

# DOWNLOAD PDF CYRUS H. MCCORMICK : INVENTOR AND BUSINESS BUILDER

## Chapter 1 : Cyrus McCormick | Revolvly

*Robert McCormick, Cyrus' father, was an inventor in his own right, having a few patents of his own. Harvesting grain was a problem in those days, and Robert McCormick worked for around three decades to make a usable horse-drawn mechanical reaper in vain.*

He was the eldest of eight children born to inventor Robert McCormick, Jr. He worked for 28 years on a horse-drawn mechanical reaper to harvest grain; however, he was never able to reproduce a reliable version. Cyrus took up the project. The Bell machine was pulled by horses. The McCormick design was pulled by horses and cut the grain to one side of the team. Cyrus McCormick held one of his first demonstrations of mechanical reaping at the nearby village of Steeles Tavern, Virginia in . He claimed to have developed a final version of the reaper in 18 months. The young McCormick was granted a patent on the reaper on June 21, , [6] two years after having been granted a patent for a self-sharpening plow. The panic of almost caused the family to go into bankruptcy when a partner pulled out. In McCormick started doing more public demonstrations of the reaper, but local farmers still thought the machine was unreliable. He did sell one in , but none for . He finally sold seven reapers in , 29 in , and 50 in . They were all built manually in the family farm shop. He received a second patent for reaper improvements on January 31, . While he was in Washington, DC to get his patent, he heard about a factory in Brockport, New York , where he contracted to have the machines mass-produced. Louis, Missouri , and Milwaukee, Wisconsin , were more established and prosperous. Chicago had no paved streets at the time, but the city had the best water transportation from the east over the Great Lakes for his raw materials, as well as railroad connections to the farther west where his customers would be. McCormick claimed he had really invented his machine in , but the renewal was denied. The McCormick reaper sold well, partially as a result of savvy and innovative business practices. McCormick developed marketing and sales techniques, developing a wide network of salesmen trained to demonstrate operation of the machines in the field, as well as to get parts quickly and repair machines in the field if necessary during crucial times in the farm year. After his machine successfully harvested a field of green wheat while the Hussey machine failed, he won a gold medal and was admitted to the Legion of Honor. The trial, originally scheduled for Chicago in September , featured prominent lawyers on both sides. Manny hired George Harding and Edwin M. Because the trial was set to take place in Illinois, Harding hired the local Illinois lawyer Abraham Lincoln. However, the trial was moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. McCormick decided to seek help from the US Congress to protect his patent. If you are a human and are seeing this field, please leave it blank.

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## Chapter 2 : October | Pulpit Helps October

*Cyrus McCormick, in full Cyrus Hall McCormick, (born February 15, , Rockbridge county, Virginia, U.S.â€”died May 13, , Chicago, Illinois), American industrialist and inventor who is generally credited with the development (from ) of the mechanical reaper.*

The McCormick reaper sold well, partially as a result of savvy and innovative business practices. Their products came onto the market just as the development of railroads offered wide distribution to distant markets. McCormick developed marketing and sales techniques, developing a wide network of salesmen trained to demonstrate operation of the machines in the field. The trial, originally scheduled for Chicago in September , featured prominent lawyers on both sides. Manny hired George Harding and Edwin M. Because the trial was set to take place in Illinois, Harding hired the local Illinois lawyer Abraham Lincoln. But, the trial was moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. District Court of Ohio record Lincoln did not contribute to the defense. He decided to seek help from the US Congress to protect his patent. In , his brother Leander changed the name of the company from "Cyrus H. He wanted to acknowledge the contributions of others in the family to the reaper "invention" and company, especially their father. McCormick was a benefactor and member of the board of trustees at Washington and Lee University in his native Virginia for the last 20 years of his life. They had seven children: Cyrus Hall McCormick Jr. Mary Virginia McCormick was born May 5, Alice McCormick was born March 15, and died less than a year later on January 25, Mary Virginia and Stanley Robert both suffered from schizophrenia. Numerous prizes and medals were awarded for his reaper, and he was elected a corresponding member of the French Academy of Sciences "as having done more for the cause of agriculture than any other living man. It contributed to the industrialization of agriculture and migration of labor to cities in numerous countries. The town of McCormick, South Carolina and McCormick County in the state were named for him after he bought a gold mine in the town, formerly known as Dornsville. Business Hall of Fame. The city of Plano, Illinois has regarded itself as the "Birthplace of the Harvester", with the local High School having the mascot of the Reapers, and the school using an image of the McCormick Harvester Reaper for its logo. McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago was named after him. See Famous Americans Series of

