

September 10, 1930

Dear Mr. Young:

Would it be convenient and agreeable to you to begin work early in October on the articles of which we talked the other day, when you were good enough to see me in your office? I am going out of town this week for ten days vacation. The only thing I am carrying away in my head of serious import is the possible articles of which we talked.

As you will perhaps recall there were two possible subjects that you were willing to consider. First - an article discussing the unfinished integration of our Industrial System - the failure of the public to understand or accept it as an essential and inevitable process as it accepts political integration. Perhaps this is a poor way to put it but it is the idea, as I understand it, and capable of a most interesting, and coming from you, an important development.

Second - a sketch, not too short, possible running to fifty or sixty thousand words, of your distinguished self. To do this properly, dear Mr. Young, I am afraid would mean a draft on your time that you might not be willing to give. I should not want to go into it unless I could produce something useful as well as interesting. I am a slow worker. I have to feel my feet on the ground, when I undertake a character sketch. I don't know that it is necessary that I should know all about a man's ancestry - where he was born and went to school, etc., etc., but I never feel my pen firmly in hand until I have a good deal of background, and I know, at least in your case, this is both interesting and important. I have had some experience in work of this sort. If you could give me an hour or two for a couple of days of the week, or if you could not manage that, one day of the week, possibly with a stenographer - that could be as you choose - I think we could work out something. I should do my best to make it easy for you and, of course, to produce a result of which you would not be ashamed.

I am very serious about this, for I look upon you as one of our chief assets in industrial and public life. I do not want to do a superficial sketch - I could do that now.

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If you are quite willing to undertake the bother of seeing me occasionally, when it is quite convenient, I should put my time entirely at your disposal. I shall be very happy to try both the interview on industrial integration and the sketch which might very well mean in the end a short life of Owen D. Young. I shall be most glad to begin in October.

A letter will reach me at this address. Thank you for your kindness to me when I have thrust myself upon you.

In hopes we can work out something which will be creditable and useful, believe me

Faithfully yours

Mr. Owen D. Young  
120 Broadway  
New York City