

Personal

13

Dear Miss Tarbell:—

Our
Chautauqua Club is
studying Lincoln Steffens's
"Autobiography." It was
recently my duty to
prepare a paper upon
his contemporaries in
the old "McClure's" Mag-
azine. It was an es-
pecial pleasure to me
to write about you
because of our close
friendship with Scott
and Lydia Tarbell and
their family while we
were all living in
Garnett, Kansas. They

Talked so much of
you and I remember
the beautiful packages
you sent them every
Christmas which we
always helped to unpack.

I have read with
great interest the first
of your new series
in the "Cosmopolitan"
and will look forward
to the next.

In our Chautauqua
Club discussion has
been rife and opinions
divided as to Lincoln
Steffens' egotism. Some
of the members have
expressed the opinion
that Mr. Steffens did

not interview all the people he writes about, that he would never have dared to speak to Theodore Roosevelt as he says he did, in other words that he is bragging because there is no one to contradict him. One of the members concluded a paper with "but I would like to know someone who knew Lincoln Steffens". Mr. Steffens wrote of you so beautifully and I would love to know your opinion of him! Was he an egotistical braggart?

- Did he really do the things he says he did?

I know you are always busy but I do hope you'll find time to answer this letter.

If you don't would you write something about Steffens in one of your articles? If this Chautauqua Club is worked up over this question I imagine all of them are and that would mean a large number of women interested in what you write. And we would all know, from your association with Steffens, that what

ever, you wrote would
be true and impartial.
I shall certainly hope
for an answer.

With many thanks to you,
Mrs. E. W.) Jean Frances Harrington

Mexico,

Missouri

Nov. 14, '32

Apr. 16
Coil Apts.

P. S.

Would you send
Scott's + Lydia's address?
We would love to
write them for Christ-
mas.
J. F. H.