November 9, 1918

Mrs. Francis E. Dey,
743 Aster St.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Day:

You will pardon my delay in replying to your letter of October 24th. I have been kept away from my desk for some little time by illness in my family.

From the first it has been the policy of the National Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense not to interfere with the policies of the State Divisions. As you can see, my dear Mrs. Day, it is quite impossible for us to know all of the currents and counter-currents in each one of the States of the Union. We lay down the general policy, and the States must work it out in their own way. Our interference would undoubtedly do more harm than good. Certainly the National Committee has from the first deplored any use of the organization for partisan purposes or ends. Such a use is obviously contrary to the principles on which the Counsel of National Defense is founded. It is a non-partisan citizens' movement, and political issues have no part in its work.

Very sincerely yours,

P.S. We judge of a division solely by the work it does and our records show that the work in Wisconsin has been excellent; indeed we have always put it among the few in our "First Class".

J. M. D.

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