

To the
Committee on the United War Efficiency Fund:-

If previous experience had not lead me to believe that members of this Executive Committee to be just and fair minded individuals, I would not comment on the letter before me stating their opinion of my obligation to the War Work Fund. Though not in sympathy with the promotion of partisan organizations such as K. of C. for I believe "Above all nations is humanity" and sectarianism should be eliminated, but believing that this union of the organizations involved has been agreed upon by national representatives in close touch with the necessities of the occasion and perhaps that these concessions may work the greatest good for humanity, I am willing to help support the united cause.

Though not a large sum, I contributed last year nearly three times the sum asked of me this year and fully expected to give more to the movement at this time, though I do not expect to have anything left at the end of the year. Your letter for which I waited to see the estimated apportionment was indeed a surprise and while the apportionment was less than I expected to give, I shall hereby enclose my check for one half payment and give a pledge for the remainder of your specified estimate of \$20.00 for this fund. This letter presumed to suppose that the recipients were incapable of personal thought or decision. Of course there are a few people in every community who do their thinking by proxy, but in-so-far as I have had to carry on that operation by myself thus far I prefer to reserve that right still and not to surrender it to any committee, even though division of labor as an economic consideration is very much in vogue in this epoch.

The plan last year was most admirable it seemed to me, for it invited a free will offering and did it not exceed expectations? As to the slackers, who wants money from anyone who does not wish to give? Slackers voluntarily determine their just deserts. But just who are slackers? We cannot judge people's obligations vs. ability unless their minds are open books and most human beings are not so constructed. If people are generously regarded they are most likely to respond positively to the best of their ability. The only comment I have to make on this letter is this: I fear that it will only limit the contributions of the most generous and conscientious, who in many cases have expressed their surprise and thereby misrepresent the contribution of Iowa State College without puncturing the carapaces of slackers, if there be such; for its whole tone arouses antagonism rather than co-operation. The services of a psychologist on such a committee would have been an asset in framing a courteous appeal to secure the utmost co-operation and good will. I would prefer to regard this committee as a democratic tribune and not as an autocratic body sitting in Room 301 Central Building all day Monday.

Nov. 10, 1919. *1918*
Office Central Building.

Very truly,

*This letter was
written by
Dr Hayden*