The Wilson Volunteers

280 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

AMOS R. PINCHOT
CHAIRMAN

A. J. McKELWAY
SECRETARY

October 6, 1916.

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

Dear Madam:

At a meeting held October 5th in New York City, at which all political parties were represented by men who are supporting President Wilson for re-election, it was agreed that an organization should be formed, the name chosen, "The Wilson Volunteers", representing the voluntary and independent nature of the organization, the purpose of which is to enlist independent voters of all parties in the fight for President Wilson's re-election.

The outline of a plan of campaign was suggested, consisting first of a visit to the President at Shadow Lawn by a Committee representing The Wilson Volunteers, who would be expected to present to him a declaration of principles and secure from him such a statement as would make its own appeal to independent voters. Then for a list of speakers to proceed in automobiles on a speaking tour from Buffalo to the Battery, the speakers being preceded by advance couriers who would arrange for popular meetings in the smaller towns along the way during the day and for larger meetings in the larger towns and county seats in the evening.

There was a general consensus of opinion that, beginning with New York State, the independent voters should be made to realize that the great issue of this campaign is that of Privilege against democracy, that all the forces of Privilege are lined up in support of Mr. Hughes, that unlimited money is being spent for his election by interests that hope to profit thereby, that Privilege resents the successive blows that have been struck at it in the laws enacted and the policies pursued by the Wilson Administration, that because Mr. Wilson has fought for the public and against the exploiters of the public, Wall Street has marked him for slaughter in the coming election, and, finally, that the foes and victims of Privilege must be rallied for the support of the President.

May we not count upon enrolling you as a member of the Executive Committee, and will you not be able to go to

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Shadow Lawn some time next week, a wire to be sent you giving the date, in order to give to and receive from the President a message which will inaugurate our campaign?

Cordially yours,

Amos R. Pinchot,
Chairman,

by
A. J. McElroy
Secretary.

A.J.M./B.

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