March 2008

Presidential Inaugurations

Welcome to the 13th issue of the Central Illinois Teaching with Primary Sources Newsletter, a collaborative project of the Teaching with Primary Sources Programs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Eastern Illinois University.

With this issue and continuing through February 2009 the theme each month will reflect primary sources from our Abraham Lincoln Calendar. You can download and print a copy of the calendar at http://www.eiu.edu/~eiutps.

Most Presidential Inaugurations are a time of celebration with inaugural balls, parades and fireworks. Both of President Lincoln's inaugurations were shrouded by the Civil War. By the time Lincoln's first inauguration took place seven states had seceded from the union which was the beginning of the Civil War. As written in the Library of Congress Top Treasure Exhibit Lincoln needed his inaugural address to reinforce his support for the north without alienating the south. He sent out copies of his speech to his closest advisors for comments and suggestions. In the final draft Lincoln ended with a question to the south, "Shall it be peace or sword?" On the suggestion of William Seward, Lincoln changed the tone dramatically and ended with "I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stre[t]ching from every battle-field, and patriot grave, to every living heart and hearthstone, all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." Lincoln's inaugural speech can be viewed in the Top Treasures Exhibit http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trt039.html

At Lincoln's second inauguration the Civil War was all but won by the North so security for the president became a top priority. There were many letters to the president with concerns for his safety stating plots to prevent the inauguration to fears that his enemies might try to poison him. http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=mal&fileName=mal1/044/0444300/malpage.db&recNum=0 accessed on March 1, 2008.

Lincoln received many suggestions for potential body guards. It was not known until later when we look at the pictures from Lincoln's second inauguration that security for that day was extremely important. Although the inauguration commenced without any problems in one of the pictures you will see John Wilkes Booth in the background behind the president during his speech. http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/piwi03.html

Beyond President Lincoln

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." This is the sentence that starts each president's term. The oath is a promise that the new president makes to the American people.

The inauguration of George Washington as President set a model for future inaugurations to follow. The swearing-in took place outside, he took the oath on a bible; an inaugural address was given and there were fireworks and a parade to celebrate. This pattern is still followed for a president's inauguration.
Beyond President Lincoln (cont)

Today the inauguration takes place on January 20th, but for over 100 years the inauguration was held on March 4th. The twentieth amendment to the Constitution states that the term for president and vice-president shall end at noon on January 20th. This started with Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s second inauguration in 1937.

Each president’s inauguration holds special meaning but some stand out on record. Such as, George Washington’s second inaugural speech was the shortest containing only 135 words while William Harrison’s was the longest with a record 8,441 words. While Harrison hold the record for the longest inaugural speech he also holds the record for the shortest presidential term lasting only a month he was the first president to die in office. Franklin Roosevelt served four terms as president. This is a first and a last since congress adapted the 22nd amendment which limits the president to serving two terms in office. These are just the few of the unique parts to the presidential inauguration there are many more, the first inauguration covered by a telegraph (Polk), the first broadcast on the radio (Coolidge), the first televised inauguration (Truman) and the first to be broadcast on the internet (Clinton) all these are found in the Presidential Inauguration Collection’s special feature Precedents and Notable Events http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/pinotable.html

Topic Connections

Presidential Inaugurations http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/pihome.html
This collection is the key to the presidential inaugurations. In it you will find inaugural speeches many in the president’s own handwriting, special images and even a sound recording of President Kennedy giving his speech. The Special Features in this collection capture every inauguration from George Washington to George Bush.

The Abraham Lincoln Papers http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/alhtml/malhome.html
With his first term at the start of the Civil War and his second at the end of the war this collection contains numerous items that pertain to Lincoln’s inaugurations. There are letters warning Lincoln of impending danger at his inaugurations. One letter suggests that Lincoln resign his office as president. http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=mal&fileName=mal1/052/0524700/malpage.db&recNum=0 Other letter’s offer assistance to the president with the use of bodyguards and soldiers. These letter’s show what turbulent times surrounded President Lincoln’s inaugurations.

An American Time Capsule: Three Centuries of Broadsides and other Printed Ephemera http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/rbpehtml/pehome.html
This collection is an excellent source for inauguration memorabilia. In it you will find invitations to inaugural balls, ceremonies and programs. The arrangements for the inaugural ceremonies are in this collection. It is given in great detail and precise times of each scheduled event.

Theodore Roosevelt His Life and Times on Film http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/troosevelt_film/index.html
Although this collection contains only a few items about Roosevelt’s and McKinley’s inaugurations the advantage this collection holds is that the items are on film. Your class can view scenes of Roosevelt’s 1905 inauguration ceremony and McKinley’s 1901 inauguration.
Lesson Plans, Activities and Resources

**America’s Library**

**Meet Amazing Americans**

**Assuming the Presidency** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/presidents/tyler/assuming_1](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/presidents/tyler/assuming_1)

**Independence and Presidency** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/presidents/wash/ind_3](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/presidents/wash/ind_3)

**Log Cabin Campaign** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/presidents/harrison/whharrison_3](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/presidents/harrison/whharrison_3)

**Jump Back in Time**

**Detective Allen Pinkerton** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/nation/pinkerto_3](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/nation/pinkerto_3)

**Robert Frost Reads Poem at JFK Inauguration** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/modern/frost_1](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/modern/frost_1)

**Abraham Lincoln’s Inauguration** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/civil/lincoln2_1](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/civil/lincoln2_1)

**Wise Guide**

**I Do Solemnly Swear** [http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/feb05/swear.html](http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/feb05/swear.html)

