March 1, 1945

Mrs. Madeline R. Robinton
Department of History

Topic: Morrisville Program for 1945.

1. Will you be interested to confer regarding a possible 3rd Morrisville program? The question is entirely open. We shall not know whether a City summer session budget will be available until after April 1st, but certain other questions need examination ahead of time anyway, and that of potential staff members, other factors being favorable, is No. 1. Enclosed is a page outline covering the status as it appeared in January. The following comments bring it partly up to date:

2. Up-State factors of employment, the Institute as a base, and State support of transportation, etc., seem to be assured. However, the Institute has not yet been able to replace the cafeteria manager (Miss Henriques) and they are asking whether we would be ready to take over management of the commissary???? This would probably mean added costs per student, and of course added staff problems.

3. Student interest here at the College seems active and real, both on the part of past participants, and of new enquirers. In my opinion, the crux of the whole question, other factors being all cleared, will depend upon the possibility of enrolling a more selected group than heretofore, and of such preliminary orientation as will ensure to a higher degree basic educational objectives inherent in the program. I am in process of consulting with student representatives at this time with a view to finding out whether the probable numbers of desirable recruits are likely to be available.

No commitment is planned or can be made until after April 1st, but it seems desirable to explore problems of student, staff, and Institute problems at this time. Can you attend a meeting at my house on the evening of Friday, March 9th, at 8:00 P.M.? Wives included; they certainly have an interest. I shall be pleased to see any of you for specific enquiries before that date. (Room 2107 I, or one of the Biol. labs. Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday afternoons, after 3:00).

Ralph C. Benedict