



Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 1586

Fort Wayne, Indiana

April, 1970

MOST SIGNIFICANT LINCOLN CARTOONS – FEBRUARY 1970

For the past twenty-six years, during the month of February, the Lincoln National Life Foundation has sponsored a nation-wide contest to select the most significant cartoon to be published in a newspaper on or near February twelfth.

Although the response this year was not as great as in some years past, the quality of entries was excellent. As usual, the Foundation staff screened all entries to eliminate cartoons which had been previously submitted in years past. Occasionally, one slips by, but we try to consider only those cartoons which are drawn in the current year. Also, cartoons which are received after March 1 are disqualified.

This year we had fourteen entries, two of which arrived too late for the judging, and two of which had been printed in previous years. The remaining ten cartoons were judged by our Bibliography Committee which consists of eight members. The voting is done by ballot. Each judge casts three votes, counting three points for first place; two points for second place and one point for third place.

Of the ten cartoons submitted to the committee, one received no votes, five received three points each, one

received six points, and three received nine points each. We wound up with a three-way tie for first place, an undisputed second place winner, and a five-way tie for third. We reproduce in this issue the first and second place winners.

The first place winners are as follows: The *Chicago Tribune's* entry, "A. Lincoln" by Joseph Parrish, received two first place votes, one second and one third for a total of nine points; The *Los Angeles Herald Examiner's* entry, "A. Lincoln, Ecologist," by Karl Hubenthal, received also two first place, one second and one third place votes for a total of nine points; The *Illinois State Journal's* entry entitled "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and under a just God, cannot long retain it." by Bob Stevens (Copley Newspapers) received one first place vote and three second place votes for a total of nine points.

Second place went to Newton Pratt's cartoon, drawn for McClatchy Newspapers and submitted by the *Sacramento Bee*. This cartoon was entitled "From a Genius To Challenge A Wrong Comes The Destiny Of Immortality." It was awarded two first place votes for a total of six points.

Third place winners receiving a total of three points each follow:

1. "... let us . . . bind up the nation's wounds . . ."

(Lincoln whispering his famous words in the ear of President Nixon who studies a United States map marked by words describing internal disunity.)

Lloyd Ostendorf — *Journal Herald*, Dayton, Ohio

2. ' . . . Let Us Strive on to Finish The Work We Are In'

(Profile drawing of bearded Lincoln.)
Ed Kudlaty — *Newspaper Enterprise Association*, Cleveland, *Bridgeport Post*, Connecticut, and *Cincinnati Post and Times-Star*.

3. 1862-1970

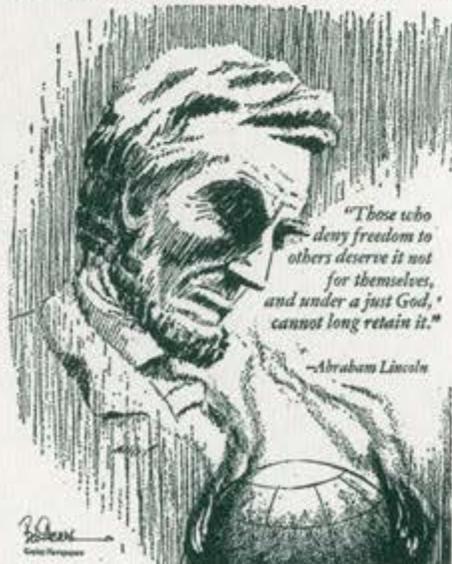
(Lincoln seated wearing shawl, with stovepipe hat on table, signing name to Emancipation Proclamation. Quotation: "I never in my life felt more certain that I am doing right than I do in signing this paper.")

Jerry Doyle — *Philadelphia Daily News*

4. Warn't No Busin'!

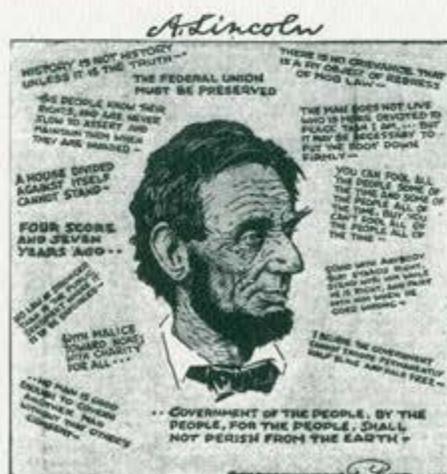
(Lincoln, beardless, in boots, trudging through snow past tree with sign "Pigeon Creek 4 Miles" and arrow above a placard labeled "Schoolin' Today.")

