Solon J. Buck Papers.

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Version 3
August 20, 2018

University Farm.
April 26, 1916 (1915)

Professor S. J. Buck,
University of Minnesota.
Dear Sir,

Miss Solvig Magnussen has applied for a position as teacher of English in the School of Agriculture. Will you please favor me with your opinion of her ability as a teacher?

Yours truly,
R. C. Lansing

May 7, 1915

Professor R.C. Lansing

University Farm

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of a letter from you dated April 26, in which you ask my opinion of the ability of Miss Solveig Magelssen as a teacher. Miss Magelssen has been in my seminar in American history during the present year, and has written a master's thesis under my direction. I consider her one of the most capable young women that I know and believe that you would be very fortunate to secure her services as a teacher of English in the schools. She has a great deal of self possession, talks readily, even fluently. She works industriously and has initiative, which is by no means a common quality among graduate students. I take pleasure in recommending her very highly for the position.

Sincerely yours

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Champaign, Ill., Sept. 27, 1915.

My dear Buck:

Your letter of recent date and a copy of Ungdommens Ven have been received and I was glad to get both. No, I did not expect to start anything when I wrote about that Scandinavian material, but I am glad that I did write, as it brought such good news. I have mentioned that matter to a number of men during the past two years,--Scandinavians who I thought might be interested, but to no great purpose; and I am very glad that you have gone ahead with the plan.

Champaign and Urbana are at peace, though now and then I meet a man who wants to fight Germany. By the way, one Mr. Gillet has been added to the German department as professor of comparative literature, and he is a Belgian! I am told that the head of the department seriously doubted the ability of a Belgian to teach Germanics, and I presume he will find it hard to drill students on "Deutschland über alles."

The department of history has a heavy enrollment, especially in the elementary courses; my introductory course in English history has 135 students--it had about 55 last year at this time. Another result of the war, perhaps. With best wishes for the year just begun, I am

Yours sincerely,

Laurence M. Larson.

APR 5 1915

WILLMAR TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY THE
TRIBUNE PRINTING COMPANY
VICTOR E. LAWSON, PROPRIETOR

WILLMAR, MINN.,

April 3rd.,1915.

Solon J.Buck, Secretary,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St.Paul,Minn.

Dear sir:-

Have received Volume One, Number One, of the Minnesota Historical Bulletin.

Was glad to get it and will file my copies away very carefully for reference.

Wishing you success in your work, I am,

Very truly yours,

~~Tribune Printing Co.~~

By V E Lawson

VEL.MO.

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ESTABLISHED 1893
723-725 14TH STREET N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 4, 1914

Mr. S. J. Buck.
418 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of August 12th. We are unable to offer the original copy of the Oregon Trail journey for sale, only photostat copies of it. We thank you for suggesting the names of several to whom we might be able to sell copies of these documents.

Please return the copies sent you for your examination. Trusting you will be pleased with your new field and to hear from you in the future, we are,

Very truly yours,
LEET BROS., Inc.,
By Frank Leet

FO/HO

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723-725 14TH STREET N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sept. 14, 1914.

Mr. S. J. Buck,
Urbana, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly favor us with a check for $25.00 for work done during the early part of August.

Yours truly,
Leet Bros, Inc.

CB

By

The University of Minnesota
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts
Minneapolis

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

September 24, 191

Leet Brothers,

Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of September 4th with reference to photostat copies of the Oregon Trail journey has just reached me and I am returning the copy to you as requested.

I am in receipt also of a letter requesting "a check for $25.00 for work done during the early part of August." As I know of no such work, I assume that this letter was sent me by mistake or refers to copy of the Oregon Trail.

Very truly Yours,

COLOR WORK
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ESTABLISHED 1893
723-725 14TH STREET N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 1, 1914

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
The University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of Sept. 24th and have received the photostat copies of the Oregon Trail journal. Our letter requesting a check for work done for you, was sent to you in error, which we regret very much.

We have credited you with the return of the Oregon Trail, above mentioned.

Very truly yours,
LEET BROS., Inc.
by Frank Leet

FO/HO

416 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

January 13, 1914.

Hon. J. Hamilton Lewis,

U. S. Senate,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

As you doubtless know, the last Legislature of the State of Illinois established a Centennial Commission to make plans for the celebration of the centennial of the admission of Illinois to the Union in the year 1918. The Publication Committee of this centennial has asked me to prepare a volume on Illinois in 1818, to be issued as a preliminary publication of the Commission. Much of the material which I wish to use in this volume is to be found in the various archives of the United States Government, at Washington. I spent the first week in January looking up some of this material, and located numerous documents of which it will be necessary to secure copies. Whenever possible it is our intention to have these copies made by a new photographic process which is now used very extensively for this purpose. The Library of Congress is equipped with a photostat for making these reproductions. In some cases, however, it will probably be necessary to have simply typewritten copies made. In any case all of the material collected is to be deposited in the Illinois State Historical Library, and it will be of considerable value to the future students of the history of the state.

When in Washington I made arrangements with Mr. Leo Stock of the Department of Historical Research, of the Carnegie Institution, to take charge of the work of securing these transcripts for me. As he may have some difficulties in inducing the officials in charge of some of the docu-

ments to allow them to be copied, it has occurred to me that you as a United States Senator from the State of Illinois could be of assistance to him in overcoming such obstacles. I have therefore sent to Mr. Stock a letter of introduction to you, and instructed him to call upon you in case he needs such assistance. Any help which you can give him will be deeply appreciated by me and by the Centennial Commission.

Very truly yours,

S. J. B./MS

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

February 16, 1914.

The Lewis Publishing Company,

542 South Dearborn Street,

Chicago, Illinois.

Gentlemen:-

I am in receipt of your note of February 13th, with reference to the set of the History of Southern Illinois, which you state you are holding for the University of Illinois in accordance with our request of September 23rd. In reply to that request, you wrote on September 25th to the effect that you would hold the set for a few weeks awaiting our order. We then expected to have funds available for books in a very short time, but our expectations failed to materialize, and it was only about two weeks ago that the appropriation was made. About the same time we were offered a set of the History by a second hand dealer at $7.50, and as so long a time had elapsed, we were in considerable doubt as to whether you were holding your set for us, and so took the opportunity to get this set. In view of the demand which you mention for sets of this work, I assume that you will have no difficulty in disposing of it. I regret, however, that we put you to any inconvenience in this connection.

Very truly yours,

S. J. B./MS

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois

April 30, 1914

Lewis Publishing Company,

542 South Dearborn Street,

Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Sirs:-

Mr. Ellis B. Usher of Milwaukee informs me that you have recently published a history of Wisconsin prepared by him. Will you kindly inform me if you can furnish a copy of this work for the library of the University of Illinois, and if so at what price.

