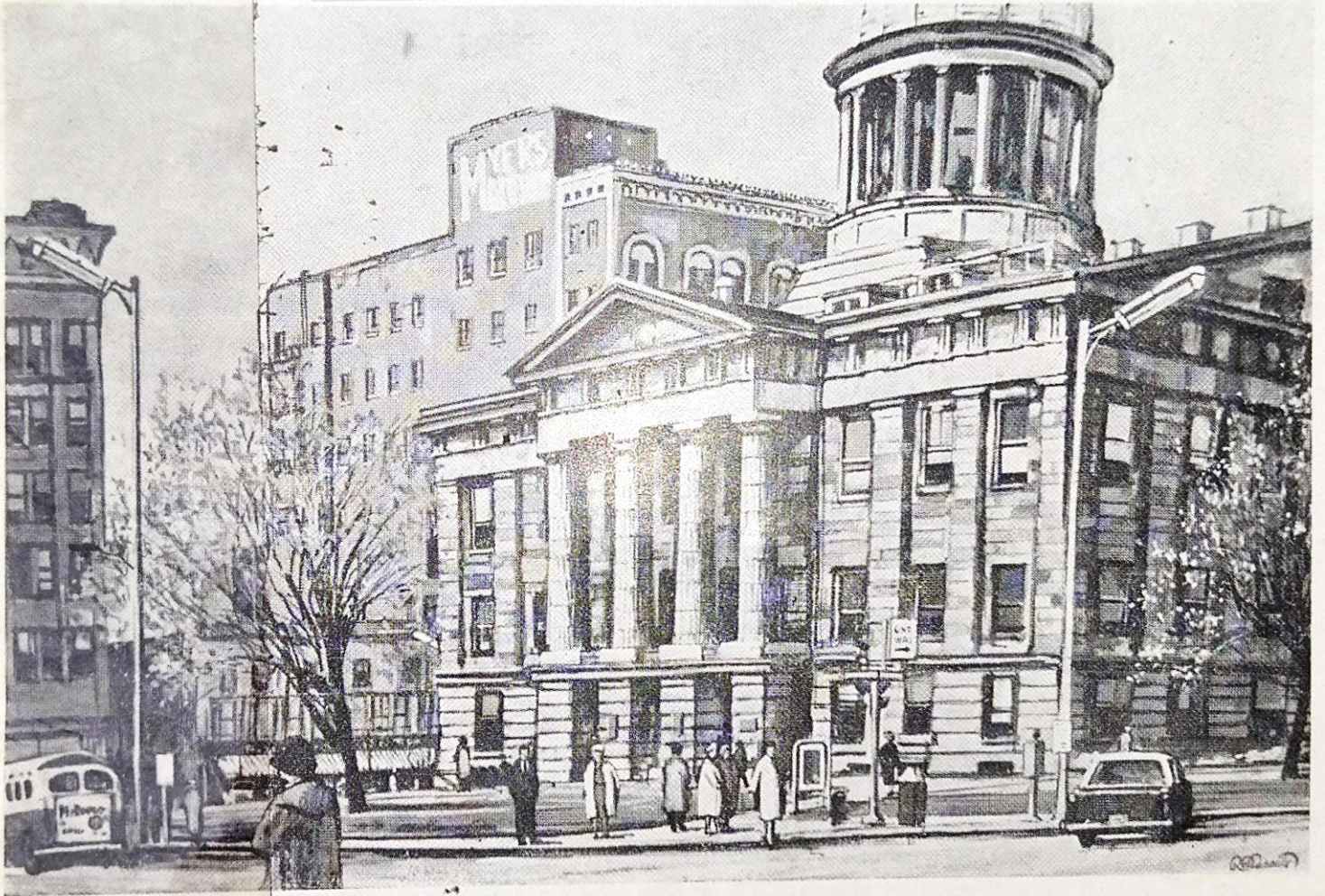
# A Chronology of Illinois History

## 1673-1962

Compiled by



Assistant Illinois State Historian



The Old Illinois State Capitol, Springfield. From a painting by Robert W. Cassidy

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**REFERENCE**

**ILLINOIS  
HISTORY  
977.3  
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Printed by authority of the State of Illinois

OTTO KERNER, *Governor*

Published by the Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, 1967, from *Illinois History Book*, 1961-1962, edited by Charles F. Carpentier, Secretary of State.

# Illinois Highlights

Admitted to Union in 1818 as 21st State . . . ranks 24th in area with 56,400 square miles (not including 1,526 square miles of Lake Michigan) . . . total land 55,930 square miles . . . highest point is Charles Mound in Jo Daviess County, 1,241 feet . . . lowest point near Cairo on Mississippi River, 269 feet above sea level . . . approximate mean altitude, 600 feet . . . ranks 4th in population (1960 census 10,081,000) . . . density, 180.3 persons per square mile . . . 8,140,000 classified as urban, 1,941,000 rural . . . ranks 3rd in total personal income (more than \$27 billion) . . . ranks 3rd in value added by manufacturing (nearly \$12 billion) . . . boasts of more than 18,000 manufacturing establishments, including more than 6,500 with more than 20 employees . . . leading manufacturer of farm equipment and machinery, household furniture, electrical machinery, household appliances, steel and fabricated steel goods, earth-moving equipment, pharmaceuticals, electronics, meat packing, tools . . . civilian labor force exceeds 4.3 million, including about 3.9 million non-agricultural employees . . . ranks 2nd in gross postal receipts . . . 3rd in coal production . . . 1st in fluorspar . . . 7th in oil production . . . 8th in value of all mineral products . . . other minerals produced include stone, sand and gravel, zinc, silver . . . ranks 3rd in farm income . . . 2nd in value of field crops . . . 2nd in value of livestock and livestock products . . . 3rd in harvested crops, land acreage (20,968,000) . . . 4th in vegetable production value . . . principal crops: corn, soybeans, hay, wheat, oats . . . principal fruit crops: apples, peaches, pears, grapes . . . has about 100,000 retail trade establishments with sales totaling about \$13 billion . . . Illinois' 18,000 wholesale establishments have annual sales of about \$23.5 billion . . . home of two largest mail-order houses in world . . . has 100 institutions of higher learning, including 18 public colleges and universities . . . ranks 2nd in railroad mileage (over 11,000 miles) . . . length, 385 miles; width (east-west), 218 miles . . . annual mean temperature 48° F. in northern Illinois, 60° F. in south . . . precipitation averages 32" a year near Lake Michigan, 46" a year along the Ohio River in southeastern Illinois . . . in Chicago and Lincoln-lore area of Central Illinois, has 2 of the top 10 tourist attractions in the United States . . . United States center of population located near Centralia . . . State parks attract 12 million visitors a year . . . leader in total value of products exported.

The Illinois State Historical Library

TRUSTEES

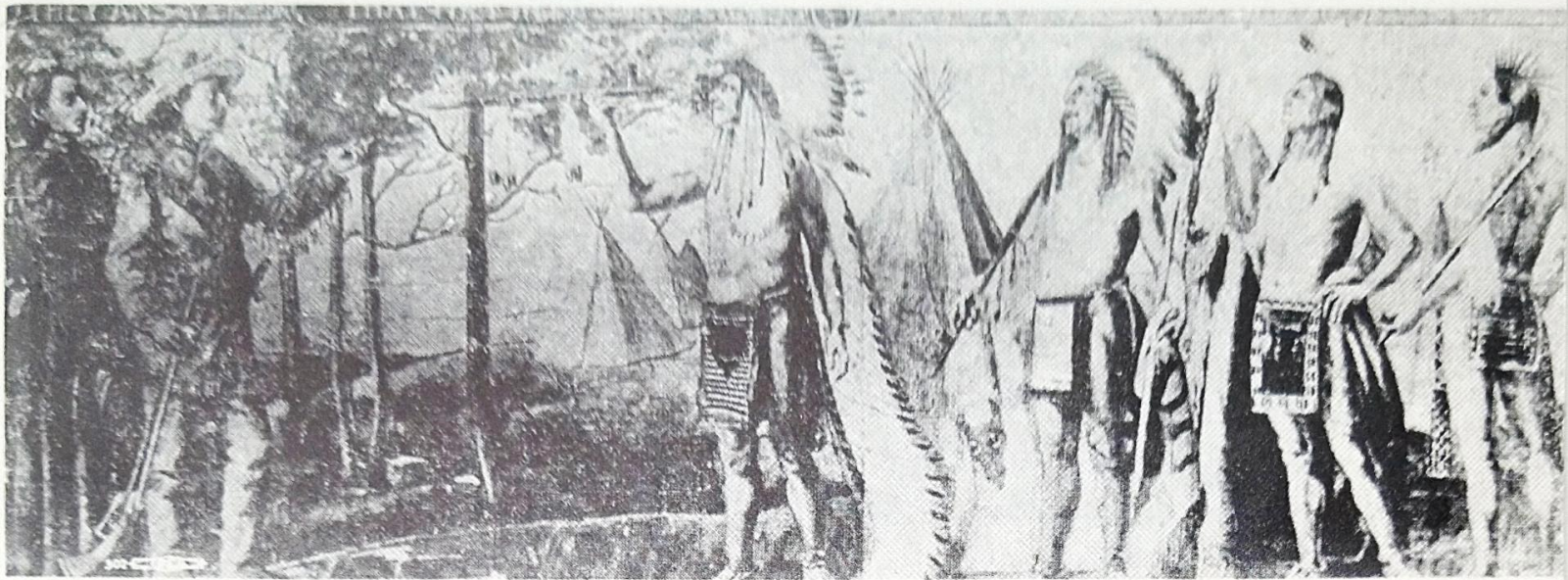
Raymond N. Dooley, *Lincoln*

Abraham Lincoln Marovitz, *Chicago*

Harry J. Sonneborn, *Chicago*

Clyde C. Walton, *State Historian*

*They answered that they were Illinois and in token of peace presented the pipe to smoke.*



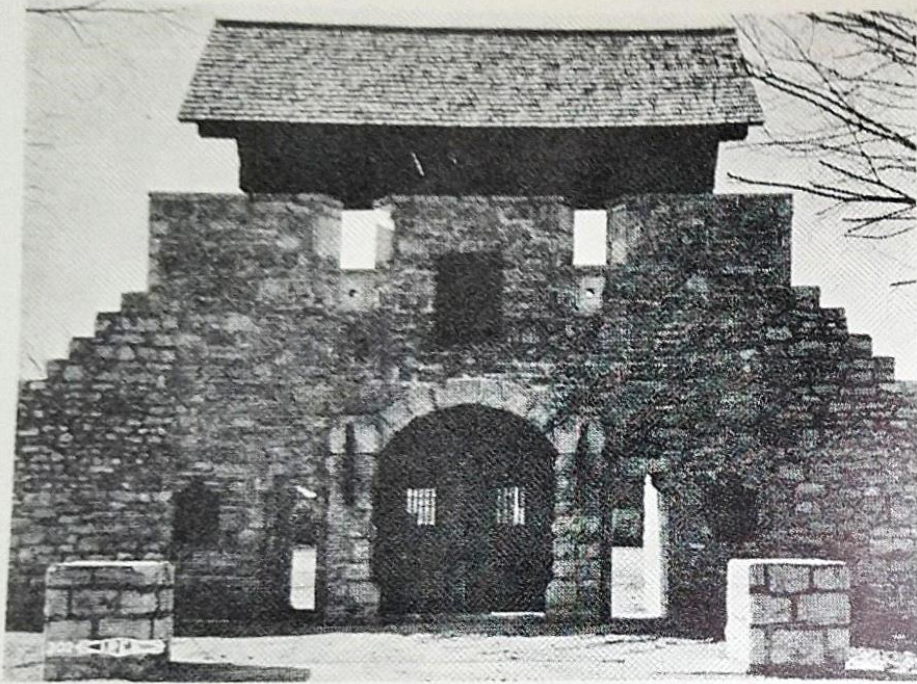
Marquette and Jolliet meeting the Illinois Indians; from bronze relief in Marquette Building, Chicago.

## **A Chronology of Illinois History 1673-1962**

Compiled by **MARGARET A. FLINT**  
Assistant State Historian

Illinois State Historical Library

- 1673 Marquette and Jolliet descend the Mississippi to the Arkansas and return by way of the Illinois River.
- 1674-75 Marquette and two companions spend the winter in a shelter at the mouth of the Chicago River.
- 1675 Marquette founds the mission of the Immaculate Conception at the Great Village of the Illinois, near present Utica.
- 1680 La Salle builds Fort Crevecoeur on the Illinois River, near present Peoria.
- 1682 LaSalle builds Fort St. Louis on Starved Rock.
- 1691-92 Tonti and LaForest build the second Fort St. Louis, better known as Fort Pimitoui, on Lake Peoria.
- 1696 Father Pinet establishes the mission of the Guardian Angel at Chicago. After a troubled existence of about four years this Jesuit venture among the Miami is abandoned, and Father Pinet leaves Chicago to labor among the Illinois Indians in the Cahokia region.
- 1699 Montigny and St. Cosme, priests of the Seminary of Foreign Missions, establish the Holy Family mission at Cahokia.
- 1703 In APRIL, the Jesuits transfer their Illinois Indian mission from Des Peres (present St. Louis) to the Kaskaskia River, thus founding the town of Kaskaskia.
- 1717 By decree of the French Royal Council, Illinois is to be governed from Louisiana.
- 1718 Boisbriant, first commandant of Illinois, arrives at Kaskaskia.
- 1718-30 Fox War. Hostile tribes, under the leadership of the Fox Indians, form a confederacy that menaces the Illinois Country. Their depredations continue until the Fox are defeated and practically annihilated by a combination of French and friendly Indians.
- 1719 Fort de Chartres, near present Prairie du Rocher, is begun. It is completed the following year, and becomes the seat of military and civil government in Illinois.



