

(COPY OF J. B. POWLES LETTER OF APRIL 21st, 1915 TO MISS TARBELL)

April 21st, 1915.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
The American Magazine,
381 Fourth Avenue,
New York City, NY Y.

Dear Madam:-

No doubt you will be interested in the report made by a special Committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce this City, on the Hotel Liberty.

I will supplement this report by saying, up to the present time we have served 340,000 meals. Sometime in the near future will get out our final report for the entire season, at which time will send you copy. Also roughly stating our earnings for the City (which earnings are in credits, they paying our bills) on land clearing grading etc., all of which is outside of the City limits, so as not to conflict with the Labor Organizations and the unemployed married men amounts to over \$16,000.00, which was sufficient to pay back the \$2,400.00 the City gave us and leave us a comfortable balance in the shape of credit. Likewise we did \$1,800.00 worth of work for the County against their advance of \$2,800.00. We have completed \$3,500.00 worth of House Contracts, which leaves us about \$1,500.00 in the treasury, in addition to the credit standing on the City books. This accomplished notwithstanding the fact two men the out of the five we were without any earning power. The Hotel grew so fast the maximum number of men was 1,660, the total registration amounting to over 9,000, and our present registration is 600, so you can readily see the complexion of the Hotel has changed fifteen times.

If there is anything you would like to be advised on as regards to the Hotel or the work accomplished before the final report comes out will be pleased to give it to you. We expect to close a contract today for \$5,000.00 worth of land clearing. The City withdrew its support of the Hotel on the 15th of April, and we will run the Hotel until the 18th of May, then possibly go into camp on the contract above mentioned.

Respectfully submitted

signed (J. B. Powles)
Chairman House Committee