

November 5, 1917.

Dear Dr. Wilson:

I want to add my appreciation to that of many others for the splendidly patriotic and stirring sermons you have given us the last three Sunday evenings. It is a great satisfaction to know that there is at least one minister in this section who is not afraid to show his colors and state facts as they are. To my mind a great deal of the apparent apathy to the national situation in this section is due not so much to religious convictions opposed to war but to selfishness and cowardice. I cannot help feeling that to refuse to help on religious grounds while at the same time reaping in profits from high prices resulting from the war situation, is the veriest hypocrisy approaching the contemptible. None of us believes in war, but surely all of us want peace and want to alleviate the suffering which the war is causing.

We appreciate very much your reference to the Normal School. These girls, at least a fourth of whom are working or have worked their way thru school by their own efforts, and all of them of limited means, have contributed more than \$2.00 each for the war relief work. The 35,000 people in the great and immensely wealthy County of Rockingham and City of Harrisonburg have been four or five months trying to squeeze out \$20,000, of which only about \$3,700 has been secured, for the Red Cross. At this rate how long will it take to raise that \$3,000 for the Y. M. C. A!

What we need is more fearless leaders like yourself to show up things as they are so that even the wayfaring man tho a fool can and must understand.

Yours most sincerely,