

March 31, 1927.

Mr. Ralph H. Booth,
315 Washington Rd.,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Mr. Booth:

Your telegram of March 21st reached me in Birmingham Alabama and I acknowledged it from there. At the same time I wired Mrs. Depew.

It was very good of you to take the trouble to let me know of her willingness to give me data concerning the work of her father, Hazen S. Pingree. I have undertaken to do for the Yale University's History of American Civilization - a twenty volume series - one hundred thousand words covering a period from about 1880 to 1900. My plan is to use ~~an~~ examples of outstanding developments and characters in different cities and sections. I have selected Detroit to illustrate the movement toward municipal ownership of public utilities and Mr. Pingree as the advocate. When I was in Detroit I spent a little time in your library searching for what might be already in print. Mr. George Catlin's book is altogether the best thing that I came across. I am not ready yet for the details of Mr. Pingree's work and I am writing Mrs. Depew that when I am I will get in touch with her. I would not have time now to look into her material even if she were good enough to bring it to New York, as she suggests, but I am promising her that later I shall take advantage of her kind offer.

I want to thank you heartily for your helpfulness in the matter.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Booth, believe me,

Very sincerely,