401 East Main Street
Olean, New York
June 26, 1933

Dear Miss Tarbell;-

I hope that this letter will not find you too busy, for I've a little matter which I'd very much like to have your advice on. I would not have written you in the summer season, for I know that no one likes to be bothered during the vacation season, but the subject which I would like your advice on is an all important subject to me, which may mean my success or failure in my life.

I hope that you recall who I am. If you don't, I am the boy, who so boldly wrote you, requesting your opinion on the 18th Ammendment and your signature. You so graciously gave me both, so I am venturing to ask another opinion.

I am 18. I have just graduated from high school. As I was interested in agricultural subjects, when I entered this school, I took an Agricultural course. Since I entered, I have become more and more dissatisfied with this course, for I find that my ambitions lie in another field. The work which especially appeals to me is journalism and writing. As you are the foremost American journalist and writers, I am writing you for a bit of advice. If you were me, how would start out, to follow up this career? College is impossible for me, though I might be able to take a short course or go to summer school. Do you think that the best procedure would be to obtain a position on a local

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newspaper and work my way up? I have thought of doing this and would like to know if you think it wise. As I have never taken either typing or shorthand, do you think that a post graduate course at high school, taking these two subjects would be a help to me?

I would very much like follow up this profession above all others. I think one does his best work in the profession that he likes best. I would appreciate very much any advice that you might be able to give me on this subject and also your own ideas on this subject.

I am enclosing a self-addressed and stamped envelope, for your convenience in answering this missive.

I will be very happy if you will answer my questions, however if you are very busy, please ignore this bad letter.

I wish to thank you for past services and future ones, also for your patience with me.

Very respectfully

Robert Whittemore

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