

WASHINGTON, LINCOLN and FIREARMS

An Editorial

February marks the birth anniversaries of two of America's greatest Presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Both of these titanic leaders reached their zenith of greatness while guiding our country through wars which could have killed off the nation at birth or before maturity. Both knew firearms, for military and for sporting purposes.

George Washington spent nearly a quarter of his life under arms. When he died at 67, he had soldiered for 15 1/2 years. When peace and leisure permitted, he hunted constantly. Hunting was perhaps the favorite and foremost recreation of the Father of His Country.

Abraham Lincoln's numerous biographies note that he "hunted", that he "shot wild turkey", and that he served in the militia in the Black Hawk War. His interest in firearms, especially in military weapons efficient enough to shorten the Civil War, led him personally to test-fire and approve the Spencer repeater, the first magazine cartridge arm extensively used by U. S. Forces.

Lincoln as commander-in-chief directed probably the biggest rifleman's war in the Western hemisphere, in which by far the highest percentage of casualties were caused by infantry bullets. Like Washington, he fully recognized the role of firearms. For one man, they created a new nation. For the other, they held it together.

So America was fortunate that both of these heroic wartime leaders of classic stature had a thorough grasp and understanding of firearms.

But the wars themselves, in 1775 and 1861, what did they start over?

In 1775, was it the Stamp Tax, the quartering of British regulars in the homes of American colonials, "taxation without representation" of what?

In 1861, was it the Fugitive Slave Act, "Bleeding Kansas", the tariff issue between industrial North and agricultural South, or what?

What actually turned each clash of words into a "shooting war"?

The answer in both instances is very nearly the same.

In 1775 the shooting began when the British, after methodically disarming every individual American who left Boston, marched a column of redcoats from Boston to Concord, Mass., to seize the arms of American militia stored there.

In 1861, the first shots were fired over whether a fort in the harbor of Charleston, S. C., should be evacuated and in effect disarmed.

Both wars, then, sprang in their full-blown form from efforts to disarm Americans who would not be disarmed.

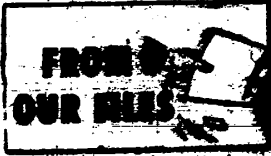
Whenever anyone stops to ask himself what will make Americans fighting mad, he might do well to consider 1775 and 1861.

Perhaps, on the anniversaries of Washington and Lincoln, that is as timely a thought as any.

However, what really frightens us, is the apathy of the American Public and the way they are letting the Politicians gradually take our freedoms away from us and invest the power in a strong central government that "they" control.

This enables a handful of powerful men to gradually lead us along the "primrose path" to that rosiely painted "Island in the Sky" — called Socialism.

And, when that point is reached, all of the sacrifices of our great Patriots will have been in vain — for this once great country of ours will more than likely be in the final throes of bankruptcy and despondency with the Citizens back in Bondage!



50 YEARS AGO

February 7, 1919

J. H. Backus, Publisher

George A. Updike, 65, of Independence, died Thursday. His wife, two sons, two daughters, four brothers and four sisters survive. Interment was in Independence Cemetery.

Henry Livermore and J. E. Howard are in trial before Judge from Andover for the term of court now in session at Belmont.

Henry Gould, arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Marvin February 6th.

Richard W. Rogers of South Hill has purchased the Martin property in Andover.

Henry Wood of Andover was a witness at the trial of Carl Clarke of Independence.

Wm. Baker of Fishing Creek, Pa., was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Del. Clair of East Valley last week.

Drs. Elwood and Clara of Waverly, were recalled to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Burdick of Tip Top.

Levi Dodge of Cambridge is spending several days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dodge of Tip Top.

Mr. and Mrs. John Will and son, John and Mrs. M. Folsing attended the funeral of Mrs. Christain Cook at Wellsville, Sunday.

Privates Max Richardson and Ralph Burgett came home from Camp Upton Thursday morning for good, both looking hale and hearty.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter Stephens of Buffalo are spending a few days visiting friends and relatives. They were called to Andover by the death of her brother, George Updike of Independence.

Mrs. Emma Folsing is attending Teachers Conference at Haverhill this week.

Henry Gill, Jr., has purchased of Lloyd Scott, his meat market and has taken possession of same.

Mrs. Lois Cook and Wm. Baker of Fishing Creek, Pa., Mrs. C. S. Kennell and son of Coopersport, Pa., spent from Tuesday until Monday at the W. E. Baker home at Tip Top.

40 YEARS AGO

February 8, 1919

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Mrs. Katherine Will, 79, died Saturday, February 2, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles B. Burdick of Elm Valley. A son, two daughters and three step-children survive. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Guy Wood has purchased of Mrs. Richard Smith of Alstead, her house and lot on Church St., formerly known as the Robbins property.

