

October 29, 1932

Dear President Tolley:

I was sorry to leave Meadville without seeing you and Mrs. Tolley. I called at the College one morning hoping I might have a moment's talk with you, but they told me you were in Pittsburgh.

I want you to know how much I enjoyed the Home Coming Week, even including the always burdensome matter to me - the having to make a speech.

From my observation and talk with trustees it seemed to me that there could be no question of the value of such a week near the opening of the college year. There is just one thing that I would like to suggest and that is this:- I felt that there should have been more opportunities arranged for the trustees and the faculty meeting and getting acquainted. I had no talk with anyone on the faculty, nothing more than the most casual greeting. That was not because I did not have it in mind, but because the opportunities did not present themselves naturally. It is difficult, as you know, with so full and interesting a program as you presented to make engagements for visits outside of the regular functions. You will permit me to suggest, dear Dr. Tolley, will you not, that in arranging the program for the next year there be functions, or at least one function, arranged in which the trustees and their wives could meet with the members of the faculty in some leisurely way where they would have an opportunity to visit. I do not know just how and I would not presume to suggest how to fit this into your week, but I do think the matter should be taken under consideration.

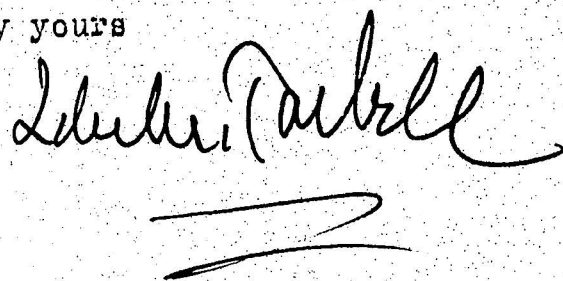
I know that you will regard this suggestion as based on my real interest in this week and my desire to see it do the most for the college.

I wish I could tell you all of the fine things that I heard said about you and Mrs. Tolley, both on the campus and in the town. It is a deep satisfaction to me that

you were able to take hold of the college at the difficult moment you did, and carry on so gallantly and so successfully.

With all good wishes, believe me

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ida M. Tarbell". Below the signature is a horizontal line with a small upward curve at the right end, likely a flourish or a separator.

William P. Tolley
President, Allegheny College
Meadville, Pa.