

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO:

DATE: Dec. 6, 1945

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Dear Rudi:

I have been very lax about my correspondence with you, but have been pretty busy and somewhat unsettled about future plans, so didn't have enough initiative to sit down and draft a letter.

I sincerely appreciated the "low-down" and inside information you gave me in your letter of last month. I had suspected the situation to be something of the kind you described. Your advice is valued and I'm sure that the information you supplied will be helpful.

In confidence, I can tell you that negotiations are now in progress on the matter of my return to Clark for the second semester this school year or for September, next year. Which date it will be or if it will be at all will depend on the outcome



(over.)

of the negotiations. I shall inform you about the outcome some day soon, I hope. Anyway, I shall inform you when I learn the outcome myself.

I'm taking a few minutes during my lunch hour to write this note. I haven't much in the way of news to report other than what I've already described.

Things are very quiet in the War Labor Board these days, as we are in the process of official liquidation. The parties to industrial disputes no longer come to us for settlements but battle out their differences on the picket lines in Washington D.C. and in the headlines. Although the Board is being liquidated there is a strong possibility that some kind of legislation will be passed by Congress which will create a Federal Labor disputes agency. I have been informed (unofficially) to keep myself available for service in some labor or wage stabilization agency, although I am perfectly free to quit and go back to the academic halls whenever I so desire. I think for the long run

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I prefer the teaching profession as a regular occupation, provided I can support my family decently while I'm doing it. The labor disputes work has its interesting features but until it has a more stable administration it is a pretty hectic life. It certainly has its exciting moments, and one gets to know a lot of interesting people (not to mention "screwballs") in the course of it. If President Atwood really wants me back and will pay a reasonable rate, I'll probably be back about February 1. Otherwise, I think I'll stick on here, or look elsewhere for a job that will enable me to support my family.



This past three months I've been sandbagged into assisting in a Boy Scout troop in our neighborhood. In an Assistant Scout Master, which means I'm flunking to the boys of 15 and over in

the troop. It takes up a good deal of my spare time evenings, and is very interesting in some respects. I think I'm not a very good man for the job however, as I can't get into the frame of mind that I am enthusiastic about promoting the whole program. My enthusiasm is limited to helping get the boys into a few hobbies such as photography, and making some rather crude furniture and such. I'm no good at knot tying and building fires without matches. I've taken the boys on a few expeditions including a visit to a submarine that anchored in the Detroit River and to a radio station. If I stay around I think I'll try to promote some visits to industrial plants and the development of some individual hobbies, but I'll never get along successfully on the ~~ceremony~~ ceremony side of the business, and I'll never care whether they wear their uniforms correctly or not.

I hope everything is going smoothly at Clark and that you and your family are all well. We are O.K. Regards to Sylvia, and my Clark associates, As ever cordially yours
Gene