

Fellowship
Comm.

February 26, 1946

Dear Bill: Enclosed is the first installment of this year's candidates, some sixty in all. Others will be coming along as they are processed.

We have about 250 applications, and a good many top-notchers in both the Negro and white categories. Coming back to the program, after a three year absence, I am struck by the increase in the number of white candidates wanting to work directly in the field of active race relations, and by the growth of interest in such fields as photography and the creative arts.

I have a couple of questions to ask you: The first is can we count on you for the first meeting on March 23-24? I sincerely hope so, since without you the meeting will be almost exclusively a family affair. Bob Weaver is going to the Ukraine for six months with UNRRA, Arna Bontemps has a play opening on Broadway that week, and Doctor Johnson will be in Japan.

The second question has to do with men who relinquished grants in order to enter the service or to take jobs directly connected with the war effort. You will recall that I was instructed to write such people a letter inviting them to reapply when their service ended. There were about nine such cases, one of whom, William Mitchell, has reapplied and wishes to begin work at Princeton next month. Mitchell was given an award in 1940-41 of \$1500 to enable him to study political science. The point I am raising now is this: Would you be willing to have him given a fellowship before the regular time in May so that he can begin work at once? Otherwise he will have to go thru the regular mill and take his chances with the others.

My own feeling is that we have an obligation to these people; that if they were once deemed to be worth a fellowship they probably still are; and that to turn down a man who is anxious to resume where he left off would be both morally and psychologically bad.

PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY

Mr. Raymond R. Paty, 2.

2/26/46

If you are willing to have Mitchell and any of the remaining eight who might apply given preferential treatment and accorded grants whenever they want them, please let me know so that I will have a recorded vote.

It seems strange being back behind the desk, as though nothing had happened in the past three years; but I imagine the feeling will wear off eventually. We all followed the Georgia affair with interest and are looking forward to hearing you tell about it.

My best regards to you and Mrs. Paty.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM C. HAYGOOD

WCH:RFL
encl.

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