**An Incredibly Long Winded President who wasn’t President for very long** [http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/jan03/harrison.html](http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/jan03/harrison.html)

**When Inauguration Day was in August** [http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/aug04/inauguration.html](http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/aug04/inauguration.html)

**Today in History**

**Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Inauguration** [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/jan20.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/jan20.html)

**Father of our County** [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/apr30.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/apr30.html)

**Lincoln’s First Inauguration** [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/mar04.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/mar04.html)

**Inauguration Day** [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/mar04.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/mar04.html)

**Webcasts**


**Presentations and Activities**

**I Spy Lincoln Inauguration** [http://learning.loc.gov/learn/features/inaug/ispy2.html](http://learning.loc.gov/learn/features/inaug/ispy2.html)

**Inaugurations from George W to George W** [http://learning.loc.gov/learn/features/inaug/theatre.html](http://learning.loc.gov/learn/features/inaug/theatre.html)

**Learning Page**

**Inaugurations** [http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/inaug/section1.html](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/inaug/section1.html)

**Succession and Inaugurations** [http://memory.loc.gov/learn/collections/papers/history4.html](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/collections/papers/history4.html)
Lesson Plans and Activities

Exhibitions
I do Solemnly Swear http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/inaugural-home.html
Harrison’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr072.html
Buchanan’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr073.html
Roosevelt’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr069.html
Jackson’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr075.html
McKinley’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr070.html
Grant’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr076.html
Lincoln’s Second Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trt053.html
Polk’s Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr077.html
Jefferson’s First Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trt052.html
Jackson’s First Inaugural Address http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trr075a.htm
Inaugural Bible http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trt040.html
Lincoln’s First Inauguration http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trt039.html
Jefferson’s First Inaugural Address http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm070.html

What’s New at LOC.Gov

My Flickr: A Match Made in Photo Heaven

The Library of Congress is launching a new pilot project with Flickr, the enormously popular photo-sharing site that has been a Web 2.0 innovator. If all goes according to plan, the project will help address at least two major challenges: how to ensure better and better access to the Libraries collections, and how to ensure the best possible information about those collections for the benefit of researchers and posterity.

Out of some 14 million prints, photographs and other visual materials at the Library of Congress, more than 3,000 photos from two of the most popular collections are being made available on the new Flickr page, to include only images for which no copyright restrictions are known to exist.

The real magic comes when the power of the Flickr community takes over. We want people to tag, comment and make notes on the images, just like any other Flickr photo, which will benefit not only the community but also the collections themselves. For instance, many photos are missing key caption information such as where the photo was taken and who is pictured. If such information is collected via Flickr members, it can potentially enhance the quality of the bibliographic records for the images. To participate in the Library of Congress Flickr project go to http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/

Text from Library of Congress Blog January 16, 2008 by Matt Raymond
Test Your Knowledge...

Inauguration Facts

Match the Inaugural fact to the right president. The answers are found in Library of Congress American Memory Presidential Inauguration Collection Precedents and Notable Events http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/pinotable.html

1. Shortest inaugural address ___
2. First president sworn in wearing long trousers ___
3. Longest inaugural address 8,441 words ___
4. First Inaugural covered by telegraph ___
5. First president to affirm rather than swear the oath of office ___
6. First inaugural photographed ___
7. First mother of the president to attend inauguration ___
8. First inaugural recorded by a movie camera ___
9. Only president not sworn in on a Bible ___
10. First inaugural broadcast by radio ___
11. Only president to be inaugurated four times ___
12. First inauguration to be televised ___
13. Last president to wear a stove pipe hate to inauguration ___
14. First time oath was administered on an airplane ___
15. First inaugural that fell on Super Bowl Sunday ___
16. First inauguration broadcast live on the internet ___

A. Garfield 1881
B. Franklin D. Roosevelt 1945
C. Washington 1793
D. Polk 1845
E. Clinton 1997
F. Truman 1949
G. Pierce 1853
H. Adams 1825
I. Kennedy 1961
J. Coolidge 1925
K. Harrison 1841
L. McKinley 1897
M. Theodore Roosevelt 1901
N. Buchanan 1857
O. Johnson 1963
P. Regan 1985
Test Your Knowledge...

Answer the questions below then find the answers in the word search. All answers came from this newsletter.

1. The ceremonial induction of a new president.
2. In a draft of his first inaugural address, Lincoln ended with “Shall it be peace or ____”
3. Promise that a new president makes to the American people is the ___ of office.
4. The 22nd amendment allows the president to serve only two ___ in office.
5. The Presidential Inauguration takes place in this month.
6. The shortest inaugural speech was give by ___
7. At 8,441 words ___ gave the longest inaugural speech.
8. The inauguration is when a new ___ takes office.
9. The only president to serve four terms
10. The president to the best of his ability promises to ___, ____ and ____ the constitution.
Image Sources

Library of Congress
Abraham Lincoln's Inaugural Address 1861
American Treasures of the Library of Congress

Library of Congress
Invitation to the inauguration of the President of the United States, 1905
An American Time Capsule: Three Centuries of Broadsides and other Printed Ephemera

Library of Congress
Inauguration ceremonies. Admit an employee of the Library of Congress, to the platform, after the procession from the Senate Chamber .... Committee of arrangement. [Washington, 1897
An American Time Capsule: Three Centuries of Broadsides and other Printed Ephemera

Library of Congress
Convention Crowd-Chicago
Prints and Photographs

Library of Congress
Crowd listening to T.R speak, Chicago
Prints and Photographs