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## Chapter 3 : Cyrus McCormick - Infogalactic: the planetary knowledge core

*Cyrus Hall McCormick (February 15, - May 13, ) was an American inventor and businessman who founded the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, which later became part of the International Harvester Company in*

According to multiple accounts from family members and close friends, Robert had already invented the reaper after years of working on it, ran initial test trials in , and gave it to his son Cyrus as a gift. Cyrus patented his first version of the reaper in . She must manage, somehow or other, to keep Cyrus at home. If he could make a success of the machine, if he could cause the farmers of the country to use it, the Walnut Grove [VA] shops could not begin to meet the demand. The plant would have to be enlarged, and the young promoter might conceivably see his dreams of fame and fabulous wealth come true without leaving the homestead. He would have to be less than human to cede to his son, without a struggle, his rights and interests in the invention on which he had expended his brain and muscle for a whole generation, and which only now [] was beginning to show some promise of success. However, Polly had never before failed to carry a point with her husband, and she felt confident that in the end, she would be no less successful this time, although she realized that on no previous occasion had she called upon him to make a personal sacrifice of such magnitude and importance. From the family reminiscences and records available, we can reconstruct the sequence of events from her on with reasonable plausibility. Of course, she agreed, the other children should also profit by his inventions, but Cyrus would be glad to make that a binding condition of such a gift. She had sounded him out on the subject and he had promised that if he ever made a success of any of the machines he would share his good fortune with his brothers and sisters. Somehow the abdication of his rights to his children, in his own brain, went against his grain. It did not seem to him the right thing to do; he had never heard of anyone doing such a thing. Against these scruples Polly also had a ready argument. Surely, she told him, his inventions were his own property, just as were his house, land and personal effects. He could do with them as he pleased, dispose of them in any manner he saw fit. He was getting along in years, soon he would be fifty; the best part of their lives was behind them; they had little to look forward to except the happiness and welfare of their children. She, personally, was ready to give him every possible aid and comfort, as Robert was, of course, and if any honors or personal distinction should ever attach to the reaper invention, she was perfectly willing that Cyrus should have it, especially if it would advance the commercial success of the machine and thus benefit the whole family. The whole future welfare and happiness of the family might depend upon it. And if Cyrus did make a success of the machine, what a splendid legacy it would be for the boy, one in which the other children would also share! Thus it came about that on an indeterminate date Robert McCormick made a present of his reaper invention to his oldest son Cyrus. McCormick had given the already invented reaper to his son Cyrus. Exposition Press, [c] online at <http://>

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## Chapter 4 : The McCormick Reaper

*Cyrus Hall McCormick, known as "the Father of Agriculture" was an American inventor responsible for the production, marketing and distribution of the mechanical reaper. McCormick was born in and spent his childhood at "Walnut Grove" - his family's acre farm in Virginia.*

