

SECRET

October 23rd, 1941.

Dear Mr. Tibbetts,

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I apologise for taking so long to answer your letter of October 14th. The reason was that some of your questions required looking up, and that the problems they raised were also a little difficult to answer.

You will probably not expect me to discuss in detail the general points which you raise in the last three pages of your letter. It is very interesting to me to have this expression of your point of view, and I may say that I personally am in agreement with practically everything you say. But I think that what you would like me to do is to answer the practical questions raised on the first page of your letter.

First of all, you ask where you would be most useful, or whether you would be more bother than you were worth. The answer to the second half of this question is emphatically in the negative. As regards the first part, it depends very much on your individual capacities, and I suppose I can only say that you would be most useful in the job which you yourself think you can do best. Our greatest need at present is, I think, for pilots, but this does not mean that there is not need in other spheres.

To explain what I meant about technical qualifications, I enclose two copies of a pamphlet about the Civilian Technical Corps

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(I can let you have some more if you want them). You will see from this that your kind of training would perhaps be rather wasted in the Civilian Technical Corps as at present constituted, since its object is to recruit skilled craftsmen rather than people with higher qualifications. As I said in my letter to Mr. Ordway, we are thinking of modifying this, but unfortunately no decision has yet been taken.

Finally, you ask whether there are any services which women volunteers could perform in England. The information we have at present is that there are no such services; we are told, for instance, that there is no lack of trained nurses, and we have not been allowed to encourage women volunteers to go to England at present. I am afraid that to raise this question now would only complicate the issue.

Many thanks again for writing to me. If there is any further information I can supply, I should be very glad to do so.

Yours sincerely,

W. G. Hayter,
Secretary.