Restored Gateway to French Fort de Chartres, four miles west of Prairie du Rocher.

- 1725 Dutisne becomes commandant, succeeding Boisbriant.
- 1726 De Liette succeeds Dutisne as commandant.
- 1727 Fort de Chartres, fallen into disrepair and recently inundated by Mississippi floods, is rebuilt.
- 1730 St. Ange succeeds De Liette as commandant of the Illinois.
- 1732 St. Ange builds a new Fort de Chartres half a mile farther back from the river.
- 1733 Dartaguiette replaces St. Ange as commandant.
- 1736 La Buissoniere succeeds Dartaguiette as commandant.
- 1740 On the death of LaBuissoniere, the Sieur de Ste. Clair becomes acting commandant.
- 1742 Bertet, the new commandant, arrives at Fort de Chartres.
- 1744-48 King George's War (War of the Austrian Succession). Territorially, the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle maintains the status quo in the Illinois Country, but the British are beginning to make serious inroads on the French control of the Indians.
- 1749 The Sieur de Ste. Clair serves as acting commandant on the death of Bertet.
- 1751 Makarty, the new commandant, reaches Illinois.
- 1753 The construction of a new Fort de Chartres, this time to be built of stone, is begun.
- 1755-63 French and Indian War (Seven Years' War). The conclusion of this, the final struggle between France and Great Britain for colonial supremacy in North America, marks the end of French rule in America.
- 1757 The French build Fort Ascension, later known as Fort Massac, on the Ohio River, near present Metropolis.
- 1760 Neyon de Villiers succeeds Makarty as commandant.
- 1763 By the Treaty of Paris, France cedes her North American possessions east of the Mississippi to Great Britain.
- 1764 St. Ange de Bellerive becomes commandant of the Illinois Country.
- 1765 Capt. Thomas Stirling occupies Fort de Chartres for the British. Maj. Robert Farmar replaces Stirling as commandant.
- 1766 Lt. Col. John Reed becomes the commandant, and is succeeded by Capt. Hugh Forbes.
- 1768 Lt. Col. John Wilkins becomes the commandant, and establishes a civil court at Fort de Chartres.

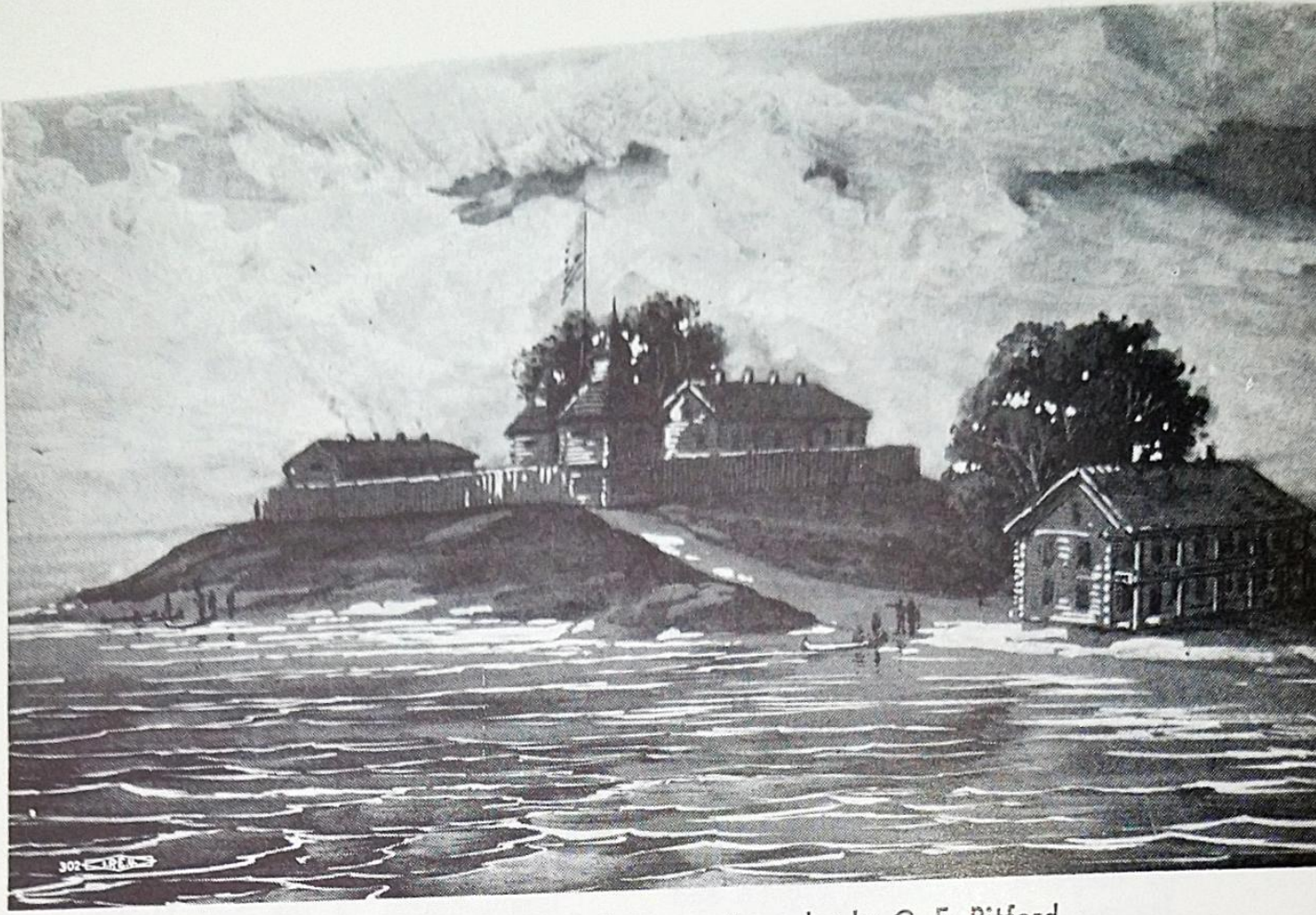
- 1771 Maj Isaac Hamilton succeeds Wilkins as commandant.
- 1772 The British destroy Fort de Chartres, already damaged by floods. Capt. Hugh Lord, commandant, and a small garrison remain at Kaskaskia.
- 1774 In JUNE, by the Quebec Act, which extends the boundaries of Quebec to the Ohio on the south and to the Mississippi on the west, the Illinois Country is brought under the control of an appointive governor and council.
- 1776 Capt. Hugh Lord, recalled by the British, appoints de Rocheblave as his successor at Kaskaskia.
- 1777 Matthew Johnson is officially appointed to succeed Captain Lord, but he never comes to the Illinois Country. De Rocheblave continues in actual command at Kaskaskia.
- 1778 JULY 4—George Rogers Clark and his small army take Kaskaskia by surprise. The other French and Indian villages accept the new order, and Illinois is organized as a county of Virginia.
- 1779 FEBRUARY 24—Marching overland from Kaskaskia, George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes, which had been retaken by the British after it declared its allegiance to Virginia. In MAY, John Todd, first county lieutenant, reaches Illinois and organizes the civil government.
- 1783 The Treaty of Paris, ending the War of Independence, extends the United States boundary to the Mississippi, with the exception of East and West Florida.
- 1784 MARCH 1—Virginia relinquishes her claim on Illinois to the United States, thus paving the way for the organization of this territory.
- 1787 JULY 13—Congress passes the Ordinance of 1787, providing for the organization of the Northwest Territory, of which Illinois becomes a part.
- 1788 Arthur St. Clair is appointed governor of the Northwest Territory.
- 1790 St. Clair and Knox counties are organized.
- 1795 Randolph County is organized.
- \* AUGUST 3—By the Treaty of

Greenville, a new boundary line between Indian land and land open for settlement is established. Certain areas are reserved by U. S. for forts. Three of these are located in Illinois: at Chicago, Peoria, and at the mouth of the Illinois River.

- 1800 MAY 7—Congressional legislation creating the Indiana Territory, including Illinois, is approved.
- 1801 JANUARY 10—William Henry Harrison, Governor of the Indiana Territory, arrives at Vincennes, the territorial capital.
- 1803 United States troops build and occupy Fort Dearborn, on the site of Chicago. Governor Harrison concludes a treaty with the Kaskaskia Indians at Vincennes, by which their claim to all land in the Illinois Country, excepting a small area around Kaskaskia, is relinquished.
- 1804 MARCH 26—Congress directs the establishment of the first United States land office at Kaskaskia, al-

Statue of George Rogers Clark at Quincy, Charles Mulligan, sculptor.





Fort Dearborn about 1803, from a water color by C. E. Pitford.

though land is not yet subject to entry. \* NOVEMBER 3—By the Treaty of St. Louis, the Missouri River Sauks relinquish all Sauk and Fox claims to the area bounded by the Mississippi, Illinois, Fox and Wisconsin rivers.

1805 DECEMBER 30—Piankashaw Indians cede a large tract of land in southeastern Illinois.

1809 FEBRUARY 3—Illinois Territory, including the present state of Wisconsin, is created by Act of Congress. Kaskaskia becomes the first territorial capital. \* APRIL 24—Ninian Edwards of Kentucky is appointed the first territorial governor.

1810 Population: 12,262. \* Coal is shipped from southern Illinois to New Orleans for the first time.

1812-14 The War of 1812 marks the last combined British and Indian attempt to stem the tide of American westward expansion.

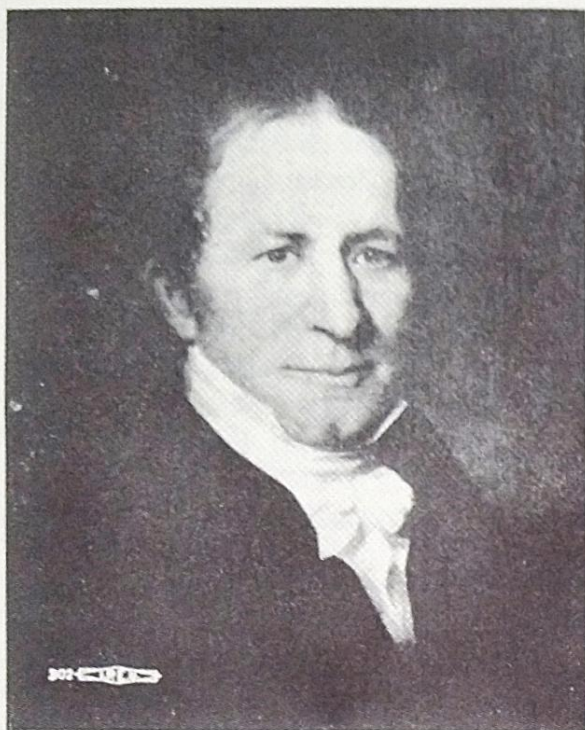
1812 MAY 20—Illinois becomes a territory of the second grade, with suffrage for all white males over 21 who pay taxes and have lived in

the territory over a year. \* AUGUST 15—Indians massacre United States troops and civilians, who were evacuating Fort Dearborn, under orders. \* A land office is established at Shawneetown, although land is not yet on sale.

1813 Fort Clark is constructed on Peoria Lake. It is garrisoned by United States troops and state militia during the War of 1812, and at intervals until 1815. In 1819 the fort is destroyed by Indians.

1814 Matthew Duncan establishes the first printing press in Illinois at Kaskaskia, and publishes the first newspaper, the "Illinois Herald."

1816 The United States builds and garrisons Fort Armstrong (Rock Island), Fort Edwards (Warsaw), and rebuilds Fort Dearborn (Chicago). \* A land office is opened at Edwardsville. \* The Wea and Kickapoo Indians cede a small strip of land west of the Wabash in Vermilion County, and the Potawatomi, Ottawa and Chippewa relinquish their claim to territory in Cook and Will counties.



Shadrach Bond, first governor of Illinois, 1818-1822.

