

Coit-Alber Lyceum Bureau

2443 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland

Member
Affiliated Lyceum
and
Chautauque Association, Inc.

Long Distance
Prospect 3343
Prospect 3344

September 29, 1923.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 E. Nineteenth St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Thank you very much for your good letter of September 14th which I find on my desk upon my return from Chicago. I am grateful to you for giving me the information concerning Lincoln's Cooper Union speech. That is just the information I have wanted. It seems definite that this was to have been a lyceum lecture and was turned over to Cooper Union because the committee that had originally engaged Lincoln were afraid they could not meet the expense of the lecture.

I am planning to get out a series of little folders like the enclosed, which will be entitled "Lyceum Builders" or "Platform Builders", although the latter designation sounds too much as if they had had something to do with political conventions. Number 1 will be Josiah Holbrook; number 2, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and I want to include in the list all those famous men and women who contributed to the thought of America through lecturing from the public platform. I wish you would write the one on Lincoln. I do not expect you to do it gratis and shall be pleased to pay your usual rates. There should not be more material in the article than there appears in the little folder enclosed, just enough to fill three pages set in about the same size type. Will you do it?

I have been thinking for some time that I wish someone would undertake to write a history of the lyceum, or more broadly speaking, of the activities of the lecture platform. I see you are preparing an historical paper along such lines and I shall await its appearance with a great deal of interest. I wonder if you would consider undertaking to write the history of the lyceum movement in America? It would make a sizeable volume.

I agree with you fully in what you say about

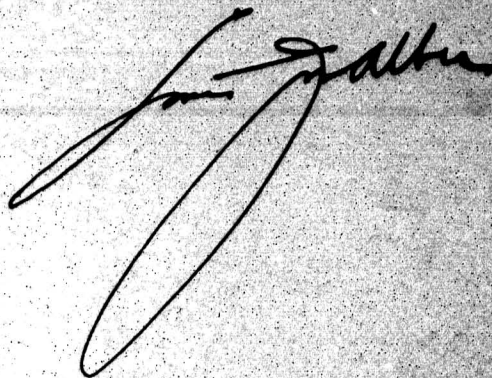
Miss Ida M. Tarbell

Sept. 29, 1925.

Albert Beveridge. I have had three or four sessions with him and have come away from each feeling that there was a good deal of a snob about him.

with sincere good wishes,

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. J. Albert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

LJA/F

Enc.