

NATION: President Lincoln Killed

Lincoln Dead—Reconstruction in Trouble

The White House, Washington, D.C., April 14, 1865

President **Abraham Lincoln** is dead—and reconstruction of the South may have died with him.

Lincoln died after being shot by **John Wilkes Booth**. Friends think Booth **assassinated** [killed] the president because Lincoln ruined the South. But Lincoln's death may mean bad times ahead for the South.

Lincoln wanted to **reconstruct** [build up again] the South by giving the Southerners **amnesty** [forgiveness]. Lincoln believed:

- The Southern people, not the Southern states, had started the war.

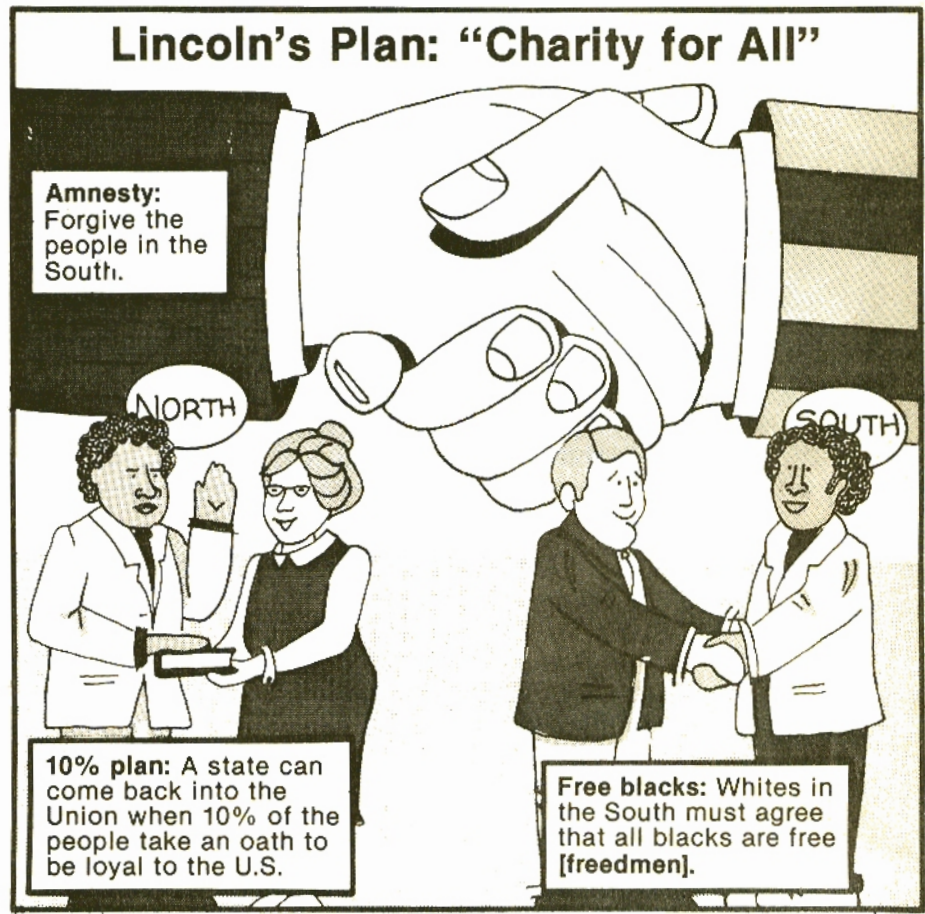
- The president has the power to give amnesty to people.

- Once amnesty had been given, the South could build up again their own state governments, farms, and businesses.

Congress does not like Lincoln's reconstruction plan. Congress believes:

- The Southern states killed themselves—by starting the Civil War.

- The Southern states are no longer states—just conquered territories.



- Only Congress can let a territory back into the Union.

Congress already has a plan for bringing these states back into the Union. It laid out the plan in the **Wade-Davis Bill**.

This bill says:

- Congress will tell the states when and how they can come back into the Union.

- Congress will put the South under military rule. Northern generals will run these states.

Lincoln used a **pocket veto** to kill this bill before it became law. But with Lincoln dead, Congress will likely pass an even harsher law to punish the South.

Vice-President Andrew Johnson now becomes president. Johnson is not expected to stop Congress from acting against the South.

Timeline: Abraham Lincoln

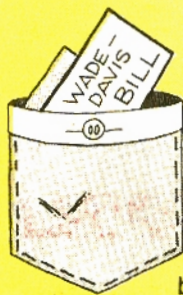
1860: Elected first Republican president of the U.S.

1863: Signs Emancipation Proclamation saying slaves were free.

1863: Dedicated the Union cemetery at Gettysburg with his famous Gettysburg Address.

1865: Assassinated in office—the first American president to whom this happened.