**1818** APRIL 18—The Illinois Enabling Act, sponsored by Nathaniel Pope territorial delegate, becomes a law. It provides for the organization of a State government, fixes the northern boundary of Illinois, and estab-

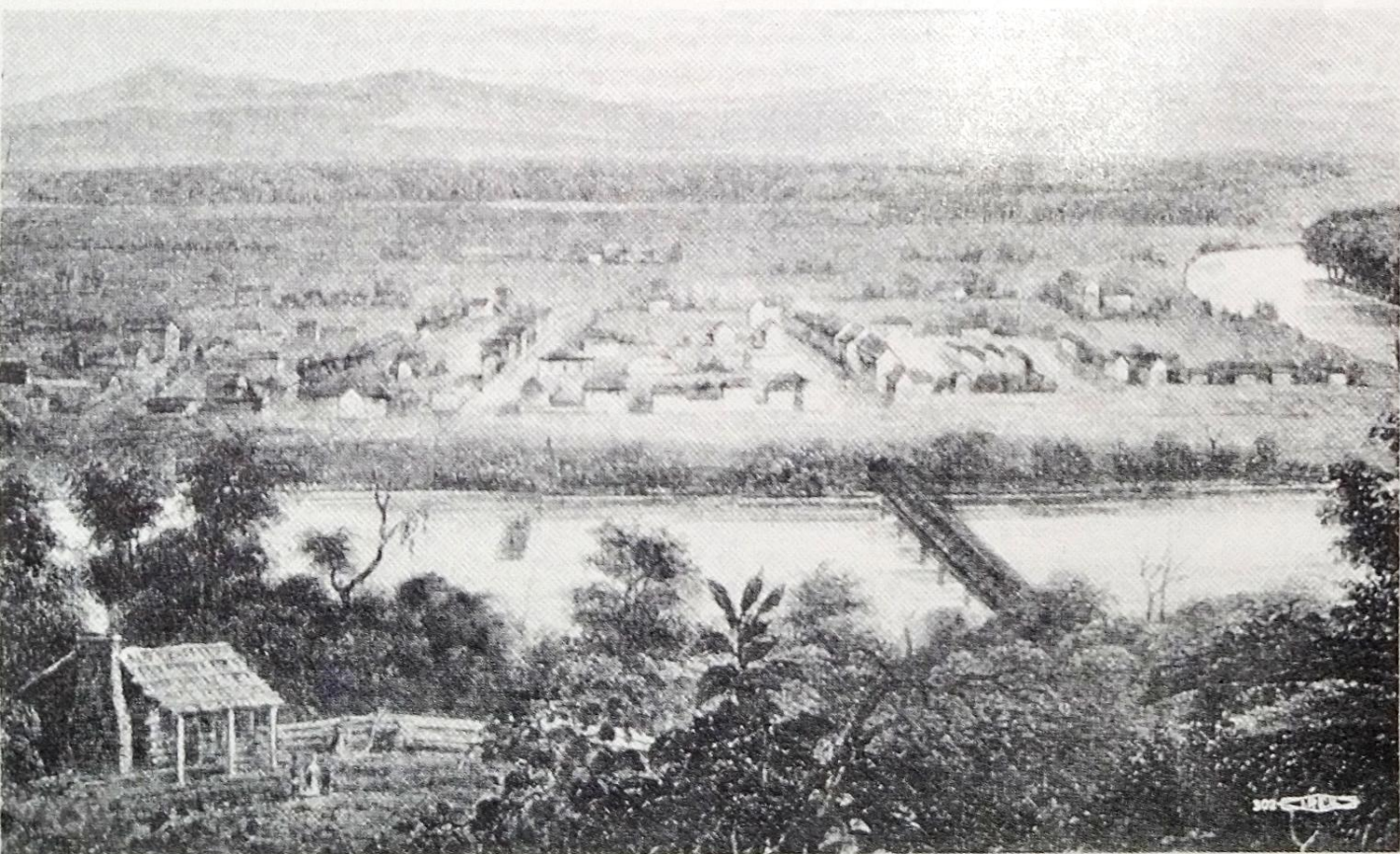
lishes a permanent school fund from a portion of the proceeds from the sale of public lands. \* AUGUST 28—the Illinois Constitutional Convention, meeting at Kaskaskia, adopts a state constitution and selects Kaskaskia as the first state capital. \* OCTOBER 6—Shadrach Bond, first Governor of the State of Illinois is inaugurated. Pierre Menard is the first Lieutenant Governor. \* DECEMBER 3—The President signs the act of admission, by which Illinois becomes the twenty-first state to enter the Union.

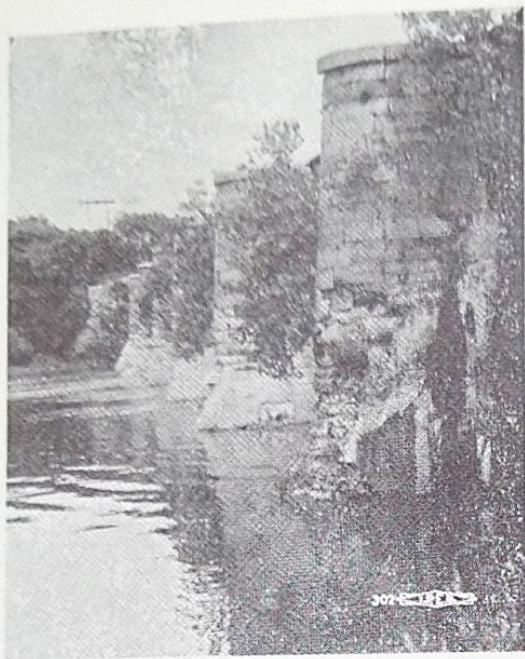
**1820** Population: 55,211. \* DECEMBER 1—By act of the General Assembly, Vandalia is declared to be the seat of government for Illinois for 20 years. Land offices are established at Palestine and Vandalia.

**1821** In FEBRUARY, the General Assembly charters a State bank at Vandalia, with branches at Shawneetown, Edwardsville, and Brownsville.

**1822** DECEMBER 5—Edward Coles is inaugurated Governor.

Kaskaskia, an early engraving of the first state capital of Illinois.





Aqueduct on Illinois and Michigan canal at Ottawa, Illinois.

- 1823 A land office is opened at Springfield. The rush to the Galena lead mines begins.
- 1824 AUGUST 6—Illinois voters refuse to call a convention to amend the constitution in order to legalize slavery in Illinois. After a long and bitter campaign, the anti-slavery forces, under the leadership of Edward Coles, Morris Birkbeck, and Daniel P. Cook, decisively defeat the pro-slavery element.
- 1825 The General Assembly grants a charter to the Illinois and Michigan canal company, and levies the first tax for public schools. \* Lafayette visits Illinois, stopping at Kaskaskia and Shawneetown.
- 1826 DECEMBER 6—Ninian Edwards is inaugurated Governor.
- 1827 Congress grants land to Illinois to aid in the construction of the Illinois and Michigan canal. \* The General Assembly establishes a state penitentiary at Alton \* A threatened Indian uprising in northern Illinois is forestalled by General Henry Atkinson and United States troops. This disturbance comes to be known as the "Winnebago War."
- 1829 JULY 29—The Potawatomi, Ottawa and Chippewa Indians cede

more than 3,000 square miles in northern Illinois.

- 1830 Population: 157,445. \* Thomas Lincoln and family move from Indiana to Macon County, Illinois. \* DECEMBER 6—John Reynolds takes office as Governor.
- 1831 Land offices are opened at Quincy and Danville. \* The Sauk and Fox Indians, under Black Hawk, threaten resistance to white squatters on the Rock River, but retire to Iowa before a force of United States regulars and Illinois militia. \* Abraham Lincoln, now 22, breaks away from his family. He is hired to take a flatboat of produce to New Orleans and on his return to tend store at New Salem. \* The Lincoln family removes from Macon to Coles County.
- 1832 The Black Hawk War. In APRIL, Black Hawk and his band make a final attempt to return to their homes on the Rock River. They are opposed by a vastly superior force of United States troops and Illinois militia, and decisively defeated in the Battle of Bad Axe River, on AUGUST 3. Black Hawk is captured; the Potawatomi and Winnebago are compelled to cede land in northern and eastern Illinois.
- 1833 AUGUST 12—The newly elected Board of Trustees of the town of Chicago meets for the first time, marking the beginning of the legal existence of the town of Chicago. SEPTEMBER 26—By the Treaty of Chicago, the Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa Indians relinquish all claim to their lands in northeastern Illinois. This is the last of the Indian treaties pertaining to land in Illinois. \* Jacksonville Female Seminary, first institution for the higher education of women in the state, is opened.
- 1834 NOVEMBER 17—William L. D. Ewing is inaugurated Governor to fill out the unexpired term of Governor Reynolds, who had resigned to become congressman from Illinois. \* DECEMBER 1—Abraham



Lincoln takes his seat, for the first time, as a member of the Illinois General Assembly. \* DECEMBER 3—Joseph Duncan is inaugurated Governor.

1835 Land offices are opened at Galena and Chicago. \* The General Assembly grants charters to McKendree, Alton (Shurtleff) and Illinois Colleges, all of which have been in operation for several years.

1836 JANUARY 16—The Galena and Chicago Union Railroad, now a part of the Chicago and Northwestern, is chartered. \* JULY 4—Actual construction on the Illinois and Michigan canal is begun at Canalport on the Chicago River.

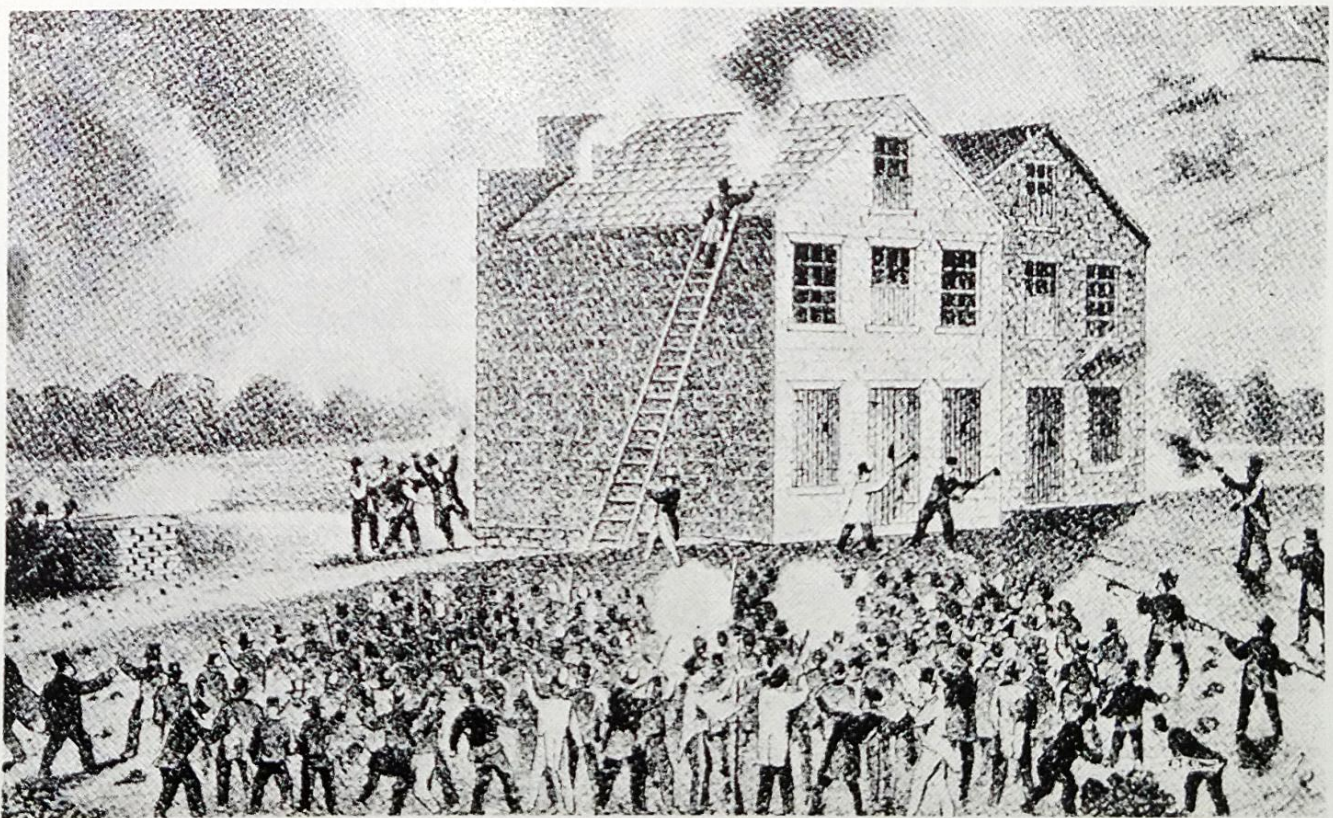
1837 FEBRUARY 15—Knox Manual Labor College at Galesburg is incorporated. Twenty years later the name is changed to Knox College. \* FEBRUARY 27—The General Assembly passes the Internal Improvement Act, calling for a statewide program of public works. Roads and railroads are to be built,

