

December 10, 1931

Dear Mr. Burton:

I came home from our talk yesterday to go over in detail my engagements and I see clearly that it is out of the question for me to take on a series of articles - the first of them to be delivered as early as the ~~middle~~ of February. If my doing the series of which we talked depends upon that date I shall have to give it up. You see I cannot drive myself as I once did - there are limitations in being seventy-four and if one wants to work for a few more years as I do he mustn't kill himself by over-doing it.

I have thought the skeme over and I think I could undertake it ~~if~~ you were willing to make the following arrangements of dates. You liked the idea of a Fourth of July article, as you called it, to be called tentatively at least:-

"We have a Plan."

"Is it Valid."

and then to go on in as simple ~~language~~ as I can muster to describe what we may call, The Democratic Scheme, which is as I take it to create a political framework within which every man can work out his economic independence - his intellectual and spiritual freedom. That scheme was set to work on a country as raw as Russia - rawer - I think, and whatever a mess we have gotten ourselves into we have produced amazing results, both materially and intellectually. These results could be touched on to make the article concrete - actual - instead of theoretical.

My notion is that such an article would be a proper introduction to a series such as we talked of. That series would be actual achievements under certain leaders in three general lines.

Industrial Civilization
Industrial Flexibility
Industrial Stabilization

I do not know that the examples ~~of which~~ I talked to you yesterday are in all cases the best possible. I am sure the first one under the general heading of Industrial Civilization, the co-operative work ~~of~~ Naumkeag.

at

I am equally sure of the one I spoke of
under the head of, Industrial Flexibility, what
Harry Denison is doing at Framington - the Arkell's -
at Canajoharie.

If we are to really get the best we don't
want to be in too much of a hurry in deciding, nor do
we want to rush it.

If you are willing to go into the series
later than we talked - I to give you the July article
not later than May First and then ~~at~~ thirty day
intervals. I shall be glad to undertake it for you,
~~you~~ understand. My idea being that if you can re-make
the Cosmopolitan on the lines of which you talked I
am glad to do what little I can to help you.

Let me hear from you at your convenience.

Faithfully yours

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Editorial Rooms of Cos