Very truly yours,

S. J. B./MS

PRESIDENT, CHAS. F. AMIDON, FARGO
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VICE PRESIDENT, C. B. LITTLE, BISMARCK
TREASURER, J. L. CASHEL, GRAFTON

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
—OF—
NORTH DAKOTA
TRUSTEE OF THE STATE
UNIVERSITY, NORTH DAKOTA

November 19, 1914

Solon J. Buck,

Sec. and Supt. State Historical Society,

St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of November 17th at hand. I congratulate you heartily on your new position, of which I was informed in the Minneapolis papers. We shall all look forward to the new policy with the greatest anticipation. Your have an opportunity which comes to few men and I am sure you will make the most of it.

I shall be glad to discuss Professor's Woodburn's paper at Chicago.

Very truly yours,

O. G. Libby

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

November 24, 1914.

Professor O.G. Libby,

University of North Dakota,

Grand Forks, North Dakota.

My dear Mr. Libby;-

I want to thank you for your kind congratulations on my recent appointment. I, too, consider it a big opportunity and will do my best to take advantage of it, and promote the interests of history in the northwest.

Sincerely yours

December 16, 1914

Professor O.G. Libby,

University of N.D.

Grand Forks, N.D.

Dear Mr. Libby:-

I am sending you enclosed a copy of an outline of the paper which Professor Woodburn will read at the Conference of Historical Societies and which you have agreed to discuss.

Professor Woodburn states that he has been too busy to write the paper as yet, but that this outline will give an indication of what he intends to say. It is expected that the paper will take about fifteen minutes, and the discussion will be limited to eight minutes for each speaker.

Sincerely yours

February 8, 1915

Professor O.G. Libby

University of North Dakota

Grand Forks, N.D.

Dear Mr. Libby:-

I am sending you enclosed a copy of the stenographic report of your remarks in the discussion of Professor Woodburn's paper at the Conference of Historical Societies. I will appreciate it very much if you will make such changes or corrections as you may desire and return it to me at your earliest convenience. Leland has asked me to compile the report of the conference as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours

FEB 17 1915

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

GRAND FORKS
Post Address, University, North Dakota

February 11, 1915.

Superintendent Solon J. Buck,
State Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Superintendent Buck:

I have already mailed you the corrected copy of the report of my discussion in connection with Professor Woodburn's paper at the Conference of State Historical Societies.

Very truly yours,

O. G. Libby

OGL/MMD

416 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

January 14, 1914.

Professor Harlow Lindley,

Earlham College,

Richmond, Indiana.

My dear Lindley:-

I notice in the American Historical Review for July a statement to the effect that your report on the Indian archives has been published. Will you kindly inform me as to where this was published and how I could obtain a copy.

Yours very truly,

S. J. B./MS

Earlham College
Department of History and Political Science

HARLOW LINDLEY
WALTER C. WOODWARD

Richmond, Indiana
Earlham Post Office 19 Jan. 1914.

My Dear Mr. Buck—

The preliminary report which I made on the Archives of Indiana three years ago was published in the Annual Report of the American Historical Association for 1910. I am sending you by this mail a separate, together with a copy of the State Library Bulletin which will give you some idea of what we have in mind.

With kindest regards. I am, Very Cordially,

Harlow Lindley

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

January 22, 1914.

Professor Harlow Lindley,

Earlham College,

Richmond, Indiana.

My dear Mr. Lindley:-

I want to thank you for the separate of your report on the archives of Indiana, and also for the bulletin of the Indiana State Library containing your article on Indiana history and archives. I am glad to know that there is a prospect of more progress along these lines in Indiana. We are of course very much interested in the history of Indiana Territory, especially before the separation of Illinois in 1809, and I am in hopes that sometime we will find considerable material for our purposes in the Indiana archives.

Very truly yours,

S. J. B./MS

Indiana State Library
DEMARCHUS C. BROWN, Librarian

Department of Indiana History and Archives
HARLOW LINDLEY, Director

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. Apl 11 1914

My Dear Mr. Buck-

Two or three weeks ago I rec'd a letter from you asking for any further data concerning historical ~~data~~ activities in Indiana. Just before that I had sent you a copy of our State Library bulletin which was hastily gotten together by this Department. Since then the State Library has issued an Outline of Indiana history for clubs and schools, which this Dept. assisted in shaping up. I am not especially proud of it and do not assume the responsibility for it, but it will be of some use. I also enclose a copy of a letter which I am just now sending out over the state.

Very Sincerely
Harlow Lindley.

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

April 18, 1914.

Dr. Harlow Lindley, Director,

Department of History and Archives,

Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, Ind.

My dear Mr. Lindley:-

I received your letter of April 11th, together with the enclosures, for which I am very much obliged. They reached me just in time to be noted in my article on historical activities for the Mississippi Valley Historical Review.

Sincerely yours,

S. J. B./MS

April 19, 1915

Professor Harlow Lindley

Earlham College

Richmond, Ind.

My dear Mr. Lindley-

I am preparing for the June number of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review an article on "Historical Activities in the Old Northwest" during the past year, similar to the one published in the Review for June 1914. Any information which you can furnish me on the situation in Indiana, especially with reference to the state archives, and the work of the state library, will be greatly appreciated.

Some of my headings are "Acquisition of Materials", "Historical Meetings", Documentary or Monographic Works" published or in preparation. The report will have to be in Professor Alvord's hands in a couple of weeks, so that the information on order to be of use to me should be sent at your earliest convenience.

By the way, will you arrange to have the Bulletin of the Indiana State Library (I am not sure that is the exact title) sent to me regularly, or rather to the Minnesota Historical Society? I used to receive it personally, but have not had a copy since last summer. The back file would also be appreciated, if one is available.

Sincerely yours

Indiana State Library
DEMARCHUS C. BROWN, Librarian

Department of Indiana History and Archives
HARLOW LINDLEY, Director

Richmond
~~INDIANAPOLIS~~, IND. 24 Apl 1915.

My Dear Mr. Buck-

I had sent to you a few days ago a copy of the last report of the State Librarian which gives a report of my department activities up to Oct 1, 1914. Our work has been going on in much the same manner since that time. Because of an around interest in Indiana History my assistant does not get much time for construction work.

Our Indiana Historical Society is doing nothing unusual. The latest move along historical lines in the state is the Creation of the Indiana Historical Commission provided by the last General Assembly.

I sent you a paper a few days ago giving an account of it.

The Governor called us together last evening for an informal discussion of the problems and the formal organization of the Commission was completed this forenoon.

The officers are as follows:

Indiana State Library
DEMARCHUS C. BROWN, Librarian

Department of Indiana History and Archives
HARLOW LINDLEY, Director

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. _____ 191__

Pres. Truman S. M. Ralston
Vice Pres. Dr. Frank B. Wynn, Indianapolis
Secty Harlow Lindley, Richmond.

