

IMT to Hippelhauser:

No one can say what Lincoln would have done about unemployment relief, war debts, prohibition, Manchuria, inflation. . . . But the nation could do well to study Lincoln's approach to the problems of his time.

The value of a man's contribution to a solution of a problem depends generally upon the way he handles his mind and his temper in his attack. Lincoln's power lay there. He had little or none of that common form of vanity which makes a man offer an opinion, give a decision, without full knowledge of facts and without giving himself a chance even to digest what facts he has.

While others talked, Lincoln listened--weighed. He came slowly to his decisions. But when he arrived at them, he defended them sturdily, though never so obstinately he was not ready to consider new facts. He laid down this rule to Horace Greeley: 'I shall try to correct errors when shown to be errors and shall adopt new views as fast as they shall ~~be~~ appear to be true views.'

Lincoln was steady in storms, not easily upset by opposition, criticism, disaster. When his mind was clear as to the crux of the matter, he was unwavering. There was something curiously impersonal in his handling of public matters. He thought not of himself, but of the aim. No man was ever freer of malice towards opponents. 'The things I handle,' he said, 'are too big for malice.'

Once arrived at a decision, Lincoln's first step was an appeal to the intellect. This was straight-forward, dispassionate, calm. But he could stir the moral force, too. The slave question was an example; this had always been an economic and political issue, while Lincoln made it also a moral force.

Q — You know, people ————— to send.

FOR AMS

BY R. H. HIPPELHEUSER

ASSOCIATED PRESS STAFF WRITER

NEW YORK, FEB. 12-(AP)—NO ONE, IN IDA M. TARBELL'S OPINION, CAN SAY WHAT LINCOLN WOULD HAVE DONE ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF, WAR DEBTS, PROHIBITION, MANCHURIA, INFLATION.

BUT THE NOTED JOURNALIST AND BIOGRAPHER, WHO HAS WRITTEN MANY AUTHORITATIVE WORKS ON LINCOLN, BELIEVES THE NATION COULD DO WELL TO STUDY LINCOLN'S APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF HIS TIME.

"THE VALUE OF A MAN'S CONTRIBUTION TO A SOLUTION OF A PROBLEM DEPENDS GENERALLY UPON THE WAY HE HANDLES HIS MIND AND HIS TEMPER IN HIS ATTACK," MISS TARBELL SAID TODAY. "LINCOLN'S POWER LAY THERE. HE HAD LITTLE OR NONE OF THAT COMMON FORM OF VANITY WHICH MAKES A MAN OFFER AN OPINION, GIVE A DECISION WITHOUT FULL KNOWLEDGE OF FACTS AND WITHOUT GIVING HIMSELF A CHANCE EVEN TO DIGEST WHAT FACTS HE HAS.

"WHILE OTHERS TALKED, LINCOLN LISTENED -- WEIGHED. HE CAME SLOWLY TO HIS DECISIONS. BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THEM, HE DEFENDED THEM STURDILY, THOUGH NEVER SO OBSTINATELY HE WAS NOT READY TO

CONSIDER NEW FACTS. HE LAID DOWN THIS RULE TO HORACE GREELEY:
 "I SHALL TRY TO CORRECT ERRORS WHEN SHOWN TO BE ERRORS AND I
 SHALL ADOPT NEW VIEWS AS FAST AS THEY SHALL ~~BE~~ APPEAR TO BE
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 OPPOSITION, CRITICISM, DISASTER. WHEN HIS MIND WAS CLEAR AS TO
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 TOO BIG FOR MALICE" "

MISS TARBELL, WHO, DESPITE HER 75 YEARS OF AGE, WORKS
 SEVERAL HOURS DAILY, SAID LINCOLN'S METHOD OF ACTION, "FREE OF
 ALL DEMAGOGUERY", WAS SOMETIMES TWO-FOLD:

"ONCE ARRIVED AT A DECISION, LINCOLN'S FIRST STEP WAS AN
 APPEAL TO THE INTELLECT. THIS WAS STRAIGHT-FORWARD, DISPASSIONATE,
 CALM.

"BUT HE COULD STIR THE MORAL FORCE, TOO".
 THE SLAVE QUESTION WAS AN EXAMPLE. THIS, MISS TARBELL SAID,

HAD ALWAYS BEEN AN E_CONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUE, WHILE LINCOLN MADE IT ALSO A MORAL ISSUE.

OUTSIDE MISS TARBELL'S GRAMERCY PARK APARTMENT, THE NAKED TREES SHIVERED AS WINTER WHISTLED A SNIPPY TUNE. INSIDE, LOGS CRACKLED OUT AN ACCOMPANIMENT OF WARMTH IN THE FIREPLACE.

MISS TARBELL POKED AT THE LOGS. THE FLAMES FLARED, LIGHTING UP HER RUDDY FACE AND WHITE HAIR. SHE SETTLED BACK ONTO THE DIVAN.

"YOU KNOW, PEOPLE ASK ME SO OFTEN," [SHE CONTINUED,] "ABOUT THESE THINGS. I CAN'T SAY. I THINK IT'S FUTILE FOR US TO GO SEEKING FROM MEN OF THE PAST SPECIFIC ANSWERS TO PROBLEMS THE OUTCOME OF EVENTS OF OUR DAY.

"SOMEONE ASKED ME RECENTLY WHAT LINCOLN WOULD HAVE DONE ABOUT INFLATION. AND THAT REMINDS ME OF AN INCIDENT.

"LINCOLN AND HIS CABINET WERE DISCUSSING THE ISSUE OF PAPER MONEY. ONE CABINET MEMBER THOUGHT THEY SHOULD OMIT THE MOTTO: 'IN GOD WE TRUST'.

"THE PRESIDENT, AFTER SOME MINUTES OF THOUGHT, S_AID IF THEY DIDN'T WANT THAT MOTTO THEY COULD PUT ON THE CURRENCY: 'GOLD AND SILVER HAVE I NONE, BUT SUCH AS I HAVE, I GIVE UNTO THEE'."