

Department of Commerce and Labor

AS

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Washington

March 8, 1912.

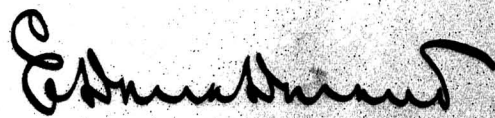
Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
The American Magazine,
381 Fourth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Madam:

In reply to your letter of March 7: No figures have as yet been compiled or published by the Census concerning the occupations of the people as ascertained by the Census of 1910, nor has this Bureau available any special material upon which an estimate could be based. There were enumerated in 1910 in the United States 44,640,144 females. If to this number be applied the same proportion as was found in 1900 of the women at work compared with the whole number of females in the population, an estimate of those now in gainful occupations might be obtained which would be as satisfactory as anything which the Bureau of the Census could prepare.

In this connection it may interest you to know that the average number of wage-earners as computed for the statistics of manufactures in the United States was in 1909 6,615,056 and in 1899 4,712,763. In the year 1909 the number of females over 16 years of age was 1,290,253 and 10 years earlier 918,510. The proportion of females of 16 years of age and over in the whole number of wage-earners was 19.5 per cent at each census.

Very respectfully,



Director.