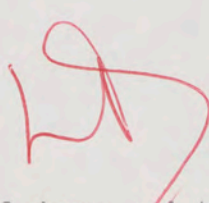


[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] QUINCY, IL 62301

Monday, December 26, 1994

Brian Lamb  
C-SPAN  
400 N. Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Lamb:

  
You've done a wonderful thing for Quincy and the other small towns within the state who hosted re-enactments of the original Lincoln-Douglas debates! It's an unparalleled educational "adventure" for those of us who have great respect for our forebears who lived during that period!

I was privileged to meet you here at the Quincy event! I'm the [REDACTED] that I suspected that my great-grandfather, George Frederick Loos (1848) and his sister, Elizabeth Loos (1845) attended, and probably were old enough to understand, what they were witnessing. Johann Michael and Anna Maria Magdalena Loos had a growing family. George Frederick and Elizabeth had other brothers and sisters; Anna Barbara (1851), George Philip Loos (1852), William (1854) and yet-to-be-born baby brother George Louis (1859) so I suspect that it was quite a family outing!

I have only one question? Is C-SPAN going to relate to us how many observers actually witnessed the enactments at each site? I'm confident that Quincy held it's own with an estimated 12,000 persons coming down to Washington (formerly John's Square) Park to participate in the festivities.

The Quincy Society of Fine Arts sponsored the sale of Professor John Splaine's book, A COMPANION TO THE LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATES, and I bought one for \$10.00. I shall cherish it through the years as I remember your fine event! You'll be glad to realize that the Quincy Herald-Whig has publicized your photographic essay book and as soon as I'm financially able, I will want to purchase that account as well!

I suspect that there are many "history buffs" who are thinking over the possibilities of how to do Lincoln-Douglas-style debates on more contemporary issues. I, for one, would like to invite Richard Arthur Gephardt and Newt Gingrich to debate in that style. Possible "flash point" issues are: Abortion, the Balanced Budget Amendment, Military Preparedness, State Department Funding, States Rights, Unfunded Mandates and Welfare Reform. I'm sure they could either choose a topic from my list or organize their own topic! If they do, I would like them to do the debates in each of the Lincoln-Douglas debate sites!



4/19

Mail