

Bronxville, N. Y.,
January 28, 1920.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

I appreciate your giving me frankly your feeling on the question I asked you. Also, I feel pretty confident that when the time comes you will be casting your vote for General Wood. He is a splendid, righteous, God-fearing, level-headed, able American. He is a big man. Next to Theodore Roosevelt, we have had no such candidate before the public for years. I should like to see, and I expect to see, Leonard Wood in the White House and Herbert Hoover in the Cabinet. Hoover is a good, plain, capable man, but he is not in the class with Wood; and I speak rather positively, because I have been intimately associated with both men and have seen them in office, out of office, in the field, at their tasks, in action and under trying conditions.

Of the big jobs, with which the names of these two men are associated in the public mind, there is slight comparison between the difficulties encountered by Wood in Cuba and the Philippines and those faced by Hoover as food administrator. You know I was with Hoover in Belgium, also I was in Cuba.

We (the Relief Commission) found in Belgium already a going and most efficient organization, which we had merely to expand. Wood found chaos in Cuba.

Hoover, both in Belgium and in the United States, found the highest intelligence freely at his disposal; and all the world friendly.

Wood encountered an unfriendly atmosphere in Cuba, and had to face it practically alone.

Everybody likes Hoover and knows that he did his good work well; but the next man we put in the White House must have qualifications which General Wood has already shown and Hoover has not.

Thanking you for your consideration, and with warm regards, believe me,

Sincerely,

Casper Whitney