

University of Chicago
October 8, 1927.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

It may be a little informal for me to write you, but Mr. Alfred Stern, of the Sears Roebuck Company, has asked me to write a biography of Mr. Julius Rosenwald, with especial reference to his great work for the education of the Negroes in the South.

My own work, expanding these last few years beyond my abilities, forbids. But I would like to see a good biography of Mr. Rosenwald, who has made such a vast business of Sears Roebuck, who has made such excellent uses of his wealth and who is withal so liberal a leader of his own race. I wonder if you might undertake the task?

All needful material is ready to hand here and there are many people now living who could add not a little to the information necessary to a good human document. I may say that I am hoping to see a new series of American biography which shall include various types of leaders and which shall offer the older leaders in a truer light and perspective. A good story of Rosenwald would fit well into such a series.

If it so happens that you can undertake the task, would you be kind enough to communicate with me?

Yours sincerely,

Nor must we forget
the great days of 1913-21.

William F. Dodd

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