

## JOHN C. LINCOLN HERE ON BIRTHDAY

Presiding at 90 at Henry  
George School

BY J. A. WADOVICK

Thank the Henry George School of Social Science for enlisting John C. Lincoln here for a visit which will enable a legion of Clevelanders to say "Happy Birthday" to the founder of the Lincoln Electric Co. and one of the city's outstanding industrial pioneers. He will be 90 tomorrow.

The school is holding its 11th annual conference at Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea. Workshop sessions this afternoon will wind up the three-day meeting.

What brought Lincoln to the Berea conference? In fact, how come he is president of the George school?

### He Read the Book

"I first read 'Progress and Poverty' 50-60 years ago," he told a group outside Marting Hall. Unbent by the years, he spoke quietly, but the fire and zeal for the ideas which gave birth to the "single-tax" movement and made Henry George's name a household word still glowed through Lincoln.

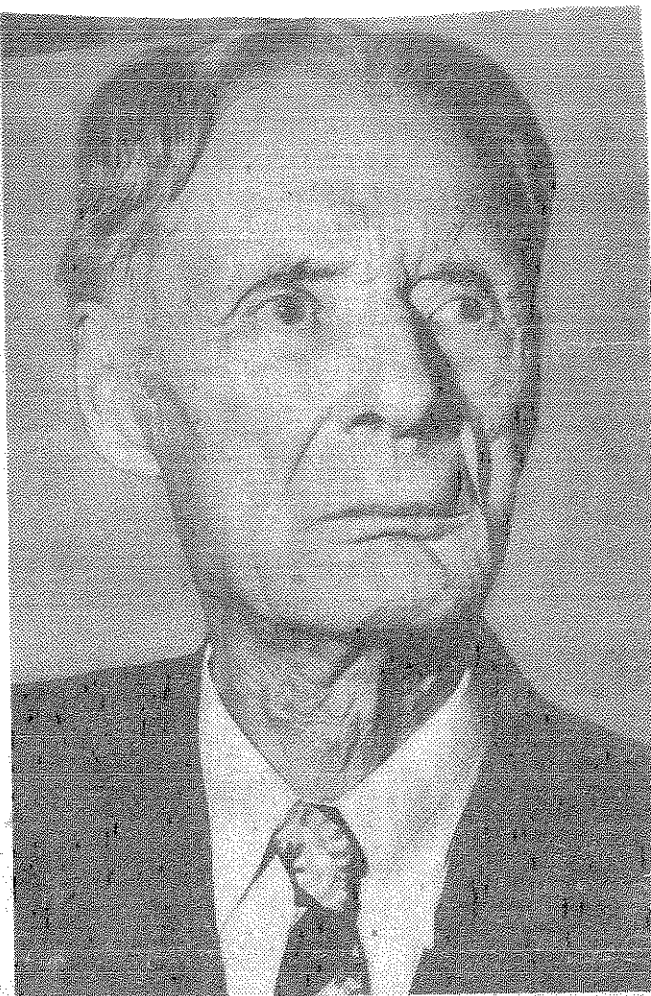
"I read the book three times before I found what was in it," he said. What he found was the "relations we do not see"—relations essential to the preservation of our civilization insisted Lincoln.

### 'Still a George Crank'

To this day, Lincoln has remained, as he insists, a "crank on Henry George."

He was born July 17, 1866, on his grandfather's farm in Painesville. His father was a minister, and Lincoln's childhood was an odyssey of moving. He was graduated from Ohio State in 1888. He came to Cleveland and worked a year with the Brush Electric Co. The company had a students course in electricity—a novel idea for that time.

He dates the founding of the Lincoln Electric Co. to December, 1895. The company was incorporated in 1906 with a capital of \$10,000, and Lincoln was its president until 1928, when he became chairman of the board. He was succeeded as president by his younger brother, James F. Currently John has the title of honorary president.



Plain Dealer Photo by Marvin Greene

Pioneering Cleveland Industrialist, John C. Lincoln, founder of the Lincoln Electric Co., is attending the 11th annual conference of the Henry George School of Social Science at Baldwin-Wallace College.

### Industrial Pioneer

Lincoln's industrial pioneering and ventures are many. He has received some 50 patents on electrical devices.

Under the leadership of his brother, Lincoln Electric has become world-famous for its incentive system of worker-management relations.

Lincoln was candidate for vice-president of the United States on the Commonwealth Land party ticket in 1924. He became associated with the Henry George School of Social Sciences, chartered by the University of the State of New York, 20 years ago.

### Active in Arizona

Seeking a sunnier climate, Lincoln and his wife settled in Arizona. They now live in Scottsdale, near Phoenix.

Who wants to be retired at 90? Not Lincoln. He is president of the Camel Back Inn Co. of Scottsdale, president of the Bagdad Copper Co. of Bagdad, Ariz., chairman of the board of the Ohio Universal Wire Spring Co., Bedford, and, of course, president of the Lincoln Foundation.

Man's basic relation to the land was discussed by Louis Bromfield, Plain Dealer columnist and author, at an evening session. Other speakers were Mrs. V. G. Peterson, executive secretary of Robert Schalkenbach, publisher of Henry George books, and Russel Conklin, mayor of Great Falls, Mont., whose topic was "Applying Land Value Taxation."

The conference will close with a farewell breakfast tomorrow morning.