R. D. 2, Box 59B
Tucson, Arizona
6 March 1931

Dr. C. F. Ross
Allegheny College
Meadville, Pa.

My dear Dr. Ross,

I've just received here in Tucson the report on Dean Tolley. It is impressive. I suppose we can't know in advance whether anyone can be successful as president of Allegheny College, but from this showing I certainly should feel that we were taking as few chances with him as in the case of any candidate before us, unless indeed it should be Dr. Olsen. His youth is a recommendation to me rather than a handicap. He will better understand the thinking and psychology of our after-war youth. I've been troubled not a little in what I've been seeing the last few years with the gulf that seems to me to exist in many cases between the young of today and men and women, admirable in themselves, but belonging to another era. The two types bewildered rather than understood each other, I've felt sometimes. So I think it a good thing for Allegheny to have a man of this period. He has a fine body of experience in the present faculty to keep him from jumping too far from the middle of the road.

Of course if he is elected at the meeting in March, which it will be impossible for me to attend as I do not leave the West until the end of the month, you can count on my full support as a trustee.

With best wishes to you and your family, believe me, dear Dr. Ross,

Faithfully yours,

Ida M. Tarbell.

IMT/p

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