December 30, 1938

Dear Miss Tarbell:

The Curriculum Committee has been very glad to approve the granting of an hour's credit for the Seminar you will conduct on the writing of biography. Since all courses yielding academic credit are listed in the catalogue, the following statement has been prepared:

"The Writing of Biography - Instruction and method in biographical research and writing, with attention given to sources, interpretation, and the assembling of materials. The Lincoln Collection given by Miss Ida M. Tarbell, '80, will be utilized by students working in that field. The course will be conducted from April 17 to May 14 and will be handled by means of lecture, discussion, and conference. Miss Tarbell.
11:00, M. W. F. One hour.
Given in 1938-1939."

Please feel free to re-write this. The hour, as you will observe, is 11 o'clock on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. If you want to reserve conference hours one or two days a week, you might indicate when these will be.

You will be glad to know that Mrs. Arthur W. Thompson has given the college ten thousand dollars to complete the Treasure Rooms in the Library. I am not sure that the rooms will be ready by the middle of April, but if they should be your class will probably meet in the larger of the two rooms.

We have all greatly enjoyed your article in Harpers' and the Introduction to the "Birth of the Oil Industry." I hope Mr. Giddens realizes how great a debt he owes you.

With warmest regards and best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours,

William P. Tolley

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 East 19th Street
New York City

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