Craigville, Mass.
October 8, 1932.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Your letters of Oct 6 were received up here in this vacation country far from my files. Mrs. Goodell did have a picture of me which I borrowed and sent to Miss Giles at the Cosmopolitan as you suggested, I also wrote to one Mr. Pattee who took several pictures which I thought might fit in- though we got none of the staff actually engaged in timing. I asked him to send them directly to Miss Giles also- saying that they were sent at your request. I am not sure that whatever he can dig out will arrive in time but it was the best I could do, from here. I am very sorry - though the pictures that I remember which might be of use- showed rather the way we attempted to make our messages clear- (human in that sense)- rather than pictures of people engaged in the activities.

I have been using a week up here to put down some thoughts on the application of engineering approach to civic problems. Now I am wondering if there are any good. I suppose the editors will tell me. I am so much interested in the principles involved that it is very difficult to make them at all popular in form. My general thesis is that in the inexact sciences we are still in the age of immitation and bordering on experiment, and by no means ready to reach full blown conclusions theoretically. And second that the quasi-scientific attitude is to understand the forces involved and to seek process solutions which integrate those forces through their association (in some formal manner) with each other- so that they correct each others' errors- for they are not ready for the dictum of an outside expert, if they ever will be.

You are welcome to keep any material of mine -of course. I have received most of it back, and if you wish it again, the Taylor Society will have my address.

With best wishes and many thanks for your very powerful aid in getting across the joint research idea- as well as for your many courtesies to me.

Sincerely yours

Francis Goodell

Francis Goodell

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.