

December 16, 1918

Mrs. Allene P. Wilkes,
Field Division,
Council of National Defense,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Wilkes:

I am just back from my Western trip and find your letter, enclosing copy of your resignation which you have sent to Mr. Clarkson.

I think I understand why you felt this was the wise thing to do, and I think you are right. I hope it will not be long before we can have a talk. I intended to go to Washington for the 13th, but, as you know, the meeting was postponed-- indefinitely. I could not have made it anyway, as I am just now in from the West.

In your letter of December 3rd you spoke about Christmas and the family reunion you will have in Baltimore, including Clara and Tris if he gets here. I should love to drop in on you, but I shall be going Connecticutward. I think we will all try to take our Christmas dinner with my brother. He is in a beautiful place, and is enough better so that Mrs. Tarbell is going there to be with him, and my sister and I will join them. It will seem rather dreary not to have Clara and Esther, but we will have to put up with it this time.

When I see you I shall want to tell you how much I have appreciated what you have done in Washington. I am glad you feel that it has not been time lost. I only wish I could have been there and had the pleasure of working more closely with you.

I am enclosing a letter from Mrs. Drescher. Will you please see that she gets the information she wants.

Very sincerely yours,