

December 6, 1918.

Grosvonor B. Clarkson, Esq.,
Director, Council of National Defense,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clarkson:

May I not now, that the Council of National Defense is entering upon a new phase of its history with a necessarily more limited range of activities and a more restricted purpose, with propriety ask the acceptance of my resignation as a member of the Field Division, the same to become operative on January first next? It has seemed to me for some time now that the new limitations of scope and activity brought about by the armistice would entail a due reduction of personnel and I have not desired to continue with the Council after the period of my usefulness had terminated. Although I understand that certain details of the demobilization and reconstruction programs will engage the energies of the Council till April next, as I see the situation whatever constructive services are within my capacity could well be absorbed by the date I set. However, I would like you to feel free to call on me for any reasonably longer period that you might deem I could be of service. My connection with the Council has been at considerable sacrifice and I am willing to protract the sacrifice if conditions demand this, though I would prefer it if you would consider this notice sufficient, so that I could definitely begin to plan ahead for the future and look about for other employment with a concrete date in mind for starting it should I be fortunate enough to make such an early connection. I am taking it that the Council's peace time pursuits will not need to be manned at full wartime strength and with this thought in mind am desiring to separate myself from the service. Despite the discomforts of wartime Washington and what financial sacrifice I have made - gladly - I have found the work of the Council interesting and constructive and the associates helpful and congenial. My experience with the Council has been broadening and stimulating to me and I sincerely hope it has tendered due return of value to the Council of National Defense.

With best wishes to you personally and my associates, I beg to remain

Faithfully yours,

W. C. Murray

*W. C. Murray
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