

/RB

Projects and Documents
File

Administrative Matters: Personnel

Pickett,
Clarence

MEMORANDUM

February 16, 1944

Clarence Pickett called me today from Indiana. He said he was very sorry but that he could not make the necessary arrangements to come to the War Refugee Board although he would be delighted to be of whatever help he could on specific problems and would do everything he could to be available on such problems when we called him. He pointed out that Mr. Vail, his principal assistant, is leaving for India and despite his great interest in the work of the War Refugee Board it is impossible to make arrangements to come with the Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Vail', written in a cursive style.

February 16, 1944

Dear Dr. Jones:

In Secretary Morgenthau's absence I acknowledge herewith your letter of February 15, 1944, with regard to Clarence Pickett.

Your letter will be brought to the Secretary's attention upon his return.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Assistant to the Secretary

Dr. Rufus M. Jones,
Haverford College,
Haverford, Pennsylvania.

JWP

JWP:mgt 2/16/44

RUFUS M. JONES
HAVERFORD COLLEGE
HAVERFORD, PA.

Mr. Cobb
February 15th, 1944.

Hon. Henry Morgenthau Jr.,
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Morgenthau,

In answer to your telegram I would say that it is inconceivable that we could willingly give up Clarence Pickett for anything that would take him away from his present work. He is made in heaven for the far-reaching Quaker constructive tasks. There is unfortunately no one who could in any degree replace him. And I have a feeling that he is so completely dedicated to this work that he would hardly be likely to leave it for anything else, but he is away from home and I cannot consult him.

Unfortunately his health is very precarious and we find it necessary to send him off for occasional periods of rest in order to stave off a break-down.

With warm regards

Sincerely yours,

Rufus M. Jones

February 14, 1944

DR. RUFUS JONES
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN PEHLE OF THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD IS URGING CLARENCE PICKETT TO TAKE AN IMPORTANT POST WITH THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD. PICKETT HAS BEEN MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD BY OUTSTANDING MEN WHO ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN THIS CAUSE. I WANT PERSONALLY TO APPEAL TO YOU TO DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO GET PICKETT TO ACCEPT THIS POST NOW FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT FEW CRUCIAL MONTHS. I FEEL THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE BOARD MAY VERY WELL DEPEND UPON THE EXPERT GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE WHICH A MAN OF PICKETT'S OUTSTANDING ABILITY AND EXPERIENCE CAN RENDER. I AM ADDRESSING YOU ON THIS MATTER NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF YOUR POSITION BUT BECAUSE I REALIZE HOW DEEPLY YOU FEEL ON THIS ISSUE. WITH PERSONAL REGARDS

H. Morgenthau, Jr.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

O.K. H.M. Jr.

JCO *John Pehle*