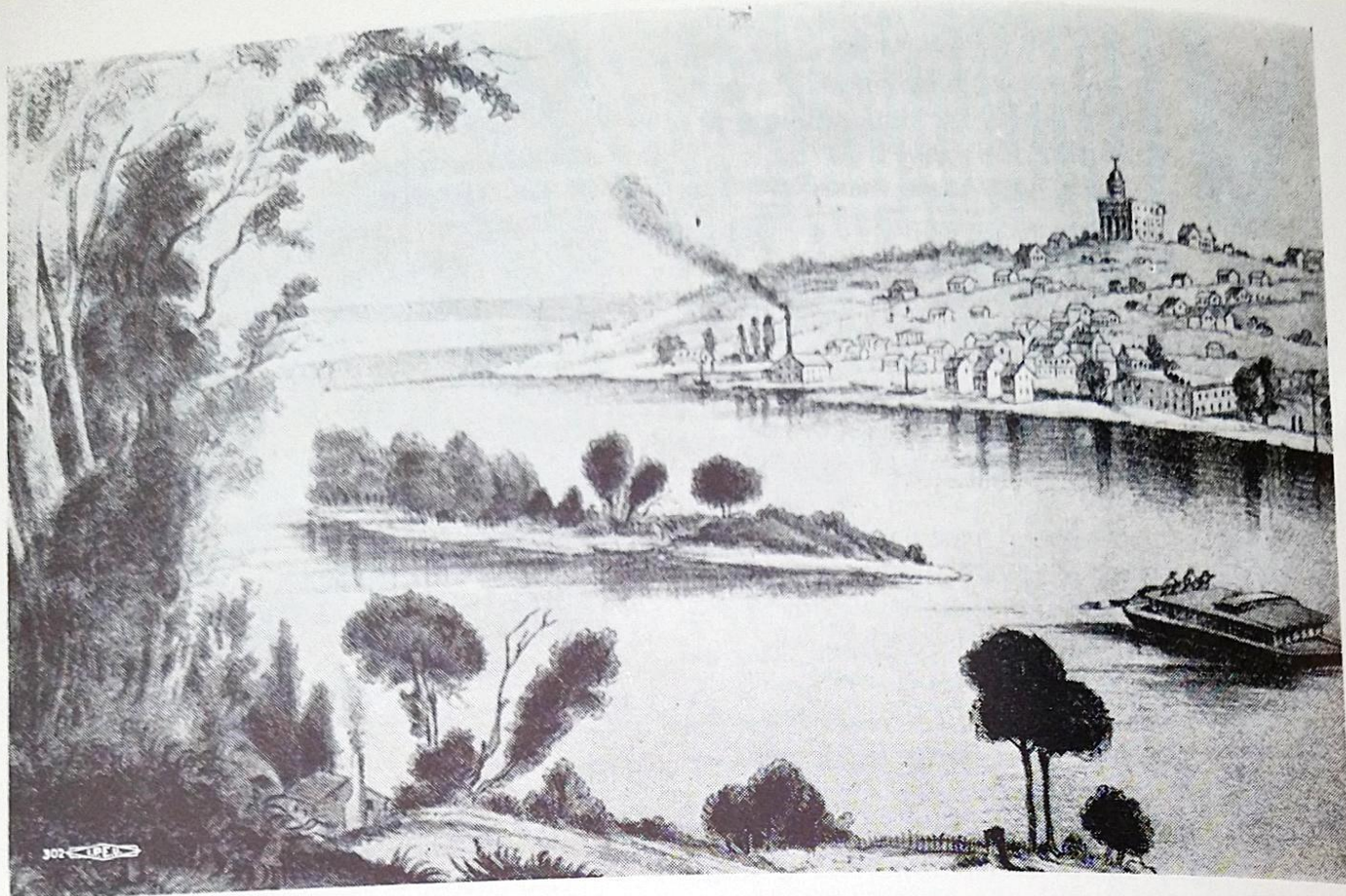
and rivers and streams made navigable, all at state expense. This grandiose scheme was to collapse under its own weight by 1841, leaving the state burdened with a huge debt. \* MARCH 3—The General Assembly passes an act providing for the removal of the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield in 1839. \* MARCH 4—The General Assembly approves a city charter for Chicago. \* JULY 4—The corner stone of the first state house at Springfield is laid. This building, is not completed until 1853. \* NOVEMBER 7—Elijah P. Lovejoy, editor of the abolitionist newspaper, "The Alton Observer," is slain by an anti-abolitionist mob at Alton. \* A land office is opened at Dixon.

1838 DECEMBER 7—Thomas Carlin is inaugurated Governor.

1839 FEBRUARY 22—A State Library is created by the General Assembly. \* FEBRUARY 23—The General Assembly establishes the Illinois Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb at Jacksonville. \* JUNE 20—Govern-

Artist's conception of an anti-abolitionist mob destroying the warehouse at Alton (1837) which housed the printing press of Elijah P. Lovejoy. Lovejoy was killed by the mob.





Nauvoo, the city of the Mormons, as seen by the artist Henry Lewis in 1846.

nor Carlin issues a proclamation ordering the removal of all state offices from Vandalia to Springfield by JULY 4. \* Mormons, driven from Missouri, found the town of Nauvoo on the Mississippi River.

1840 Population: 476,183.

1842 FEBRUARY 15—The first train reaches Springfield over the tracks of the Northern Cross railroad (Meredosia to Springfield). This road is now a part of the Wabash system. \* DECEMBER 8—Thomas Ford takes office as Governor. \* DECEMBER 15—By an act of the General Assembly, the State Library is divided into two libraries: the Supreme Court Library under the control of the Supreme Court, and the State Library under the control of the Secretary of State.

1844 JUNE 27—Climaxing a growing dissension between the Mormons and their neighbors, Joseph Smith, the Prophet, and his brother Hyrum are slain by an anti-Mormon mob at Carthage jail.

1845 JANUARY 28—Jubilee College, in Peoria County, is incorporated.

1846-48 Illinois furnishes six regiments and several independent companies in the Mexican War.

1846 AUGUST 3—Abraham Lincoln is elected to the United States House of Representatives. \* DECEMBER 9—Augustus C. French is inaugurated Governor. \* In the early spring the Mormons leave Nauvoo on their long journey to Utah. This forced exodus ends a two-year period marked by frequent clashes between the Mormons, the anti-Mormons and the state militia in Hancock County.

1847 FEBRUARY 25—Rockford Female Seminary at Rockford is chartered. \* FEBRUARY 29—The Alton & Sangamon Railroad Company (now the G.M.O. Railroad) is incorporated to construct a railroad from Alton to Springfield. \* MARCH 1—The Illinois State Hospital for the Insane is established at Jacksonville.

1848 MARCH 5—Illinois voters ratify the new State constitution, submitted by the constitutional convention of 1847. \* APRIL 23—The first boat passes through the Illinois and Michigan canal. This waterway connects Chicago on Lake Michigan and La Salle on the Illinois River.

1849 JANUARY 8—Augustus C. French is inaugurated for the second term. He is the first Illinois Governor to succeed himself. \* NOVEMBER 5—The General Assembly enacts legislation providing for a general system of incorporating railroads.

1850 Population: 851,470. \* In FEBRUARY, the Galena and Chicago Union railroad (now a part of the Chicago and North Western) is completed from Chicago to Elgin.

1851 JANUARY 28—Northwestern University is chartered by the General Assembly. \* FEBRUARY 10—The Illinois Central Railroad Company is incorporated. \* In SEPTEMBER, Newton Bateman organizes the first free public high school in Illinois, the West Jacksonville District school.

1852 SEPTEMBER 9—The first train enters Springfield over the Springfield and Alton tracks. This marks the completion of the road from Alton to Springfield.

1853 JANUARY 10—Joel A. Matteson takes office as Governor. \* FEBRUARY 12—Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington is chartered. The General Assembly passes the first law for wild life conservation in Illinois. \* OCTOBER 11-13—The first Illinois State Fair is held at Springfield.

1854 FEBRUARY 22—The Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Railroad chartered as the Rock Island & La Salle, is completed from Chicago to Rock Island. \* MARCH 15—Ninian W. Edwards is appointed first superintendent of the newly created Office of Public Instruction. \* OCTOBER 11-14—The second Illinois State Fair is held at Springfield. Hereafter the State Fairs are held annually at different towns over Illinois until 1893, when the Fair is permanently located at Springfield.

A typical scene of early railroad construction across the prairies.



1855 FEBRUARY 14—The General Assembly appropriates money for the first Illinois State Arsenal, to be located on North Fifth Street in Springfield. \* FEBRUARY 15—Legislation enacted by the General Assembly, to provide a free public school system, is approved.

1856 MAY 29—The first Republican state convention of Illinois is held at Bloomington. \* SEPTEMBER 27—The Illinois Central Railroad is completed between Chicago, Cairo and Dunleith (East Dubuque).

1857 JANUARY 12—William H. Bissell is inaugurated Governor. \* FEBRUARY 13—Blackburn Theological Seminary, at Carlinville, Later Blackburn College, is incorporated. \* FEBRUARY 16—Monmouth College at Monmouth is incorporated. \* FEBRUARY 18—The first State Normal University is established at Normal.

1858 From AUGUST to OCTOBER, Lincoln and Douglas hold one debate in each of the seven congressional districts of Illinois as a part of their senatorial campaign. Douglas is the successful candidate, but the campaign does much to make Lincoln a national figure.

1860 Population: 1,711,951. \* MARCH 21—Lieutenant Governor John Wood becomes Governor, succeeding William H. Bissell, the first Illinois Governor to die in office. \* MAY 16-18—The Republican National Convention meets at Chicago and nominates Abraham Lincoln for President.

1861 JANUARY 14—Richard Yates is inaugurated Governor. \* FEBRUARY 22—Wheaton College at Wheaton is chartered.

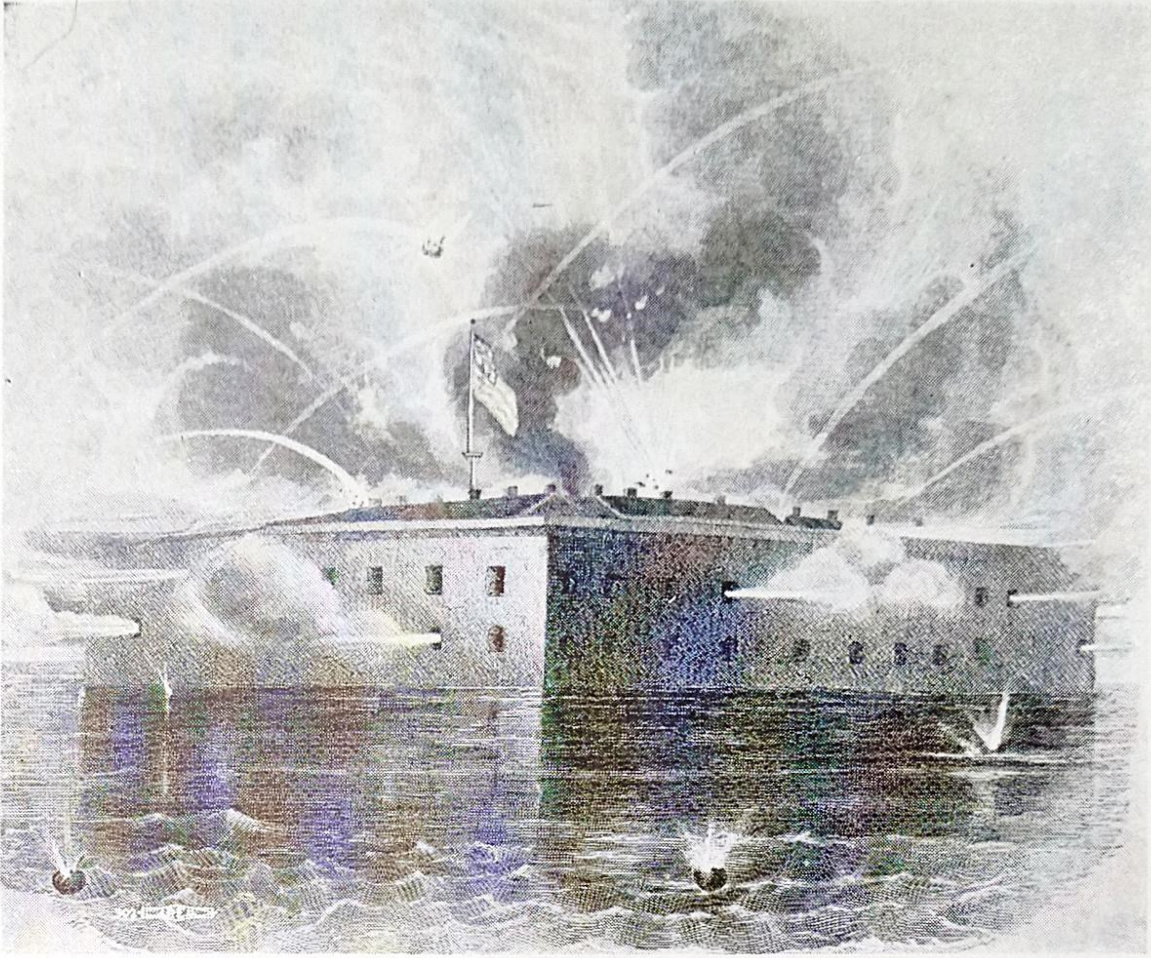
1861-65 The Civil War begins in April when the Confederate forces fire on Fort Sumter, and President Lincoln issues his first call for troops. It ends four years later, after the Confederacy has exhausted every resource. During this period Illinois answers promptly every call for troops, and is one of the few states to exceed its quota.

1862 A constitutional convention meets at Springfield to draw up a new State constitution, but the new constitution fails to receive a ratifying vote.

1863 JUNE 10—Governor Yates prorogues the Illinois General Assembly.

Chicago Wigwam, dedicated May 12, 1860, scene of Abraham Lincoln's nomination for president May 18, 1860.



