

1932-05-24

Letter: Ida M. Tarbell to Francis Goodell, May 24, 1932

Tarbell, Ida M.

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May 24, 1932

Dear Mr. Goodell:

Thank you for your note. I am sending out at once for Mr. Leiserson's "Estimating Labor Output" I am sure the point you refer to will have interest.

I am working now on the Naumkeag article - not so easy to popularize the undertaking, at least to make it something that you and Mr. Cooke will not think foolish!

I want to get just a word of personal history on J. Foster Smith and John O'Connell. It is true, is it not, that Agent Smith has been fifty years with Naumkeag, also that O'Connell is a resident of Salem? I somehow have picked up the notion that he learned the textile trade in the Naumkeag factory and that his father was there before him. I have written both gentlemen for personal sketches, but I fancy they are a little shy as I have had no answer. Could you tell me anything about them? It is very little I want, only enough to show their long connections with the mill.

I trust that I am not troubling you too much.

As soon as I am ready for your tabulation of activities to reduce unemployment I shall be troubling you again.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Francis Goodell
Associate Secretary
Taylor Society
29 West 39th Street
New York City