

June 10th

1930

Mr Richard Aldrich

ROKEBY,
BARRYTOWN ON HUDSON.

My dear Miss Tarbell, I have just read your Wet propaganda in The Woman' s Journal with ofcourse much grief; but I will not take up your time with laments. What I do wish to say is that the front doors of saloons were flanked by women and children hoping some friend would persuade the Father inside to come out and come home. Naturally the scenes made by families inside would have ruined the saloon-keepers trade.

There were however women and girls in the saloons, although not in the front bar-room. The side and back doors were provided for them. You never I think, worked against the Red Light Districts and other influences of the liquor traffic; you probably have never thought about the women and girls maintained thereby, and ofcourse there were quantities of Speakeasies in New York before the

Prohibition Amendment was passed; I do not know who, what elements, have been shewing you about, but I can provide you with guides in New York who are conversant with the Bowery for forty years if you wish to see that section .

We have had ten years of the Amendment, but we have had less than three with Civil Service appointees administering it, and no time at all when a Wet Press was not printing such approval as th enclosed. We are asked by a City Official to feel sorry for men who drank themselves to death, on the ground that they are suffering hardship. Surely alcohol is not a worthy channel for the expression of anything so noble as Personal Liberty.

Faithfully yours

Maynard Charles Aldrich

