Mrs. Ida A. Tarbell
Care Phillips Exeter Academy
Exeter, New Hampshire

255 East 32nd St
New York
September 21st-21

Miss Tarbell,

Dear Madame,

You will no doubt think this a rather funky, and an irregular method, of seeking your good graces.

Seeing you are the chosen representative from New York, at the Women's Conference at Washington, and reading of your special feature in this work, at the present critical time, I make bold enough to write you.

I do not seek charity, or publicity, neither

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thank God, am I in
financial difficulties, but
I have not been employed
since May 15. and naturally
enough there is quite a
drain in my resources.

Added to my
have looked and sought
employment in search of
work, but have failed
in my efforts. Knowing
that a woman so talented
in business and social
affairs, as you have the
honor to hold, and efficiency
as it were in the divine
light of Mediator, to the

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

less fortunate of both sexes, could render material aid in the securing of a position. I make this appeal to you. I am 28 years old, have a high school education, and have been employed as clerk in various forms for the last seven years. I am naturally keen and observant, and can readily adapt myself to any surroundings. I am not seeking a high salaried position, as I would indeed be pleased to work for a salary of eighteen or twenty dollars per week

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I am well aware how precious your time is, and of course, Madame, do not wish for an interview.

A letter from you to an employee would I am sure work wonders for me, or an interview with your Secretary or Clerk.

I will ask you to pardon my presumption, and I will apologize if I have not used discretion.

Thanking you I remain.

Dear Madame,

Very truly yours

David Burke.

Miss Tarbell,

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