DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

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THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

210 E. Davenport St.

IOWA CITY

May 17, 1922.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
132 E. 19th St. N.Y. City.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I am engaged in collecting materials for a doctor's dissertation on the subject "The Era of Muck-Rakers", which will probably appear in book form later. In this muckraking movement which reached its height in 1903, 1906, and 1907, you hold a very prominent place. In fact, it is often said it began with the publication of "The History of the Standard Oil Company." Would it be asking too much to answer a few pertinent questions?

1. What do you regard as the chief cause (or causes) for this muckraking campaign?
2. What good has come from it?
3. Did it do any harm?
4. Do you think the charge is true that the campaign came to an end because the big financial interests got control of the popular magazines? If so, can you refer me to the evidence?
5. What place would you give to President Roosevelt in the movement?
6. What men or women deserve most of the credit for having started it?

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7. What do you regard as your chief contribution to this cause?
8. Why did you sever your connection with McClure's Magazine in 1906?
9. What was the circulation of McClure's Magazine and of the American Magazine at the time when you were connected with them?
10. Why did John Kenneth Turner not publish his whole series on "Barbarous Mexico" in the American Magazine in 1910? Was there a change of policy in the American?

I shall be very glad to have you answer these questions, for nobody knows more about the movement from first hand knowledge than you. And I thank you most heartily in advance for this favor.

Very truly yours,

C. C. Regier.

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