D. APPLETON & COMPANY
35 WEST 32ND STREET
NEW YORK

LONDON OFFICE 34 BEDFORD ST. COVENT GARDEN
CABLE ADDRESS HILANDERO

November 4, 1932

Dear Ida,

The announcement of your coming birthday makes me realize how the days slip by into months and years. It is far too long since we have met face to face for an old-fashioned talk. Can we not do something about it?

You are in my mind very often and in my heart always. We share the happy memory of a precious friendship with one who will ever be alive to us. I am writing you today to congratulate your close personal friends and your public admirers upon a day which you have made significant in American life. Like old Beowulf you are thanking God for the work given you to do. And you have done it richly, fully. For this record I congratulate you in all sincerity.

I have sent a book to you at Bethel -- Andre Maurois' "A Private Universe." This volume contains some straight thinking and bits of philosphy delightfully expressed. It is an appropriate book for the country so I hope that some winter evening you will enjoy it before an open fire. How I wish you would write your own philosophy of life showing the events from which you have drawn conclusions, picturing the foundations of your daily faith. This is one of the things which I long to talk over with you when we meet. I hope to persuade you to write such a book for me some day. Your autobiography would be a vital book, also a light on the path of stumbling feet. The confidence which you have inspired as the result of your life's work is a rich and responsible possession.

Please give me a thought in the midst of your holiday celebrations. Remember that I long to be in contact with you, that I miss you out of my life.

With much affection.

Yours always,

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

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