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EDITORIAL OFFICES
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Saratoga, July 31, 1931.

Dear Miss Tarbell,

Your note was forwarded to me here at Saratoga, whither I fled just before the publication of the diary. I'm sorry now that I gave you away in that matter of the Maine. I acted impulsively and hastily. I understand there probably will be an investigation by Washington, if for no other reason than to divert the attention of the populace from Prohibition and Depression until Mr. Hoover has had a chance to reelect himself. If they ask you anything, just you say that it was I who did the actual sinking. The least I can do, after having bandied your name thus in the public prints, is to act the gentleman and take the blame. I think we Sullivans know how to face a firing squad; they've been shooting Sullivans in County Kerry for seven hundred years.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Sullivan

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library