Richard McAndrew, 84, died at his home Saturday, February 2. Four daughters, a son, and a sister survive. Interment was in St. John's Cemetery.

Donald Smith of Andover spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Leo Horan of South Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. John Daniber of Wellsville were guests of their daughters, Mrs. Dougherty and Mrs. Dean of South Hill, Saturday and Sunday.

Ed Briggs of Himrods was visiting his sister, Mrs. L. E. Davis of Davis Hill Sunday and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis entertained a party of twenty friends and neighbors in honor of Mr. Briggs Monday night.

Men are busy on the Andover Road cutting ice for the Andover Ice House, which is being fitted.

Clifford Burdick is a delegate from Andover to the meeting of the New York State Grange in



By Mrs. Jones

...who received money... the debate is over how much they get. In the same manner the public has a right to know how much doctors and dentists are getting from the taxpayer.

The debate is over whether it is too little or too much, and should not be over whether or not the public has a right to know what the figures are.

Last year the Legislature tried cutting costs by eliminating some patients, all those between the ages of 21 and 64 who are not on welfare, for example.

It apparently did nothing to reduce the number of cases — which averaged about 400,000 a month before the legislation last year and shot up to about 900,000 a month after the bills were passed.

Now the Legislature might decide it wants to do something else — like set fees themselves instead of delegating that authority to someone in the state health or welfare department.

Rockefeller has already made such a reputation in the field of education. He has recommended putting a ceiling on the amount the state will pay for teachers salaries. The local school districts, saddled already by the Taylor Law, can pay what they want — but the state would only help pay up to a certain amount.

Central New York, for example, in Syracuse and Onondaga County, the costs have gone up over 600 per cent since the law was first passed in 1916.

Many doctors and dentists in Syracuse were angered when the names of those doctors and den-

Rocheater this week. Mrs. James Boyls of Belfast is spending the week with her sister, Miss Nora McAndrew.

Mrs. Anna Crandall of Angelica came to Andover Tuesday to stay for a time with Mrs. Emma Robbins.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Crandall and son of Elmira visited her mother, Mrs. Clara Crandall this past week. Mrs. Crandall accompanied them to their home Wednesday for a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Herrick, son John of Buffalo and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Champlin and daughter of Friendship were weekend guests at the home of A. W. Kaufman.

Mrs. C. L. Barley went to Rochester Saturday to visit her daughter, Mrs. Gordon Borden.

E. A. Richardson and son, Max Richardson went to Rochester Thursday to attend the Retail Hardware Dealers Association Convention.

Mr. and Mrs. George Elster and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hitchcock motored to Elmira Saturday to pass Sunday with Mrs. Hitchcock's daughter, Mrs. Lena Polmutter.

Mrs. A. R. Dunbar and babe are visiting her mother, Mrs. E. W. Seamon of East Pembroke.

Mr. and Mrs. James O'Boyle and daughter of Belmont and Mr. and Mrs. John Keough of Wellsville, were in Andover Sunday in attendance at the funeral of their father, Richard McAndrew.

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The Andover Rod and Gun Club members have been feeding pheasants and other wild birds about Andover the past week, since the heavy snow has made it difficult for them to get food.

The M.E. Ladies Aid will sell clam chowder Friday morning at 10 a. m. at the Wm. Burgett home for 25c a quart.

Mrs. L. M. Tremblay was honored a surprise by the Elmer Pimblee Club Friday evening in honor of her birthday.

Mrs. O. C. Parker celebrated her 70th birthday Wednesday with a family dinner.

There was no school bus or mailman up West Greenwood way Monday and Tuesday due to drifted roads. The snow plow finally made it to the Davis Hill roads Thursday morning.

Mrs. Mary Day and grandson, Donald Mings of Whitesville, spent the week-end with her daughter, Mrs. Carl Burdick of Elm Valley.

A family party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Wahl Sunday in honor of the birthday anniversary of William Wahl Sr.

Mrs. Lida Cochrane was called to Lyons this week by the death of her brother.

Mrs. Jennie Newman is spending some time with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Northrup.

Mrs. John Quigg passed from Friday until Monday in Elmer at the home of her daughter, Mrs. and Mr. Crandall of Belmont.

Mrs. Jones of South Hill, who has been visiting in Andover the past few weeks, has returned to their home in Albion, Canada.

THE ANDOVER NEWS Published Weekly by The News Printing House, Andover, N. Y. Owner: James A. Allen, and Ralph A. Allen, Owners, Andover, N. Y. Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Andover, N. Y., under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Subscription Price \$2.50 a year