

8 BELLE ISLE
MIAMI BEACH
FLORIDA

February 26, 1927.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Upon my return from Green Cove Springs, where I have spent the past two weeks, I find your letter of the 14th, and also a letter and booklet from Mr. R. D. Jenkins.

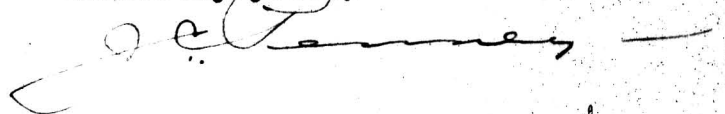
I am enclosing copy of my reply to Mr. Jenkins, which fully sets forth my position in the matter. Sorry that I am unable to join in this proposition.

We had a wonderful time at the banquet which my letter to Mr. Jenkins mentions. I wish that you might have been there and have seen the fine gathering of farmer folk, the ministers and their wives from the memorial group, some of our New York people, and a number of interesting outside speakers.

I hope that you will be able to carry out your intention and pay another visit to Green Cove Springs. I think you would ~~really~~ be amazed at the progress since your previous visit.

With best wishes, and kindest personal regards,
I am

Sincerely yours,



To
Miss Ida Tarbell,
120 East Nineteenth Street,
New York City.

77
Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

C O P
February 26, 1927.

My dear Mr. Jenkins:

I have just returned from a rather protracted stay at Green Cove Springs, which accounts for my delay in replying to your letter of February 11th. It arrived during my absence.

Your booklet is most interesting, and certainly presents a most unique plan of providing funds for the Goodwill Association.

While thoroughly in sympathy with your project, and the object for which it is being launched, I regret that it will be impossible for me to become one of the six men to take a \$5000 subscription, for the reason that my various interests are drawing very heavily upon my own resources. It is therefore imperative that I decline many opportunities that otherwise I might be able to entertain.

I am sure that you will understand my position in this matter, Mr. Jenkins. Penney Farms, our colonization project, will require a large amount of money to carry the project forward to completion; the memorial group which I have recently erected to house aged, retired ministers and their wives, has cost half a million dollars more than we anticipated; my own private farming enterprise undertaken for the purpose of assisting in the betterment of dairying conditions is still on the wrong side of the ledger; all of which means that retrenchment in outside interests is necessary.

A project as deserving as yours has my sincere wishes for its success, which I trust may be readily attained.

I also have a letter from Miss Tarbell in this matter, and am enclosing her copy of my letter to you in order that she may fully understand the situation.

Should you be in Florida in the near future it would give me pleasure to have you visit our Green Cove Springs development and see what we are doing there. We have just held our second annual banquet celebrating the anniversary of the founding of Penney Farms. There were about four hundred present and the spirit of the occasion was very fine.

It would give me pleasure to have you come some time when I am at Green Cove Springs myself, but if that does not happen opportunely, Mr. D. Walter Morton will show you every courtesy. He is in charge of the development there.

With all good wishes for the success of your commendable enterprise, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Sig)

To Mr. Jenkins