

Route 1, Shawners Grove, Ill.
Jan. 28, 1921

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

Your letter of the 24th received. I'll forgive you wholly - if you will make another appointment with me that you can keep! - when you come west sometime or if I go east, will you?

Your book "New Ideals in Business" was most enlightening to me when I read it some three or four years back, but I wonder if you understand why I laugh when I remember the expression on Mrs. Raymond Robins' face when I quoted you to her - some one had

arranged that I meet her and we were having lunch together - I worked for the State Council of Defense, in her Dept. of Women & Children in Industry^{ity} for a time - in spite of the quotation from one who declared that there are "ideals in business". However, it was that work which gave me my first glimpse of the ^{bormidable} barriers which exist between the various types and grades of women and which I hope will be broken down, at least partially but thoroughly before many years and about which I wrote you and you replied -

Yes, Miss Tarbell, I realize there are difficulties and pitfalls in the way of an undertaking

like that spoken of but I believe
 they are not insurmountable -
 and that a growing minority of our sex
 seek just such ^{social} contact, which
 I, by virtue of a strong will
 and ~~unselfishness~~ ^{energetic} personality have already
 enjoyed and profited by -

Have you seen the January Atlantic
 Monthly wherein a Mr. Stuart P.
 Sherman writes on "The National
 Genius" and wishes that "artists
 might cultivate acquaintance with
 our eminent builders and citizens"
 - for the production of a better, nobler
 art - I still think that
 the contact of the different types
 and grades and classes of women
 would be beneficial and stimulating
 and would result in the
 production of a sweeter, nobler
 womanhood - but I wish

you thought so too. However,
you haven't said that you
thought it couldn't be done,
and perhaps, before many moons
have waned, we can talk
the matter over face to
face, which I would like
very much.

Heartily yours,
Irma Siede.