See Article History Alternative Title: McCormick was the eldest son of Robert McCormick—a farmer, blacksmith, and inventor. The elder McCormick had invented several practical farm implements but, like other inventors in the United States and England, had failed in his attempt to build a successful reaping machine. In Cyrus, aged 22, tried his hand at building a reaper. Resembling a two-wheeled, horse-drawn chariot, the machine consisted of a vibrating cutting blade, a reel to bring the grain within its reach, and a platform to receive the falling grain. The reaper embodied the principles essential to all subsequent grain-cutting machines. McCormick reaperThe original McCormick reaper, Courtesy of the Library of Congress, Washington, D. For farmers in the early 19th century, harvesting required a large number of labourers, and, if they could be found, the cost of hiring them was high. The machine had defects, not the least of which was a clatter so loud that slaves were required to walk alongside to calm the frightened horses. When the foundry failed in the wake of the bank panic of , leaving the family deeply in debt, McCormick turned to his still-unexploited reaper and improved it. He sold 2 reapers in , 7 in , 29 in , and 50 the following year. The first year, machines were sold. More were sold the next year, and McCormick was able to buy out Ogden. He fought this particular case up to the Supreme Court three times—and won, even though it took 20 years. He did not win his patent renewal battle, however. Except for improvements on the reaper patented after , the basic machine passed into the public domain. McCormick then set out to beat his manufacturing competitors another way: Pockets stuffed with order blanks, McCormick rode over the plains selling his reaper to farmers and would-be farmers. To increase sales, he used innovations such as mass production , advertising, public demonstration, warranty of product, and extension of credit to his customers. Soon the factory expanded, and the company had a traveling sales force. By the McCormick reaper was known in every part of the United States, and at the Great Exhibition of in London it was introduced to European farmers. There followed a long series of prize honours and awards that made the McCormick reaper known to farmers throughout the world. By McCormick was selling more than 4, machines a year. In the Great Chicago Fire gutted his factory. Then—more than 60 years old, his fortune long since made—he rebuilt. When he died, his business was still growing.

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### Chapter 5 : McCormick, Cyrus Hall (), inventor and businessman | American National Biography

*After Cyrus died in , Nettie became the leading McCormick family representative in the business. The McCormicks had six children. Cyrus became president of International Harvester, Harold was the company treasurer, Stanley was the comptroller, Robert had died in infancy, and two daughters named Virginia and Anita.*

Millionaire Missionary by Bernard R. DeRemer When Nancy Fowler, 7, gathered her meager belongings and headed for her new home, no one could have imagined that years later she would be an internationally famous philanthropist, with multiplied millions of donations. Yet a westward migration and wealthy marriage eventually accomplished just that. After the early death of both parents, she lived with her grandparents. Relatives enabled her to obtain an education beyond the usual limit for girls then, including opportunities in music and writing. In a providential Chicago visit decisively changed her life. Although he was more than twice her age, friendship flowered into romance and led to marriage in Nettie Fowler McCormick found herself on a bigger stage than she had ever dreamed. Fame and fortune in large measure had come almost overnight, but much more lay ahead. When the Great Chicago Fire of destroyed the McCormick factory, she persuaded Cyrus to rebuild rather than retire. She became the driving force behind the new plant, so that the inventor 26 years her senior chided her for urging him on "with whip and spur. At other times he would accompany her on the violin or join her in singing hymns. The Bible always accompanied them on their trips. Both worshiped in the Presbyterian Church, to which they gave enormous sums. McCormick Seminary, in his day an evangelical bulwark, largely owed its existence to its namesake. He also bought The Interior in ; within a decade it was one of the most widely read religious journals in the land. Other beneficiaries were legion. Finally old age claimed McCormick. On May 7, , he gathered his family around his bedside, then led them in prayer and singing several hymns. Widowhood, with the children grown, opened a new world. McCormick continued her active participation in the company but was able to devote more and more attention to benevolence. According to the Chicago Tribune, she was "said to have given more money to the Presbyterian Church than any other person in the country. Her son, Cyrus Jr. Although she was deluged with appeals, she evidently considered every one seriously. Much of her enormous correspondence with friends all over the world was in her own handwriting, which "remained clear and firm despite her age," the Chicago Tribune noted. Visitors were impressed by her "royal air," undeniable charm, and quick wit. In spite of deafness in her later years, she managed conversations so tactfully that others quickly forgot her affliction. Finally, death came in , at 88, after a brief illness. Perhaps the most fitting epitaph would be:

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## Chapter 6 : Reaper - Wikipedia

*In , the year after Cyrus's death, Cyrus' brother Leander and Cyrus McCormick Jr. collected sworn statements and accounts from family members, friends and old neighbors, all claiming that Robert H. McCormick had given the already invented reaper to his son Cyrus.*

