



Ida Tarbell

Kathleen Brady

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Ida Tarbell's generation called her a "muckraker" (the term was Theodore Roosevelt's, and he didn't intend it as a compliment), but in our time she would have been known as an investigative reporter, with the celebrity of Woodward and Bernstein. By any description, Ida Tarbell was one of the most powerful women of her time in the United States: admired, feared, hated. When her *History of the Standard Oil Company* was published, first in McClure's Magazine and then as a book (1904), it shook the Rockefeller interests, caused national outrage, and led the Supreme Court to fracture the giant monopoly into several corporations, one of which survives today as ExxonMobil.

Praise for IDA TARBELL: Portrait of a Muckraker

"Kathleen Brady's triumphant portrait of Ida Tarbell will last for generations. No other biography of Ida Tarbell is likely to provide a more vivid look at this endlessly fascinating woman."

—Doris Kearns Goodwin, 2014

"Kathleen Brady brings to life the personality of Ida Tarbell, queen of the muckrakers, who was one of the first women to break the gender gap in American journalism...The biography is replete with revealing anecdotes."

—Herbert Mitgang, *The New York Times*

"...a graceful new biography"

—Time Magazine

"It is with some joy that I read Kathleen Brady's fine new biography, *Ida Tarbell: Portrait of A Muckraker*, and have at last made the acquaintance of surely the bravest and most determined woman in American journalism and among the most diligent and scrupulous in her work."

—Gloria Emerson, *Washington Journalism Review*

"Based on thorough research in manuscript collections and on a knowledge of most of the relevant secondary literature *IDA TARBELL: Portrait of A Muckraker* is a well-written and lively book. It should be read by all those interested in the history of journalism and the Progressive era as well as by those concerned with the role of women in American history."

—Allen F. Davis, *The American Historical Review*

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