

WM. ARTHUR PAYNE
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New York, N. Y.

Nov. 28/39

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

In a recent Reader's Digest there was an excerpt from one of your writings concerning things that did not happen. Here is a true occurrence to add to your list.

In late Spring 1923 there was dedicated in the hall of the Pershing ^{S. P. A.} 42nd St. and Park av. a tablet concerning the site. At a lunch in the Savarin Restaurant, then in the Basement of the building, I met, as the constructor of the building, General Pershing. I said to him "General, it was a fine thing you did when you reached Paris to address the statue of Lafayette,"

"Lafayette we are here"
In reply he said "would it not have been fine if I had?"

Very sincerely

Wm. Arthur Payne

Miss Ida M. Tarbell

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