



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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September, 29, 1914.

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Paltsits:

Does any one hold the appointment of adjutant member of the public archives commission for Minnesota? If so, who is he? If not, I should like the appointment myself. I might not be able to do anything immediately, but would make a strenuous effort to get something started.

As you have undoubtedly heard, I have taken Anderson's place here. I have the whole field of American History to myself at present, but we expect to add another man next year.

I trust that you will take in the A. H. A. meeting at Chicago and that I shall see you at that time.

Cordially yours,

PUBLIC ARCHIVES COMMISSION

OF THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

VICTOR HUGO PALTSITS, Chairman
1855 MORRIS AVENUE
New York City, N. Y.

CHARLES M. ANDREWS
YALE UNIVERSITY
New Haven, Conn.

GAILLARD HUNT
CHIEF OF MANUSCRIPT DIVISION
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
Washington, D. C.

JONAS VILES
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Columbia, Mo.

EUGENE C. BARKER
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
Austin, Tex.

HENRY E. WOODS
STATE RECORD COMMISSIONER
STATE HOUSE
Boston, Mass.

A. S. SALLEY, Jr.
S. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Columbia, S. C.

New York, October 5th - 1914

Dear Dr. Buck:

First let me congratulate you heartily upon your fine appointment at the University of Minnesota. I had not heard of this good news before. My best wishes go out to you.

I took up my schedule work as Keeper of Manuscripts at the New York Public Library on September 24th and the steady work of organizing the Manuscript Division since then has been heavy, which explains my delay in answering your letter sooner.

Speaking without notes, I am not certain whether Anderson or anybody else ^{has} held an appointment as adjunct member for Minnesota. As you are now on the spot,

you are the logical man to give us a report on Minnesota's State Archives and I am thankful to you for having so generously announced your willingness to take up this work. I shall make the appointment, therefore, with joy. Before it is announced, I shall interrogate Ames, to find out if there is any prior appointment that would intervene. I shall write to him at once. As soon as I hear from him I shall let you know.

Yes, I expect to be on hand at the Chicago conferences.

With very cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,
Victor H. Paltsits,
Chairman

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A. S. SALLEY, Jr.
S. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Columbia, S. C.

New York, October 8th, 1914

Dear Dr. Buck:

I have just learned from Professor Ames that "some years ago Professor Anderson accepted the appointment as adjunct member of the Archives Commission" for Minnesota, "with the intention of having the report on the archives made by one or more of his graduate students under his supervision". Nothing, however, resulted.

The way, I am happy to say, is free for me to offer the adjunct membership for Minnesota to you, which I do herewith. The Commission's annual report, including the appendix reports on State archives, usually goes to the secretary of the A. H. A. about June 1st. The report for 1914, on this basis, would be closed by June 1, 1915. Can I count on you to pre-

pare a "Report on the State Archives of Minnesota", ready for press (typewritten) by that time? The Commission, as you no doubt know, will reimburse you for outlay of traveling or hotel expenses, which I assume would not be much, as the records and Capital are near at hand. Stationery and expense of typewriting would be reimbursed, too. I hope you will say "yes", so as to afford me the pleasure of reporting the fact to the executive council of the A. H. A. next month.

Thanking you most sincerely for your coöperation, which is a godsend to all of us interested in the work, I am

Cordially yours,
Victor H. Pattis,
Chairman

October 20, 1914.

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits,
1855 Morris Ave.,
New York.

Dear Mr. Paltsits:

I cannot of course positively promise to have a report on the Minnesota Archives ready by June 1, but I will do my best. I shall not, of course, have any considerable amount of ~~travelling~~ expenses, but I may need a little money for assistants.

I had not known until the receipt of your letter of October 5, of your new position in the New York Library. Please accept my congratulations. I am especially interested because this makes you just the person to take part in a discussion at the Conference of Historical Societies next December. Mr. L. J. Burpee of Ottawa will open a discussion on the subject "Restrictions on the use of historical material" and I want you to take part. I should like especially to have some discussion of the desirability of making photostat copies of the more valuable manuscripts and distributing them in other institutions. For example, the University of Illinois would like to secure such copies of a considerable part of the Col-
lections of the Chicago Historical Society, but the Chicago Society is still influenced to some extent by the collector

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits. --2.

spirit and I doubt if they would be willing to allow such copies to be made. Burpee's paper is limited to fifteen minutes and the discussions to eight minutes each. If you are willing to take part, I will see that you are supplied with a copy or an abstract of Burpee's paper about the middle of December.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of the Conference of Historical
Societies.

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Columbia, S. C.

New York, *Oct. 22 d, 1914*

Dear Dr. Buell:

Thank you very much for your letter of two days ago. I shall be glad to encourage the Minnesota report in any reasonable manner, if I am continued at the head of the Commission for another year.

