THE EMPORIA GAZETTE
W. A. WHITE, EDITOR AND OWNER
W. L. WHITE, PUBLISHER
EMPORIA, KANSAS

May 22d, 1943.

Dear Ider M.:-

I am writing my autobiography and I have got along to the early Twenties. I am writing about the conference which the President called to consider the twelve-hour day in steel. You were there and young John D. Rockefeller was there. Did I bring you two together? I have an impression that he talked to me about you and wanted to meet you. Have you any recollection of it?

Also, Judge Gary was there and I saw Gompers stand up and pour it into the Judge for an hour and a quarter, and the Judge sat there and looked Gompers squarely in the eye and didn't flinch or flicker or lower an eyelid or take a quick, short breath - just took it. I thought it was a remarkable performance, both for Gary and Gompers - two strong men.

The thing that bothers me is to locate the year. I can remember - at least I think I can - that it was in the early autumn, and it seems to me it was '20 or '21. But if it was '21, Harding would have called the conference, and I doubt it he was interested enough to bother with the twelve-hour day in steel. Wilson was. But I can't be exact. I will be mighty glad to have your help in locating this date; also in recalling what happened in the Rockefeller interview.

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

THE EMPORIA GAZETTE
W. A. WHITE, EDITOR AND OWNER
W. L. WHITE, PUBLISHER
EMPORIA, KANSAS

Sallie and I went to New York early in April to attend the Book of the Month meeting and I made a speech before the Foreign Born and I am sending you a copy herewith. We expected to turn right around and come back but Sallie was stricken with a terrible case of the flu, and right at the same day and hour I was hit with double pneumonia, and we spent our Fiftieth Wedding anniversary, which we hoped to spend retracing our honeymoon journey, in Roosevelt Hospital, at Fifty-ninth Street and Ninth Avenue - rather an unromantic bower, on the whole! We were two weeks in the hospital and have been home two weeks. The sulfa drug took away the danger and the pain from pneumonia, but it leaves the same long convalescence after pneumonia that the old treatment left. I am still unable to go regularly to the office. I like around like an old dog behind the stove, waiting for somebody's broomstick to rout me out!

Sallie joins me in dear love to you.

Affectionately,

W A White

Have you read Will Irwin's Autobiography? It's lovely.

Digital Image, 2009, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library