

CHICAGO PREPARES FOR LINCOLN LEAGUE

As in 1920 so it is in 1924, all of Chicago is getting ready to take in the big convention when the Lincoln league of America opens at Bethel auditorium Feb. 12.

Roscoe Conkling Simmons, president of the Lincoln league, returned to his office in the Defender building Tuesday after a two weeks' stay in Washington and New York, where he took a hand in the fight that will bring another great victory to the league in the confirmation of Walter L. Cohen as comptroller of customs at New Orleans, to put on the finishing touches of the convention.

Letters from all sections of the country pour in on Lincoln league officials and Chicagoans generally with the same story: "Coming to Chicago for the Lincoln league."

Many Victories Won

Aside from its great program as arranged by the executive committee of which R. R. Church, Memphis, is chairman, the league will make a report of its stewardship to the country.

Among the achievements of the league are: Appointment of Perry W. Howard, brilliant lawyer and political leader, to be assistant attorney general of the U. S.; appointment, twice by Harding and once by Coolidge, of Walter L. Cohen; the restoration of rights of Southern Republicans in the Republican national convention, the greatest victory in recent political history, and the conversion of President Harding from a lily white program.

Two big victories are in the plans of the league at present. One is the confirmation of Cohen, which is scheduled for Feb. 4, and the other is the vindication of Henry Lincoln Johnson, who is the only member of the Republican national committee not white.

The Lincoln league is a practical organization of practical men dealing with everyday matters in a common sense way.

No Section Line

The league is no sectional organization. Matthews of Massachusetts, Stewart and Harris of New York, Cottrell of Ohio, Edward W. Henry, Randall and Burrs of Pennsylvania, Oliver of Rhode Island are working

hand in hand with Western and Southern leaders with one aim in view, the advancement, not of certain people, but of all the people.

League debates engaged in by the greatest minds in public life will attract the attention of the city. Citizens of all colors and beliefs will take part in the convention. John T. Adams, chairman of the Republican national committee, will address the convention on the evening of Feb. 12.

Only the Lincoln league brings to the platform of those it represents the head of a ruling party in the United States. Medill McCormick, United States senator, will speak on "Lincoln" the same evening.

League Is Constructive

The Lincoln league meets only according to its constitution, which provides that its conventions shall be held on Lincoln's birthday. The Lincoln league is Republican, according to one of its high officials, only because it believes that the Republican party is the best shelter for its following in a day of storm.

From California a delegation headed by J. B. Bass, editor of the California Eagle, will be present and E. D. Canady of Oregon promises to see that his state answers the roll call.

Scipio A. Jones of Arkansas and Homer G. Phillips of Missouri are bringing delegations from their respective states.

Important questions to be considered by the Lincoln league will be "Migration and Its Political Influence," "Our Political Status" and "Congressional Legislation." Arthur I. Froe, recorder of deeds, will be present to take part in the debates.

The secretary of the Lincoln league, Henry Lincoln Johnson, will arrive in the city several days before the convention.

Political conditions in the South will be covered in an address to be delivered by Walter L. Cohen, who, with Lincoln Johnson and Perry W. Howard, is still a power in political circles.

Prominent among the women of the convention will be Mrs. Thomas W. Fleming of Cleveland and Mrs. Susie Myers, president of the Illinois League of Republican Women's club.