Are determined on two distinct lines of activity

1. Historical Publications
2. Ways, means and plans for historical and educational celebrations during 1916.

Excuse this hurried note, but I knew you wanted your data at once and my stenographer is off duty on Saturday afternoons.

Very Sincerely
Harlow Lindley

May 7, 1915

Professor Harlow Lindley

Earlham College

Richmond, Ind.

My dear Mr. Lindley:-

Your letter of April 24, the copy of the report of the state librarian, and the newspaper which you sent gave me just the information I desired about historical activities in Indiana.

Now that you have got something started, I hope that it will be possible to keep it up and to develop a permanent organization for publishing material for Indiana history.

Sincerely yours

March 26, 1915

Dr. J.C. Litzenberg

Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Dr. Litzenberg:-

This is to remind you that you are to talk on the proposed Mayo Affiliation at a Harvard luncheon at the Minnesota Club, St. Paul, next Tuesday , March 30, at 12:30 P.M.

Sincerely yours

The University of Minnesota
The Medical School
Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

April 1, 1915.

Prof. S. J. Buck,

Department of History.

My dear Prof. Buck:

At the request of Dr. Litzenberg, I am sending you a dozen copies of the official statement of the proposed affiliation of the Medical School and the Mayo Foundation, to be distributed to the members of the Harvard Club.

Sincerely yours,

R. B. Beard

Secretary.

April 1, 1915

Dr. J.C. Litzenberg

Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Dr. Litzenberg:-

You vanished so suddenly at the Commercial Club last Tuesday that I did not have an opportunity to thank you for coming over to talk to the Harvard men on the Mayo Affiliation.

There was certainly need of light on the subject from your point of view, and I am sure that the men who were present see that the proposition is decidedly different from what was presented to them the week before.

I was sorry not to see you again at the Club. I left you talking with Dr. Barruthers for a minute and when I returned, you had disappeared.

Sincerely yours

April 10, 1915

Dr. J.G. Litzenberg

Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Dr. Litzenberg:-

I am in receipt of a dozen copies of the official statement of the proposed affiliation with the Mayo Foundation sent to me at your request for distribution to the members of the Harvard Club . I will be very glad to pass these around at the meeting next Tuesday noon. You will doubtless be interested to know that Dr. Green reappeared last Tuesday and endeavored to answer some of the points which you had made, but not with entire success.

Sincerely yours

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

313 Lincoln Hall,
Feb. 18, 1914

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
Research Associate,

Dear Mr. Buck:

Mrs. C. W. Alvord reported to me as follows in regard to her historical experience. The facts may be of value to you in examining her for credit.

She taught history at the Missouri State Normal School during a summer session of about 10 weeks, the subjects being Ancient, Medieval, and English History. She used up-to-date methods, combining lectures and discussions, requiring collateral reading, outlines and maps. She used such books as Farnell, Adams, Munro & Sellery, Robinson, Montgomery, Macaulay.

She was secretary for Mr. Houck in preparing his History of Missouri during three years. She took notes on manuscripts in English, French and Spanish, this material being incorporated in his text and footnotes.

She was librarian of the Missouri Historical Society for six years, during which she did research work for J. H. Smith, R. G. Thwaites, D. Rowland, and others.

Yours very truly,

Albert Ty Lyle

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Oberlin, Ohio, June 27, 1917.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
418 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Ill.,

Dear Mr. Buck:

I congratulate you heartily on your new position, and am sure that you will be very happy in it. Minnesota University is hardly as far along as that of Illinois, but it has extensive financial prospects and a fresh and unbounded energy that will carry it fast and far.

As regards the house, I am not in a position where I can buy, and to move unless to a permanent location — such as can only be secured by purchase — seems so formidable a task that we shrink from undertaking it. Miss McCoy's mother and sister may come with her. If so, they might want an entire house. I will speak to Miss McCoy about yours.

I expect to be in Champaign in about three weeks, and will talk further about this, in case you have by that time made no arrangements.

Yours very truly,
Albert Shaw.

Oberlin, Ohio.
July 9, 1914.

My dear Mr. Buck:

Mr. Lybyer wrote me that you have a house at Urbana which will be for rent next year in case you fail to sell it. I have a fellowship at the University for the coming year and my mother, sister and self wish to have a house there. There are only three of us, all grown, and we should like to have the refusal of your house if it is to be rented. We should like to hear from you as soon as possible concerning the prospects of renting it.

Yours sincerely,
Edith A. McCoy,
237 E. Colley St.,
Oberlin

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

(Organized in September, 1884. Incorporated by Act of Congress, 1889.)

WILLIAM A. DUNNING, *President*, New York City
ANDREW C. MCLAUGHLIN, *First Vice-President*, Chicago
H. MORSE STEPHENS, *Second Vice-President*, Berkeley, Cal.
WALDO G. LELAND, *Secretary*, Carnegie Institution, Washington
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A. HOWARD CLARK, *Curator*, Smithsonian Institution, Washington

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ELSIE D. FAIRBANKS
JAMES G. MCDONALD

Hanover Hall 36
April 7, 1914.

My dear Mr Buck:

Many thanks for the copy of "Travel and Adventure". It should be of very high value to all students of Western history. I was very pleased to send so many letters received by the "Eager Movement" — the one in the American Historical being particularly appreciative. I am glad your Illinois place gives you an opportunity to do so much.

You may be interested to know that I shall probably return to Indiana next year as Asst Prof. Professor Hopkins was kind enough to make me an offer of $1400. to

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CLARENCE W. BOWEN, *Treasurer*, New York City
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ELSIE D. FAIRBANKS
JAMES G. MCDONALD

remain here next year, her conditions at home and the prospect of being abroad 1915–16 weighed against my acceptance.

I hope that you, father and mother are very well.

Yours

Jas G. McDonald.

JAMES GROVER McDONALD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF EUROPEAN HISTORY
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

415 WEST FIRST STREET

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA, October 18, '14.

Professor Solon J. Buck,

Minneapolis, Minnesota.

My dear Professor Buck:

We were all very glad to hear of your going to Minnesota. Crosgrave's being there too seems to mark the beginning of an Indiana colony. Your colleague, Stephenson, recently from Harvard, is a very good friend of mine. He is a splendid fellow and I am sure you will enjoy working with him. Please give him and Crosgrave my best wishes.

I am mailing you under separate cover a copy of my pamphlet which recently appeared discussing German "Atrocities". Sentiment hereabouts is distinctly pro-English, if not bitternly anti-German. I dare say it is much the same in Minnesota. It seems to me that we have gone altogether too far in this respect.

Professors Harding and Woodburn wish to be remembered to you.

Sincerely yours,

James G. McDonald.

October 27, 1914.

