

COPY

31st December, 1932.

The President,
Sydney University Union,
University of Sydney,
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Robinson,

I must thank you for your graciously worded letter of the 23rd. instant which, I confess, came to me as a surprise far more agreeable than otherwise. It certainly did have the effect of recalling a little of the pain which I felt at the action of the Union in 1920, but your present action as President so completely and graciously reverses the earlier decision that I am now left with no sense of hurt whatever.

What is far more important than any satisfaction of my own feelings in the matter is the recognition that we who gave our service to the best of our ability and devotion through the Y.M.C.A. were engaged in as worthy and essential a task as any other in the A.I.F., and, for those of us on the field, in one no less dangerous. The rejection of my application by the Union in 1920, after $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of such service, pained me acutely at the time, but I felt that to argue one's case would be unworthy, even though it could have been supported by plenty of written evidence from those with whom I had worked on the field.

Australian Y.M.C.A. representatives, as you probably know, were accorded military status and rank by the Defence authorities. At least three of our men gave their lives in France. For their sake, rather than for any gratification to myself, I thank you for your letter and the spirit of justice which moved you to write it; and I shall feel that both vicariously and personally I shall be bearing an honour in being enrolled as an honorary life member of the Union of my Alma Mater.

Sincerely yours,

Edw / F R E Mawson