MARY BARNETT GILSON
1154 EAST 56TH STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

March 21
1941

My dearest Miss Tarbell,

I am so sorry to hear of your brother's death! I know how fond of him you always were and my heart aches for you. Oh how we do miss our loved ones! I always think I must surely miss mother less and less as the years pass but I don't.

Of course you must not even think of a review, my dear. Unless you mind, though, if I quoted you as saying "This is a permanent piece of work". I am dying for just a sentence and that from your note would give

my book such a boost coming from you! I'm so disappointed not to hear from Dorothy Canfield Fisher. Somehow women's approbation means more than men's to me when it's women like you and W. C. T. U.! She's probably ill, too. I hope not.

I'm inclosing a stamped envelope. Just say "yes" or "no" and I'll understand. Don't write a letter, for if you are half as tired as I am letter-writing is a terrible chore.

I have decided to retire this June. I vowed I'd have to next June (1942)

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as I shall be 65 then. I somehow hate the thought of forced retirement, so I'm just going to get out this June. I have a salary of only $3000 and I can make half of that lecturing in the Mid-West. It will be grand not to have the sense of being driven by alarm clocks and piles of papers. Again let me express my sympathy and also the hope that you will be well + strong soon.

Affectionately,
Mary Gilson

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