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WAR DEPARTMENT

In reply refer to

WASHINGTON

July 2 ,1925.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East 19th Street,
New York City.

Dear Madam:

Your letter dated June 15, 1925, is hereby acknowledged.

A thorough search of the files of the Munitions Standards Board, the General Munitions Board and of the Council of National Defense, has failed to reveal the letter to which you refer. The minutes of the Council of National Defense and of the Advisory Commission as well as those of the General Munitions Board, contain no reference to the letter in question. However, in the Congressional Hearings (October 21, 1919) on War Expenditures, Serial 3, Volume 1, page 988, Mr. Scott, in giving his testimony, said:"I believe that I suggested to possibly both secretaries, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy that **** some form of clearing house through a committee, would be necessary through which they could coordinate their buying***".

It is assumed that the letter in question was addressed to Mr. Baker, then Secretary of War. If this were confirmed and the date given, if possible, it is thought perhaps, it might assist this office in locating the communication.

Yours very truly,

John W. Martyn

JOHN W. MARTYN,
Secretary to The Secretary of War.

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Yours very truly,

(Signed) John W. Martyn

Secretary to The Secretary of War

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