Professor James G. McDonald,

University, Bloomington, Ind.,

My dear McDonald:

I want to thank you for your letter of October 18 and also for the pamphlet on the War. You are right in assuming that most people here are inclined to favor the allies as against the Germans, the reasons being, apparently, a feeling that Germany could have prevented the war without injury to herself in any way. I confess to holding that opinio myself, but I would not admit myself to be "bitterly anti-German." I read your pamphlet with great interest and believe it to be the strongest statement of the points involved which I have seen. The weakest part of it to me, is the attempt to justify Germany's violation of Belgium neutrality after having solemnly guaranteed it. The logic which you use in this connection could be applied to justify any nation in doing anything which seemed to be desirable, or any individual in doing anything which would advance his interests. In bringing up examples of the violation of neutrality by other nations you failed to note the difference that in the case of Belgium, Germany had guaranteed that neutrality and thus not only violated the neutrality of Belgium, but also broke faith with the whole world.

I see Stephenson frequently and like him very much. Besides Crosgrave, there is another Indiana man here whom you

may know, Lagow who is in the French Department. I am looking forward with much pleasure to seeing you and the rest of the Indiana people at Chicago during the holidays. Crosgrave tells me that you are carrying a very heavy program at Indiana. My advice to you would be not to try to do too much.

Cordially yours,

JOHN F. HARMON
President

Office of the President
McKENDREE COLLEGE
LEBANON, ILLINOIS

Miss Marie Brauer,
Urbana, Ill.

Dear Miss Brauer:—
Your letter at hand.
Dr Buck sent me a copy of a report some time ago and asked me about the date. I secured the date from the conference records where the report was made. It has never been published so far as I know. I have had my copy misplaced some way. Would appreciate another if you can send it without trouble to yourself.
With best wishes,
John F. Harmon

March 30. 1914.

October 27, 1914.

The McKinley Publishing Company,

1619-21 Ranstead St.,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen:

Please send me a complete set of McKinley's Illustrated Topics for American History. I will send check for payment upon receipt of statement.

Very truly yours,

CHICAGO
BOSTON
DALLAS
ATLANTA
SAN FRANCISCO

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
PUBLISHERS
64-66 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

LONDON
BOMBAY
CALCUTTA
MELBOURNE
TORONTO

COLLEGE DEPARTMENT

June 29,1914

Prof. S. J. Buck,
418 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

We have at hand your letter of the 23rd inst., and in response to your request, take pleasure in sending you, under separate cover, copies of Bassett's "A Short History of the United States" and Beard's "Contemporary American History".When you have had an opportunity to examine the books carefully enough to determine their availability for use as texts in your courses, we shall consider it an especial favor if you will be kind enough to advise us as to your decision regarding their introduction.

Thanking you in advance for this courtesy, we remain,

Very truly yours,

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY.
College Department.

AML

AML:EW

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PUBLISHERS
64-66 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

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MELBOURNE
TORONTO

COLLEGE DEPARTMENT

July 11, 1914.

Prof. Solon J. Buck,
418 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

We have at hand your letter of July 6th, in acknowledgment of the receipt of Bassett's SHORT HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES and Beards' CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN HISTORY, and wish to thank you for giving the books your attention. We are glad to know that they impressed you favorably at first sight, and we shall be pleased if, on further consideration, you find that you can give them a trial as texts in your courses. We shall, too, be under obligations to you for the kindness of advising us of your final decision in regard to the introduction of these books.

Thanking you for this courtesy, we are,

Yours very truly,

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY,
College Department.

AML/AJK

AML

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HUGH S. MAGILL, JR., SUPERINTENDENT
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

March
Three
1914.

Mr. Solon Justus Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois,

Dear Doctor Buck:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your book entitled "The Granger Movement".

Please accept my thanks for the same.

Very truly,

Hugh S. Magill, Jr.

HSM-W.

September 29, 1914.

Hon. James Manahan,

House of Representatives,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Could you secure for me a couple of ~~the~~ copies of the large land office maps of the United States for use in my classes at the University of Minnesota? I requested these a short time ago from the Commissioner of the general land office but failed to recieve them. In reply to my request, he stated that the greater number of the maps are delivered to the members of Congress. I am asking for two of these maps because my classes are held in two different buildings. In case you can secure but one, however, that would be appreciated.

At any time when you have maps or documents for distribution which pertain to the field of American History, I should like very much to receive a copy.

Sincerely yours,

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

9/28/14

My dear Buck

I would appreciate it if you would let me have the note of Callahan's house which you promised, not later than Oct 5, in order that I may insert it in the November Review.

Sincerely

J M Mathews

University of Minnesota,

October 13, 1914.

Dr. J. M. Matthews,

Urbana, Ill.

My dear Matthews:

I owe you an opology for not having replied at least to your note of the 28th with reference to Callahan's book. I have been simply swamped with work this fall and had not had time to touch the book until after your note arrived. I hoped then to get a review to you by the time stated, but it proved to be impossible. The book is a good one and I cannot do justice to it without reading part of it at least. I suppose it is too late now for the November issue, but I will get the review to you as soon as possible. I hope that this will be satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

2467 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
July 30th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

I have nothing in particular yet to write except that with the very agreeable change in temperature I resumed work among the House Files yesterday morning.

Practically all the material has

which Parker listed, however, is the more important, and I shall be happy if all of it can be found. I will get the cards to you as soon as possible as there may be some advantage in getting this matter out of the way before Congress adjourns.

Mr. Stock has the duplicate cards which, in yours of July 13th, you requested to have returned, and he will attend to that matter.

Very truly yours,
Newton D. Mereness.

to be handled to locate what Parker found, and, even then, some will probably be missed, as I find now and then whole bundles gone or out of place, to say nothing of what has been removed to the Library of Congress. Yesterday and to-day I have found more relating to Illinois that Parker did not list than I have that he did list, and very little time is consumed in listing what I find while looking for what is already listed. That

2467 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
August 5th, 1914.

Dear Doctor Buck:-

I have completed the search among the House Files, in the House Library, and the Library of Congress for documents relating to Illinois for the years 1815 to 1820 inclusive and am now sending you by express the cards containing the list of such documents. Four of the docu-

ments listed by Parker I failed to find. Possibly, you may think it worth while to look into the Senate Files for duplicates of these four documents and to ascertain if the Senate Files contain anything of importance not in the House Files, but I have discovered nothing to indicate that such a search would yield much.

Very truly yours,

Newton D. Mereness.

The 7 3/4 days work with the Indian-Office material can wait until the University gets another appropriation if necessary..

You may expect to hear from me soon at your Madison address.

Very truly yours,
Newton D. Mereness.

2467 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
August 17th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:—

The prospects are that the Indian-Office books now in the hands of the photostat operator can be returned to the Indian Office late this week. Before they are out of the way I will endeavor to have the documents from the House Files brought over and ready for the photostatist (I do not expect any

Illinois House and Senate Journals have been made, and the prospect for finding them is not good - however, I will keep the matter in mind.