5. "... testing whether (choke) this nation, or any nation (cough) so polluted and so contaminated (choke) can long endure . . ."

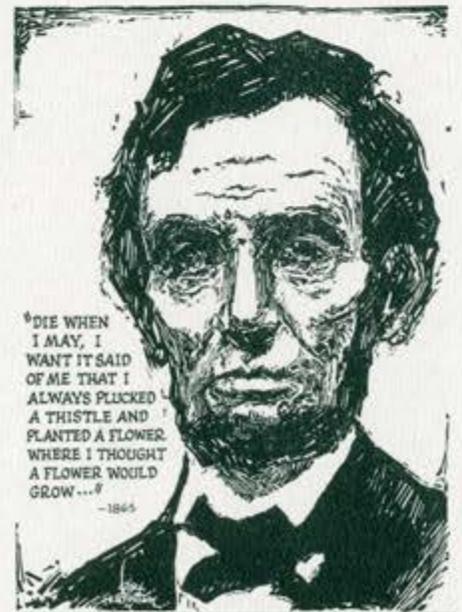


"Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and under a just God, cannot long retain it."
— Abraham Lincoln
by Bob Stevens
First Place

(Reprinted by permission of the *Illinois State Journal* and *Copley Newspapers*)



A. Lincoln
by Joseph Parrish
First Place
(Reprinted by permission of the *Chicago Tribune*)



A. Lincoln, Ecologist
by Karl Hubenthal
First Place
(Reprinted by permission of the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*)



From A Genius To Challenge A Wrong Comes The Destiny Of Immortality
by Newton Pratt
(Reprinted by permission of the Sacramento Bee — McClatchy Newspapers)

(Figure of Lincoln coughing with hand over mouth hovers above city industrial scene with smokestacks belching forth smoke, and sewer pipes emptying into stream.)

Paul Conrad — *Los Angeles Times*

Receiving no votes was L. D. Warren's amusing cartoon entitled 'Join The Beautiful People, Pops! Let It Grow And Buy Yourself A Rug!', which was entered in the contest by the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. It depicts a bald father observing himself in the bathroom mirror, seeing himself reflected as Lincoln. In the doorway, holding a card with a Lincoln quotation, "Every man over forty is responsible for his face," stands the bearded wise-cracking son.

The two cartoons which arrived after the judging had been completed were by Borgstedt, of the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*, and by Jim Dobbins of the *Boston Herald Traveler*. We regret that these entries were too late to qualify.

Newspapers and artists who participated in the contest will receive Certificates of Award and/or our sincere thanks for giving us such an interesting selection this year.

MOST TIMELY LINCOLN EDITORIALS — February 1970

Each year, along with the annual Cartoon Contest, *Lincoln Lore* has featured the most timely Lincoln editorial printed during the week of Lincoln's birthday. The Bibliography Committee uses the same point system in judging the editorials as it employs for the cartoons: three points for first place, two points for second and one for third.

This year sixteen newspapers submitted editorials for consideration. Reprinted here, with the permission of the copyright owners, are the three winners.

The first place award went to David Brinegar, Executive Editor of the *Arizona Daily Star*, Tucson, for his editorial entitled "Lincoln: Symbol of What?". This editorial received one first place vote and three second place votes for a total of nine points.

Second, with a total of eight points, was an editorial written by Don Oakley for *Newspaper Enterprise Association*, with the title "In the Context of His Times." This editorial appeared in a number of papers around the country. It was also submitted to our contest by the *Bridgeport Telegram* under the title "He Saved the Union." The judges gave it two first place votes and one second.

A last minute change in the voting gave third place to the *Cincinnati Enquirer* for an editorial written by Thomas Gephardt, entitled "A Man And His Times." One first, one second and one third place vote gave it a total of six points.

The winning editorials follow:

Lincoln: Symbol of What?

By DAVID BRINEGAR

Abraham Lincoln has been a symbol of many different things at different times. What is he a symbol of today?