Too often, those who are gifted with the ability to innovate in science or in technology fail to place their skills at the service of humanity. Instead, what they invent is either destructive, potentially destructive, or adds nothing to human welfare. McCormick may well have been guided by his Calvinist faith, which stresses self-denial, sobriety, thriftiness, efficiency, and morality, which can result in high production and low consumption, creating a surplus that cannot be consumed, which is instead invested for the greater glory of God. McCormick decided at an early age that he wanted to fight hunger and saw this as a Christian task. His siblings included Leander J. However, he was not able to finish his project and stopped developing it. Cyrus was given the project and developed a final version of the reaper in two months. The reaper was demonstrated in tests in , and was patented by Cyrus in . The McCormick reaper sold well, partially as a result of savvy and innovative business practices. Their products came onto the market just as the development of railroads offered wide distribution to distant market areas. He developed marketing and sales techniques, developing a vast network of trained salesmen able to demonstrate operation of the machines in the field. She was 23 years old. They had the following children: He was the great uncle of Robert R. McCormick who worked for the firm, but developed schizophrenia and retired early in . Awards Numerous prizes and medals were awarded for his reaper, and he was elected a corresponding member of the French Academy of Sciences, "as having done more for the cause of agriculture than any other living man. In , his machine won the Grand Medal at the Paris Exhibition. Death McCormick died in Chicago, in , he had been an invalid for the last three or four years of his life. Legacy McCormick invented a machine that would have great impact for the world economy. In his own life-time, 36 wheat producing nations in the world used his Reaper, and increased their productivity. His machine has been described as "the liberator of the land-serf in twenty countries, and the bread-machine of one half of the human race. His machine helped to bring about the mechanization of agriculture and could be utilized to feed world populations. It also helped to reduce the manpower required in agricultural pursuits and freed up more workers to be employed by the Industrial Revolution and the Union Army during the Civil War. The reaper was not the first implement of its kind, but McCormick effectively perfected the instrument and built a large corporation from its marketing and sales. Casson compares McCormick with Abraham Lincoln: It is interesting to note how closely the destinies of Lincoln and McCormick were interwoven. Both were born in , on farms in the south. Both struggles through a youth of adversity and first came into prominence in Illinois. Both labored to preserve the Union, and when the War of Secession came to an end it was the Reaper that enabled Lincoln to feed his army. Both mere were emancipators; the one from slavery and the other from famine; and both today sleep under the soil of Illinois. No other two Americans had heavier tasks than they, and none worked more mightily for the common good. Retrieved August 26, Retrieved August 21, Ex-Chairman of Harvester," January 7, McCormick Dead," May 14,

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## Chapter 7 : Cyrus McCormick, Family tree, Legacy and honors, McCormickâ€™Manny Case

*Cyrus McCormick filed patents for the invention, and his achievements were chiefly in the development of a company, marketing and sales force to market his products. Early Life and Career Cyrus McCormick was born February 15, in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.*

