

May 11, 1936

My dear Mayor Hoan:

Please forgive me for having delayed so long in answering your kind letter of April 22nd. I was out of town when it arrived and came back to a crowded desk, and too I did not want to write until the copy of "City Government" was read.

To begin with - thank you for the Abraham Lincoln pamphlet. It is fine and stirring. And you make excellent use of his liberal enlightened thoughts. I question one thing in your text and I hope you will not mind if I refer to it. You say that Lincoln carried on considerable correspondence with Karl Marx. I did not know this. Of course there are plenty of things about Abraham Lincoln that I do not know. Something new turns up almost every week of my life which offers a tribute to the long activities of the man and to the extraordinary interest that the world has in saving every scrap which concerns him. Would you tell me your authority for the correspondence with Karl Marx? Of course I would not be in any way surprised. ~~I think it is very probable.~~ At least he must have known through The Tribune more or less of Marx's doctrines and activities.

The pamphlets go into the collection which I am turning over to my college. WU

And now about "City Government." It is a capital, stimulating piece of work. It shows what can be done if people have patience and intelligence and ~~the~~ interest in the life of human beings in the city willing to work long and patiently. I am particularly interested in your efforts for training for public service. The story of the education of your policemen and the results is what every city in the country ought to be considering. In fact what you have done in handling every problem as it came up is a splendid object lesson for many of our miserable managed towns.

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You are right in saying you wrote the book for women's clubs quite as much as for city officials. You have done something that women, practical-minded as they are and primarily interested in getting results, that is the mass of them, can understand. The American Federation of Womens Clubs ought to sponsor this book. They may not for one reason or another be willing to do that, though there can be no sound objection to it, but every good woman's club that does see the value of this thing to their town will be so much for the good.

It is a grand book, dear Mayor Hoan, and thank you for sending it to me.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Daniel W. Hoan
Milwaukee, Wisconsin