Vandergrift Public Library

Vandergrift Pa
March 24 1915

Miss Ida M Tarbell,
381 Fourth Ave,
NY

My dear Miss Tarbell,

Your letter of the 20th was received with pleasure. No I have not forgotten you nor am I likely to do so as I have your picture taken in your garden in the reading room and for about two months your face as it was on the American magazine was one of my companions as it stood on the rack. But I had to give place to Edison who is looking at me now as I write. However I do not need these reminders to keep you in memory

Now as to furnishing you the information you ask for. I am not able to give any thing that is at all accurate. I have been in the library about four years and the statistics until the present year would give nothing of the figures you ask for

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

In the record of Circulation up to 1915- books have been classed as fiction + Nonfiction Beginning Jan. 1. the number circulated in each class is recorded every day.

About two years ago a list of technical books compiled by the heads of departments at the Mill were surrendered and several have been added since as they were asked for and they have have been much appreciated the men often remarking how helpful they have been

Eighty books of this class have gone out of the library in the last ten weeks but this does not represent the use made of them as they are often held out until called for.

Circulation of the Non-fiction books is on the increase steadily but this is due in part to the use made by the public schools especially the high school

During the last winter a number of the men who had never used the library and some who had not been here in some years came and took out books of fiction and history most of the book were fiction as in every library. Work being scarce and time plenty. they took to reading and I was frequently surprised at the good class of fiction they preferred. I am sure this is not what you want but any thing else would not be accurate

Hoping to see you again and to hear from you if I can serve you in any way. I remain Yours Cordially

(Miss) Jennie Mackenzie.

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