POCKET VETO



The Constitution says a president has 10 days to sign a bill into law. If the president does not like the bill, he can say no to the bill and send it back to Congress unsigned. This is a **veto**.

If Congress is finished with its business for the year, the president can also veto a bill by "putting the bill in his pocket" [keeping it]. This is called a **pocket veto**.

- What is helping and hurting the free blacks? p.33
- Trial of President Johnson, p.34
- Three amendments passed to help blacks, p.35

NATION: Blacks After the War

Radical Reconstruction—The South Suffers

Congress, Washington, D.C., 1868

Radical Republicans have pushed through Congress the last of the reconstruction acts—and hard times are ahead for the South.

The **reconstruction acts** let Congress tell the South how to rebuild and how to get back into

the Union.

The reconstruction acts:

- Divide the South into five military districts—each run by a Northern general and the Army.

- Make people take a loyalty oath—before they can vote on a new state government.

- Make a state government ratify [say yes to] the 14th Amend-

ment—before the state can come back into the Union. [The 14th Amendment makes blacks U.S. citizens.]

Radical Republicans are being led by **Representative Thaddeus Stevens** and **Senator Charles Sumner**. They want to punish the South for fighting against the Union.

Blacks Are Free—What Now?

A look at freed blacks:

What's helping them, what's hurting them.

Congress Chokes Black Codes

Congress, Washington, D.C., 1866

In answer to the black codes, Congress has passed the 14th amendment.

To keep blacks down, whites in the South have written **black code** laws. These laws say blacks cannot:



- Vote.

- Marry whites.

- Hold public office.



- Gather after sunset.

- Leave a job without permission.



- Own or carry a gun.

- Apply for jobs held by whites.

The 14th Amendment gives blacks all the rights the black codes took away.

Freedmen's Bureau Closes—Gave Blacks New Start

Washington, D.C., 1872

The **Freedmen's Bureau**, run by the U.S. Army, has ended.

Started by Congress in 1865, the Freedmen's Bureau helped black and white men, women, and children to get back on their feet again after the Civil War.

The Freedmen's Bureau has:

- Given food and clothes.

- Found jobs.

- Started schools to teach over 200,000 blacks to read and write.

- Handed out unclaimed land to homeless blacks and whites.

- Helped blacks to vote.

- Started hospitals for the sick.

Freed blacks are happy with the Freedmen's Bureau. But white Southerners hate it. They say the Freedmen's Bureau is trying to run the South.

General Oliver Otis Howard headed the Bureau. He also started Howard University for blacks who want to go to college.

voting. But blacks can vote. They are voting for Republicans.

The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) wants to stop that. They dress like ghosts and ride at night, scaring blacks who vote. Now many blacks are too scared to vote.

Freed Slaves Look for New Life

Richmond, Virginia, 1865

Southern blacks have big problems. Before the war, white owners took care of their needs. Now ex-slaves do not know how to get what they need.

Four million free blacks are without:

- Homes, food, and clothes.

- Jobs.

- Skills like reading and writing.

Sharecroppers—The South's New Slaves

Georgia, 1877

There is a new slavery in the South—**sharecropping**.

Since the Civil War, white planters have had no slaves to work the land. Free blacks have no land. So planters and free blacks have been making a deal. The deal is this:

- The planter lets the black use tools and seed to farm a piece of the plantation.

- The planter gets paid by taking part of the crop raised from the black sharecropper.

But black sharecroppers:

- Must buy food and clothes on credit [buy now, pay later] until the crop is ready.

- Find their share of the crop is not enough to pay all the bills.

- Cannot leave the farm until all the bills are paid.

Now the sharecropper is becoming a new kind of slave—a slave to a little piece of land.

Ku Klux Klan Strikes Back at Blacks

Tennessee, 1866

Some white Southern Democrats have formed a secret society called the **Ku Klux Klan** to keep blacks from voting.

Reconstruction laws keep most white Southern Democrats from

NATION: Reconstruction

Bill Passes in Spite of Johnson's Veto

Congress, Washington, D.C., 1866

For the first time in history, Congress has not let a president's veto stand. It passed the Civil Rights Act again after **President Andrew Johnson** vetoed it.

Johnson and the Radical Republicans in Congress have been fighting since Johnson became president. They do not agree on how to reconstruct the South. (Chart below shows what Johnson wanted and what the Radical Republicans wanted.)

First President Impeached—Not Guilty By One Vote

U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 1868

President Andrew Johnson has been **impeached** [charged with crimes against the government]. He was found not guilty—by one vote. Johnson stays on as president.

Here is a look at what happened between Johnson and Congress:

■ **1865-1867:** Johnson and Congress fight over how reconstruction should be carried out.

