Mem. for Tarbell Circular

Miss Tarbell is offering three subjects for her lecture work in the coming season. These lectures follow themes on which she has been working for years as a magazine and book writer.

Take the first - "Abraham Lincoln's Political Development, with Some Lessons for the Times." Over twenty-five years ago, McClure's Magazine asked Miss Tarbell to gather from living contemporaries of Abraham Lincoln a series of reminiscences. She became so interested in her subject that after five years work she published a two volume biography, which has been selling over twenty years. At intervals since she has published other volumes, among them "He Knew Lincoln," a "Boys' Life of Lincoln", and lastly a series which she calls "in the Footsteps of Abraham Lincoln," being the result of a pilgrimage made in 1922, beginning with the coming of the first of Abraham Lincoln's ancestors to this country in 1637 and ending with Lincoln's death in 1865.

Miss Tarbell looks upon Lincoln as the finest type that purely American ideas and conditions have as yet produced. She regards his political ideals and methods as particularly important, and in the present lecture points out that they are as applicable to today as they were to his time, also that out success in handling difficult problems varies with our fidelity to these ideals and methods.

Miss Tarbell's second topic is "Woman's Possible Contribution to a Finer Public Life." Here again she is on a theme which she has been following for many years. She herself is a product of

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what is called the Woman's Movement. In her girlhood the emphasis of advanced women was placed on the right to an education and the right to a profession. She seized upon these rights, went to college and later into professional life. Women's ambitions, their relations to the development of sound society, their possible contribution to building up the new civilization to which the world is looking occupied her mind. At intervals she has published volumes on this theme - her first a study of Madame Roland of the French Revolution, undertaken to show what could be expected of women in a great crisis like the French Revolution. Her study of the Empress Josephine is at once frank and sympathetic, the only one of the kind in English. She has also two volumes of essays on women - "The Business of Being a Woman" and "The Ways of Women."

The third topic offered is along the line of industrial relations, the subject on which Miss Tarbell has usually spoken. This grew naturally out of her "History of the Standard Oil Company," and "History of the Tariff in Our Times;" works which followed her history of Abraham Lincoln, both of which she regards as logical outgrowths of a study of the Civil War period. In preparing for these two works, on which she spent several years of time she could not escape making many observations on the baneful effects on human beings of our industrial conditions, and finally she undertook for the American Magazine a series of studies of the practices and ideas which were being tried out in the interests of better conditions and fuller justice to workers. The importance

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of the work Miss Tarbell has done along industrial lines was recognized in 1919 when she was invited by President Wilson to become a member of the first Industrial Conference, and again in 1921 when she was invited by President Harding into his Unemployment Conference. That is, this present talk is based on actual experience with workers and leaders who are trying to stabilize and pacify our troubled industrial life by applying to it sound economic and social principles.

If it would be of any help to you I can give you copies of two or three articles that have been published at various times. I don't know, however, that this would be of any particular use.

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