Although McCormick has sometimes been simplistically credited as the [single] "inventor" of the mechanical reaper, he was one of several inventors who contributed successful models in the s, and his efforts built on more than two decades of work by his father, as well as the aid of Jo Anderson, a slave held by his family. He was the eldest of eight children born to inventor Robert McCormick Jr. He worked for 28 years on a horse-drawn mechanical reaper to harvest grain; however, he was never able to reproduce a reliable version. Cyrus took up the project. The Bell machine was pushed by horses. The McCormick design was pulled by horses and cut the grain to one side of the team. Cyrus McCormick held one of his first demonstrations of mechanical reaping at the nearby village of Steeles Tavern, Virginia in . He claimed to have developed a final version of the reaper in 18 months. The young McCormick was granted a patent on the reaper on June 21, , [7] two years after having been granted a patent for a self-sharpening plow. The panic of almost caused the family to go into bankruptcy when a partner pulled out. In McCormick started doing more public demonstrations of the reaper, but local farmers still thought the machine was unreliable. He did sell one in , but none for . He finally sold seven reapers in , 29 in , and 50 in . They were all built manually in the family farm shop. He received a second patent for reaper improvements on January 31, . While he was in Washington, DC to get his patent, he heard about a factory in Brockport, New York, where he contracted to have the machines mass-produced. Louis, Missouri, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, were more established and prosperous. Chicago had no paved streets at the time, but the city had the best water transportation from the east over the Great Lakes for his raw materials, as well as railroad connections to the farther west where his customers would be. McCormick claimed he had really invented his machine in , but the renewal was denied. The McCormick reaper sold well, partially as a result of savvy and innovative business practices. McCormick developed marketing and sales techniques, developing a wide network of salesmen trained to demonstrate operation of the machines in the field, as well as to get parts quickly and repair machines in the field if necessary during crucial times in the farm year. After his machine successfully harvested a field of green wheat while the Hussey machine failed, he won a gold medal and was admitted to the Legion of Honor. The trial, originally scheduled for Chicago in September, featured prominent lawyers on both sides. Manny hired George Harding and Edwin M. Because the trial was set to take place in Illinois, Harding hired the local Illinois lawyer Abraham Lincoln. However, the trial was moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. McCormick decided to seek help from the US Congress to protect his patent. They had met two years earlier and shared views about business, religion and Democratic party politics. Cyrus Hall McCormick Jr. Mary Virginia McCormick was born May 5, . He also valued and demonstrated in his life the Calvinist traits of self-denial, sobriety, thriftiness, efficiency, and morality. He believed feeding the world, made easier by the reaper, was part of his religious mission in life. A lifelong Democrat, before the American Civil War, McCormick had published editorials in his newspapers, The Chicago Times and Herald, calling for reconciliation between the national sections. His views, however, were unpopular in his adopted home town. Although his invention helped feed Union troops, McCormick believed the Confederacy would not be defeated and he and his wife traveled extensively in Europe during the war. McCormick unsuccessfully ran for Congress as a Democrat with a peace-now platform in , and was soundly defeated. He also proposed a peace plan to include a Board of Arbitration. He also supported efforts to annex Santa Domingo into the United States. Also, in , McCormick purchased a religious newspaper, the Interior, which he renamed the Continent and became a leading Presbyterian periodical. Later life and death During the last four years of his life, McCormick became an invalid, after a stroke paralyzed his legs; he was unable to walk during his final two years. He died at home in Chicago on May 13, . Morgan to

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create the International Harvester Corporation in Various members of the McCormick family continued involvement with the corporation until Brooks McCormick , who died in Legacy and honors Numerous prizes and medals were awarded McCormick for his reaper, which reduced human labor on farms while increasing productivity. The town of McCormick, South Carolina and McCormick County in the state were named for him after he bought a gold mine in the town, formerly known as Dornsville. Business Hall of Fame. See Famous Americans Series of Carol Publishing Group, p. Archived from the original on September 5, McCormick was an industrialist and inventor of the first commercially successful reaper, a horse-drawn machine to harvest wheat. Patricia Carter Sluby The Inventive Spirit of African Americans: Leading American Inventors 2nd ed. Henry Holt and Company.

## Chapter 8 : Cyrus Hall McCormick - New World Encyclopedia

*Cyrus Hall McCormick was the inventor of the reaper which was designed to lighten the drudgery of the agricultural harvest and to reduce the need for farm labor. It was a major invention of the nineteenth century, and contributed to the dawning of the industrial age.*

