

January 5, 1938

Dear Mr. Duffus:

Before I get to the business of this letter I want to thank you for that excellent review of Dr. Giddens' "Birth of the Oil Industry." As I have been nursing that piece of work for four or five years now I am mightily pleased that you find the young man has done so good a job.

And thank you for the good word for my Introduction.

Now the business. I am doing some recollections and in the course of them speaking of my visit to Stanford University back in 1910 - it was Dr. Jordan's course of lectures on the History of International Conciliation that took me out, and perhaps the best result of that visit was that I made your acquaintance! - I want to speak of students that were following the lectures, the men who like yourself have forged ahead. Dr. Jordan in "His Days of a Man" speaks of several. I have picked out Bruce Bliven - Robert L. Duffus - Maxwell Anderson. The keen-eyed editor at Macmillan who has been reading my text has looked up the academic careers of all three and seems to think that you couldn't have been present as students. Can you help me out? Surely you were following that course. I am not wrong about that, am I?

I am hoping to see you and Mrs. Duffus some of these days soon. Please remember me to her and to her daughters.

Faithfully yours

Mr. Robert L. Duffus  
New York Times  
New York City

At the beginning of the fall semester, in connection with Dr. Edward Krehbiel of the chair of Modern European History, I inaugurated a regular course of lectures at Stanford on the history of international conciliation. This was largely attended by advanced students, some of whom have since taken an active part in liberal journalism. Among them I may mention especially Geroid Robinson of *The Freeman*, Robert A. Donaldson of the *United Press*, Bruce Bliven, Robert L. Duffus, Frank E. Hill, Maxwell Anderson, Frank J. Taylor, and Harry Frantz, all on the staff of the *New York Globe*. On my retirement from active work and Krehbiel's subsequent public activities during the war, the course was suspended. The printed syllabus of our lectures formed the nucleus of Krehbiel's "*Nationalism, War, and Society*" (1915) and of my own "*Democracy and World Relations*" (1918), to which I shall again refer.