I may remain in Washington indefinitely, expect to be at the L. of C. much of the time for the next three months and will gladly attend to the matter of which you write.

I now have four lines of work in hand and the pay for the most part is slow. If you could put through a check for me for my 8½ days work among the House Files it would put an end for some time to the present uncomfortable shortage.

difficulty in obtaining permission for their removal) and if we can persuade the photostatist to proceed with those papers without waiting for a deposit it may be well to do so, for the sooner they can be returned to the House Files the better.

I will write you regarding the probable cost of reproduction soon after receiving the cards.

I saw Mr. Stock this morning and showed him your letter. The cards had not yet been received.

Some inquiries regarding the early

2467 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

The "House" cards were received from the expressman this morning, the documents with cards attached are now in the hands of the photostatist, and he expects to begin work on them tomorrow. There are approximately 275 pages in the documents turned over to him today, and

I leave it to you to estimate the cost from that figure.

I will begin the search for the documents dated prior to 1815 as early as possible next week. Scattered as they are in time, you may count on the requirement of considerable time to find them. Am I to return the cards to you for such documents as I find, or shall I have them all reproduced?

Very truly yours,

Newton D. Mereness.

Wednesday, Aug. 19th.

2467 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

The documents in the House Files dated prior to 1815 were found more readily than was expected. With them, too, I noticed some others to which it seems to me worth while to call your attention - two in particular. I have them here in the Library with the others and am enclosing cards

briefly describing them. Even if you want none of them very little time will have been lost.

The letter from Wm. H. Harrison to the President of the Senate (Oct. 13, 1807) is, according to Parker (2747), in the Senate Files and not in the House Files as noted on card. In case this is found will it not be well to have it copied either by pen or machine and save the trouble incident to removing from the building?

Very truly yours,

8-27-'14. Newton D. Mereness.

Biel.

2467 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
September 15th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

I handed to Mr. Stock yesterday the prints of the House documents to send to you, and here are the cards for documents not included in that collection.

I asked the photostatist to print two pages on one as he had done

with the documents from the Indian Office but when I called his attention to the fact that he had not done so he held that the difficulty with these loose papers, varying greatly in the size of the page, was great enough as it was. In some instances, however, I think he could have done better. Very truly yours,

Newton D. Meriness.

Should you decide that there will be no need of the manuscript bills - or of only a certain designated few - then I could at once return the papers to their places in the Files, and there the matter could rest comfortably until you were ready for the reproduction of such printed bills as you may desire. The printed bills have not been removed from their shelves in the House Library.

Very truly yours,
Newton D. Mereness.

2467 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
September 26th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

The point I wished to make with Mr. Stock, for him to pass on to you, was the desirability of getting the House papers back into their files with the least unnecessary delay, but that I did not think it wise

for you from the Files can very well go back into the Files, or even to the File Room, until all are ready. For I shall probably be obliged to charge the time required to do so to the State of Illinois; & to put back part at one time and part at another would be poor economy, and to return all or a part of them to the File Room with the promise to do so and so would be unsatisfactory under the circumstances which I need not go into.

to do this until you had O.K's the prints, and had decided what was to be done with those papers consisting of unprinted bills. On the card list of the bills which I sent you is indicated what bills I found both in the printed collection in the House Library and in manuscript in the Files, what bills only in manuscript, and what bills only in the printed collection. None of the papers which I took

September 29, 1914.

Dr. Newton D. Mereness,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Mereness:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 26. In this you speak of having sent me a card list of the bills, on which you have indicated what bills you have found in the different collections etc. I have no recollection of ever having seen any such list. On the whole, I think that it will be best to return the material to the House files and let the matter of bills rest for the present.

When I get time to work over the field and material all ready collected, I shall be in a better position to decide what bills should be copied.

Sincerely yours,

which bills you would want. It is to those cards (containing list of bills) which you did not return that I referred to in my last.

I have returned all the papers to the House Files. If a few of the bills in that collection should be wanted later they can be found without much trouble, as bills are the easiest papers to find among those in the House Files.

I have received payment for 8½ days of this work. Seven days yet remain to be paid for. Will you kindly ask that a check be sent in payment of these seven days services?

Very truly yours,

Newton D. Mereness.

2467 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
October 5th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

I have yours of the 29th September. You sent to Mr. Stock late last June a card list of documents which you wanted from the House Files with instructions for me to find these, together with such other documents as related to Illinois or

ready listed on the cards was also in the printed collection I mentioned it on the proper card, and also listed on a new card any bill relating to Illinois that was in the printed collection but not in the House Files. All cards containing list of documents or printed bills I then sent to you. On returning to Mr. Stock such cards as referred to documents you desired to have reproduced, you wrote him that you had not included any cards on which bills were listed as it was necessary for you to look further into that matter to determine the Northwest, during the years 1815 to 1820 inclusive. Some of the documents listed on your cards were bills. You also inquired for the printed collection of bills for those years and mentioned your preference for the printed bills for purpose of photostatic reproduction. After finding nearly all of the documents listed on your cards together with a considerable number of others relating to Illinois I went to the printed collection in the House Library and wherever I found that a bill al-

University of Minnesota,

October 13, 1914.

Dr. Newton D. Mereness;

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mereness:

I am in receipt of your letter of October 5, which makes the situation with reference to bills perfectly clear to me. After looking over the cards which you sent, I decided to do nothing with them for the present, but that decision had slipped my mind when you wrote me about them recently. I am sending through a bill of $42.00 for your services in the House files.

Sincerely yours,

2467 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
November 6th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

That check for forty-two dollars which you mentioned in your last has not yet reached me, and I am at a loss to know where it is.

Very truly yours,
Newton D. Mereness.

2467 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
November 10th, 1914.

Dear Dr. Buck:-

The check arrived this morning. I thank you.

Very truly yours,
Newton D. Mereness

APR 12 1915

JAMES S. HARLAN, CHAIRMAN
JUDSON C. CLEMENTS
EDGAR E. CLARK
CHARLES C. McCHORD
BALTHASAR H. MEYER
HENRY C. HALL
WINTHROP M. DANIELS
GEORGE B. McGINTY, SECRETARY

Interstate Commerce Commission

Washington

IN REPLY ADDRESS
"INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION"

April 10, 1915

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Superintendent, Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Dr. Buck:

This will acknowledge the receipt of, and thank you for, a copy of the Minnesota History Bulletin containing an article by Mr. Clarence W. Alvord entitled "The Relation of the State to Historical Work," which I shall endeavor to read.

Very cordially yours,

B. H. Meyer

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

University Club

October 12, 1914.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Department of History,
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

My dear Buck:

The University Club at its stated meeting held last Saturday evening instructed me by a unanimous vote to express to you its great regret at your withdrawal from the University and its deep sense of appreciation of the valuable services rendered by you in the position of Secretary.

