



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

México, December 18, 1935.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I read your letter, and so did my wife, with great interest and pleasure. I quite agree with you that we must not have monopolies and that the chief evils that have come to our country have been because our natural resources and utilities have been monopolized in the interest of the few. The fact that Carnegie and Rockefeller gave in so generous and fine a way a portion of their fortunes to good causes in no way mitigates the evil of permitting our resources and utilities to be exploited for the benefit of the few. Nearly all the troubles which have come to us in recent years were born of governmental favors and immunities.

When Mr. Roosevelt was a candidate for President, I told him that he was mistaken if he supposed he would be President of the United States in the usual way, for the fact was that the people were going to elect him as Receiver of a bankrupt corporation. That is the position he was given and the problem he has been trying to solve. I think at first he and many of his advisers thought it could be solved in a brief time. You cannot undo the ills of a generation in three or four years, any more than you can cure typhoid fever in a week. It requires both time and heroic remedies.

I rejoice that he has had the courage to experiment, the wisdom to change his course as some experiments have not proved wise, and to adopt new ones. My only source of anxiety is lest many people, seeing only the experiments which have not been wise, should forget the goal which was admirably stated a few days ago by Cardinal Mundelein in an address at Notre Dame, when President Roosevelt was

given

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given the degree of Ll.D. You may not have seen what the Cardinal said. The entire address is very fine, but the part I particularly refer to is as follows:

"We know how the poor must live, we whose duty it is to lighten their burdens and help solve their problems as much as we can. We have long since felt that the great swollen fortunes of yesterday and today must soon be a thing of the past, that the burden of taxation must soon be shifted to be more equally borne by those who have the inherited wealth and plentiful income to enable them to do so."

That declaration of the Cardinal is the "pillar of fire by night and the pillar of cloud by day" that we must follow if America is to come into the promised land.

My wife joins me in affectionate regards. We expect to be in Washington for a few days around the first of the year and it would give us the greatest happiness if we might be able to see you.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Daniel