■ **March 1867:** To anger

Johnson, Congress passes the **Tenure of Office Act**. It says a president cannot fire a person in his cabinet unless the Senate says he can.

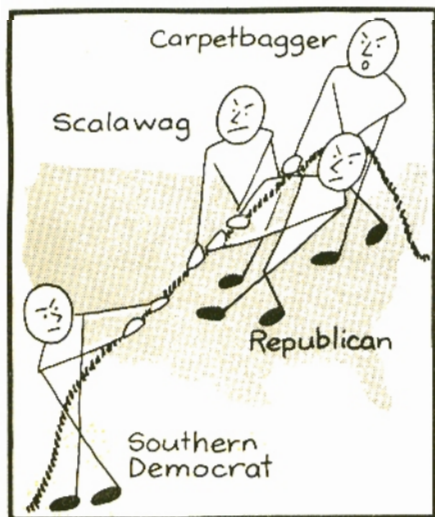
■ **February 1868:** Johnson goes against the Tenure of Office Act and fires the secretary of war.

■ **February 1868:** The House of Representatives impeaches Johnson for not obeying the Tenure of Office Act.

■ **May 1868:** By one vote, Johnson is found not guilty by the Senate.

Whose Plan	Abraham Lincoln	Andrew Johnson	Congress (Radical Republicans)
Who Is in Charge of Reconstruction	the president	the president	Congress
Attitudes Toward South	Friends: South should get amnesty [forgiveness]. Southerners should work out problems themselves.	Friends: South should get amnesty [forgiveness]. Southerners should work out problems themselves.	Enemies: South should be punished. U.S. laws should take care of South's problems.
Plan Proposed: Have each state form a new state government and elect people to the U.S. Congress when:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10% of the men who could vote in 1860 take an oath of loyalty to the Union. This means that the new governments will be much like the governments before the war. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10% of the men who could vote in 1860 take an oath of loyalty to the Union. ■ A state ratifies the 13th Amendment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 50% of all white men who had not supported the Confederacy take an oath of loyalty to the Union. This means the new governments would be made up of carpetbaggers and scalawags.

Carpetbaggers, Scalawags—New Powers in the South



Georgia, 1869

Carpetbaggers from the North and **scalawags** from the South have been running Southern states since the end of the Civil War.

They gained power because:

■ Republicans in Congress trust them because carpetbaggers and scalawags are also Republicans.

■ Blacks trust them because Republicans freed the slaves.

■ White Southern Democrats can't vote so carpetbaggers and scalawags get elected to office.

Some carpetbaggers and scala-

wags are helping blacks and rebuilding businesses. But some are dishonest. White Southern Democrats hate them all.

They nickname the Northerners "**carpetbaggers**." The Democrats say the carpetbaggers came South with all they owned stuffed in a small bag made of carpet. Now carpetbaggers are getting rich from the South.

They nickname the Southerners "**scalawags**." The Democrats say the scalawags have turned against their people to work with the Republicans.

NATION: Reconstruction Ends

Amendments 13, 14, 15 Protect Black Rights

Washington, D.C., 1870

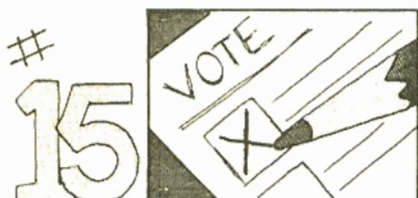
Over the past five years, states have ratified [said yes to] three amendments [add-on laws] to the U.S. Constitution. These amendments give blacks the same basic rights that whites have. Here are what the three amendments do:



- Ratified 1865.
- Forbids slavery in the U.S.



- Ratified 1868.
- Makes blacks U.S. citizens.
- Says Confederate leaders cannot hold public office.



- Ratified 1870.
- Gives black males the right to vote.



Presidents During the Reconstruction Years

President	Years in Office	President Number	Noted for:
Abraham Lincoln	1861-1865	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Saving the Union ■ Freeing the slaves ■ Offering forgiveness to Confederate states
Andrew Johnson	1865-1869	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Being first president to be impeached ■ Being against radical reconstruction
Ulysses Grant	1869-1877	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Letting radicals treat the South harshly
Rutherford B. Hayes	1877-1881	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pulling U.S. troops out of the South to end reconstruction

Reconstruction Ends

Washington, D.C., 1877

Rutherford B. Hayes has made a deal with Southern Democrats —to get himself elected U.S. president. The deal: end the reconstruction program.

In return for Southern support, Hayes has promised:

- To take all U.S. troops out of the South.

- To have a Southerner in his cabinet.

Most Americans are happy to see reconstruction end. Americans say:

- The amendments gave blacks their rights. Now let blacks take care of other problems themselves.

- The Southern states can set up good governments again. Then people will put money into Southern businesses.