

Dec. 15, 1928

Dear Fern Yost:

The College had such good news the other day in learning that Miss Tarbell will spend a month at Allegheny this winter, giving a series of lectures, and that she will turn over at that time, her Lincoln Collection to the College. We expected to have this arrive during the fall just past, but the time or the place were not ripe. Now, however, it seems that action should come.

The former Quill Club room was chosen by Miss Tarbell as the new home for her Lincoln Collection. The room needs a thorough overhauling, which we plan to do. Last year word came through that the New York Alumni were planning to finance the room, or at least to give very substantial help in doing it. I was told that \$300 had been raised for the purpose, but Pres. Tolley sadly assures me that such is not the case. He did say that you had held a tea within a few days, at which the subject was to receive attention. I hope that you have good news for us from that meeting. May I ask you quite frankly what is being done and what you think the result will be.

I have written to Miss Tarbell for her informal catalogue of her material so that we may know how much to provide for. Never yet have I been able to get a statement from her as to the number of pieces in her collection. Consequently, we have no idea how to lay out the room for cases, provision for manuscripts, maps, pictures, and the variety of material that must be in the collection. I understand that Miss Tarbell expects the room - hopes, perhaps is a better word - to be ready when the material is sent. The time is very short. Professor Miller of the Art department, is working on the idea of the mural, and that, as you know, is likely to be a rather slow job.

So much has been said about this collection being given to the College that those interested are beginning to wonder why it does not arrive. I know you are deeply interested in having this rare group of books and so forth at Allegheny. I am turning to you, therefore, for help, so that we may know how to proceed.

The Christmas Spirit is very much abroad in the Campus as numerous parties, dinners, and the annual Singers Concert have shown. The students leave on Saturday of this week for their Christmas vacation. I wish you could be here next year for the Singers Christmas Vesper service, which is something never to be forgotten when once heard.

I trust you are well and that the Holiday season may bring you much joy and even of gaily. And so I wish you with all my heart Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,
Edith Rowley

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