

February 14, 1923.

935 LOUISA STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PENNA.

Dear Miss Tarbell;

At the end of your lecture last night, I wanted frightfully to pray.....to turn(before it was dispersed in the bustle of leaving) the enthusiasm you'd created into personal heartsearching and resolves. Do you think that other people might consciously or unconsciously feel the same need. It's a hard thing to do, but could you at the end of your lecture, just once, ask the people,

"Will you stay in your places for three minutes and pray for the peace of the world, and to ask yourself and God 'What can I individually can do about it, starting tonight or tomorrow?'. " Then if it didn't work you'd never have to do it again. But it would work.

Nothing impresses people as much as what they do themselves. and the handicap of lectures is that the audience is stirred without having an immediate chance to respond. They put on their hats and say " Isn't she a wonder!" and the precious moment is gone in which they should have joined their emotions to their own responsibility. I hope this praying idea doesn't sound emotional, (of course it is emotional, a whole crowd praying silently if they really meant it, would send out a wave of feeling,) but the point is, more of them might connect it with their own will power. solve

I loved your lecture. You speak with such sincerity and nobility and common sense. It's ridiculous for me to make any

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suggestions, but please let me. To wit, could you be more specific about what the average woman can do to foster peace. You overrate the intelligence of your audience. This part of it can't even spell. Please insert three of your engaging paragraphs on just how Mrs. Jones is going to teach her little boys to stand for peace and her little girls to vote for it. And the childless and older women, what is their contribution for this? I can think of nothing except befriending foreign students in the same town. Aren't there many other things within the reach of stay-at-home or working women.? Tell us what they are? Should we join the Fellowship of Reconciliation? Most of us have never heard of it. If it's a good thing, couldn't you get some of the audience to join it, sign up on cards, then and there? Or would the Lecture Bureau object? But you've no idea what bone-heads most of us are. Set us definite tasks before we forget.

I seem to be trying to write a lecture myself. Forgive me if I'm a presumptuous idiot. It was the most tremendous happiness to see you. You are Louisa Alcott grown up. You know perfectly well that I'm as fond of you as if I'd known you for years. Seeing you is like sitting on a hill, with a lot of sun and blue sky and feeling happy.

"How did you know that Hercules was a god?"

"Because the moment my eyes fell upon him, I was content."

Don't feel that you ought to answer this letter. You're too busy. It's pleasant enough to have you in the world.

Faithfully yours,

Ada Thomas Lockwood