1746 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. April 26th, 1917.

Dr. Wm. E. Simonds, Galesburg, Illinois.

My dear Dr. Simonds,

I am contemplating joining the Aviation Section of the Signal Officers' Reserve Corps if I can possibly get in. But if my application is so far back among those with which the Department has recently been flooded, I will go to one of the Reserve Officers' training camps that open May 8th. In either event I shall need three letters of recommendation as to my character, my ability to handle men and otherwise and my nationality, and if you feel that you can do it , I would greatly appreciate it if you would write one of those letters for me. To enter either of these branches of the service the applicant must be a college graduate, so a letter from you as Dean of Knox would help me a lot.

Almost everybody who can pass the physical examinations is going into something right away, so that the Law School will soon be sadly depleted. The faculty of the Law School has responded splendidly and every man who goes now will be given full credit for his year's work when he passes the examinations of the following year upon his return. Third year men will of course be given their degrees. I want to congratulate you and the rest of the faculty of Knox upon the most generous plan which you people have adopted.

Knowing that you will be interested in the success of Kenneth Andrews' play I am enclosing a criticism that was in tonight's Traveler, which seems, as criticisms go, to be quite favorable. I myself thought the play very good, but as the critic says with but two exceptions the cast was weak.

My very kindest regards for yourself and for all of the other members of the faculty,

Sincerely yours ,

Howard C. Kustls.