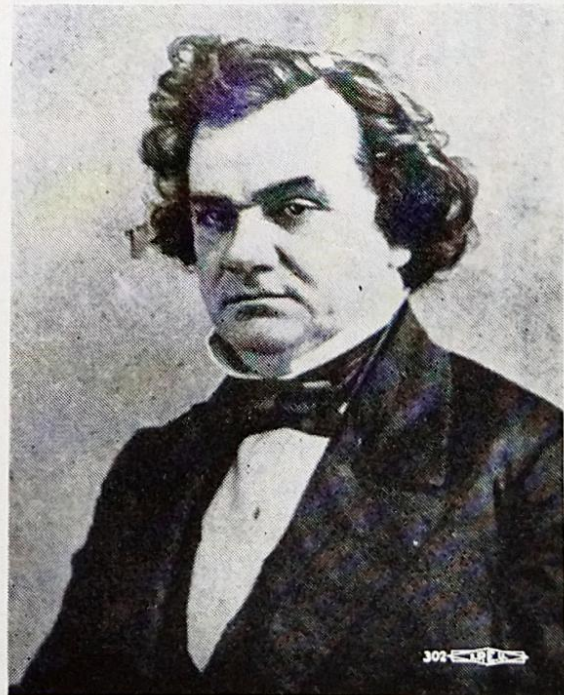


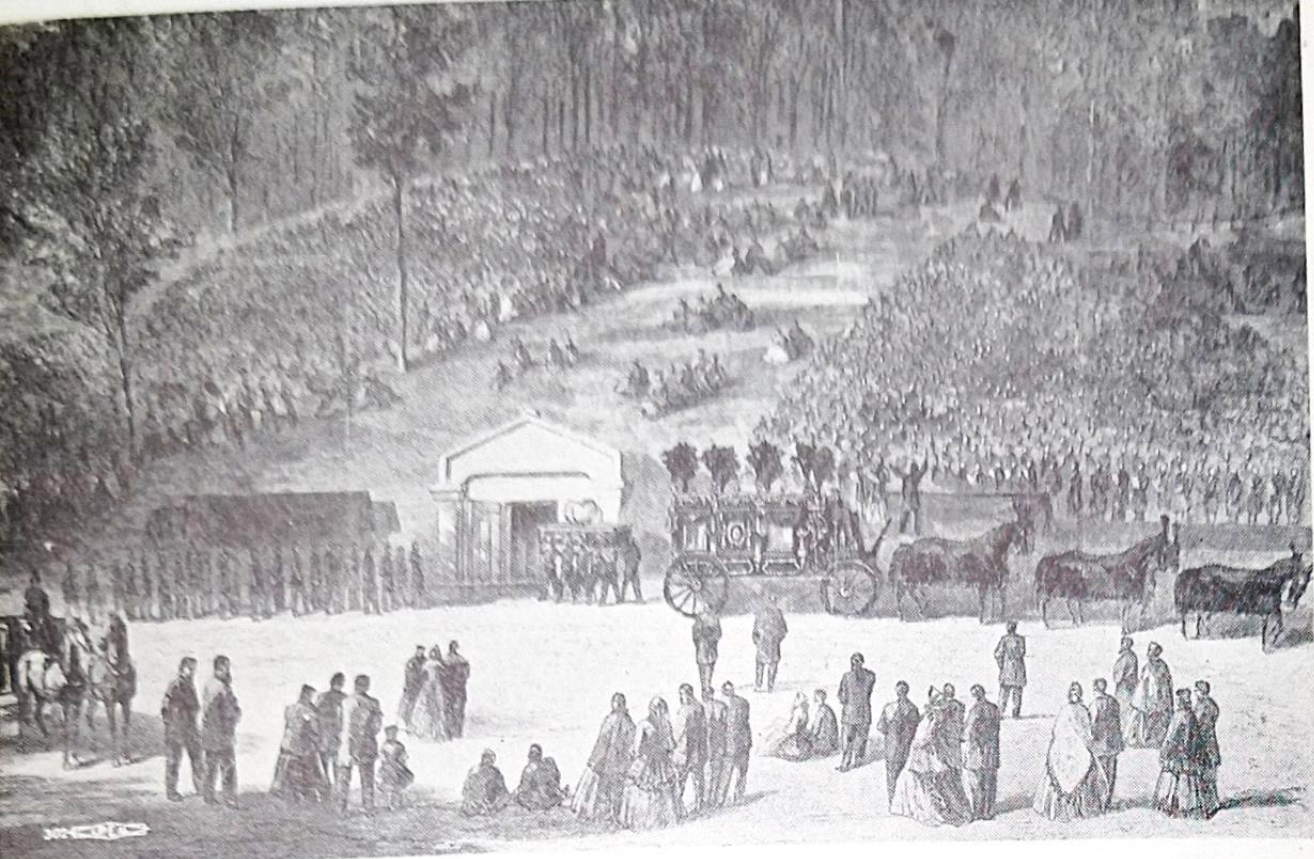
Fort Sumter under Confederate fire, April 11-14, 1861.

1864 AUGUST 29—The Democrat National Convention meeting in Chicago, nominates Gen. George B. McClellan for President. \* NOVEMBER 7—A plot to liberate the Confederate prisoners confined at Camp Douglas in Chicago is defeated when the Federal authorities arrest the conspirators just before the date set for the execution of the plan. \* NOVEMBER 8—Abraham Lincoln is re-elected President.

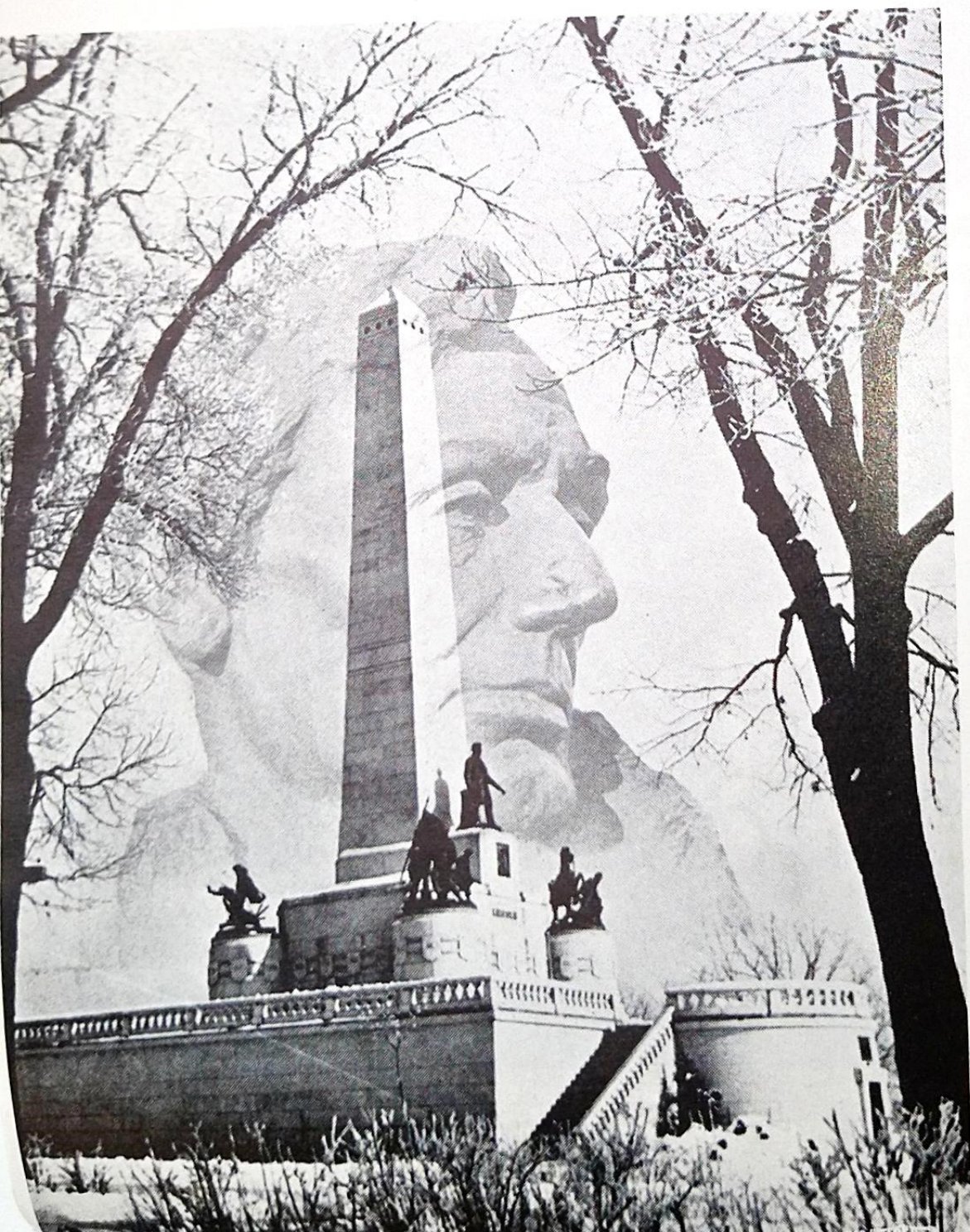
1865 JANUARY 16—Richard J. Oglesby takes office as Governor. \* FEBRUARY 1—By joint resolution of the General Assembly, Illinois becomes the first state to ratify the 13th amendment to the Constitution. \* APRIL 14—Abraham Lincoln is assassinated at Ford's Theater in Washington, by John Wilkes Booth. His body is brought to Springfield, a slow journey marked by frequent stops, and

Stephen A. Douglas, who defeated Lincoln for the U. S. Senate in 1858 but supported Lincoln's administration in the early days of the Civil War.





Lincoln funeral at Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois, May 4, 1865.

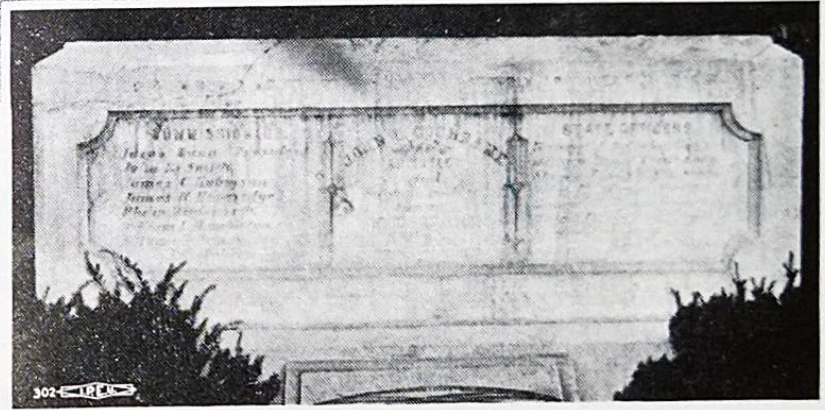


A winter scene at the Lincoln Monument, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield with an enlargement of the Gutzom Borglum bust superimposed.



The present Statehouse under construction.

Here is shown the original cornerstone of present Statehouse, rediscovered in 1944 beneath the steps of the east portico of the Capitol, after being lost many years.



placed in a receiving vault at Oak Ridge cemetery on May 4.

1866 APRIL 6—The first post of the Grand Army of the Republic is established at Decatur. This organization of Civil War soldiers was founded earlier in the year at Springfield by Benjamin F. Stephenson.

1867 FEBRUARY 27—The office of Attorney General is created by the General Assembly. Robert G. Ingersoll is appointed the first Attorney General. \* FEBRUARY 28—By act of the General Assembly, the Illinois Industrial University is established at Urbana. In 1885 the name is changed, by law, to the University of Illinois. \* MARCH 5—The General Assembly enacts legislation

making eight hours a legal day's work.

1868 FEBRUARY 25—The General Assembly authorizes the construction of a new state house at Springfield. Work is begun the same year and the cornerstone is laid OCTOBER 5, 1868, but the building is not entirely completed until 1888. \* MAY 20-22—U. S. Grant is nominated for President by the Republican National Convention at Chicago.

1869 JANUARY 11—John M. Palmer is inaugurated Governor. \* APRIL 9—The State Board of Charities is created by the General Assembly.

1870 Population: 2,539,891. \* AUGUST 8—The new Illinois State constitution, having been ratified by the voters, goes into effect. \*

SEPTEMBER 5—The first classes are held at Saint Ignatius College (Chicago), founded by the Jesuits. In 1909 this is re-chartered as Loyola University.

1871 APRIL 13—An act of the General Assembly, creating a Railroad and Warehouse Commission is approved. \* APRIL 15—The Illinois State Department of Agriculture is created. \* OCTOBER 8-9—The Chicago fire destroys an area of three and one-half square miles in the heart of the city. About 300 lives are lost and \$200,000,000 worth of property is destroyed.

1872 APRIL 15—The first legislation for the protection of miners in Illinois is approved.

1873 JANUARY 13—Richard J. Oglesby begins his second term as Governor. \* JANUARY 23—John L. Beveridge is inaugurated Governor succeeding Richard J. Oglesby, who resigns to become United States Senator.

1874 OCTOBER 15—The Lincoln Monument, located in Oak Ridge cemetery at Springfield, Illinois, is dedicated by U. S. Grant, President of the United States.



Part of the destruction wrought by Chicago fire.

O'Leary's Cottage where the fire started. The cottage was not destroyed in the conflagration.







General U. S. Grant, commander of the Union armies.

- 1877 JANUARY 8—Shelby M. Cullom takes office as Governor. \* MAY 18—The General Assembly enacts legislation providing for the creation of the Illinois National Guard. \* MAY 25—The State Board of Health is created.
- 1879 MAY 29—The General Assembly provides for a State Board of Labor Statistics.
- 1880 Population: 3,077,871. \* JUNE 2-8 — the Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates James A. Garfield for President.
- 1881 JANUARY 10—Shelby M. Cullom begins his second term as Governor.
- 1883 FEBRUARY 6—John M. Hamilton becomes Governor, succeeding Shelby M. Cullom, who resigns to become United States Senator. \* JUNE 23 — The first compulsory school attendance law in Illinois is passed by the General Assembly.
- 1884 JUNE 3-6—The Republican National Convention, meeting at Chicago, nominates James G. Blaine for President and John A. Logan of

Illinois for Vice President. \* JULY 8-11 — The Democratic National Convention meets at Chicago and nominates Grover Cleveland for President.