Assuring you of my own personal regards and best wishes for your future welfare, I remain

Sincerely yours,

G H Meyer

President

October 20, 1914.

Professor George H. Meyer,

University Club,

Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Meyer:

Your note of October 12 and the vote of the Club which it conveyed to me, are deeply appreciated. I was always very much interested in the Club and it was more difficult for me to sever my connection with the Club than with the University itself. The Campus Club here is apparently not going to fill the same place in my life that the Club at Illinois did.

I am getting well into my work here and am enjoying it, although it keeps me extremely busy at present. Remember me to any of my former friends who are still there and especially to Dorner.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL M. GORDON, M.A., D.D., LL.D.,
PRINCIPAL
GEO. Y. CHOWN, B.A.,
REGISTRAR AND TREASURER.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,

Kingston, Ont.,

Dr. S. J. Buck.
University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign.

July 10. 1914

Dear Sir.

I have studied your recently published work on the Granger Movement with great care and pleasure; allow me to congratulate you on a very admirable piece of work.

I am myself at present engaged on a study of the Grange in Canada, and hope to have my investigations published in the winter. I have had considerable difficulty in procuring data, but have now by great good fortune procured a complete set of the Annual Reports, and also a mass of documents and literature dealing with the activities of the Grange, both in Ontario and also in Nova Scotia, where some of the worst disasters overtook the cause.

There is just one point on which I am in considerable doubt. The first Granges, established in Quebec by Eben Thompson, were of course in affiliation with

the National Grange. As you doubtless know a split occurred, and in June 1874 a Dominion Grange was organized, and to it most of the Quebec Granges gave their allegiance. But I understand that some held out, and I cannot arrive at any satisfactory determination as to how long this split continued, and when it was that the last of the Quebec Granges, giving allegiance to the National Grange, came into the Dominion fold.

I see by your table on page 58-59 that you give the number of Granges in Canada on October 1. 1876 as 27. My figures give 246. It has struck me that perhaps your figures refer to the Granges in alliance with the National organization.

I would be very glad to have your observations on this point, as it is a most interesting thing, and I think important.

I hope we may be of mutual assistance in our investigations. I shall be delighted to give you, as far as I can, any information with regard to the Canadian Grange, should you require it.

Believe me
Yours truly
A. Michell
(Dept. Political & Economic Science)

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Ill.

July 21, 1914.

Professor H. Michell,

Queen's University,

Kingston, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of July 10 with reference to the Granger Movement in Canada, I may say that I am greatly interested in learning of your work along this line, and hope to have the pleasure of seeing the results of it in print. I regret that I cannot be of any real assistance to you, as my knowledge of the Granger Movement in Canada is very limited. In fact I do not believe I have any more knowledge than is contained in my book, which is, as you know, very little.

With reference to the statement of the number of granges, October 1, 1865, I can only say that my figures were taken, as indicated in the foot note of the table from the proceedings as taken from the report of the National Grange. There was, as I recollect it, no indication as to the relation between these granges and the National Grange.

I do not have a set of National Grange proceedings at hand, but I presume you can find in them some additional references to the Grange in Canada. A History of the Dominion Grange is listed in my bibliography. The only copy of it which I have seen is in the Harvard College Library; you doubtless have a copy of it. Regretting that I can be of no particular assistance to you, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

S.J.B.EWG

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois,

July 21, 1914.

Prof. H. Michell,

Queen's University,

Kingston, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of July 10 with reference to the Granger Movement in Canada. I may say that I am greatly

Queen's University
Kingston. Ont.
July 25. 1914

Dear Professor Buck.

Thank you very much for your kind letter.

I find that a rapprochement took place between the Canadian & National Granges in 1877, after long negotiations, and since that time cordial relations were maintained. It is quite possible I may be able to solve the question as to the Quebec Granges who refused to enter the Dominion organization, in course of time. All I can do is to write in all directions and gather each crumbs of information as I am able to get. In any case the Grange in Quebec very soon died out, I have no doubt because of the opposition of the Roman Catholic Church to all secret societies.

The question as to the numbers of the Canadian Granges as given in the Proceedings of the National Grange is an interesting one. Either the American organization was ill-informed, or else they chose to ignore many of the Granges in Canada. Possibly also I shall be able to clear that point up as well. It is an interesting point to note that the Grange in

Canada

rose to its greatest height at a time when the American order was waning. But the more I look into it the more clearly do I realize the ephemeral and unreal character of the whole movement. At the time when the Secretary was claiming the marvellous success of the Order, and announcing that 921 Subordinate Granges, 56 Divisional, and two Provincial were in existence, I have been able to prove that less than 300 were actually in working order. It seems to have swept like a prairie fire across the Dominion and as quickly died down.

It is practically dead now, only a few old men keep it alive. I hear of one Subordinate Grange with only four members, aged respectively 84. 82. 81. and 79.

I am undecided as to publishing my investigations. I am urged to make a long study of Farmers' organizations in Canada, but in some ways I am not particularly fitted for such a work. I think I shall be content with a couple of fairly long articles for our University Quarterly. I will, of course, send you copies.

Believe me
yours faithfully
H Michell

DANIEL M. GORDON, M.A., D.D., LL.D.,
PRINCIPAL.
GEO. Y. CHOWN, B.A.,
REGISTRAR AND TREASURER.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,

Kingston, Ont.,

Oct. 16. 1914.

Dear Professor Buck.

Under separate cover I send you the little pamphlet I have written on the Grange in Canada. You will see that it is quite short, and does not profess to deal with the order in any very great detail. Materials were to my hand to write a far larger study of the Grange, but after consideration I came to the conclusion that I had better cut it quite short, the note at the beginning telling one reason, namely the very painful character of much of the inner history of the order. I have rarely read such a tale of internal dissensions, rascality, and utter lack of business methods as characterized most of the Grange ventures, and as I say in the Foreword, such things are better forgotten.

The history of the Kincardine Salt Company is deeply interesting, and possibly I may return to that later. I have gathered much interesting information with regard to it, and it will be worth while to record a great deal

of it.

I shall next attack the Patrons of Industry, and in the fulness of time hope to survey all the different movements among farmers in Canada, under some such title as "The Organization of Agriculture in Canada" But that is still far off.

I very much hope we may expect a supplementary volume to your work, tracing the movement up to the present day. Should you ever require any information with regard to the Grange in Canada, I shall be most happy to supply it, if it is within my power.

Believe me,

Yours very truly

H. Michell

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

November 20, 1914.

Professor H. Michell,

Kingston, Ontario.

Dear Professor Michell;-

I want to thank you for sending me a copy of the pharphlet on the Grange in Canada, and also to apologise for not having done so before. I have looked it over with much interest and believe that it is a valuable study of the subject.