I am appreciative of your words in regard to my new position, which keeps me very busy on a long schedule.

What you write about Burpee's topic I had known of since the past week. He wrote to the Director of the library for points and the matter was referred to me. I wrote

out a brief opinion. I am not sure,
but fear the conference of historical
societies may be at the same time as
the conference of archivists. I hope not.
If not, I shall be glad to discuss
the subject you mention, but not right
after Burpee. I prefer that about two
others precede me.

Sincerely yours,
Victor H. Pallitz,
Chairman

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul

November 25, 1914

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits,

New York City

Dear Mr. Paltsits:-

I received your letter of October 22nd, and was very glad to know of your willingness to take part in the discussion of Burpee's paper. I do not think that the fact of your having furnished him data on the subject need interfere but I have put you toward the end of this discussion as requested.

I have just been appointed Superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society. I will continue to give one course in the University, and devote the rest of my time to the work of the Society

At the meeting of our Library Committee last week, I secured an appropriation of \$50. to assist in making a survey of the state archives. I will not have time to do the detailed work of this myself, but I can secure the assistance of a competent instructor in the University of Minnesota. I believe that the work can be done with a total expense of not to exceed \$100. and am in hopes that the Public Archives Commission will be willing to bear \$50. of this as "Expenses". What do you think about it?

Very sincerely yours

Superintendent.

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A. S. SALLEY, Jr.
S. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Columbia, S. C.

New York, December 1st 1914

Dear Dr. Buck:

It is a pleasure to congratulate Minnesota in having you as superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society. Now we shall see results and good ones, too.

You have already started the ball rolling by securing that fifty-dollar appropriation from the Society to aid the preparation of a report on the State archives. I shall be glad, on behalf of the Commission, to guarantee fifty dollars. I understand, of course, that the Public Archives Commission will have the publication of it, as other State reports in the past. Please make an effort to have it ready for the printer by the middle of next May at the latest, so it may be a part of the 1914 report of the Commission and gain a year thereby.

Owing to necessary retrenchments by the Council of the A. H. A., the Public Archives Commission will have only half of its usual amount in the budget. I am setting aside these fifty dollars for Minnesota first, so necessarily am solicitous about the completion of that piece of work in the time mentioned.

Your generosity and able cooperation are very much appreciated by

Yours sincerely,
Victor H. Fallsitz,
Chairman

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STATE HOUSE
Boston, Mass.

A. S. SALLEY, Jr.
S. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Columbia, S. C.

New York, December 10th, 1944

Dear Sir:

The sixth annual conference of archivists will be held under the auspices of this Commission in the Auditorium Hotel, Michigan Boulevard and Congress Street, Chicago, on Thursday, December 31st, at 2 P.M.

Persons interested in the care, preservation and use of public records in any aspect are cordially invited to attend. The round table discussions which are to follow the presentation of the three subjects of the programme may be participated in by any one who can contribute information thereon. An outline of the programme follows:

Annual Report of the Public Archives Commission.

Legislation for Archives. Paper by President Charles Henry Rammelkamp, of Illinois College. Discussion opened by Dr. Thomas M. Owen, Director of the Department of Archives and History of Alabama.

Principles of Classification for Archives. Paper by Miss Ethel B. Virtue, Archives Assistant in the Historical Department of Iowa. Discussion opened by Harlow Lindley, Director of the Department of Indiana History and Archives; and George S. Godard, State Librarian of Connecticut.

Cataloguing of Archives. Paper by Waldo G. Leland, Secretary of the American Historical Association. Followed by a general discussion.

Yours very truly,

Victor H. Paltsits
Chairman

December 15, 1914

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits,
1855 Morris Ave.,
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Paltsits:-

I am sending you enclosed a copy of Burpee's paper which you are to discuss at the conference of historical societies. It is too long and he will cut it down somewhat, but this will give you an idea of his treatment of his subject. In view of the length of the program, it will be necessary to restrict the discussion to eight minutes for each speaker.

Sincerely yours

February 8, 1915

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits
New York Public Library
New York City

Dear Mr. Paltsits:-

I am sending you enclosed a copy of the stenographic report of your remarks in the discussion of Professor Burpee'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 15 1915

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Office of the Chairman
1855 Morris Avenue, New York

Feb. 12, 1915

Dear Dr. Buck:

I shall do my best to send you a new copy of my remarks at the Conference of Historical Societies, which will be necessary because the reporter has departed so much from the facts. A surgical operation in my home two days ago has disturbed things here for a while, yet in a few days I ought to be able to take up your matter.

With very kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Victor H. Paltzits