



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

September 19, 1910.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Your letter of the 16th instant has been received. I wish I could meet your wishes, for there is much I should like to say on the subject of State Government. But apart from other considerations, it would be physically impossible for me to attempt anything in this line. I have only a few days left in office and these will be full of demands - night and day - in order that I may close pending matters here in time to begin my new work. In addition to official duties, you will of course understand how many personal matters require attention in connection with a change of residence and the establishment of a home in Washington. These demands have been so insistent that I have worked right through the summer with only a fortnight's vacation. The work to which I go will be very exacting - particularly exacting during the coming year -, and whatever has been unsaid with respect

to the State government and its problems, must now remain unsaid so far as I am concerned.

Your words with regard to our efforts here are warmly appreciated. The years have passed rapidly - each of the flying days having its exigencies - and I go away thinking more of what I should have liked to do than of what has been done. But I have done the best I could, and the earnest response that has been made to every effort to better conditions has kept me in good heart and has strengthened my faith.

Regretting that I cannot comply with your request, and thanking you again for your cordial words, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Charles E. Hughes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "C".

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
The American Magazine,
31 East 17th st.,
New York City.