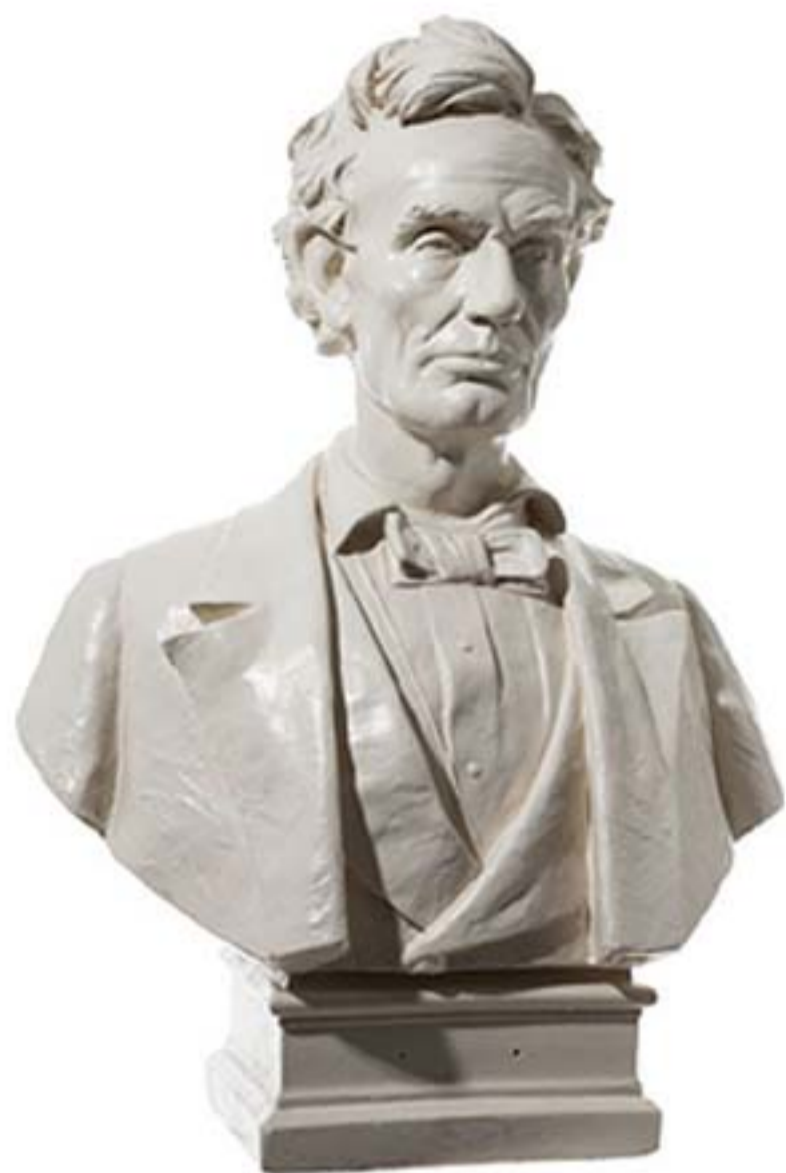


President Wilson on Abraham Lincoln



“Oh, Lincoln,” he said with enthusiasm. “He embodies what I take it we mean by Americanism more nearly than anyone. He began as a frontier statesman, came out of the rudest human lair, but everything formed, informed, and transformed Lincoln.

“He learned as he went. He arrived without baggage, but immediately acquired it. He knew nothing of the East until he came to the East, and when he

made his Cooper Union speech he so sensed the East that he won it. He was not fit to be president until he was president. He was the common man—with genius. He understood the West, the conservative East—even the South. No Northerner of his generation understood it so well. A marvelous figure!”

Collier's

October 28, 1916: p. 6

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