THE AMERICAN WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION
353 WEST 57 STREET • NEW YORK CITY

December 7- 1939

Dear Miss Tarbell,

My friend Ruth Brandt assures me that you wont mind my telling you how much I enjoyed "All in the day's work."

My youth in Pittsburgh was full of discussion of oil and Mr Rockefeller, of steel and Mr Carnegie and of other stirring subjects and leaders of those days so I was prepared to have some understanding of this part of your story.

Too often I heard my father speak sadly of men - often his friends - who had lowered their honorable colors to the lure of wealth and power which my father, like yours, never did and which your father's daughter never did. How baffled those men must have been when they came up against your uncompromising integrity!

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

That was a great period in our history, full of wonderful opportunities demanding big qualities of men — but the tempo was so fast that character — of slow growth — could not always keep pace.

When you met in Paris you took me with you in heart, only I never knew your Paris except in books. I went there first in early 1918 with Anne Morgan and I reorganized the provincial French libraries of the American Committee after the war — those little village libraries of the Aisne which may again be destroyed.

You have measured up so sincerely to your opportunities, Miss Tarbell, that you inspire others to try to be more worthy of theirs. You have widened and illuminated my perspective — it needed it — and you have added to my joy in doing a good day's work. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours

Jessie M. Carson

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library