He seems most likely a symbol of the ability of America to learn, to progress, to accomplish, to endure hardship, to come forth from internecine struggle with a form and a character that will endure.

For decades Lincoln was the symbol of the freeing of the slaves. To achieve this uncluttered image many things had to be ignored. Prime among them was that he freed only a part of the slaves — only those in the fighting Confederacy; even then, he freed them as a move aimed at defeating the South.

One also had to ignore his early utterances along lines of white supremacy, utterances most people would agree he had lived down even before his Second Inaugural address.

The things that a person has to forget or forgive or elide often are of benefit. When one studies Lincoln he comes forth as a man who grew under education, change, hardship, trial by strife and sorrow, and eventually that most eroding of all character-attacking things — victory.

He was great in victory, and there was the true measure of Lincoln. Compassion and not exultation, sympathy and not vengeance, an immense personal weariness that reflected not only the weariness of the vanquished but of the victorious, pervaded all of his last days and hours.

The Civil War — the War Between the States, for what difference does it make now as to what it was called then? — did not end until after his death, Appomattox Court House notwithstanding. Yet he knew for a week before he died that he had won.

Robert E. Lee and U. S. Grant met at Appomattox on Sunday, April 9, 1865; it was on May 4 that Gen. Richard Taylor surrendered the Confederate forces in Alabama and Mississippi and not until May 26 that Gen. Edmund Kirby-Smith surrendered the last Confederate army in the field at Shreveport.

Dates are dates and history is history; but who can deny that the Confederacy was defeated the day Abraham Lincoln chose to call the Union to make its stand? It was Lincoln who did what James Buchanan

neither was willing to do nor could have done. Perhaps no other person could have held the Union together long enough to give the nation a new start.

When one estimates what Lincoln accomplished — and for which he paid with his life, for it was a bitter partisan of the South who killed him — one must try to envision what today's world would be like with a North American continent fragmented with at least one more sovereign country.

Today the resilience and the courage of Lincoln and of millions of men and women of his times who believed in him should stand as inspirations and lessons. The nation needs everything it can muster to go forward in a world any generation of which may be the last, and of course the truly lost.

(The *Arizona Daily Star*)

In the Context of His Times

By DON OAKLEY

A couple of years ago, a magazine article by noted black historian and journalist Lerone Bennett Jr. created quite a stir.

Bennett posed the question, "Was Lincoln a White Supremacist?", and went on to answer it affirmatively with Lincoln's own words, particularly some of his statements made during the heated debates with Stephen Douglas in the 1858 senatorial race.

One such was Lincoln's expressed belief that whites and Negroes could never live together in social equality, and since this was so, he was just as glad that the white race was top dog. Even later, during the Civil War, Lincoln considered plans to encourage emigration of Negroes out of the country.

The historian abundantly proved his case — but only in terms of the modern definition of what constitutes a racist. The illegitimacy of holding Lincoln to standards of morality painfully developed over the more than 100 years since his own day apparently did not occur to him.

One hundred years is a lot longer than 22 years, but somewhat the same situation exists in the opposition of civil libertarians to Supreme Court appointee Judge G. Harrold Carswell because of a white supremacy speech he made as a young political candidate in 1948.

Writing on that controversy, columnist William F. Buckley Jr. set down a wise and useful rule:

"It is good to focus on the moral question, but important to resist the presumptive temptation to suppose that one's own intuitive moral sense is manifestly superior to that of other people at other times."

If those who have never believed in white supremacy are morally superior to Judge Carswell, he asked, is Carswell, who never defended slavery, therefore the moral superior of St. Paul, who took slavery for granted?

Those who have lived before us have to be judged within the historical and moral contexts of their own times. Otherwise, we would be

continually pulling down statues in the hall of American heroes.

Both as a candidate for the Senate and as president, the paramount — the only — question in Lincoln's mind was what could best preserve the Union.

If, in 1858, only white supremacy could do it, then he was in favor of white supremacy. If, in 1861 or 1862, freeing some of the slaves and leaving the others alone could have brought peace between North and South, then he was willing to see some slaves remain in slavery.

For this, of course, he was damned by both pro-slavery Southerners, who would have destroyed the Union in order to perpetuate and expand slavery, and by radical Northern abolitionists, who were just as ready to see the Union torn asunder for the opposite reason.

