

December 7, 1927.

Mr. Jn. D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Rockefeller:

The fourth time you have come to my assistance. It is only natural for me to feel as kindly toward you as any man living but I must admit also to a deep admiration for you, and I only wish that I could live up to my principles as well as you do.

The first time you offered your assistance was for our 1925 expedition. It turned out that we did not need your help that time, due to the fact that the Navy and the National Geographic Society sent the expedition into the Arctic. But there was your offer just the same.

The second time you assisted me was when you made the North Pole flight possible. The third time was when you made that speech on Vincent Astor's yacht the day of our departure on the North Pole expedition. I do not believe you could possibly know how much that left us cheered up for many days afterwards.

And now you help us on our Antarctic expedition in such a way that it is certain to increase greatly our chances for success and safety. I believe that few people realize as well as I do what you stand for in this country and it is a real inspiration to me to have you back of me.

I have been going day and night since my return to the States and am now on a speaking trip which will take me, among other places, to the Middle West and South-West. However, I trust you will allow me to call on you on some one of the occasions when I come to New York.

I am sending you by separate mail a copy of the article I have written for the World's Work magazine. You will note in the last paragraph of the article that we are going to make our expedition a good-will one as well as one of exploration. I am planning to carry south with me a flag of

every South American country because South America is tremendously interested in Antarctica. When I see you I would like to talk this over with you.

Mrs. Byrd joins me in the kindest regards to you and yours.

Most cordially yours,

RTV/ML