- 1885 JANUARY 30—Richard J. Oglesby is inaugurated Governor, the only governor in Illinois history to be elected three times.
- 1886 MAY 4—When a detachment of police moves to break up a labor mass meeting in Haymarket Square, Chicago, a bomb explodes and the police open fire. Seven officers are killed, and many others are killed and wounded. Numerous arrests are made and four alleged anarchists are hanged. In 1893, Governor Altgeld pardons the three surviving prisoners.
- 1887 JUNE 16 — The Governor approves an act of the General Assembly accepting the Lincoln Home—the gift of Robert Todd Lincoln and his wife to the State of Illinois.
- 1888 JUNE 19-25 — The Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates Benjamin Harrison for President.



General Richard J. Oglesby, only Illinois Governor elected three times.



Jane Addams, founder of Hull House, Chicago, the first settlement house in the Midwest, and first American woman to win the Nobel Peace prize.

- 1889** JANUARY 14—JOSEPH W. FIFER is inaugurated Governor. \* MAY 25—The General Assembly enacts legislation creating the Illinois State Historical Library. \* In SEPTEMBER, Jane Addams and her associates found Hull House in Chicago. It is one of the earliest social settlement houses in the United States.
- 1890** Population: 3,826,352. \* SEPTEMBER 10 — The University of Chicago is chartered. This institution succeeds an earlier one by the same name which functioned from 1858 to 1886.
- 1891** JUNE 19—By act of the General Assembly the right of suffrage in school elections is granted to women. \* JUNE 22—The General Assembly passes a ballot reform bill, embodying the principles of the Australian secret ballot.
- 1892** JUNE 21-23 — The Democratic National Convention at Chicago nominates Grover Cleveland for President and Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois for Vice President.
- 1893** JANUARY 10—John P. Altgeld is inaugurated Governor. \* MAY 1-OCTOBER 30—The World's Columbian Exposition, commemorating the 400th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America, is held at Chicago. \* JUNE 17—The General Assembly passes the "Sweatshop Act" providing for the inspection of factories and the regulation of child labor. \* JUNE 21—The General Assembly establishes the Illinois naval militia.
- 1894** From MAY to JULY, a strike of Pullman Car Company employees at Pullman develops into a general railway strike. Before order is restored there is mob violence and destruction of property, and Federal troops are called out.
- 1895** MARCH 20—The General Assembly passes an optional civil service law for cities.
- 1896** JULY 7-11—The Democratic National Convention at Chicago nominates William Jennings Bryan for President.
- 1897** JANUARY 11—John R. Tanner is inaugurated Governor.
- 1898** APRIL 25 — The United States declares war on Spain after the destruction of the battleship, Maine, in Havana harbor. By AUGUST hostilities have ceased and the peace treaty is signed at Paris on DECEMBER 10. Illinois furnishes over 12,000 men and is conspicuous for the promptness and completeness of her response.
- 1899** APRIL 11—The General Assembly establishes free employment offices in cities over 50,000, and provides for the licensing of private employment agencies.
- 1900** Population: 4,821,550. \* The main channel of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship canal, from Chicago to Lockport, is opened.
- 1901** JANUARY 14—Richard Yates, the son of Illinois' Civil War governor, is inaugurated governor. \* MAY 11—The General Assembly appropriates money to build a new state arsenal at Springfield. \* JUNE 1—The work of remodeling the Lincoln Monument, undertaken in NOVEMBER, 1899, is completed.

1903 MAY 15—An improved law for the regulation of child labor is passed by the General Assembly. Under the provisions of this act, Illinois is the first state to establish an eight-hour day and a 48-hour week for children. \* DECEMBER 30—A fire in Chicago's Iroquois Theater results in the death of 571 persons. The tragedy is followed by the passage of improved safety legislation throughout the nation.

1904 JUNE 21-23 — The Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates Theodore Roosevelt for President.

1905 JANUARY 9—Charles S. Deneen is inaugurated Governor. \* MAY 11—The General Assembly enacts a State civil service code to be administered by an appointive commission. \* MAY 13—The State Board of Health is authorized to distribute diphtheria anti-toxin. Under certain circumstances the distribution is to be free of charge.

1907 MAY 16—A local option law is passed by the General Assembly. \* DECEMBER 24—De Paul University (Chicago) is chartered. This institution replaces Saint Vincent's College, founded in SEPTEMBER,

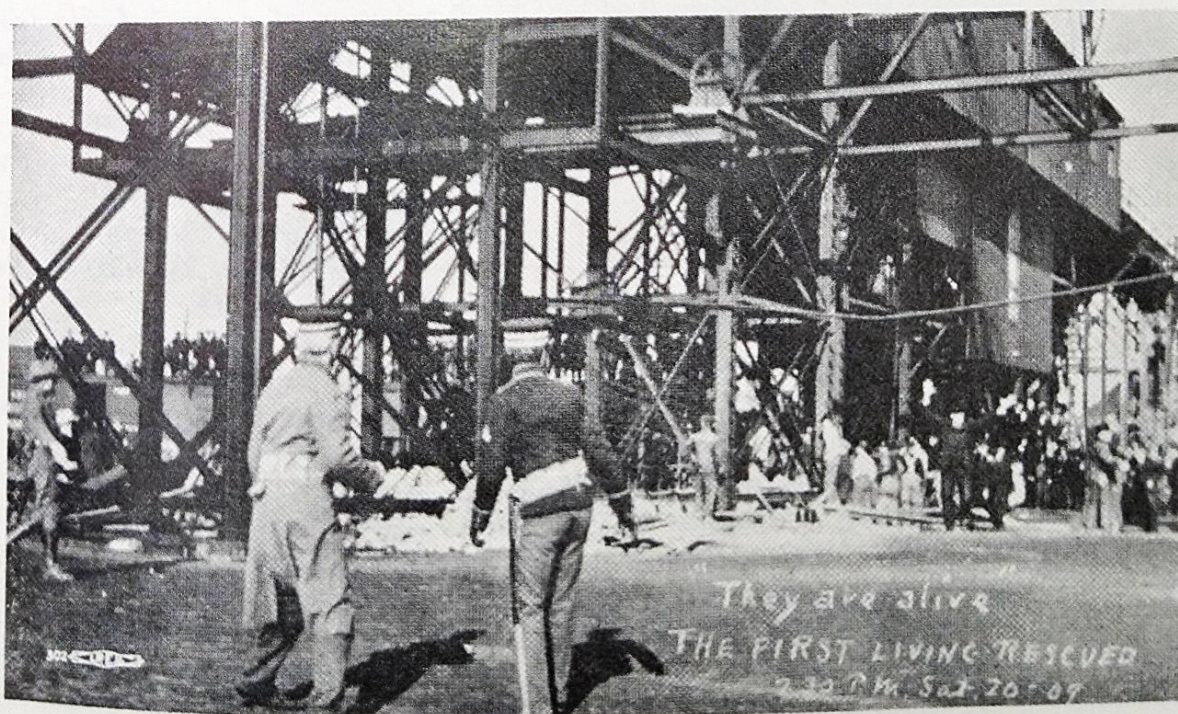
1898, by the Vincentian Brothers. \* The Hennepin (Illinois-Mississippi) canal, authorized in 1890, is completed. It extends from Great Bend on the Illinois River to the Mississippi River, three miles below Rock Island.

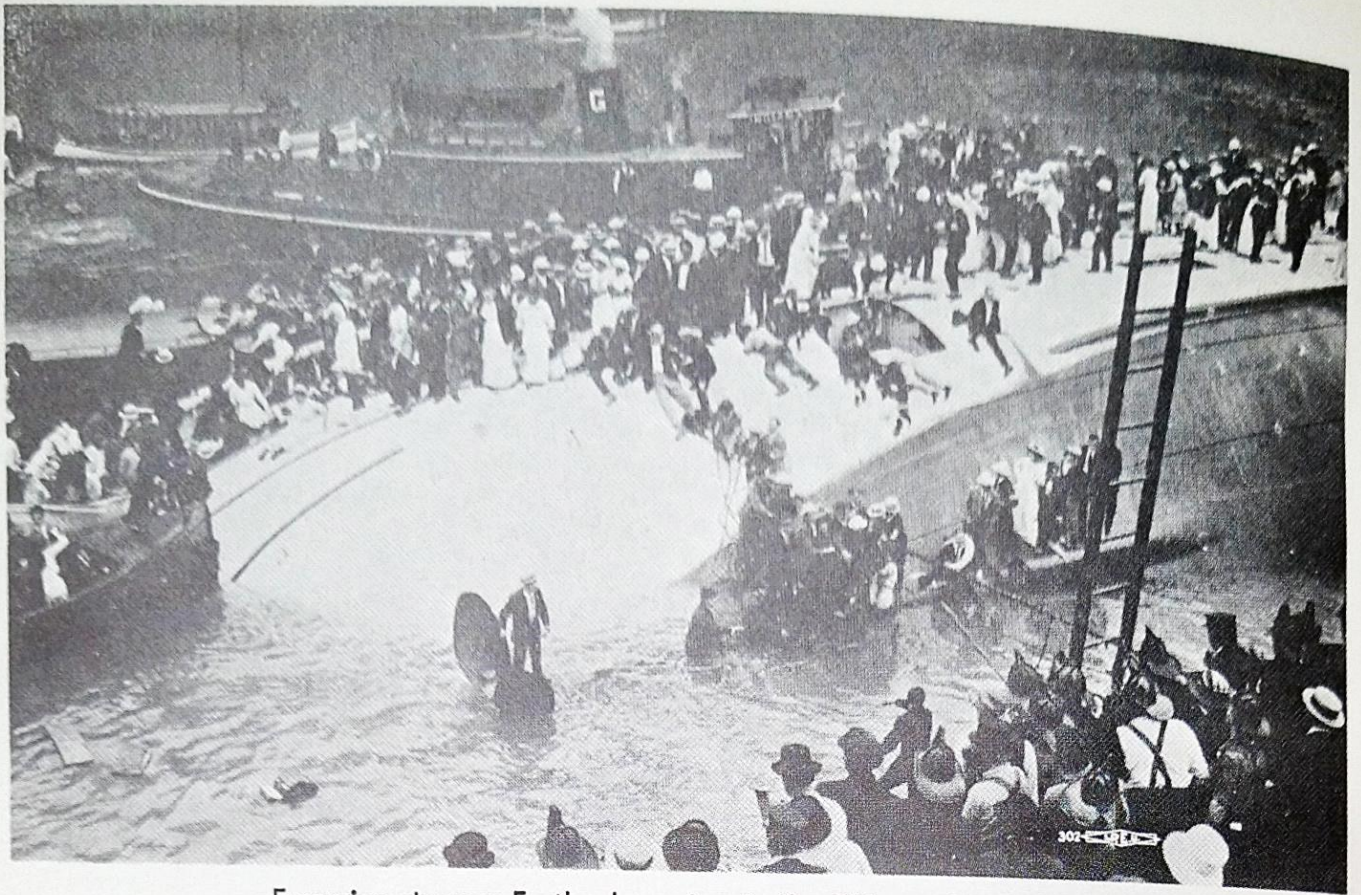
1908 JUNE 16-19 — The Republican National Convention, meeting at Chicago, nominates William Howard Taft for President.

1909 JANUARY 18—Charles S. Deneen begins his second term as Governor. \* JUNE 15—The General Assembly passes the 10-hour law for women. The constitutionality of this law is upheld by the Illinois Supreme Court. \* NOVEMBER 13 — Two hundred and fifty-nine men are killed in a disastrous mine fire at Cherry, Ill. This calamity gives impetus to the enactment of protective legislation, particularly for fire fighting, in mines.

1910 Population: 5,638,591. \* MARCH 4—Illinois is the first state to pass legislation providing for mine fire-fighting and rescue stations in coal mining centers. \* MARCH 9 — After several unsuccessful attempts, the General Assembly passes a direct primary law which is upheld by the courts.

Rescue operations at the Cherry Mine disaster, 1909.

