81 Irving Place.
February 19, 1940

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Mrs. Wolfe is sitting here at my machine and I am not an experienced "DICTATOR." So blame me and not Mrs. Wolfe for imperfect sentences and cloudy thoughts.

The tea last Friday was a great success. It was a financial loss. I am asking or telling you that I am taking $5.00 out of the Treasury to finish paying the bills. We did this once before - there was a $5.00 deficit after the party out on Long Island at the Becks. (We are establishing a bad precident)

I think you know that Mr. Mills and the Sturtevants were both out of town. That is the only reason for the deficit. Mr. Mills always gives us $5.00 so we would have come out even if he had been there. Mr. Sturtevant always gives $1.00 so we would have been more than even. Mr. Robertson wrote me one of the nicest letters I have ever had from him. I am sure he would have come if he could have. He hopes you are having all the sunshine you can get in Arizona. Particularly Mr. & Mrs. Gibson (of Montclair, I think) and Mrs. Fradenburgh (you remember Dr. Fradenburgh Dean of Adelphi and Mrs. Fradenburgh was an Edson from Meadville) were disappointed in not seeing you. Mrs. Fradenburgh has not been to a tea since, I think, the first one at Mr. Robertson's and the Gibsons had particularly stirred her into coming to this one, of course with the hope of seeing you. They were all glad to know that you were in Arizona, however.

Mr. Ridge made me tell him everything I knew about you. Mrs. Bave left some cookies in a tin box which she assures me will be just as eatable when you return as they are now. Professor Hurst Anderson from the College came down. I had written Dr. Tolley about the tea and was quite over-whelmed to have him answer that he was sending Prof. Anderson. Dr. and Mrs. Snaveley were there and I had Dr. Snaveley introduce Professor Anderson who talked for about ten minutes. There were nineteen who went over to Aunt Clemmie's and had dinner together. I don't know if you know Belle Barthalomew (Mrs. W. H. Pratt) - I think they were quite promiment at Allegheny about 1900 and have had three or four children graduate there since. At any rate she came and poured for us. I had asked Mrs. Morrill of Bronxville - she used to be Dean of Women Anderson at Allegheny-to help pour.- She hoped to come but was ill and couldn't. She is a good person to have on our list. I discovered about here through Helen Heiner (Mrs. Sturtevant's sister) and from her letter I know that she is very glad to make these Allegheny contacts in New York.

I learned at the tea, though unfortunately not before it, that a man in my class has just been made General Manager of the Erie Railroad and has moved to Ridgewood, New Jersey. He and his wife are both grand people - Mr. & Mrs. Paul Johnston, and we must ask her to be on the committee. This job of his

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makes him one of our most successful Alumni. Oddly enough he is both a classmate and a fraternity brother of Sid Burwell who is Dean of the Harvard Medical School.

Some facts about the tea:- There were between forty five and fifty present, but this is the remarkable part - between fifteen and twenty I have never seen before! Most of these fifteen ~~and~~ twenty were very young, some of them ex-students who would not have graduated until '41. I believe there were two young men graduates of last Spring and some of the cutest young women you ever laid eyes on.

I was reminded that this was the second tea in succession that you had missed. You remember you were at Allegheny giving that course the last time. I know people were disappointed. It is so much better for the "tea idea" to have you there, but one side of me is glad that we have been able to pull two of these teas in succession successfully, without having it a drain on you.

Dr. Krech and I were the only ~~two~~ members of the Committee present. Mrs. Hartman is still unable to put herself to any nervous strain, although she assures me that physically she is very well. Mrs. Beck had sent in her acceptance but did not come. Dr. Krech and I were swamped because Mrs. Hartman's absence left the money gathering up to me and Mrs. Beck's absence left everything else up to Dr. Krech. Except for Helen Heiner I don't believe we could have handled it very successfully. People seemed to pour in and so many new ones appeared that we simply had to do something about it. Helen Heiner was a gift from God. We have never had anyone work harder and more graciously. Dr. Krech and I both feel that the tea went off as smoothly as any we have ever had, but we doubt very much if it would have without Miss Heiner. She brought her mother with her.

Victor was just as fine as always and kept the expenses at a minimum.

Take good care of yourself and don't come back until Mrs. McCormick puts you out. You have nice clean curtains at your windows, but I miss looking across and knowing you are not there to enjoy them. I mean by that that I miss you when I look across the street.

My love to you

John Frost

Dr. Tolley writes that they are thinking of April 30 or May 1 as the date for the Allegheny Dinner - with the plan to have the Allegheny Singers give a concert at the Dinner. He has written Mr. Mielenz and wants to know what we think about it.

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