May I be pardoned for calling your attention to an error in the title of my book as quoted in your foot notes. The title is "The Granger Movement."

There is not the slightest prospect of my ever doing any more work in this particular field, excepting , perhaps. as it pertains to Minnesota history. I have just been elected Superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, and, as I expect to continue to carry one course and Seminar in the University of Minnesota to which institution I trans-

ferred last September, my time will be pretty well occupied.

Do you expect to attend the American Historical Association meeting in Chicago during the holidays? If so, I trust that we will have an opportunity to get acquainted.

Sincerely yours

April 5, 1915

Manager Minnesota Club

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

A couple of months ago, I was informed that as a member of the Harvard Club, I would be permitted to avail myself of the privileges of the Minnesota Club on Tuesday noons, and to sign slips for meals. I left my address at the desk with the expectation that a bill would be sent to me each month. So far, however, I have received no bill.

Very truly yours

The University of Minnesota
Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 30, 1914.

Professor Solon J. Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois,

My dear Sir:

You have been nominated to the position of Assistant Professor of History in the University of Minnesota beginning August 1st, 1914, at a salary of $2250. This appointment will be brought up before the next meeting of our Board of Regents for official action, but in the mean time you may count upon your election.

Sincerely yours,

A. L. Woods

Acting President

C

The University of Minnesota
Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 19, 1914.

Professor Solon J. Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Sir:

By authority of the Board of Regents you are hereby appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of History beginning August 1, 1914, at a salary of $2250.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Vincent
President

G. H. Hayes
Comptroller

C

U of Illinois

October 27, 1914.

Mr. Richard R. Price,

General Extension Director,

University.

Dear Mr. Price:

I am returning to you the first three papers written by Miss Theresia Nelson in the course in United States History, part I, and also the first three lessons in the same course written by Miss Mabel Marget. I enclose also a reply to Miss Marget's letters of October 7 and 21, so far as her questions appear to fall in my province. Some of them you can answer better than I. I will go over the remainder of Miss Nelson's papers and get them back as soon as possible, but my regular work for the University leaves me very little spare time for such things.

Very truly yours,

February 13, 1915

Professor E.E. Nicholson

University of Minnesota

Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Mr. Nicholson:-

In accordance with your request I state here my impressions of Mr. W.F. Kellogg and of his work in my course, History Five, last semester.

Personally, Mr. Kellogg made himself very disagreeable, both to me and to my assistant, Miss Brown, by complaints as to the quantity and character of the work of the course, and by an attitude which can only be expressed by the word "bumptions". He seemed to take an interest in the course and to attempt to do the work, but I am convinced that his mental abilities are much below his own rating of them. His grades in all of the tests were barely passing. A topic which he handed in was in such shape as regards style, spelling, and grammar that it would have been a disgrace to a grammar school student. I required him to write it over, but the second draft was not much of an improvement. The assistant gave him a "D" on this topic, although she told me afterwards that had it not been for a feeling that she might be prejudiced against him, she would probably have given it an "E".

I should say that the grade of "D" which Mr. Kellogg received for the course represents all, if not more than all, he is entitled to.

Sincerely yours

The University of Minnesota
University Extension Service
Minneapolis

September 23,1915

GENERAL EXTENSION DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dr. S. J. Buck,
c/o State Historical Society,
State Capitol,
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Buck:

Dean Ford informs us that you will take charge of our correspondence courses in American History, and we are pleased to know this. Please find enclosed a series of suggestions that we have drawn up for our correspondence teachers.

We should like to know where students' lessons should be sent so as to get the earliest and promptest attention from you, whether to room 219, University Library, or to your office at the State Capitol. Please let us know.

Yours truly,
GENERAL EXTENSION DIVISION
Richard R. Price
DIRECTOR.

RRP/O

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
GENERAL EXTENSION DIVISION

SUGGESTIONS FOR CORRESPONDENCE INSTRUCTION
Please preserve for future reference.

Experience here and at other universities with correspondence instruction or teaching by mail has proved rather definitely that certain methods in preparing lessons, handling the work and dealing with the students are the best. In the interest of a reasonable uniformity and co-operation, so that the very best results may be obtained from correspondence instruction, the following suggestions are offered to instructors of correspondence courses for careful consideration and, it is hoped, for ultimate adoption.

I. Preparation of Assignments.

1. An assignment covers one-fortieth of a 5-credit course, or one-twenty-fourth of a 3 credit course.

2. The first assignment should set forth the ground covered by the entire course, any special methods of study or report desirable, text books required (naming author, publisher and price), and any optional books recommended for reference or for collateral reading. These directions should be given in a preliminary statement preceding the lesson proper.

3. Each assignment should consist of (a) references to required texts; (b) references to collateral reading (where optional books are listed); (c) a topical outline of the material covered by the assignment; (d) any special topics upon which the student may be required to report; (e) comments, suggestions, explanations, criticisms and directions by the instructor; (f) a comprehensive set of questions on the material of the assignment, ten to twenty in number, to be worked out and answered by the student as his lesson paper. So far as possible the instructor should set such questions as require thought and study on the part of the student, avoiding such as may be answered directly from the text.

4. It is very desirable that the instructor always keep this office supplied with at least two assignments in advance of the one on which the student may be working at any given time.

5. Each assignment will be typewritten and duplicated in this office, and one copy furnished to the instructor.

6. It creates a bad impression upon the mind of a correspondence student to have an assignment read simply "take from page-to page - in the text," and this followed by a set of questions. The human touch is needed. Advice, suggestion, comment, discussion are always helpful.

7. It will expedite matters in this office if instructors will always write legibly and see to it that the spelling of proper names and technical words is accurate. The use of many abbreviations frequently delays the transcription of manuscripts on the typewriter. It pays to proof-read a manuscript before sending it in.

8. All directions to the student should be clear, explicit and definite.

9. In making assignments the instructor should always bear in mind that he is dealing with a student who must do without the vital, personal contact with the teacher. The assignments should be planned with the limitations of the student, and of this method of instruction, constantly in mind.

10. Of course, it is conceded that not all the above suggestions can be made to apply to all correspondence courses. The hope is that they will be adopted so far as the nature of each subject permits.

11. Sample assignments may be examined at this office by any interested instructor.

II. Correction of Lesson Papers.

1. A clear distinction should be drawn between the correction of lesson papers in correspondence instruction and the grading of quiz papers in residence teaching. In the examination of correspondence lesson papers it is necessary not only to correct mistakes and indicate errors, but also to do constructive teaching. It is here that the absence of class room instruction must, so far as possible, be made up to the student. In addition to such markings as are customary on a quiz paper there should be copious interlinear and marginal explanations, criticisms, comments, encouraging suggestion, advice. Even the marking of mistakes should be accompanied by explanations fuller than ordinarily required. A good rule is to remember what would be said in a class discussion over the given subject matter and to write the gist of this in a running commentary on the manuscript.

