Duluth, Minnesota, September 23, 1915.

Mr. James J. Hill.

St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Mr. Hill:

As a citizen I wish to thank you for your article in the last Annalist, as well as for your other recent expressions of opinion on public matters.

In these days when nearly every decision on public affairs is fraught with momentous consequences to the nation, and our laws chiefly secure the selection of the weak or incompetent for our officials, the influence of men like you who know and fear met, is of vast benefit to the nation.

Just at the present I believe you can serve the country even better than you ever have in the past, by leading public opinion in the direction which it should go.

The people will go in the right path if it is pointed out to them by men in whom they have confidence.

Never did we have so crying a need for unselfish and strong leaders as today.

I write this letter because I know that the private citizen who would serve the country as a private citizen is usually charged with acting from an ulterior motive, and the blatant demagogue will doubtless say the same thing of you.

Please believe that there are very many of the quiet people who expect and desire much from your efforts in public matters.

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