It may be that there were men of superior wisdom and morality among Lincoln's contemporaries. But it was Lincoln, not they, who became president at the most fateful moment in the nation's history. And it was Lincoln, and no one else, who guided the nation to political salvation.

(Newspaper Enterprise Association — Cleveland)

(Submitted by *Bridgeport Telegram* under title "He Saved the Union.")

A Man And His Times

By THOMAS GEPHARDT

Historians for a century or more have delved into every facet of Abraham Lincoln's public and private life seeking a clue to his greatness, attempting to find why it is that Lincoln, more than a century after his death, towers over all other American Presidents and inspires an almost mystical awe among the thousands of his countrymen who count themselves as Lincoln scholars.

One answer to Abraham Lincoln's timelessness lies in the extraordinary human qualities that even many of his contemporaries recognized as distinctive. Perhaps because of his humble origins, the personal tragedies that dogged his tracks, the political and business failures that beset him, or perhaps because of some pathological ailment about which scientists are still speculating, Lincoln was a melancholy man. But melancholy, in his case, rarely degenerated into despair. For Lincoln was also a man of commitment, of faith, of resoluteness, of kindness and gentleness and humanity.

A second answer undoubtedly lies in the tragic years the fates conspired to entrust to Abraham Lincoln's Presidency. Had any man other than Lincoln become President on March 4, 1861, when the Union stood on the brink of dissolution, the history of the years that followed would have been far different. Or if Lincoln had assumed the Presidency four years later or at any other moment in our national history, it is altogether possible that contemporary Americans would remember him with roughly the same measure of reverence they accord James Knox Polk or Grover Cleveland.

The greatness of Lincoln stems,

we believe, from the fact that he was uniquely, providentially equipped to be what he was and when he was.

It is easy, accordingly, to imagine that each of the 20 men who have occupied the White House in the years since Lincoln have measured themselves against him and their years against his.

The grim march of events has had a way of persuading each generation that it faces a crossroads — as, in a sense, it does. Each of Lincoln's successors, accordingly, must have asked how Lincoln might have wrestled with the perplexities of the moment.

When William McKinley thrust America into the family of world powers, when Woodrow Wilson sought to entrust a world mission to an unready nation, when Herbert Hoover saw the wheels of industry grind to a halt, when Franklin D. Roosevelt came to the helm of a nation that had lost faith in itself, when Harry S. Truman grappled with far-ranging questions of war and peace — who can say that the ghost of Abraham Lincoln did not walk the White House?

Richard M. Nixon, like his immediate predecessor, must be no less inclined to liken his problems to those that plagued Lincoln. Like Lincoln more than a century ago, Mr. Nixon is seeking to liquidate an unpopular war — a war in which he feels that basic American principles and interests are at stake.

Lincoln could have succumbed to popular pressures and ended his war quickly and painlessly — at a cost that future generations would bear with sorrow. The same is true of the war Mr. Nixon inherited from two previous administrations.

What would be Lincoln's counsel? How does his ghost communicate with this 20th of his successors, and what solace does it impart?

It is difficult to believe that Lincoln would choose the easy course — simply because of its ease or its popularity. It is far more likely that he would adhere to the precise course to which Mr. Nixon is committed — a course that combines steadfastness with honor and stands alone in offering a generation of peace.

(*The Enquirer* — Cincinnati, Ohio)

In addition to the winners, the following editorials were submitted in the competition:

1. Immortality In A Mortal Spirit
The Chicago Tribune (Illinois)
2. Lincoln's Words — Today
Cincinnati Post and Times-Star (Ohio)
3. Mr. Lincoln's Advice
Town Crier (Westport-Fairfield, Conn.)
4. Lincoln's Greatness Of Spirit
Journal-Gazette (Fort Wayne, Indiana)
5. Lincoln Has A Special Message For Today When Malice Needs Rebuke
The Sacramento Bee (McClatchy Newspapers, Calif.)
6. On Lincoln's Birthday
The Hartford Courant (Connecticut)
7. Lincoln Wasn't Afraid!
Journal-News (Hamilton, Ohio)

8. He Kept Trying
Bridgeport Post (Connecticut)
9. In The Spirit Of Lincoln
Journal-Register (Copley Newspapers) (Springfield, Illinois—San Diego, Calif.)
10. Honoring Lincoln
Philadelphia Daily News (Pa.)
11. Memorials to Lincoln
Journal-Register (Springfield, Ill.)
12. Lincoln Lighted An Eternal Flame
Indianapolis Star

McMurtry's Speaking Engagements

January — February 1970

Each year the editor of *Lincoln Lore* makes a speaking tour which extends over a two month period. This year his travels took him to Missouri, Texas, Washington, D. C., Virginia and Georgia.

