

903  
Gates 20  
2022

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Montclair N.J.

March 20, 1918

Dear Dr. Vincent:

Your report  
strikes me as admirable  
in content form and  
spirit. And unlike many  
such reports it has a per-  
sonal, human, quality that  
gives it interest.

But you are sending it  
around I imagine not  
so much for praise as

for suggestions. Not to  
disappoint you I offer  
very tentatively two: - (1)

I would omit any special  
reference to our obligations  
to the State of New York, &  
would not call attention  
to what we are doing there-  
under. The time for that if  
ever (which I doubt) will be  
when the State claims such  
obligations - which might  
embarrass us - or when  
the State threatens for any  
reason to cancel our char-  
ter. To admit the obligation  
hitherto unadmitted, & report

Thereafter is to put a weapon in the  
hands of the state and of any disaf-  
fected New York claimants with  
political or fancied political power  
& is to make an admission which might  
rise up and embarrass us. At present  
it would be gratuitous. (2) And less important  
I would also omit all announce-  
ment of policy even negative pol-  
icy. but just stand on the record & be  
judged by what you do, not at all by what  
you refrain from doing And so not only  
retain your liberty of action but your

liberty of ~~policy~~ silence altogether  
about policies. which is after all  
necessary to real liberty - We can dis-  
close policies if we have to under at all times  
Ever yours

L J Golis