STANLEY SHIRK
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
175 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

July
25th
1919

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East 19th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

It is most gratifying to me that a mind as stable as yours reaches the conclusion that I have "got hold of something."

I enclose a chart on Ohio because it illustrates so well how public opinion moved along gradually and very constantly to the peak in 1918. I used Ohio because in that state there were so many votes held and consequently we may trace the movement with considerable precision.

You will notice that from 1912 to 1918 the movement toward dryness was very constant. In 1919 the electorate was just a little wetter,- not much, to be sure, but nevertheless the trend had changed and the peak had been passed.

Then women got the vote and in 1920 that naturally made the total vote dryer than previously. But in 1922 the trend toward wetness is noticeable again.

Consequently the trend from 1912 to 1918 was one way; and from 1918 to 1922, the other way,- allowing of course for the 1920 break which

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was due without any doubt to the fact that the dryer women were suddenly added to the electorate.

The 1927 vote was not exclusively on prohibition and cannot therefore be taken as an accurate reflection of public opinion on that question. Of course I do not think that the electorate in 1927 was 67.6% wet. But, nevertheless, in all the circumstances I am convinced that the electorate in 1927 was considerably wetter than in 1922,- whether or not it had crossed the half-way point at that time no one knows.

I am troubling you with this because I think it illustrates so nicely the swing of public opinion and how it reached its peak at the hysterical Armistice election in November 1918.

Please do not bother to acknowledge this. I merely want you to have the Ohio chart when you go over the other charts.

Sincerely yours,

Stanley Shuck.

SS:F

Enclosure

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