

THE COURIER

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LINCOLN AS A CITY OF CHURCHES

Sixty Religious Organizations, With a Membership Approximating 12,000 and an Investment of Over Half a Million, Represented in the City

The religious sentiment is a natural attribute found in every human breast. The savage in the forest wilds, the pagan in outlying lands, each has found it necessary to rear some fetish at whose feet he might worship. It might be a mere spiritual form, it might be a rude, carved idol of stone or wood. It was something. Others there are who worship thought, but the religious sentiment is its chief mark. Christians worship a living Christ, and the proofs its devotees have marshaled have been convincing enough to win over a great part of the world. Evangelization is still in progress and the dream is fondly cherished that the coming centuries will see an entire globe under the sway of the religion of gentleness and love as exemplified by the meek and lowly Nazarene.

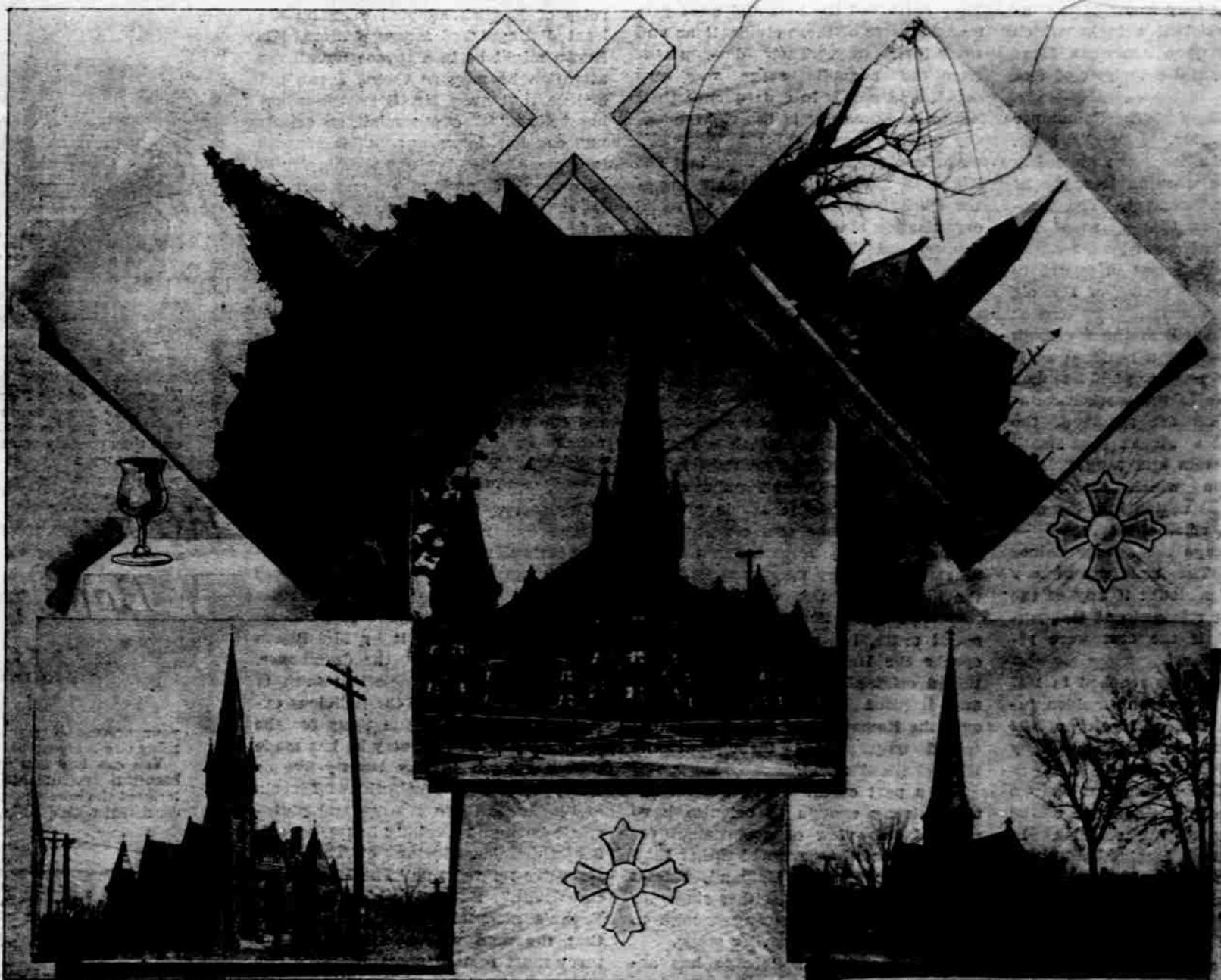
Lincoln is distinctly a city of churches. Few municipalities of her size can boast of so many and such handsome edifices dedicated to the cause of religion. Civilization still presents many raw edges, and where

