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FIELD DIVISION  
OF THE  
COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON

Muscogee Road, Atlanta, Georgia.  
December 6th, 1918.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

I was very sorry that your letter of November 26th did not find me in Washington. For I would then have had time to write you before you left home on the 30th, and to ask you, in case your trip west brought you into my neighborhood, to stop over and pay me the promised visit. As it was, your letter was forwarded and did not reach me until a day or two ago, too late to hope to catch you before you started on your tour.

I am very, very glad to hear such good news of your brother, and so happy to know that you are relieved of anxiety and of the extra burden put upon you. I have thought about you very often and with a great deal of sympathy, and I am correspondingly glad to have such a good report.

I supposed that our meeting of the Woman's Committee would be merely a farewell one. But so far from that being the case, we very seriously considered going back to our status prior to the creation of the Field Division. There is reason to think that the State Councils of Defense will, many of them, be discontinued; the administration, I believe, does not consider them necessary, and a few of them have already dissolved, of their own motion.

The State Divisions of the Woman's Committee, however, feel that their work is not finished, and are anxious to keep on; and the Woman's Committee was disposed to do so. We have not yet heard anything definite from the Council of National Defense, nor from the President, and are still very undecided as to what our future will be.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting of the Field Division, on December 13th, but would not be surprised if that was our last meeting. For my part I shall not be at all sorry. But it seems the letters from the State Divisions have made Doctor Shaw and Miss Patterson feel that there is a great opportunity for usefulness. When I found you would not be at the meeting I intended to write to you, but before I did so Doctor Shaw received your telegram saying that you were going abroad, and I got the idea that you were going immediately, and that it was too late to write. I am delighted to know that you are going. I wish I were going with you, and I fully sympathize with your decision that your future lies in your profession. One of my few regrets in the wind up of the Field Division and Woman's Committee will be missing the pleasure and profit of your companionship. I hope you will keep me on your list of correspondents, and that we may meet before very long.

With warm regard,

Affectionately yours,

*Clayton P. Shaw*