His engagements, which include speeches, radio and television appearances, and newspaper interviews, are usually arranged by Lincoln Life general agents. In addition to the usual type of program, this year's itinerary included a special award ceremony in Washington, D. C. on February 12 on which occasion Dr. McMurtry received from the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the Duval Merit Award, a citation which is given annually to "a person who has distinguished himself in the Lincoln tradition."

Following the noon ceremony on February 12, Dr. McMurtry spoke to approximately three hundred people at a luncheon held in the Carleton Hotel.

Dr. McMurtry's complete itinerary follows:

- Jan. 12—St. Louis, Missouri
KTVI-TV Interview (Charlotte Peters)
Post-Dispatch Interview
KSD-TV Interview (Lee Shepard)
KMOX "At Your Service" Interview
- Jan. 15—Waco, Texas
Waco Jaycees
CWRT
KWTX-TV (Marvel Russell)
- Jan. 16—Temple, Texas
Temple Jaycees
- Jan. 19—Ft. Worth, Texas
Radio "Brunch at the Bronze M"
East Side Rotary Club
Historians Club, Teachers
- Jan. 20—WBAP-TV ("Dateline")
Downtown Lion's Club
- Jan. 22—San Antonio, Texas
KFAT-TV ("Seven")
Northwest Optimist Club
- Jan. 23—Kanobis Club
WOAI-TV ("Early Report")
- Jan. 26—Houston, Texas
KTRK-TV (Interview)
KPRC-TV (Interview)
Texas A & M Club
- Jan. 27—Houston's Lion's Club
- Jan. 28—Tyler, Texas
Smith County Historical Soc.

- Jan. 29—Rose City Kiwanis Club
Agency Meeting
KLTV (Interview)
Tyler Rotary Club
Tyler *Chronicle* (Interview)
- Jan. 30—Tyler, Texas
Kiwanis Club
- Feb. 9—Fort Wayne
Rotary Club
- Feb. 11—Washington D. C.
Columbia Historical Society
- Feb. 12—Lincoln Memorial Shrine
Carleton Hotel — Loyal Legion
- Feb. 17—Richmond, Virginia
Richmond *Times-Dispatch*
(Interview)
WEVE-TV (Interview)
WTVR-TV (Interview)
West Kiwanis Club
North Kiwanis Club
- Feb. 18—Ninety & Nine Club
- Feb. 19—Norfolk, Virginia
WTAR-TV (Interview)
Rotary Club
- Feb. 23—Atlanta, Georgia
WSB-TV (Interview)
WSB-Radio (Interview)
- Feb. 24—Executive Park Optometrist
Club
Georgia State College
College History Club
Georgia Tech Radio (Interview)
Atlanta CWRT
Atlanta Constitution (Interview)

Museum Notes

The Lincoln Library-Museum, which is open to the public year round, Mondays through Fridays, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., entertained a total of 13,782 visitors in 1969, averaging around 1300 a month. The smallest attendance is from September through January. Attendance picks up sharply in February, reaches its peak in March, and gradually declines through August.

In March we stay open on one Saturday, in order to accommodate anywhere from 500 to 1600 Girl Scouts who visit the museum as part of their Fine Arts Day activities. The museum staff enlists the aid of selected Senior Scouts in conducting guided tours throughout the day. Each Girl Scout receives a facsimile of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and a packet of Lincoln pamphlets as a gift from The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, which opens its doors on this one Saturday for the benefit of the visitors.

During the school year many school groups, both local and out of town, visit the museum. Guided tours are restricted to children above the fourth grade level, as a general rule.

