WILLIAM RUSSELL DAVIS
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103 WASHINGTON AVENUE
ALBANY, N.Y.

August 7, 1929

Miss Ida M . Tarbell,
c/o LIBERTY
247 Park Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

Within an hour I have read your article in LIBERTY for July 6, 1929. I appreciate your dispassionate attitude which will surely be of great help.

Near the end of your article are the words 'A majority put it in.' Is this really true?

Personally I have never had a chance to vote at a referendum. I also feel that I have not had even an indirect voice in the matter of ratification of the amendment.

Do you know the facts about the ratification by the State of New York? I lived and voted in Albany at the time. In order to secure ratification it was necessary to force a favorable vote from quite a number of senators by the device of a Republican Caucus; a device which in honor should never be used for such a purpose. You can verify this statement without much difficulty.

Did an organized minority win by similar or equivalent devices in other states? I very much wish to know. I hope for another article from you in which this phase is explained.

Very truly yours,

William Russell Davis

D.D

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