

THE
NEW YORKER

No. 25 WEST 47th STREET



EDITORIAL OFFICES
BRYANT 9-3200

April 23, 1937

Dear Miss Tarbell:

We have pondered over the story of Trup, which is interesting and touching, but which we just can't persuade ourselves is suitable for publication in The New Yorker. We seldom use character sketches except very short ones, and we feel it would ruin your portrait to cut it to the few hundred words we could use. One reason for brevity in this case is that Trup, the transplanted Hungarian farmer, is a country character, and we after all are the urban and local New Yorker. If he were a policeman, subway guard, or an apartment house janitor, we might use a longer portrait in place of a profile some week. But when we give space to rural subject matter, which we try not to do too often, it is usually for fiction or humor. The piece as you've written it sounds almost like the outline for a character in a novel and makes one want to know more about Trup. But, cut as drastically as it would have to be for us, we feel sure it would lose too much. The space problem is always with us.

I do hate to send back anything of yours and hope you'll be forgiving and try us soon again. Thank you anyway for letting us see this.

Sincerely yours,

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