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**"To promote
the creation of a permanent non-partisan
Tariff Commission"**

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Racine, Wis., 11/7/10.

My dear Miss Tarbell,

Further on Tariff and Wages- Recent statistics published by the state of Massachusetts (I think it was her last census) showed that the entire wages paid by her cotton mills were \$50,000,000.; the value of their products \$200,000,000. It is, therefore, paying 25% of the American wholesale price. The tariff is from 75% to 165% as indicated by duty paid at the Customs House, and is 200% and more in the prohibitive rates never shown in the Customs House because those goods are not brought in.

I took up with one of her best and most representative woolen goods manufacturers the above figures, and he told me that English cotton spinners' wages were, as I remember, about 70% of the American, and the German wages 60%. I then said to him, "If this is so then the tariff so far as protecting wages go, and without allowing for the protection on wool, the raw material, the European wage would be 16% of the American wholesale price, and the American wage 25%. The difference is 9%. This would be an exact measure of protection, twice this, or 18% would be liberal protection, three times, or 27% very liberal protection, instead of which we have from 75% to more than 200%." Our correspondence has been friendly, but with this statement he replied he had taken up the matter with other industries, and wishing not to be discourteous in any way, he would be glad not to consider a continuation of the subject. He certainly saw much force in these Massachusetts census figures.

Yours very truly,

HEM-EA



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Mr. Ida M. Tarbell,
New York City, N.Y.

See list of Organizations and Delegates on back of this sheet.