Hand reaping[ edit ] A reaper cutting rye in Germany in Hand reaping is done by various means, including plucking the ears of grains directly by hand, cutting the grain stalks with a sickle , cutting them with a scythe , or a scythe fitted with a grain cradle. Reaping is usually distinguished from mowing , which uses similar implements, but is the traditional term for cutting grass for hay, rather than reaping cereals. The stiffer, dryer straw of the cereal plants and the greener grasses for hay usually demand different blades on the machines. The reaped grain stalks are gathered into sheaves bunches , tied with string or with a twist of straw. Several sheaves are then leant against each other with the ears off the ground to dry out, forming a stook. After drying, the sheaves are gathered from the field and stacked, being placed with the ears inwards, then covered with thatch or a tarpaulin ; this is called a stack or rick. In the British Isles a rick of sheaves is traditionally called a corn rick, to distinguish it from a hay rick "corn" in British English retains its older sense of " grain " generally, not " maize ". Ricks are made in an area inaccessible to livestock, called a rick-yard or stack-yard. The corn-rick is later broken down and the sheaves threshed to separate the grain from the straw. Collecting spilt grain from the field after reaping is called gleaning , and is traditionally done either by hand, or by penning animals such as chickens or pigs onto the field. Hand reaping is now rarely done in industrialized countries, but is still the normal method where machines are unavailable or where access for them is limited such as on narrow terraces. The more or less skeletal figure of a reaper with a scythe â€” known as the "Grim Reaper" â€” is a common personification of death in many Western traditions and cultures. In this metaphor, death harvests the living, like a farmer harvests the crops. Mechanical reaping[ edit ] A mechanical reaper or reaping machine is a mechanical, semi-automated device that harvests crops. Mechanical reapers and their descendant machines have been an important part of mechanised agriculture and a main feature of agricultural productivity. Mechanical reapers in the U. The various designs competed with each other, and were the subject of several lawsuits. The new reaper only required two horses working in a non-strenuous manner, a man to work the machine, and another person to drive. In addition, the Hussey Reaper left an even and clean surface after its use. However, Robert became frustrated when he was unable to perfect his new device. With permission granted, [7] the McCormick Reaper was patented [8] by his son Cyrus McCormick in as a horse-drawn farm implement to cut small grain crops. Over the next few decades the Hussey and McCormick reapers would compete with each other in the marketplace, despite being quite similar. In , the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued a ruling on the invention of the polarizing reaper design. It was determined that the money made from reapers was in large part due to Obed Hussey. It was ruled that the heirs of Obed Hussey would be monetarily compensated for his hard work and innovation by those who had made money from the reaper. Even though McCormick has sometimes been simplistically credited as the [sole] "inventor" of the mechanical reaper , a more accurate statement is that he independently reinvented aspects of it, created a crucial original integration of enough aspects to make a successful whole, and benefited from the influence of more than two decades of work by his father, as well as the aid of Jo Anderson, a slave held by his family. Generally, reapers developed into the invented reaper-binder , which reaped the crop and bound it into sheaves. By , , reaper-binders were estimated to be harvesting grain. In Central European agriculture reapers were â€” together with reaper-binders â€” common machines until the midth century.

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## Chapter 9 : Cyrus McCormick | American industrialist and inventor | calendrierdelascience.com

*The mechanical reaper was invented by Cyrus McCormick (), a Virginia blacksmith, in Essentially, it was a horse-drawn machine that harvested wheat, and it was one of the most important in the history of farm innovations. The reaper, which one observer likened to a cross between a*

Here is a fascinating descriptive account of the man who invented the reaper, his life and the time in which he lived. The reaper was a major invention of the nineteenth century and contributed to the dawning of the industrial age. From the back cover blurb: Cyrus Hall McCormick was the inventor of the reaper which was designed to lighten the drudgery of the agricultural harvest and to reduce the need for farm labor. It was a major invention of the nineteenth century, and contributed to the dawning of the industrial age. Here is a fascinating descriptive account of the man, his life and the time in which he lived. As an industrialist, his enterprising advertising to the effect that it would cost less for a farm to buy a reaper than not to buy one was most effective. Harvesting had forever been the most labor-intensive, time-sensitive, and backbreaking of all farm operations. The first truly serviceable reaper appeared in , and Cyrus McCormick introduced his superior version in Farms in the Easter United States were generally too small and fields often too hilly to accommodate such a large machine. In , he opened a factory in Chicago using state-of-the-art mass-production principles and provided a critical impetus for large-scale agriculture, American style. McCormick was an innovative businessman. He pioneered the concepts of a "written guarantee," free trial, and clearly stated price. He led the way in the fledgling field of advertising. One of his own favorite ads included a quote from a farmer who said his reaper had "more than paid for itself in one harvest. He dabbled in politics and was actively involved in the great nationwide debate on whether the rich agricultural lands of the West, fueled by his invention and the railroads, would be designated slave states or free. His Life and Work was first published in The book received positive reviews. The periodical Dial called the book the "life of the master builder of the modern business of manufacturing farm machinery. Casson provides a charming account of McCormick and the times in which he lived. He tells us that McCormick, although a "big, red-blooded, great-hearted man," was "not always heroic" and had trouble keeping secretaries. His brain was not quick The life and personality of the great inventor are adequately set forth. He founded the company that would later become McCann-Erickson.