The docents are frequently rewarded with letters of appreciation from the small visitors. A few of them are worthy of mention; for example:

"Dear Mrs. Higgins,

Thank you for the booklets and nice pictures we enjoyed then and the teacher shoed us the pictures we had fun with them my teacher lives in Fort Wane Indiana She sed she noed you her name is Mrs. kearn

yours truly
David Gruber"

"Dear Mrs. Higgins,

"The booklets that you gave us are very interesting. I hope you like working at the museum. When I grow up I want to work at a gas station. When I'm a teenager I want to play basketball. My birthday is March 15th. I am eight years old, allready I got a camera for my birthday. My mothers and fathers aniversary are on my birthday. Have fun.

yours truly
Kenny Cline"

"Dear Mrs. Higgins,

Thank you for the nice pictures and i Hope to come out There someday and if i can come out To see your Bears and To see your birds and to see you.

yours truly
Tony Hart"

"Dear Mrs. Higgins,

It was verry considerate of you to let our class visit your Lincoln Museum. Most of your information was unknown to me. Your antiques had a special value to me. Throughout my life of collecting coins I've never seen such a marve'ous collection of coins. And believe me, sighning the book on your counter was a big prevelege. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Steve Rockey
The class president"

"Dr. R. G. McMurtry

Lincoln Life Ins. Co.
Fort Wayen Indiana
Dear Sir,

I want to tank you for those nice pamphlets and even my mother thought it was nice of you to do this. The one I like best was the Gettysburg Address. Maybe this letter is a mess but I mean every word of it. Maybe I dont know you but you must be nice to every girl or boy.

Yours truly
Randy R."

"Everything was very nice the gun, heads of Lincoln, the metels, and the rest of the things.

Everything was very nice on the trip but Lincoln Life was the best. I like the pamphlets Gettysburg Address, but I didn't like the Lincoln in Cartoon and Caricature. It felt to me like if they were making fun of Mr. Lincoln and I don't like that. But the rest of them are all right. The photographs are very nice. I hope I can come back some time.

Your friend,
Ronald Reichhart"

"I injoyed the trip in the Lincoln Mueseum. The funniest part about it was the long skinny head of Lincoln. The pistol was shrimpy compared to my dad's hunting gun.

Sincerely
David Harbach"

"It was fun seeing Lincoln's things when he was a boy and a big man. Lincoln was shery a big man so his toes would hang out of his bed when he lay down. He must of been heavy.

Sincerely
Jeff Bell"

"I hope you enjoyed us as much as we enjoyed you."

"Everyone kept real quiet for you . . ."

"We had a wonderful time yesterday . . ."

"You were a wonderful guide . . ."

(And then there was the little boy from one of our inner city schools who wrote: "What I liked best about your museum was your clean floors!")

We hear from many students in various stages of distress:

"Dear Sirs:

I've written to you before when I got all the information I needed for my report. but, my dogs chewed up my report except for the picture of Abe Lincoln and I wanted to save my best report and now I would like for you to please send me some more of the information. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Yasmin Anderson"

"Dear Mrs. Higgins,

Please send me everything you have on Abraham Lincoln.

Sandy"

"Dear Insurance Co.

I would like to have a copy of the Gettysburg a Dress. Would you please send me one.

Sammy Gentry"

"To Whom it may concern,

Would you please send some information on Lincoln. If you do, it would be a pleasure anytime to send away again when I need information.

Yours truly
Ronnie Smith"

"Dear Sirs:

I am a 5th grade student at the Max and Rose Heller Hebrew Academy and I would like some information on President Lincoln and things like that. I would appreciate it. Dont SEND ME LIFE Insurance please because I think I have many years to live. Many many years, but I will use Lincoln Life Insurance when I grow up. Thank You.

Respectfully,
Ian Rubinstein"

"Dear Sir:

My brother Allan is getting stuff on Lincoln from you and he won't let me have any. Please send me some.

Larry Weiser"

"Could you please send me the Bronze Statue of Abraham Lincoln that stands in the park, Chicago."

"Dear Sir,

I would like to know if you have any thing on AB Lincoln. If so, I would like you to send every possible thing you have on this man. I have to make a scrap book.

Thank
You
Sincerely
Bob McBride"

"Dear Sir:

Please send me a phonograph of President Lincoln.

Yours very truly,
Joyce Ann Hinton"

"Dear Sirs,

My teacher told us we could write to you and get some imformation on Abraham Lincoln for we are studying him now. I would like you to send me all the FREE imformation you can get because I would regret getting the imformation with a big fat bill sticking out of it.

Sincerely,
Steven Meisel

P.S. I would like it before the end of February if possible."