

THE TAFT SCHOOL,
WATERTOWN,
CONNECTICUT.

April 28, 1926

✓ My dear Miss Tarbell:

✓ I was greatly pleased to hear from you, even though I am doubtful as to what I can do for Mr. Aldrich. In the first place let me say that what you say of him covers the case entirely and I shall have no hesitation in recommending him to anybody who applies to me. Moreover, the plan itself is simply fascinating. I wish I were young enough to undertake it.

The trouble is that so many summer schemes have been proposed that it makes one wonder whether any boys are left for a new one. First there are the regular camps established in Canada, the Adirondacks, the Catskills, and the far West. Then there are several trips through the West or the Canadian Lakes advertised. Then there are two or three European trips. Finally there are tutoring camps for the laggards. I suppose the answer is that there are a good many million boys in this country.

I am going to put the circulars which you enclosed on our school library table, and I will gladly vouch for Mr. Aldrich and tell my opinion of the plan of the trip if any boys come to me. *

I feel flattered that you should remember my proposal to write a paper about Congress. I was not expecting to limit it to Lincoln's time, but was intending to write on Congress in general, trying to show that the tone of Congress has regularly been inferior to that of the executive.

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I did write the paper and read it to my brother at Murray Bay last summer. He looked a bit distressed and said, "Horace, that is all true, but for ~~Heaven's~~ sake do put a little light and hope and optimism into it. Remember that we have more or less muddled through with all the handicaps." So there we are. It was very crudely done and I doubt whether it is worth while for me to try to doctor it. If I can find a copy, I will inflict it on you. It will at any rate teach you to have more caution in referring to things.

I have bought Sandberg's Lincoln and understand that it is a fine piece of work, but I have been so rushed that I have not been able to read it.

I remember with great pleasure meeting you at Dorothy Thomson's wedding, and also the pleasure I had in reading the book you sent. I hope that when you come North I may have the pleasure of seeing you again sometime.

Very sincerely yours,

Horace D. Taft

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
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New York City

P.S. You will be surprised that I think it worth the postage, but I will request you kindly to send the Congress thing back sometime at your convenience.