In this classic study, a major philosopher and social theorist of the twentieth century offers a searching examination of the conditions under which individuals make choices that significantly alter the course of historical events and presents a scathing critique of various forms of social determinism that deny the individual freedom of action or a decisive role in history. The myth of the hero as the savior of the tribe or nation, as Hook notes, is older than written history. Until the nineteenth century, the hero functioned not merely as a cult figure but as a principle of historical explanation... "The Hero in History" will be of interest to intellectual historians, philosophers, political scientists, and sociologists. The Journal of Modern History Volume 15, Number 4. Previous article. Next article. No AccessReviews of Books. The Hero in History: A Study in Limitation and Possibility. Sidney Hook.