March 7, 1943

To the Committee on Student Employment
and to Associates in the Work-Study
Farm Labor Camp Planning.

March should see plans for the summer work camp project well advanced
with the enlistment of students worked out, if not begun, with a program
of courses and suitable teachers in sight, with in-school orientation
lectures about ready to start, etc. Enclosed is a first draft, incom-
plete set of agenda. For publicity, I suggest that we should have
a) Inter-Departmental Conference, augmented in size to include anyone
interested.
b) Campus meeting some Wednesday just before end of third period, with
brief addresses; this to be the signal for the actual start of recruiting.
c) Elect meetings, or sub-committee meetings as often as needed; in Room
113 Ingersoll, any day except Monday, and I can be found there Monday
afternoon, 1:30 - 5:30.

Please read over carefully the Council agenda paragraph relating to our
program. They had two requests; one for general approval; the second for
approval of blanket points. Do you regard the notice they are offering
as adverse, by implication, if not overtly? It is regarded in the latter
light by some. My present reaction to it is as follows:

Its last part sets up in advance a general statement relating to blank-
et credits, although this term is not mentioned) of condonatory nature.
It seems to me to be somewhat out of order for the Curric. Com. to dis-
parage in advance of presentation a proposal of another Faculty Com-
mittee. The positive report should have first presentation, its "day in
court", and the Council have a chance to examine the entire proposition.

In the first part of the Curric. Com. report, certain general prin-
ciples are stated which are (a) not relevant to anything the Employment
Committee has requested, (b) established matters of College procedure
at present, challenged by no one. These points are therefore superfluous
and gratuitous but their impression may carry the implication that we had asked the Curriculum Com. for some relaxation of these
procedures, and so create some advance unfavorable climate of public
opinion.

For these reasons, if you agree, I recommend and ask the approval of
the Employment Committee for the following steps:

1) That the Empl. Com request that the Curric. Com. report be withdrawn.
   Failing that, that it be tabled; Failing that, that it be disapproved.

2) That the Empl. Com. request that a special Council meeting be called
   for March 18 for the consideration of our recommendations, as submit-
   ten to the Curriculum Com. or as amended by that time.

3) That in the meantime, the documents submitted to the Curric. Com.
   be mimeographed and widely distributed, to the Council, and to the
   Faculty at large.

4) That members of the Farm Work-Camp Planning group constitute them-
   selves a 'bureau of information' for the Faculty at large.

Sincerely,
Ralph G. Benedict