ABRAHAM LINCOLN REPUBLICAN CLUB.

Sept. 16, 1949

I. INTRODUCTION.
A. PRIVILEGE to be guest of this club which bears a name so illustrious and enjoy with you the fellowship of an anniversary which merits wide observance.
B. ANNIVERSARIES like high points in a journey. Affords pause to look back from whence we came, look around to assess the present scene, and ahead to see what the future offers.

II. A LOOK BACKWARD.
A. CHRISTY'S PAINTING - daily visits relates the search on detail - buckles, ruffles, fabrics, colors, wigs.
B. PREFER BOLD BROAD PERSPECTIVE IN PICTURING THE CREATION OF A CHARTER OF GOV'T WHICH IS GREAT BY EVERY STANDARD.
1. TIME AND PLACE - a season of heat, dust, flies, discomfort, tensions.
2. THE PERSONALITIES - were famed and obscure, young and old, from 29 to 82, a generous number of young men, 9 under 35, some elegantly vocal, some plain and brief, some classical like Wilson, some suspicious like Sherman, some arrogant like Morris, some patient like Washington, all earnest and all cherishing a sense of responsibility.
3. THEIR PURPOSE - when once resolved was to build a government free from the weaknesses revealed by history and experience and one that would endure. It would be a Republic with power in the people, delegated to representatives. It was to avoid the evils of pure democracy on one hand and the evils of kingship on the other.
4. THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENT - In 60 days, by patience and compromise, by adjourning often to cool off when deadlock or stalemate threatened progress, they fashioned a new government under a new concept. The remaining days were really devoted to the refining process. This they did without violence, without bloodshed, without drawing a sword. History records no other achievement of such magnitude under such circumstances.
5. THE FOLLOW THROUGH. History reveals many great ideas, reduced to form nut lacking the stamina and faith to follow through. These men followed through, brought their work to the people, met the attack, defended their work by pen and voice, created the psychology for victory and saw it win ratification to give it effect.

6. THE PEOPLE. Every adult who could read, from Georgia to New Hampshire, without benefit of radio, daily newspaper, telephone or telegraph became fully familiar with this new creation and it's implications and joined in the pageantry and processions which observed it's fulfillment. They knew what had been wrought and invested it with their faith and their hopes.

7. THE CORE. What was the essence of this document. It was an instrument for government — not management — designed at every turn to protect the individual citizen against power, mischief and mismanagement. It recognized the spiritual character of the individual as the surcharged atom of mankind, by whom and thro whom alone their could be progress. It was his armor. It was designed to protect and safeguard the individual — his liberty — his life, his property, his emotions, his thoughts and the unfolding of his talents and hope.

8. PATTERN. So well had they wrought that it became the pattern of government for the states and other nations alike in every generation since that time. It is the oldest written framework of government in the world; it has endured; it proved flexible for only 12 times (excepting the Bill of Rights) has it been modified in 160 years.

9. 162 YEARS. All this, rugged, far seeing men wrought 162 years ago and who will deny that their labors, their tolerance, their faith was not inspired.
III. TODAY WE STAND ON THE THRESHOLD OF THE MID-CENTURY. THE 20TH CENTURY—FIRST HALF WILL SOON BE SPENT. MANKIND HAS MARCHED THAT FAR THROUGH THIS MOTIONLESS MEDIUM CALLED TIME.

NATION HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED.

STARS in the flag have multiplied.

THE FRONTIER has long since closed.

THE CHARACTER of the land has changed from heavily agrarian to both agrarian and industrial.

PEOPLE have multiplied 60 times.

FERTILITY OF MIND is evidenced by 2½ million registered patents.

TWO POWERS became the mainspring of greatness—the moral and spiritual power that resides in free men—and the physical power of steam, electric, atom.

PROGRESS—it sprang from nothing more than the constant, intelligent, undramatic action of the lives, talents, hopes of free men on what was here.

ALERTNESS—in every generation, free men, knowing what they wrought were jealous—alert to the mischief that resides in power—alert to the endeavors to impair freedom by impairing the safeguards which were created.

