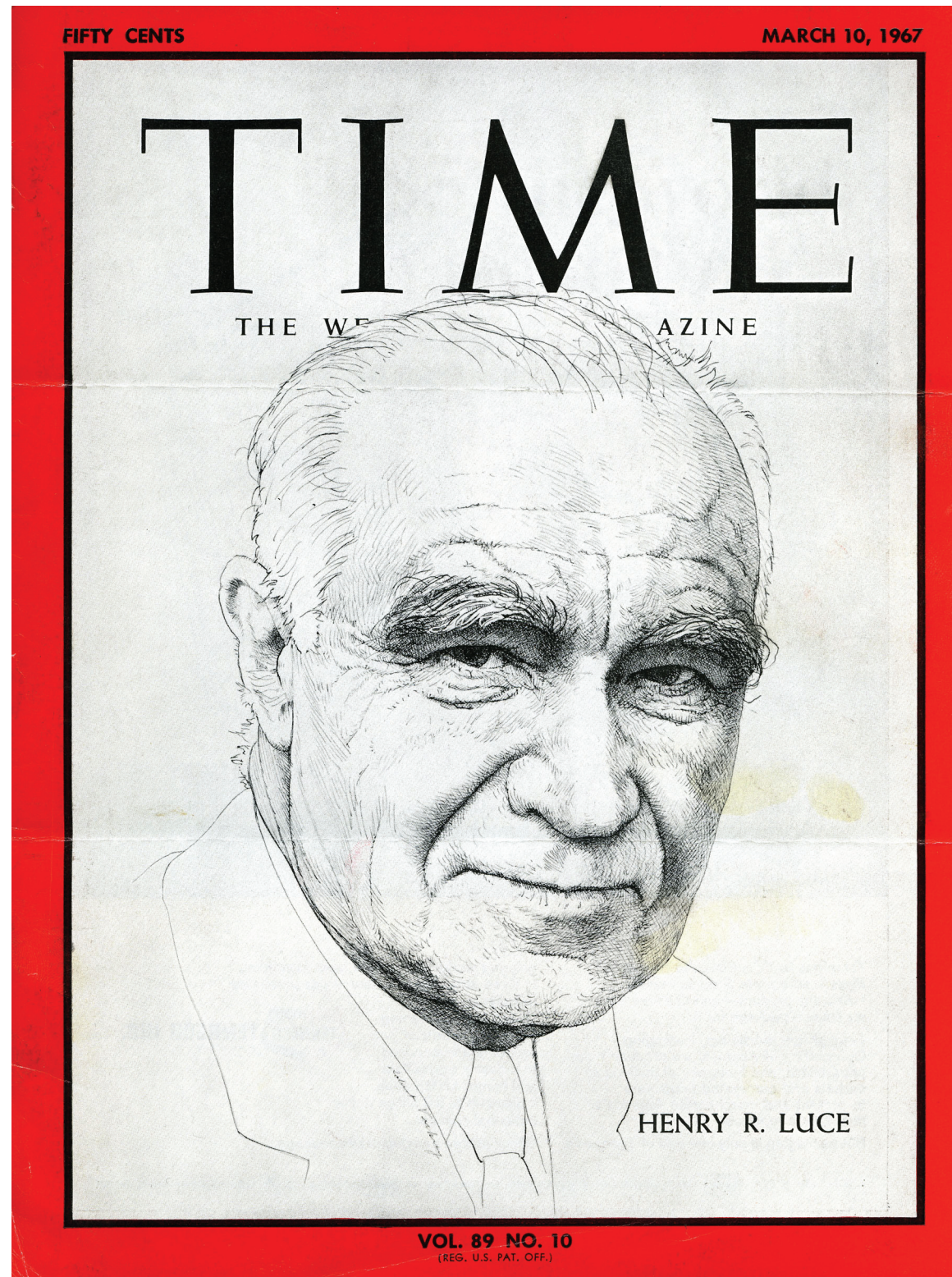


Henry R. Luce

Publisher (1898–1967)



Luce, known to his friends as “Father Time,” was born in Penglai City, China, the son of a missionary. He received his education in various Chinese and English boarding schools and at 14, he traveled to Europe alone, then to the U.S. to attend the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut.

Luce split his time between waiting tables after school and editing for the Hotchkiss Literary Monthly, holding the position of editor-in-chief. In 1920, he graduated from Yale, where he was voted “most brilliant” of his class. After a year at Oxford University, he worked at the *Chicago Daily News* and then at *The Baltimore News* with his old Hotchkiss and Yale friend Briton Hadden.

In 1922, the two formed Time Inc. Having raised \$86,000 of a \$100,000 goal, they published the first issue of *Time* on March 3, 1923. Luce served as business manager while Hadden was editor-in-chief, and the two annually alternated the titles of president and secretary-treasurer. Upon Hadden’s sudden death in 1929, Luce assumed Hadden’s position.

Luce launched the business magazine *Fortune* in February 1930, took over *Architectural Forum* in 1932, founded the pictorial *Life* magazine in 1936, and launched *House & Home* in 1952 and *Sports Illustrated* in 1954. By the mid 1960s, Time Inc was the largest and most prestigious magazine publisher in the world.

Luce, who remained editor-in-chief of all his publications until 1964, maintained a position as an influential member of the Republican Party. An instrumental figure behind the so-called “China Lobby,” he played a large role in steering American foreign policy and popular sentiment in favor of Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek and his wife Soong Mei-ling.

Once ambitious to become Secretary of State in a Republican administration, Luce penned a famous article in *Life* in 1941 called “The American Century,” in which he defined the role of American foreign policy for the remainder of the 20th century.

Luce had two children—Peter Paul and Henry Luce III—with his first wife, Lila Hotz. He married his second wife, Clare Boothe Luce, in 1935. He died in Phoenix in 1967, a member of the Century since 1935.