population is dense its vices are most prominent. It may smack of Pharisaism; but it is nevertheless the truth that Lincoln is a cleaner city morally and offers more attractions to the home-seeker than any of her neighbors. This is largely due to the overshadowing influences of the churches and the substantial character of its people.

There are sixty religious organizations in Lincoln. The Methodists lead in point of numbers of churches and membership, with the Congregationalists, Presbyterians and Lutherans in order. It is impossible to accurately state the membership of the Catholic church, as under its rules every one, infant and adult, who are baptized is counted as belonging to the church.

Very nearly 12,000 of Lincoln's 45,000 people belong to some one church, and \$600,000 is a moderate estimate of the money invested. Rev. L. P. Ludden, secretary of the ministerial association, has compiled for the Courier from his records the following statistical information:

Churches.	Value.	Membership.		Value.	Membership.
Baptist—4.			Grace	10,000	150
First	\$40,000	600	Christian—3.		
East Lincoln	6,000	250	First or Central.....	10,000	500
Mt. Zion (colored)....	3,000	150	East Lincoln.....	6,000	350
German Dunkard.....	2,000	100	Zion (colored).....	1,200	100
Congregational—8.			Roman Catholic—3.		
First	30,000	450	St. Theresa.....	45,000	*
Plymouth	18,000	300	German	18,000	*
Vine Street	10,000	250	Bohemian	2,000	*
Butler Avenue	4,000	150	Reformed—2.		
Swedish	1,500	60	St. Mark's	14,000	100
German, First.....	4,500	300	German Reformed... 2,000		75
German, Second.....	2,500	150	Evangelical—3.		
Zion	2,500	200	Salem	2,500	140
Methodist—10.			South Lincoln.....	500	60
St. Paul	70,000	800	United Evangelical..	6,000	50
Grace	20,000	550	Episcopal—2.		
Trinity	18,000	500	Holy Trinity.....	30,000	400
Emmanuel	10,000	300	North Lincoln.....	2,500	100
Bethel	1,000	100	Christian Science—2.		
Epworth	2,500	150	First Church.....		250
German M. E.....	10,000	160	Second Church.....		100
African M. E.....	2,000	140	Other Churches—11.		
Newman M. E. (col.)	1,000	50	First Free Baptist... 7,000		100
Swedish	1,500	130	Jewish Reformed.....	10,000	100
Presbyterian—7.			Jewish Orthodox.....		100
First	40,000	670	Free Will M. E.....	1,500	75
Second	18,000	600	Gospel Tabernacle... 1,200		75
Third	6,000	170	Peoples' Ch., So. Lin. 1,000		
North Lincoln Mis..	3,000		Seventh Day Adv.... 6,000		150
South Lincoln Mis..	2,000		Advent Christian.....	1,500	100
Curtis Mission.....	1,000		Caldwell Memorial...		
United Presbyterian	12,000	100	United Brethren.....	6,000	125
Lutheran—4.			All Souls (Unitarian)	35,000	250
German	11,000	200	* Membership of the Roman Catholic church includes every baptized person.		
German Evangelical	2,500	240	This splendid showing is the result of but a generation of evolution. It is		
Danish	2,000	60	(Continued on Page Twelve.)		
Swedish	10,000	100			
Norwegian in Amer.		40			



A GROUP OF LINCOLN CHURCHES.