

**BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
BIRMINGHAM ALA.

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April Twentieth  
1922

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,  
132 E. 19th St.,  
New York, N.Y.

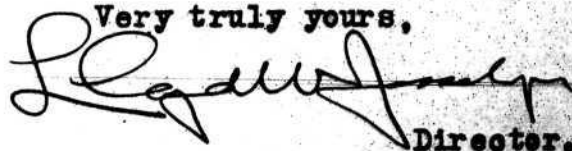
My dear Miss Tarbell:-

On May 22nd Birmingham votes on several bond issues, one of these being for a \$750,000. Central Library. I am arranging with one of our newspapers for the daily publication of a statement from various noted men and women, local and national, relative to the desirability of Birmingham having a library adequately housed, centrally located and effectively operated.

Will you write such a letter?

For twelve years this library has been without a home. In this short period the library has developed from a handful books in a School Superintendent's office to a library system of a Central library ( inadequately housed on the top of the City Hall) and eleven branches. These branches include the Booker T. Washington branch for negroes, the three High School branches for school work, and the seven suburban branches in Avondale, Woodlawn, East Lake, West End, Fratt City, Wylam and Ensley. A circulation of 600,000 and a registration of 70,000 is greater than that of any city south of Louisville, not excepting Atlanta and New Orleans. We are proud of what we have done, but we realize we have a long way to go.

Very truly yours,

  
Director.

LWJ-t