2. Even a paper free from errors should not be handed back without comment. Words of commendation may be employed, other points of view indicated, comparisons suggested, and stimulating questions asked.

3. The personal element is valuable. Let the student perceive in the notes on his manuscript the element of sympathy and feel even at a distance the influence of a vigorous and inspiring personality. It is well for the student to know that the teacher has a personal and individual interest in him.

4. It is essential to successful correspondence teaching that unbroken interest be maintained. This cannot be done unless instructors read and mark manuscripts and return them to this office promptly and regularly.

5. All corrections and notes should be made on the manuscript, but the grade should be put on a separate slip of paper in the envelope or else marked on the outside, in figures.

6. If the instructor finds it necessary to dictate a letter to the student, the facilities of this office are at his service.

7. It is not claimed that correspondence instruction is as good as class room work. But since the correspondence student is already under a severe handicap, the University is all the more obligated to give him the very best instruction that is compatible with this method of teaching.

8. A careful record of the dates of receipt and return of manuscripts and of the grades thereon should be kept by the instructor on a card provided by this office.

The above suggestions are not offered in a spirit of criticism nor in an effort to dictate to any instructor how he shall do his work. This is merely an attempt to cast the light of experience on the methods, aims and plans of correspondence teaching. The cordial cooperation of instructors is invited in bringing this work to its highest efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

THE GENERAL EXTENSION DIVISION

Richard R. Price

DIRECTOR.

September 25, 1915.

Mr. Richard R. Price,

Director General Extension Division,

University of Minnesota,

Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Mr. Price:

I am in receipt of your letter os September 23rd and "The "Suggestions for correspondence instruction". If you will send the lessons to me here I will attend to them as promptly as possible.

I emclose the letter from Mr. Smiley to the Library Commission which was turned over to me for reply and which contains some questions from one of the American History Lessons. I have not replied to the letter and it will probably be well for you to inform him as to how it came to your hands.

Sincerely yours,

SJB-P.

Enc.

October 7, 1915

Mr. Richard R. Price

Director University Extension Division

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Dear Mr. Price:-

Recently I received from you three lessons in U.S. history from Mr. Proctor Knott Smiley. I find it impossible to do anything with these, however, because I do not have a set of the questions with directions, etc., for the course. I had a set last fall, but turned them over to Mr. Stevenson when he took up the work and I have not seen them since then.

Sincerely yours

MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ESTABLISHED 1866
JEFFERSON MEMORIAL, ST. LOUIS

August 29, 1914.

Dr. Solon Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Dr. Buck:

We regret very much to say that upon inquiry at the office of the Camegraph Company as to whether they would make copies of the Forsyth papers, we learned that they were making preparations to leave the city and would not be able to accommodate us. The Society is almost certain that it will be able to buy a machine sometime this winter, and if you are in no hurry, and can wait, we will make the copies just as soon as we get the machine. If not, and you so desire, we will have them typewritten.

Very truly yours,

Missouri Historical Society,
Stella M. Drumm
Librarian.

Missouri Hist. Soc.

October 13, 1914.

Miss Stella N. Drumm,

St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Miss Drumm:

Your note of August 29 was forwarded to me here and my only excuse for not having replied before, is that I have been swamped with work this fall. I am very glad indeed to learn that the prospects are good for the purchase of a Camegraph by your society this Winter and I will appreciate it very much if you will let me know as soon as convenient after the machine has been secured, as I shall certainly want to get prints of some of the Forsyth papers.

Assuring you that your cooperation is greatly appreciated, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Normal, Illinois, February 17, 1914.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,

Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Dr. Buck:

I have been going over all my material for the life of Mr. Fell, carefully. I can see that a Life which would adequately interpret his unique career would be a far longer book than I shall have time to write for my thesis; and it would differ so much from the usual thing that perhaps you would not feel justified in accepting it when complete. We should at all events find it hard to agree upon a golden medium between the scientific exactness which it is your duty to demand, and that sort of imaginative interpretation, based upon close and long study but purposely free from literalism, which alone can give to the reader a true idea of the man and his work. It seems best to me, therefore, to write two lives, one for the setting down of facts about Jesse W. Fell, which is to serve as my thesis; and later, I hope, a more adequate biography. I shall not try to make the thesis popular in any way; and with the giving up of an eye to its reception by people who have only a layman's interest in Illinois history, I shall be able to profit a good deal through the training in strictly historical writing. Don't you think this my best course?

I am writing to Dr. Greene about registration. I was unable to find the people who should sign my study list when I was in Champaign last. If you are in Dr. Greene's office tomorrow, will you sign it for 101, and so save a few days' time in making it ready for the registrar?

How long is the average master's thesis? Is it typed on thesis paper, like the bachelors' theses? I shall try to have a first draft ready when I go over (on the 7th March) or at least part of it.

Very truly yours,

Frances M. Morehouse.

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

February 21, 1914.

Miss Francis M. Morehouse,
Illinois State Normal University,
Normal, Illinois.

My dear Miss Morehouse:-

I am in receipt of your letter of February 17th. I quite agree with you that the life of Mr. Fell might be worthy of a longer book than you would have time to write for a thesis. I cannot agree with you, however, that the two should differ essentially in character. The idea that there is no necessary antithesis between scientific exactness and popular interest is, I believe, based upon a false assumption. The most popular American historian was at the same time one of the most accurate. I refer, of course, to Francis Parkman, whose books are probably read more widely than those of any other American historical writer, and yet Parkman's histories were as accurate as he was able to make them, not only in the broader lines, but also as to detail. Imagination is of course a necessary equipment for a historian, but it should be a historical imagination which enables one to put together apparently isolated facts, and from them deduce accurate conclusions--not the sort of an imagination which causes one to set down as a fact conversations and other details for which he cannot possibly have evidence, unless there had been a stenographer present at the time when the conversation occurred. Should you decide to weave an historical novel around the life of Mr. Fell, I would offer no objection whatever, but I think that the practice of including imaginative details in a book which is nominally a biography would neither increase the popularity of the book nor the reputation of the writer.

I spoke to Professor Greene about signing your study list, and he said it was not necessary.

Your question about the average length of masters' theses is a natural one perhaps, but a very difficult one to answer. In the first place there is no average master's thesis. The thesis is judged on the basis of the amount and quality of work which it represents, and not on the basis of number of words or pages. I could imagine a very satisfactory thesis of two or three thousand words, if it represented the results of an intricate phase of historical research. On the other hand there are masters' theses which run to fifty and sixty thousand words. It might help you somewhat to know that Miss Brush's thesis on Owen Lovejoy, which was very acceptable, contained about thirty thousand words. I shall be very glad to look over the first draft of your thesis when you bring it over in March.

Sincerely yours,

S. J. B./MS