

Handwritten mark

COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

October 31, 1917.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
Johns Hopkins Hospital,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

Since I wrote to you this morning it has occurred to Dean Gay, who is here as acting chairman of the Board, that the knitting fashion might furnish you a substitute for the paragraph which we suggested leaving out of your article. The enclosed letter which was sent out some three weeks ago by the Woman's Committee at the request of the Board may furnish you some of the material.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred Pittman

1 Encl.
AP/DMS

The Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense is sending out a request to the women of America to aid in the conservation of wool. Miss Hannah J. Patterson, Resident Director of the Committee authorizes the following:

"With a serious world-wide need for economy in wool and with nurses, soldiers and sailors writing their friends and the Red Cross and other organizations for knit garments to help keep them warm in the rigorous winter climate of Northern France and the North Atlantic thousands of women in the United States are using up wool for their personal adornment. Six million garments have been requested of the American Red Cross, and that organization will exert itself to the utmost to provide that number.

But sweaters cannot be made without yarn. And there are women selfish ~~enough~~ or perhaps ignorant enough of conditions to be using yarn needlessly for themselves. The Woman's Committee is appealing to the women of the country to stop this practice. It is appealing to the spirit of loyalty and devotion to country which will keep any woman from using yarn for unnecessary sweaters for herself when our fighting forces need it.

It is imperative that we send out a call to our sisters to do their bit in the war by knitting no more sweaters of wool for themselves after they have one. It is unthinkable that our soldiers and sailors should suffer, or run the risk of suffering, because women choose to have from three to thirty sweaters each to match their various gowns."

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