RESULT—the atmosphere which enabled every man—rich and poor, young and old—white and black—to coax forth his energies, talents and powers and win a reward for whatever product or service he developed for the enrichment of his fellow citizens—this free system of human enterprise—made this the greatest nation in all time—so great, so powerful, so complete that it could aid a score of nations during the last conflict.

conflict, aid three score in the post war period, produce feed, food and fibre in astronomical quantities, become the open door to which a score of suppliants now come in their distress, and become the one hope of stemming a hideous concept of hate and brutality which has been steadily liquidating the freedom which was wrought for us 162 years ago.

B. THIS CORE—The j’s coat of mail—which has safeguarded the individual—his freedom—his positive freedom—has been the one and
only secret weapon to carry us to achievement.

C. THE SAFEGUARDS TO INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY STILL THERE
1. HERNDON - When Angelo Herndon peddled
Communist literature around the city
square in Atlanta in violation of a Georgia
law and failed to receive a fair trial,
the Supreme Court ordered this destroyer
of freedom to have a fair trial under the
very Constitution which he would destroy.
2. SCOTTSBORO - When one of the Scottsboro
defendants was tried and convicted without
benefit of counsel, the high court admon-
ished Alabama that it could not take his
life or liberty without conforming to what
the Constitution makers wrought 162 years
ago.
3. NEBRASKA - When in the heat of conflict a
generation ago, Nebraska legislature prohibited
the teaching of German in Nebraska schools,
the Supreme Court reminded it sternly that
there was a Bill of Rights.
4. OREGON - When the Oregon Legislature by
law compelled its children to attend
public schools, they forgot that in a free
land, fathers and mothers from their own
purses may maintain parochial schools to
teach their children, including religion.
The Society of Sisters petitioned the high
Court and that body quickly made it clear
to Oregon that this was a free land and
that those freedoms had been protected by
the Constitution makers.
5. MRS. R.E. LEE - When this government, included
the President, sought by the collection of
taxes in insurrectionist areas and by seizur-
for military use, took over the holdings in
the estate of the widow of the Confederate
Commander, Robert E. Lee, the court quickly
told this government that the action was
illegal under the Constitution.
6. IT IS A LIVING, BREATHEING DOCUMENT.

D. WHAT ABOUT US - AND THE CONSTITUTION
1. ECSTACY - Easy to generate an academic
ecstacy over the Constitution and glorify
it in liquid words. It's not important.
2. $64 DOLLAR QUESTION - In an age of $64
questions, the real question is what about
us - 162 years later - and the Constitution
3. THEY - in that day, knew what it was and 
became familiar with it and it's import.

4. MORAL AND SPIRITUAL CRIPPLES - the bitter
reside of any war would not care if it were 
destroyed.

5. THE DESTROYERS - for those who would de-
stroy us from within, it becomes a cloak 
of protection for their filthy designs.

6. FOR GRANTED - There are millions who take 
it for granted. It's been here 162 years. 
Surely, it will always be here. In a world 
of fewer where governments so quickly fade 
and freedom fails, is there any reason to 
believe that the Constitution could not 
perish?

7. OPINION - what people think about the Con-
stitution 162 years later is important. 
A deed has value, not because of the stamps 
consideration, signatures and recording 
but because of the majorit still feel that it 
should have validity. When they decide to 
divide, the deed fails. When a majority 
know what it is that they defend - and de-
defend it - the edifice of Constitutional 
liberty will stand. What we think - you 
and me - 162 years later is important.

IV. THE FUTURE - IS IT IN DANGER.
A. THE SPIRIT AND PURPOSE of the Constitution 
162 years after its creation is in gen-
ue danger.

B. NO FRONTAL ASSAULT - It will not be destroyed 
by some formal resolution to repeal it. It 
will not be impaired by a host of amendments 
Those are archaic techniques. Citadels are 
not reduced by frontal assault. Psychologic 
warfare was born in this generation. Words 
are the weapons - subtle inroads - confusion 
of terms - backdoor approaches - subtle in-
vassion

C. SIREN SONG. We shall be lulled into security 
as the jeopardy grows. A former Cabinet Mbr 
and now a Senator speaking at Hamilton C. 
on Aug. 28 the said, " I want to ask you, 
what liberties you have lost? Do you not 
have liberty of free speech, the right of 
peaceful assemblage, the right of religious 
freedom? " They have these same
liberties in Britain today, but listen to Mr. Honor Groomer, Br. Economist in a recent issue of Lloyds Bank Review. "The life of the citizen is less under his control than in the days of the Tudors. Even Tudor officialdom is not recorded as having ordered the ploughing-in of a crop ready for harvest because it's sowing had not been sanctioned, (2) nor made it an offense to give a neighbor a pitcher of milk nor (3) forbidden him to repair his own house with his own hands." He still has free speech but he is being managed today. But this is the song:

**D. Where Comes These Dangers?**

1. CENTRALIZATION OF POWER. How careful these Constitution makers were to delegate only certain powers to the central gov't and to reserve all others knowing that power exercise at a distance becomes dangerous to freedom. The 10th amendment further emphasized this reservation of power to the states and to the people. Gradually the power of the grass roots is whittled away. Gradually there come more bureaucrats - ONE FOR EVERY EIGHT WORKING PEOPLE - to manage the individual affairs. NOW CONSIDER S.1646. THE CVA covers not only Columbia but nearly everything in Ore. and Wash. A Federal corporation, outside the reach of Ore. Wash. Mont. Idaho. The directors free from local control. Scarcey removable by a /res. Subordinates exempt from civil service. Hordes of employees. Virtual life and death power over water, irrigation, navigation, lumbering, wild life. Take and dispose property, rearrange highways, RR's bridges, mills, electric plants whether publicly or privately owned. Distribute water and electric power WITHOUT STATE CONTROL. No state or local taxes. Hence states and localities become mendicants. "The necessity of making payments and amounts thereof shall be determined finally by the CVA" WHAT ABOUT DUE PROCESS? Unlimited funds. Can operate a variety of businesses beyond state control. Determine size of farm units to be benefitted. WHAT IT INVOLVES IS NOT ONLY FREEDOM BUT PUBLIC CONTROL OF ITS OWN GOVERNMENT. (That's the way to torpedo the Constitution)}
2. MAINTAIN A FISCAL CRISIS WHICH INVITES DIASTER through high taxes, liquidation of risk, creation of a condition for govt to take over.

a. RUSSIA has no fiscal crisis. Makes a budget and then sweats it's people in Slave Labor Camps, speed-ups, fixed wages and conditions. There is no criticism, no strikes, no freedom, no progress.

b. MORAL AND FISCAL CRISIS EVERYWHERE - China, Britain, Marshall Plan nations. Today they are mendicants, and we are treading that road. Local, state (15) federal (42) pending demands (4) and pending proposals (12) would mean a tax take of 73 or 33 1/3 of present national income.

c. FREEDOM TO RISK, venture, expand is gone.

3. CONFUSE AND BEOG THE REAL MEANING OF FREEDOM

a. DISTORTION - Lenin had a technique - confuse the vocabulary - Wallace spoke of economic democracy - behind Iron Curtain they speak of selves as People's Democracies.

b. THE NEW ACCENT - Negative - not freedom for something - for opportunity - for life - for property and only against intrusion of Gov't - BUT FROM SOMETHING. FREEDOM FROM WANT, FEAR, CARE, INSTABILITY, DISCIPLINE, SACRIFICE, COMPETITION. RISK - Class of '49 - No ulcers. COMPETITION - destroyed Britain. SACRIFICE - make the other fellow do it. INSTABILITY - Freeze civilization. DISCIPLINE - Pinks who yell fire.

HOW FAR -

(1) 150 school systems prohibit the use of the "FAILURE" grade - the children can't take it.

(2) Scientific holiday - going too fast and too far

(3) Holiday on inventions - afraid of
our own mental fertility.
(3) TAX ON MACHINES—tax it's capacity to
displace. Where would it have left us in
war.
(4) How sane when men stand in fear of earth's
bounty.
(This the way to torpedo the core
and purpose of this Constitution
without amendment.)

VI. AFTER 162 YEARS—FAIR QUESTION—CAN WE PRESERVE
WHAT THEY WROUGHT—WHAT THEY INTENDED—WHAT SERVEL
US SO WELL.

A. TIME FOR ACTION NOT ECSTASY

B. MUST KNOW WHAT WE DEFEND.

C. DEMONSTRATE ITS EFFECT —Sled—

D. CONSECRATION OR DRIFT.

V.I. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. In answer to what kind of
a gov't—'A Republic—if you can keep it.'