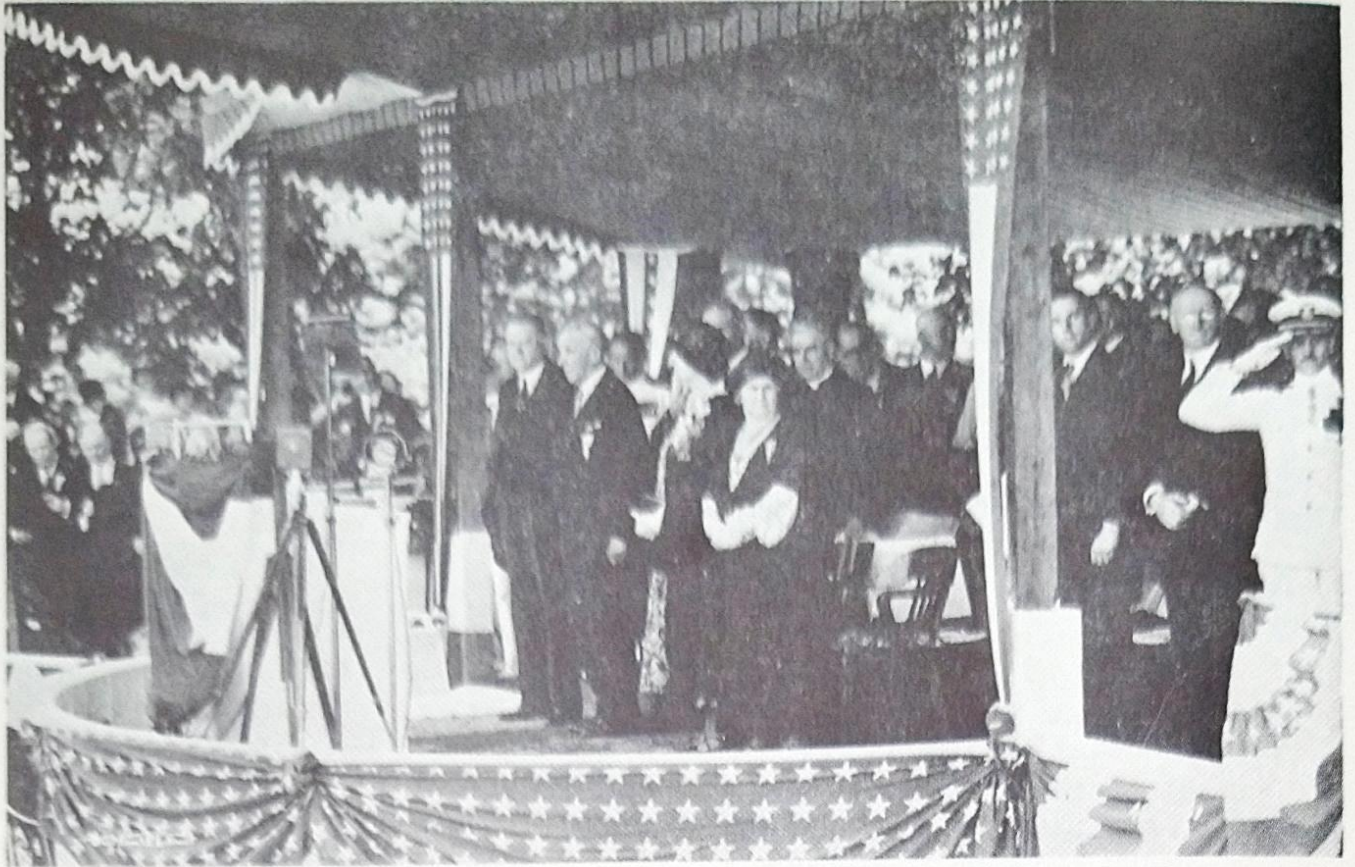




Excursion steamer Eastland capsizes in the Chicago River, 1915.

- 1911 MAY 26—The General Assembly enacts legislation protecting workmen against occupational diseases. \* JUNE 5—By providing a fund for the care of dependent and neglected children, Illinois becomes the first state to pass state-wide “mother’s aid” legislation. \* JUNE 10—The “Starved Rock State Park Bill,” providing for a park commission and the acquisition of Starved Rock, becomes a law. By the end of the year the site of Starved Rock state park has been transferred to the State. \* JUNE 10—The General Assembly passes the first workmen’s compensation act, providing compensation for death or injury in certain designated industries.
- 1912 JUNE 18-22 — The Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates William Howard Taft for President. \* AUGUST 5-7—The first national convention of the Progressive Party, meeting at Chicago, nominates Theodore Roosevelt for President.
- 1913 FEBRUARY 3—Edward F. Dunne is inaugurated Governor. \* JUNE 26—The General Assembly passes legislation extending women’s suffrage, and creating a Legislative Reference Bureau.
- 1915 JUNE 24—The State Board of Health is authorized to provide free distribution of a prophylactic (silver nitrate) for the prevention of blindness in infants. \* JULY 6—A state flag is adopted by the General Assembly. \* JULY 24—The excursion steamer, “Eastland,” capsizes as it leaves its wharf in the Chicago River. Of some 2,000 passengers, 812 are lost.
- 1916 JUNE 7-10—The Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates Charles E. Hughes for President.
- 1917 JANUARY 8—Frank O. Lowden is inaugurated Governor. \* MARCH 2—The General Assembly passes the Civil Administrative Code, providing for the reorganization and consolidation of the state government. \* In MAY, and again in

- JULY, the Illinois National Guard is sent to East St. Louis to restore order. Race rioting had broken out when a stream of Negro laborers from the South flooded the labor market.
- 1917-18 The United States enters the World War on the side of the Allies. In Illinois a State Council of Defense is appointed, and all State facilities are mobilized. Over 350,000 men, including the 33rd Division composed entirely of Illinois National Guard units, are inducted into the Army and Navy, Illinois farmers produce record breaking crops, and capital and labor cooperate to meet the increasing needs of war production. Liberty Loan drives are oversubscribed and relief organizations generously supported.
- 1918 NOVEMBER 5—Illinois voters approve the first bond issue (\$60,000,000) for the construction of a state-wide system of hard roads.
- 1919 JUNE 17—The Illinois Waterway Bill, calling for the construction of a deep waterway from Lockport to Utica, is approved. A \$20,000,000 bond issue for the construction of the waterway is authorized. \* JULY 27-AUGUST 3 — The Illinois National Guard is called out when serious race riots break out in Chicago.
- 1920 Population: 6,485,280. \* JANUARY 6—The Illinois Constitutional convention convenes at Springfield. \* JUNE 8-12 — The Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates Warren G. Harding for President. \* NOVEMBER 6—Construction of the Illinois Waterway is begun at Bell's Island, west of Marseilles.
- 1921 JANUARY 10 — Len Small is inaugurated Governor.
- 1922 JUNE 21-22—Twenty-two miners are slain in Herrin when violence breaks out during the general coal strike. \* DECEMBER 12—Illinois voters reject the proposed constitution, submitted by the constitutional convention.
- 1924 NOVEMBER 4—The second bond issue (\$100,000,000) for the construction of hard roads is approved by Illinois voters.
- 1925 JANUARY 12—Len Small begins his second term as governor. \* JUNE 30—The General Assembly adopts the song, "Illinois," as the official state song. The words were written by C. H. Chamberlin, and the music composed by Archibald Johnston.
- 1926 JUNE 21-24—The 28th Eucharistic Congress of the Roman Catholic Church is held at Chicago.
- 1929 JANUARY 14—Louis L. Emmerson is inaugurated Governor. \* MARCH 25—A tax on motor fuel is authorized by the General Assembly. Money thus collected is to be used in the State hard road program.
- 1930 Population: 7,630,654. \* MAY 12-JUNE 27—A special session of the General Assembly passes a series of bills to relieve the financial difficulties of Chicago. The measures relate to delinquent taxes, future tax levies, and the issuance of bonds without referendum.
- 1931 JUNE 17 — President Herbert Hoover rededicates the Lincoln Monument at Springfield. The Monument had recently been remodeled for the second time.
- 1932 JUNE 14-16 — The Republican National Convention at Chicago nominates Herbert Hoover for President. \* JUNE 27-JULY 2—The Democratic National Convention at Chicago nominates Franklin D. Roosevelt for President. \* Four special sessions of the General Assembly are called in an effort to relieve the economic distress of Chicago and the rest of the State. An Unemployment Relief Commission and an Emergency Relief Commission are created; a State income tax law is passed but is later declared unconstitutional; and money is borrowed from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.



President Herbert Hoover and Governor Louis L. Emmerson at the Lincoln Monument rededication, on June 17, 1931.

1933 JANUARY 9 — Henry Horner is inaugurated Governor. \* MAY 27-NOVEMBER 13 — A Century of Progress International Exposition, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the City of Chicago is held at Chicago. \* JUNE 22—The arrival, in Chicago, of a flotilla of river barges from New Orleans marks the official completion of the Illinois Waterway. \* JUNE 25—The Retailers' Occupation Tax of 2 per cent is passed by the General Assembly. \* JULY 6—An act establishing a fair minimum wage standard for women and minors is passed by the General Assembly.

1934 MAY 26-OCTOBER 31—A Century of Progress Exposition is repeated at Chicago.

1935 MAY 23 — The Retailers' Occupation Tax is increased to 3 per cent. \* JUNE 29 — The Old Age Security Act, providing state aid for qualifying persons, is passed by the General Assembly. \* JULY 2—The General Assembly passed an

appropriation bill to build a new state armory at Springfield. It is to be erected on the site of the old armory, which was destroyed by fire FEBRUARY 18, 1934.

1936 JUNE 6—A law calling for the permanent registration of voters in Chicago and certain downstate cities is enacted by the General Assembly.

1937 JANUARY 4 — Henry Horner begins his second term as Governor. \* JUNE 23—The General Assembly passes the Saltiel marriage law, requiring a physical examination prior to the issuance of a marriage license. \* JUNE 30—An Act setting up a system of unemployment compensation is passed by the General Assembly. \* JULY 1 — The eight-hour law, limiting the hours of work for women, is passed by the General Assembly. \* In JANUARY, oil is discovered on the Merryman farm, near Patoka, Marion County. This is the beginning of an oil boom in southern Illinois,

centering in Marion, Richland, Clay and Fayette counties. By the end of the year Illinois ranks eleventh among the oil producing states, with approximately 7,500,000 barrels.

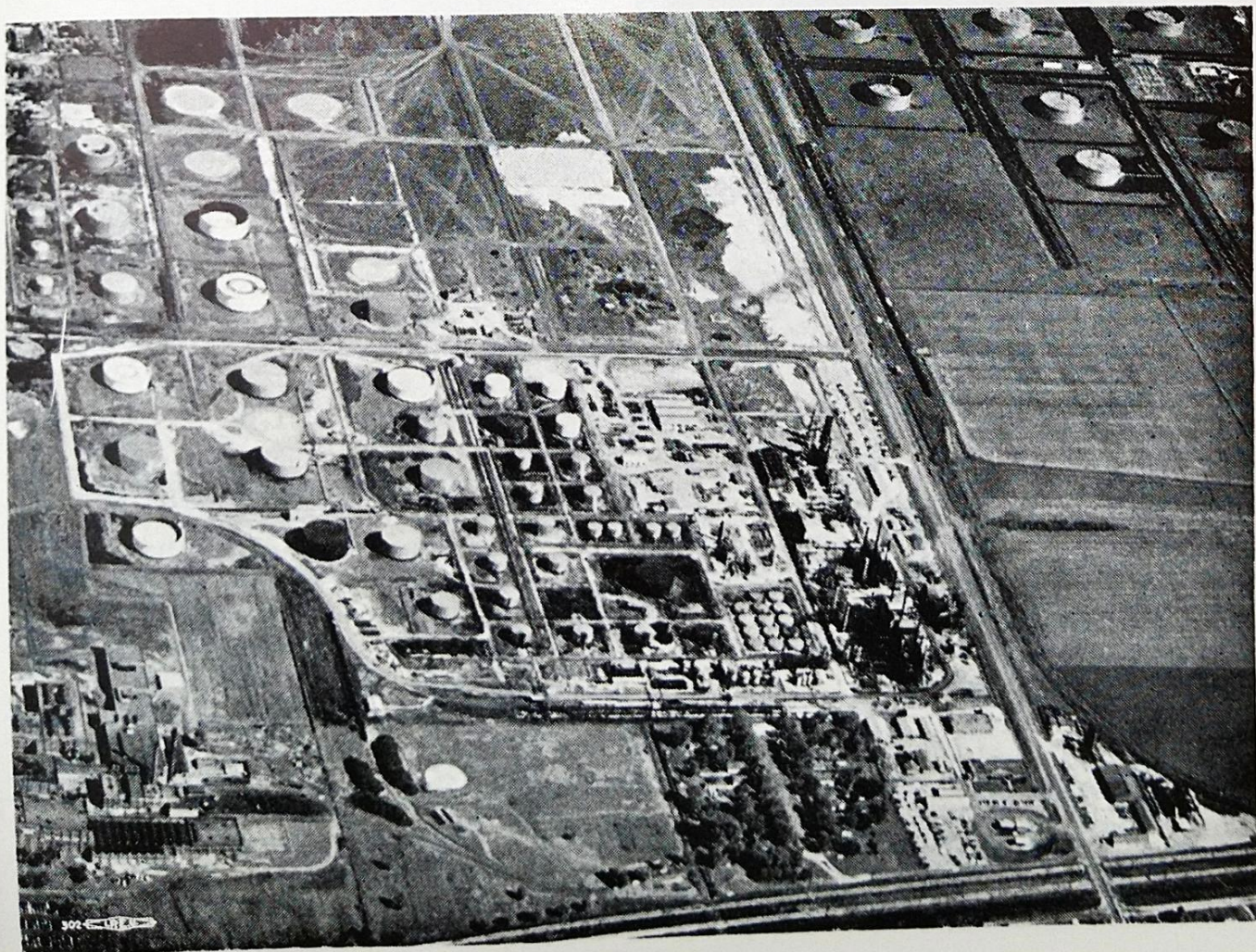
1938 The General Assembly, meeting in special session, passes two appropriations for emergency relief. \* Illinois climbs to seventh place among the oil producing states, with a yearly yield of approximately 24,000,000 barrels. During this year the rich Lake Centralia-Salem field is opened.

1939 JULY 1—By an act of the General Assembly, Illinois becomes the first state to establish a separate division for the prevention of delinquency. \* Illinois ranks fourth among the oil producing states, with a total annual output of approximately 94,000,000 barrels.

1940 Population: 7,897,241. \* JULY 15-18 — The Democratic National Convention meets at Chicago and nominates Franklin D. Roosevelt for a third term as President. \* JULY 25—The Illinois Institute of Technology at Chicago is created from the consolidation of Lewis Institute and Armour Institute of Technology. \* OCTOBER 6—Governor Horner dies at Winnetka, the second Illinois governor to die in office. He is immediately succeeded by Lieutenant Governor John Stelle. \* The oil industry continues to expand in southern Illinois, as 146,700,000 barrels are produced in 1940. There are now 21 oil producing counties in the state.

1941 JANUARY 13—Dwight H. Green is inaugurated governor. \* MARCH 5—The Illinois National Guard is inducted into federal service. It is

Wood River Refinery of Sinclair Refining Company, Hartford, Illinois.





