December 16, 1918

Mr. William R. Murphy,
Field Division,
Council of National Defense,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Murphy:

I did not receive your letter of December 5th until last Friday. I have been off on a Western jaunt, and my mail was held here.

I appreciate your reasons for resigning from the Field Division. Out of touch as I am with things, I feel that it is not fair for me to give an opin, but, so far as I am able to judge, I should say that you are entirely right, that the wise thing for you now is to get back into the regular journalistic channels. After all, I take it that we, each of us, do the best service hammering away in our own professions.

If you do come to New York and I can be of any use to you, you can count on me, although I am afraid it will have to be in the future rather than in the present as I am off overseas in a few days now.

I have sincerely regretted that I was so situated that I could not give any attention to my old department in the Woman's Committee since its absorption in the Field Division. Of course I expected, if the War went on, to be able to be back the first of January, but the armistice has changed everything. I do want you to know, however, that I have appreciated throughout the spirit in which you were trying to work out the problems there, and I certainly wish you the very best success in whatever you may undertake after you leave Washington.

Very sincerely yours,

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