

1932-05-05

Letter: Everett Case to Ida M. Tarbell, May 5, 1932

Case, Everett

<http://hdl.handle.net/10456/39054>

The copyright owner of this item is unknown. It is the responsibility of the researcher to identify and satisfy the holders of all copyrights.

All materials in the Allegheny College DSpace Repository are subject to college policies and Title 17 of the U.S. Code.

120 BROADWAY NEW YORK
ROOM 2555

May 5, 1932.

Miss Ida Tarbell,
120 East 19th Street,
New York City.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Thanks so much for your letter of the 3rd. It is a fine, frank statement which leaves no doubt of your position. After a single reading I haven't the faintest notion that the "man with the pipe" is going to appear on the jacket. Since you feel as you do about it, that suggestion, which I still think is a good one - because after all I must maintain your standard of frankness - is crossed out. Incidentally I did not know that you had chosen the picture for the jacket yourself or I would have taken it up with you rather than the Macmillan people.

There remains one point on which I am still going to take issue with you, although, of course, the matter is one for you to determine. Your description of the kind of man in whom the public is interested - "one whose eyes are unafraid and whose lips can set when necessary" - is first rate. As I see it, if there is one picture of Mr. Young which does not fit that description and is wholly uncharacteristic, it is the very picture which now appears on the jacket. I have always wondered how that picture came to be finished. To me it suggests facial lines which are soft, almost flabby, eyes which are not so much unafraid as solemn and almost smug. As I look at the original I can't imagine a worse likeness.

There, now I have matched your frankness and each of us knows how the other feels. Can't we now agree on another photograph which meets your requirements and which satisfies me as a real and honest likeness?

Miss Ida Tarbell.

- 2 -

If this appeals to you as a fair suggestion I should be glad to call on you tomorrow at your convenience with all the photographs that I can lay my hands on in the hope that we can make a mutually satisfactory selection. I hate to bother you about it, but after all a jacket is what creates the first impression, and if the first impression is misleading I know you will agree that it is no trivial matter.

Faithfully yours,

Ernest Case