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S. A. T. Foundation

July 10, 1929

Mr. Roy Curtiss
Abraham Lincoln Foundation, Inc.
122 East 42 St.
New York City

My dear Mr. Curtiss:

I have just come to town and find awaiting me your letter of June 29, with notes of the talk that I gave at the Lincoln dinner on June 15.

You say that you want to put the address in booklet form and ask that I expand it. I am sorry, dear Mr. Curtiss, not to be able to grant your request. I have run over the copy that you sent me, have made some verbal changes, and am having the result copied for you. It is quite out of the question for me to do any more work on it now. It seems to me quite sufficient for the little booklet, which I suppose is to be made up of the addresses given at the dinner.

I want to thank you for the photostat copies of the letters sent.

Sincerely yours

ABRAHAM LINCOLN FOUNDATION INAUGURAL DINNER - ST. REGIS HOTEL, JUNE 15, 1929.

Address By

Miss Ida M. Tarbell

A hundred years from now men and women who attempt to appraise the events of the past ten years will ^{may conclude} find that the most extraordinary feature of that period is the mobilization of all forces for peace. We have long ^{rather} heard about peace and built up ideals concerning peace, but we have never really gotten down to the work of creating it. ~~In the past ten years, however, peace has become a matter of organization to achieve peace. Never before have we gotten down in such a way to thinking about peace as a continuous job.~~ ^{been characterized by a} ~~You have to work for peace continuously--you~~ ^{wide} ~~cannot establish it and then just leave it there.~~ ^{seem to be seeing} ~~You cannot just talk about peace and then go home and forget about it.~~ ^{convinced that we must}

Peace work means getting down to the causes. ^{understanding} ~~We must get down to the minds of nations---what they think about it. Peace means getting rid of prejudices and racial and other antagonisms.~~ ^{of}

~~But something more must be done.~~ We must inculcate in the minds and hearts of the peoples of the world a spirit that will make them have faith that peace is possible, ~~for men and women, and we must arouse in them a passion to achieve peace, a determination to make all the sacrifices that peace requires, for peace requires its sacrifices just the same as war.~~ ^{it} ~~no less than~~ ^{than}

We have just been told that this spirit with which we must imbue the world is Lincoln-mindedness. What is this Lincoln-mindedness? As a student of Lincoln I find in him a passion for unionism ---not merely union of the state, but union of ~~all~~ ^{this} men. His idea was that union was not only good for a country, but that it was good for all nations.

Then we find in him ^{all} his understanding of men---his confidence and faith in humanity despite grievous disillusionments. ^{And} in spite of ~~all~~ the jealousies and meannesses with which he was surrounded, he never lost his faith in men. ~~He was surrounded by people who were so jealous of him that they constantly worked for his destruction. He was surrounded by vanities and jealousies. But,~~ he never lost his confidence in men, and he showed a tremendous toleration even ^{of the} very mean men.

In all Lincoln's correspondence there is not one violent word in reply to ~~all~~ the bitter attacks that were heaped upon him. Once he said in reply to Horace Greeley, when he was urged to take stringent action to subjugate his hostile and bigoted critics, "The things I deal with are too big for malice."

He was filled with a great mercy toward the whole human race, and worked for its advancement and enlightenment. The problems of every man were his problems. He treated his enemies as brothers. He strived toward peace in the midst of war. He thought not only of the peace of this land, but of the peace of the world.

And he came to the end still working for peace and hoping for the peace of the world. His ambition and purpose are expressed in his second inaugural address--- ⁱⁿ it can be summed ^{up} his life and thought. ~~In it he said:~~

"Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and for his orphans, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."