Governor Henry Horner in his Lincoln library at the Governor's Mansion. This library was given to the Illinois State Historical Library by Governor Horner.

replaced by the recently created Illinois Reserve Militia. \* APRIL 17—The Governor signs a bill providing for a State Council of Defense. \* MAY 16—A State Department of Public Safety, consolidating divisions dealing with public safety, crime fighting and penal administration, is created by the General Assembly. \* DECEMBER 18—A special session of the General Assembly convenes to put Illinois on a war footing, the United States having declared war on Japan, DECEMBER 8. \* The total oil output for 1941 is 134,000,000 barrels.

1942 JANUARY 13—Donald M. Nelson, Chicago executive, is named head of the new War Production Board, to direct the nation's war produc-

tion program. \* MARCH 3—The mine sweeper YMS-84, the first navy vessel built in Illinois in World War II, is launched in the Chicago River. \* JUNE 6—The Illinois Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital is dedicated in Chicago. Built for the State Department of Public Welfare, it will be used for research and teaching in the fields of nervous and mental disorders. \* NOVEMBER 24—Sentence is passed in Chicago federal court on three German-Americans and their wives, in the first treason trial ever held in Illinois. The men are sentenced to death; the women to fine and imprisonment. In 1944, following a new trial because of a legal technicality, Hans Haupt, father of the executed Nazi saboteur, receives life imprisonment and fine. His two male confederates receive 5-year prison terms; the three women are discharged.

1943 JANUARY 21 — The 551-mile oil pipe line from Longview, Texas to Norris City, Illinois is completed. The line has a capacity of 300,000 barrels per day. \* MARCH 20 — Frank O. Lowden, Illinois governor, 1917-1921, dies at Tucson, Arizona. On March 25 he is buried in Graceland cemetery, Chicago. \* JULY 31 — The first four-engine army cargo transport plane flies over Chicago. It was built by the Douglas Aircraft Company at Chicago.

1944 JANUARY 13—Governor Dwight H. Green approves legislation, passed by a special session of the legislature, to facilitate soldier voting. \* JUNE 28—Thomas E. Dewey of New York and John W. Bricker of Ohio are nominated for president and vice president by the Republican National Convention meeting in Chicago. \* JULY 20-21 —The Democratic National Convention meeting at Chicago nominates Franklin Delano Roosevelt of New York for president and Harry S. Truman of Missouri for vice-president.



1945 JANUARY 8 — Dwight H. Green is inaugurated governor for the second consecutive term. \* APRIL 13 — Governor Green designates April 14 an official day of mourning and prayer for President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who died at Warm Springs, Ga., on April 12. \* MAY 8 — Illinois joins in the celebration of V-E Day as the ratification of the unconditional surrender of Germany marks the end of the war in Europe. \* AUGUST 14 — The unconditional surrender of Japan is announced by President Truman, although official V-J Day is not observed until SEPTEMBER 2, when the surrender document is signed on board the U. S. S. Missouri in Tokyo Bay. \* NOVEMBER 19 — Weekly airline service from Chicago to London is inaugurated by American Airlines.

1946 APRIL 25—Forty-five persons are killed and 100 injured in the crash of two Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Streamliners at Naperville.

\* JUNE 14 — A bonus bill for World War II veterans passed by a special session of the legislature, is approved. On NOVEMBER 5, the \$385,000,000 bond issue to finance this bonus is approved by the voters. \* JULY 7—Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, who died in Chicago in 1917, is proclaimed a saint. She is the first United States citizen to be so honored by the Roman Catholic Church. \* JULY 23—Gov. Green calls a second special session of the legislature to enact rent legislation. The session is adjourned Aug. 1, following the restoration of federal rent control by Congress. \* AUGUST 9—The first Illinois State Fair since 1941 begins. The State Fair Grounds was leased to the War Department during the war.

1947 MARCH 25—A coal mine explosion at Centralia kills 111 miners. \* JULY 11—A child labor law, passed in 1945 and scheduled to become law six months after the cessation of hostilities, goes into

This G.I. is joyously welcomed home from World War II.



- effect. It calls for more effective regulation of employment of minors between 14 and 16. \* JULY 26—Impressive ceremonies at the Library of Congress mark the opening of the Robert Todd Lincoln Collection of the papers of Abraham Lincoln, impounded since the death of the donor in 1926. \* DECEMBER 12—The United Mine Workers under the leadership of John L. Lewis, withdraw from the American Federation of Labor, following the latter organization's compliance with the Taft-Hartley Act.
- 1948 JUNE 4—Prince Bertil and the official Swedish delegation attend a festival at Chicago stadium, climaxing the centenary celebration of Swedish settlement in the Middle West. \* JULY 20-OCTOBER 3 — The Railroad Fair, commemorating 100 years of railroad progress, is held on the former site of the 1933 Chicago World Fair.
- 1949 JANUARY 10—Adlai E. Stevenson is inaugurated governor. \* MAY 15-22 — the 250th anniversary of the founding of the first permanent white settlement in the Mississippi Valley is celebrated at Cahokia. \* JUNE 30—The Galesburg division of the University of Illinois, opened September 1946 to accommodate veterans of World War II, is discontinued. It will be reconverted to hospital use for the State Department of Public Welfare. \* OCTOBER 25—Herbert Wells Fay, custodian of the Lincoln Tomb from 1921 to 1948, dies at Springfield.
- 1950 Population: 8,712,176. \* MARCH 5 — Edgar Lee Masters, poet and author, best known for his *Spoon River Anthology*, dies at Melrose Park, Pa. His remains will be buried in Oakland Cemetery, Petersburg, Ill. \* MARCH 14 — Lewis Fablinger of Downers Grove, last Civil War veteran in the state, dies at the age of 103. \* MAY — Gwendolyn Brooks, of Chicago, receives the Pulitzer prize in poetry for her poem *Annie Allen*. She is the first woman of her race (Negro) to receive this award. \* JUNE 25 — North Korea invades South Korea, an action challenged by the United States as a breach of the peace. Two days later President Truman authorizes the use of United States air and naval power in support of South Korea.
- 1951 MAY 14—The Mt. Vernon Tuberculosis Hospital is dedicated. This is the first state owned and operated tuberculosis hospital in Illinois. \* JULY 9—The Illinois Civil Defense Act, creating a state civil defense agency to act with local units in the event of an atomic explosion or other wartime disaster, becomes a law. \* JULY 9 — Governor Adlai E. Stevenson signs a bill to enable municipalities of 500,000 or less to adopt a city manager form of government by referendum. \* OCTOBER 8 — Abbott Center, Illinois' first hospital for mentally ill children, is dedicated at Bartonville.
- 1952 FEB. 3—Harold L. Ickes, secretary of the Interior in the cabinets of Presidents Roosevelt and Truman and long active in Chicago reform politics, dies at 77. \* JULY 7-11 — The Republican National Convention, meeting in Chicago, nominates Dwight D. Eisenhower for president and Richard M. Nixon of California for vice-president. This ticket is successful in the November 4 election. \* JULY 19-26 — The Democratic National Convention meets at Chicago and nominates Governor Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois and John J. Sparkman of Alabama for vice-president. \* DEC. 7—An operation for the separation of Roger Lee and Rodney Dee Brodie, 15 month old Siamese twins joined at the head, is performed at the Illinois Research Hospital in Chicago. Roger Lee lives until Jan. 20, 1953.
- 1953 JAN. 12—William G. Stratton is inaugurated governor. His appointments include Vera M. Binks director of Registration and Education, and Joseph J. Bibb director of Public Safety, the first woman, and

the first Negro to hold positions of this rank in Illinois. \* MARCH 5—The 634 foot *Marine Angel*, largest vessel to negotiate the Illinois Waterway in one piece, reaches Lake Michigan from the Gulf of Mexico. \* MAY 2—The Baha'i Temple at Wilmette, first in the Western hemisphere, is dedicated. \* JULY 13—A bill creating an Illinois Toll Roads Commission, with authority to build and operate toll roads in Illinois, is approved by the Governor. \* JUNE 18—By joint resolution the Legislature agrees to submit a constitutional amendment for reapportioning the state's legislative districts at the general election of 1954.

1954 FEB. 15—Ground is officially broken for a new state office building at Springfield, for which \$12,500,000 was appropriated by the last legislature. Open house for the completed building is held December 5, 1955. \* JULY 25—Mary M. Bartelme, 88, Illinois' first women judge, died at Carmel, California. As Circuit Judge she presided over the Chicago Juvenile Court, and was founder of the Mary Bartelme clubs to provide homes for dependent girls. \* AUG. 19—President Eisenhower speaks at the Illinois State Fair. He is the first president since Rutherford B. Hayes to do so while in office.

1955 FEB. 22—Colonel Calvin H. Goddard, 63, who founded the first crime detection laboratory in the U. S. at Northwestern University, dies in Washington, D. C. \* MAR. 30—Chicago's Midway Airport becomes the first official port of entry not located on the country's boundary. \* APRIL 1—Colonel Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune* dies at his home near Wheaton at the age of 74. \* JUNE 16—The first successful reapportionment act since 1901 created 58 permanent Senate districts and 59 House districts to be reapportioned following each decennial census. \* AUG. 9—The first National Governors' Confer-

ence to be held in Illinois begins its four-day session in Chicago. \* OCT. 30—O'Hare International Airport, west of Chicago, begins commercial operation.

1956 MARCH 3—The Illinois Terminal System makes the last run of an interurban electric train over its St. Louis-Springfield tracks. Only diesel powered freight service will now operate. \* JULY 16—State Auditor Orville E. Hodge resigns. (He is later sentenced to the penitentiary for embezzlement of public funds.) Lloyd Morey, president emeritus and a former comptroller of the University of Illinois, is appointed to fill the unexpired term. \* AUG. 13-17—The Democratic national convention meets at Chicago and again nominates Adlai E. Stevenson, governor of Illinois 1949-1953, for the presidency. Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee is nominated for vice-president. \* SEPT. 22—Governor Stratton officially opens construction on the first Illinois toll road near Rockford. \* Nov. 8—Marshall Field III, 63, founder of the *Chicago Sun* (now *Sun-Times*) and Field Foundation, dies in New York.

1957 JAN. 14—William G. Stratton, begins his second term as governor. Inaugurated with him is the entire Republican state ticket including Mrs. Earle B. Searcy, clerk of the Supreme Court, the first woman in Illinois elected to state office by a state-wide vote. \* FEB. 9—The first nuclear power generating system in the United States is activated at Argonne National Laboratory in Du Page County. \* AUG. 3—The first "World Series" of the National Boy's Baseball League (15-16 years old players) is held at Springfield.

1958 FEB. 20—Dwight H. Green, World War II (1941-1949) governor of Illinois, dies in Chicago at the age of 60. \* MARCH 1—Samuel Cardinal Stritch, archbishop of Chicago, is the first American to be appointed pro-prefect of the Congregation of the

Faith. Before he can assume his office he dies in Rome May 26 at the age of 70. \* JUNE 16-20—A special session of the 70th General Assembly to consider anti-recession measures appropriates \$15,000,000 for relief and extends unemployment compensation benefits thirteen weeks. \* AUG. 20—The first section of Illinois toll roads opened for traffic, extends from the Wisconsin line at South Beloit to O'Hare Airport, Chicago. The final section, to the Indiana line, is opened December 23. \* DEC. 1—Eighty-seven pupils and three nuns die in a fire at Our Lady of the Angels school in Chicago. Three other pupils die later from the effects of the blaze, bringing the death toll to ninety-three.

1959 FEB. 12—Willy Brandt, Mayor of West Berlin, is principal speaker at the official banquet climaxing the Illinois Lincoln Sesquicentennial observance, held at Springfield. The guest list included ambassadors and representatives of many foreign countries who had been represented at the Centennial banquet in 1909. \* APRIL 29—The Governor approves a bill making daylight savings uniform throughout the state for the first time. \* JULY 6—Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip visit Chicago, completing their tour of the St. Lawrence seaway which was officially dedicated at Montreal July 26. This is the first visit of a reigning British sovereign to Chicago. \* SEPT. 22—The Chicago White Sox baseball team wins the

American League pennant, their first in 40 years, by defeating the Cleveland Indians 4-2. In the World Series, Oct. 1-8, they lose to the Los Angeles Dodgers in six games.

1960 Population: 10,081,158. \* MAY 26—A 35 million dollar appropriation for public assistance, passed by the legislature in special session, is approved by Governor Stratton. \* JUNE 13—William R. Guild is appointed Attorney General to fill the unexpired term of Grenville Beardsley, died June 3. \* JUNE 25-28—The Republican National Convention meets at Chicago and nominates Richard M. Nixon for President and Henry Cabot Lodge for Vice President. \* OCT. 12—The first full-scale privately financed nuclear power plant in the U. S. is dedicated at Morris, Illinois.

1961 JAN. 4—The 72d Illinois General Assembly convenes in regular session. Paul Powell (D. Vienna) is elected speaker. This is the first time the minority party has elected a speaker. \* JAN. 5—Ground breaking ceremonies for the new Illinois State Museum, for which \$2,646,860 was appropriated by the legislature in 1959, are held. \* JAN. 9—Otto Kerner and other state officials elected last Nov. 8 are inaugurated. \* JULY 2—Ernest Hemingway, novelist, Nobel and Pulitzer prize winner, dies of a self-inflicted gunshot wound at his home in Ketchum, Idaho. He was a native of Oak Park, Illinois.

