

March 27, 1933

Dear Professor Veblen:

I am very glad that you and I see eye to eye on this question of the form which our responsibility should take. Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld were very anxious from the outset that no distinction should be made as respects race, religion, nationality, etc., and of course I am in thorough sympathy with their point of view, but on the other hand if we do not develop America, who is going to do it, and the question arises how much we ought to do for others and how much to make sure that civilization in America advances. The matter has been very, very much on my mind, and I do not know that any two persons would solve it in exactly the same way. I can only say that I am glad to be assured that you realize that my mind is as wide open as it can possibly be, and in these days in view of the incredible things happening in Germany we do not wish to brand ourselves as nationalists in any way whatsoever.

I have been talking with Tisdale on the telephone. He is going out shortly on a tour which will include Princeton. That will give you and Lefschetz a chance to talk with him.

For the convenience of the Treasurer Mrs. Bailey makes requisitions twice a month. This has enabled us to keep down organization and overhead. These requisitions are made about the 10th and 25th of the month, so that Princeton will



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receive the first quarterly payment on account of the Annals about April 15. Subsequently the checks will be sent on the first day of each quarter.

Mrs. Bailey has been also looking about in order to find a person who could be equally useful to the School of Mathematics and to herself when the mathematicians did not require her help. She has tried to find an educated woman with a leaning in the direction of mathematics who has had secretarial experience. With the help of her college dean, she has found a Miss Scheuber, a graduate of St. Lawrence University (with high honors), who majored in mathematics and science. Miss Scheuber has had only one position which she has kept during eleven years and has been promoted straight along. I saw her the other day. She is an excellent stenographer, though the material which I dictated to her was very unfamiliar, is pleasant and very presentable - about thirty-five years of age, I should think, and a resident of New Jersey. Of course, Mrs. Bailey will see Miss Gray when she goes down to Princeton, but I have the feeling that with Miss Scheuber we will be taking no chances and that you and your associates will have a really first-rate person to help you. Of course, before she is engaged, you and Alexander at least will have the opportunity to see her.

No action has yet been taken in respect to the appropriation of \$5,000 which you suggested, inasmuch as there has been no meeting of the Board and will be none until the 24th of April. I have of course no power to authorize any commitment in advance of action of the Board. Under ordinary circumstances, I should feel very sure that there would be no difficulty, but there is so much nervousness here over the financial situation that I feel that in the matter of expenditures I must defer to those who know more about investments, income, and outlook than I. In the long run - which I know will not be a very long run -



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everything will be all right, and for the present everything is surely all right with us, but the one thing that I do not want is that you or I or any person connected with the Institute shall ever have the slightest concern as respects money.

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

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