

April 8, 1929

Mr. Samuel Ranck
Ryerson Library
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Dear Mr. Ranck:

I have your letter of the 4th, saying that several organizations in your town would like to have me speak for them next week when I am in Grand Rapids.

I am sorry not to be able to do anything for anybody except yourself. Here is how matters stand. I am going Tuesday night to Detroit where I talk to the teachers Wednesday evening. Thursday I will go to Grand Rapids as soon as I can get away. I have a little business to attend to there in the morning, but I shall have to turn on my tracks directly after my talk at the Library and after a little visit with you and Mrs. Ranck.

I had hoped to stay a little time while I was out there to look after several things that interest me in your part of the world, but my brother is ill. Mrs. Tarbell is in California and I must not be away. I shall have to come back at once so that there will be no opportunity for me to speak to the organizations which were good enough to want me. Won't you place thank them and tell them that I am sorry?

Do let me talk to you, as you suggest, about the social service of the public library. And here is something that I want to get your and Mrs. Ranck's judgment on. And that is the college woman's contribution to a town like Grand Rapids. You must have a lot of college women there. Have you information in the Library on the institutions they come from? And are they any particular good in the town? If so, where? Are they ever a particular disturbance? And if so, how? I would like to talk this over with you.

I am looking forward with great pleasure to seeing you and Mrs. Ranck next Thursday, the 18th.

Sincerely yours