# ABE LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS

## 1939 B/W RAYMOND MASSEY, RUTH GORDON 110 MIN.

A captivating portrayal of Abraham Lincoln and the political scene in the years leading to the fateful 1860 election. The first half of the film, which chronicles Lincoln's early life in Illinois, is not particularly useful; the second half, however, can be effective as background for discussion of the critical events of the 1850's.

### 1831 - Illinois

3:20

Bringing hogs down to New Orleans.

7:45

Local election speeches.

15:00

Lincoln becomes local political leader.

17:40

Lincoln works with Totio after hours.

21:44

Lincoln elected captain of the local militia. Preparation for the Blackhawk War.

26:00

Lincoln decides to run for state legislature.

36:40

Lincoln campaigns for state legislature.

42:00

Lincoln decides not to run for reelection.

43:30

Lincoln becomes a lawyer.

46:00

Lincoln meets Mary Todd.

50:00

#### Segment I: 1:07:00 - 1:50:00

This segment provides ample illustration of the efforts made during the 1850's to prevent southern secession by balancing slave and free interests. Report topics should be organized to pursue this theme chronologically through the decade.

### **Seminar Questioning Sequence:**

What effect did the Kansas Nebraska Act have on the effort to balance he interests of slave and free states?

How did the Dred Scott decision change the equation of compromise in the slavery issue?

How did the Freeport Doctrine of Stephen A. Douglass impact the Dred Scott decision?

What was the political fall out of the Lincoln/Douglass Debates?

Lee-Compton Constitution Election of 1848 Election of 1852 Election of 1856 Election of 1860 John Brown John Bell John Breckinridge **Horace Greely Dred Scott** Lincoln/Douglass **Debates** Compromise of 1850 Wilmot Proviso **Free Soil Party Bleeding Kansas Popular Sovereignty** Kansas/Nebraska Act **Fugitive Slave Act Republican Party** Martin van Buren

Whig party campaign of 1840.	
51:15 Lincoln expresses his views of slavery and politics.	
58:00 Lincoln struggles with the decision to marry Mary Todd. Discussion of slavery.	
1:07:00 Overview of events leading up to the Civil War.	
1:10:00 Lincoln run for the United States Senate.	
1:12:00 Lincoln/Douglas Debate.	
1:24:48 Back room politics at the 1860 Chicago Republican Party Convention. Lincoln nominated.	
1:29:00 Lincoln meets with the national Republican Party leaders.	
1:32:00 Election night watching the returns come in. Lincoln finally elected.	

Notes