

11 October 1930

THE LITTLE BOOK HOUSE

NANTUCKET ISLAND

MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Ida Tarbell -

Your good letter has remained unanswered too long but I have thought of you many times. Please do not give a thought to the V. L. matter. I had a sufficient number of sponsors, and nothing came of it anyhow! I do indeed appreciate your permission to refer to you without formal attribution in the particular instance.

I am at present writing to

Mrs. Sinkhoritch and one or two
other people who know my
work, about my rather acute
need of a job for the winter
months, and hope you will
not be bored if I detail to
you also the kind of job,
which I am sure I could
handle. Far, merely crying
out, "I want a job" sounds too
much like a chorus, nowadays.

You know all about my
organization work, from Greenwich
House onward; and that I
can direct plays with professionals
or amateurs, having done both
successfully. Since I had the

shop here. I have made a definite study of the field of book collecting, rare prints, autograph material etc., and also have the connections both in this country and abroad for locating almost any kind of collectable items. I could for instance assemble from the beginning a library of current ~~quality~~ ^{quality} of material on any subject, I build up one already started. I could also put in readable shape the material of a scholar or promoter who lacked time or facility to handle his accumulating

They had experience in
many kinds of editorial
work, and know the routine
of (erstwhile) publicity, now
known as public relations.
There are of course a lot of
similar needs that often arise
- I will not extend the list.

I shall be free to do any
odd jobs from December to
May, but unfortunately, would
find it practically impossible
to come to Norfolk to hunt a
job, the cupboard being bare!

The retail book business, as you
have doubtless heard, is almost
a closed book. While we sold

more volumes this summer than in several years, the total was negligible, as the public buys little besides fiction — and it takes many, many \$2.50 or \$2.00 sales to make any impression on "the overhead," even our tiny one, which has been reduced to the point of inefficiency, creating a vicious circle. One more specific kind of job I feel sure I could handle efficiently — to inaugurate a "house-organ" or trade journal or, ^{to stage a} seasonal campaign of that sort. My Harpoon has had a very gratifying reception, not only

on the literary side, but
from the advertisers, who
tell us of definite results
from the Bulletin extension
as well as the regular issues.

I am sending you some
later numbers of Harpoon with
some of the Bulletins.

Besides Mr. Dunkhoritch, I am
telling my needs to Mr. Oswald
Mr. Flegg - and our dear Mr. Coburn
is always in touch. I know
that our club members have their
hands full with trying to keep
the club going - and I feel very
apologetic about bringing my
cares to their notice - and to yours.
But only ask for suggestions, if
anything comes your way -

Such beautiful October weather. I wish I could take you over the lovely moors. They are like a Persian carpet.

I do hope that you are well, and that your anxieties about your family have been relieved. I think of you and your Connecticut garden so often - I trust you have been able to enjoy it this summer.

With loving thoughts, as ever,
Katharine Lord