

Rehabilitation program

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Dear Sam:

The Rockefeller Foundation has sent two men on extensive trips through Germany, trying to discover whether there is anything there that we can wisely or usefully do at the present time. The latter of the two was Professor Robert J. Havighurst of the University of Chicago, originally trained in physics. He held an N.R.C. fellowship in Germany.

It is the present tentative plan that we engage, in a very modest way, in some activities aimed to reestablish intellectual communication, particularly in areas which seem usefully directed toward the democratic reeducation of Germany. Thus we are considering some moves to get journals and books, in various fields, into Germany; and as regards personnel, we are considering bringing out a modest number of persons, for training and experience in democratic countries, who are associated with elementary and intermediate education in Germany, with mass communication in such fields as radio, press, and movies, and with youth movements.

There has been some talk of very modest assistance to highly selected individual scholars. I am myself very skeptical about this latter, and would prefer to wait for a time, concentrating on the more general activities which are primarily related to the reeducation of German youth.

What sort of sense does this make to you? I am also writing for a more specific reason. Karl Compton told me that your mission collected an extensive and dependable body of information concerning the individual scientists whose record during the war was definitely good or definitely bad. Is there any way in which we could have access, confidential or otherwise, to that information?

Cordially,

Warren Weaver.

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