

October 30, 1942

To the Committee on Physical Conditioning:

This fall I returned to the University for two reasons, 1.) to complete the degree in chemistry toward which I have spent the last seven years in study, and 2.) to fulfill my obligation with the department of chemistry by serving in the capacity of assistant instructor (3/5 time). Last spring when I accepted my assistantship, there was no suggestion of the physical education course being offered as a requirement, and so if I am discharged by the University for not attending the course, I shall consider that I have done my part in attempting to take care of the obligation.

Naturally I have a certain desire to remain in school and try to achieve the Ph. D. degree. My draft board has seen fit to give me six more months in class 2-A, which indicates that at least the Selective Service authorities consider graduate assistants to be serving in an essential capacity.

There are however, other roads open which lead to worthwhile service. My education lacks only two courses and the completion of a thesis before the requirements for the Ph. D. degree are fulfilled; therefore, I have the ability now to do most any job which I will be able to do after completing the above requirements.

At this time the author has several offers from large chemical companies engaged in essential war production. Any one of these offers may be accepted, or if drafted, the technical training and industrial experience already gained can be put to good advantage in the armed forces.

I am more than willing to carry out any work for the department or the University as long as it is essential. Previously we have gone on the assumption that graduate assistants were indispensable to the operation of the chemistry department. If my work here is so unessential that I would be discharged for refusing to give up three hours a week from research just to play around, then I want to get into something more essential,-- either in some branch of the armed forces or in some essential industry.

If I am to leave the University, it should be understood that I am making such a move in order to be of greater service elsewhere.