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Rev. Theo. H. Aszman
843 Louisiana
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Aszman:

I wrote the report of Buehler's address because I have been heart and soul hungry for expressions of appreciation of the United States and for what it stands. Of course, we are not perfect, but why in the name of heaven should we continue to harp on our weakness instead of stressing the things in which we are strong and noble.

Personally, I do not care for Buehler. He has always appeared to me as sort of a stuffed shirt and not much else, but I wrote the favorable comment on what he said because it was such a fine expression of why one should like America.

The trouble with us has been that so many men like yourself evidently seem prone to harp upon the weakness of our government, and thereby to injure its strength rather than to supplement it with a loyal and wholehearted support. I may have hit you rather hard in this, and it might be you do not fully deserve it, but you did get smirched a bit with the L. I. D. business a few years ago and I don't want you to do it again.

I don't know of anyone on the Hill of whom I am personally more fond than I am of John Ise. I have known him intimately during the years when he was a student, when he was trying to prepare himself for grand opera, and when he had his little fling at capitalization, and yet I regret exceedingly that in his teaching, he, like you, seems to point out the beauties of ancient and played out theories presented as new by representatives of certain foreign governments. If John Ise had played up America as he has played up the off side, he would have been a tower of strength and perhaps the outstanding man of K.U. I still like him, and I have tried in my humble way "to make him lie down in green pastures and to lead him by the still waters", but without much success, although we are still good friends.

If you've got something on your chest radically different from what Buehler said, take a good emetic or a dose of salts and get it out of your system for your own sake as well as for the sake of our nation, which personally I regard more than I do life itself.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

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