

FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY

FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

February 13, 1968

Dear Mr. Ferrater Mora,

I am considerably embarrassed to have to tell you that, apparently, neither one of my two students will after all be applying for a scholarship.

I have had a note from Wayne Johnson apologizing and saying that he has decided that he will apply to no graduate school at all. In fact he says that it is impossible that he should and that the reasons are neither academic nor financial. This fellow applied for a Woodrow Wilson in the fall and then withdrew from competition, explaining to me and others that he wouldn't be able to attend graduate school at all. Later he changed his mind and asked my help in preparing a list of graduate schools to apply to. Bryn Mawr was on a list of four of them that, together, we drew up. I think that Johnson may be involved in some sort of family situation that makes it difficult--or perhaps indeed impossible--that he should go to graduate school next year. (He is, incidentally, lame from polio, so he would not be eligible for the draft.) I have replied to his note saying that I am sorry he won't ^{now} go to graduate school but urging him to get in touch with me and other people here if he decided after a year or two that he would like to go. If this happens--and I hope it does, for he is very gifted and sensitive--I shall then ask if you will once more consider him there.

Barone I am mystified by. He lives off-campus, so I never run into him unless he seeks me out. But he has not asked me to write in support of his application, so I presume that he has decided not to apply. Why? Well, perhaps he felt that he was too precipitously departing from well-laid plans he had already made to study Spanish at Columbia University (he had had his heart set on going there). I had of course told him that I know that sometimes a ~~person's~~ person's imagination is seized by a new notion and that in fact that person sometimes goes back to the old. In other words, I didn't want him to think that, because he was talking openly with me about the possibility of switching fields, I was ~~asking~~ requiring that he commit himself finally to the notion. Naturally, I want him to do what he wants to do himself. But I am irritated that I've had no direct word from him about his plans, and I apologize to you for having taken what he said to me as being more definite than it apparently has turned out to be. Perhaps you would convey my apologies to Mrs. King, too.

Sincerely,

Jwl:-

24.2.68