



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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AUG 27 1917

William H. Stevenson
President

Burd S. Patterson
Secretary

John E. Potter
Treasurer

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania

Bigelow Boulevard and Parkman Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pa., ~~Aug. 21st, 1917.~~ 191

Mr. Solon J. Dick

Dear Sir:

You are cordially invited to attend
the annual meeting of the Ohio Valley Historical
Association to be held in Pittsburgh, November
30th and December 1st, 1917.

Trusting you may be able to be with
us, I am,

Very truly yours,

Burd S. Patterson

President

The Ohio Valley Historical Association
1003 Hartje Building,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

August 29, 1917

My dear Mr. Patterson:-

I want to thank you for your kind invitation to me to attend the annual meeting of the Ohio Valley Historical Association in Pittsburgh this fall, and to express my regret that it will be impossible for me to be present.

Sincerely yours

Mr. Burd S. Patterson, President
The Ohio Valley Historical Association
1003 Hartje Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Indiana State Library
DEMARCHUS C. BROWN, Librarian

SEP 7 1916

Department of Indiana History and Archives
HARLOW LINDLEY, Director

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. Sept. 6, 1916.

Mr. Solan J. Buck, Sec'y.,
Minn. Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minn.

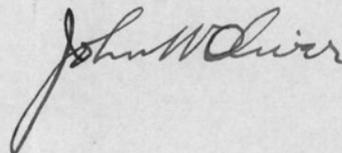
My dear Mr. Buck:-

Upon returning from my vacation day before yesterday Mr. Lindley handed me a letter of yours dated Aug. 1st, 1916, requesting information upon the date of surveys made of the Vincennes Land District and dates of entry. Being unacquainted with the use of survey books I had to call upon the office of the State Auditor for help. Mr. Geo. Pence, who knows all about the land grants, sales and surveys, in the office, has taken the time to plat out the sections which you request. The work which I am sending you under separate cover shows only the ranges and the dates of the surveys. For some reason which I cannot explain the entry books fail to disclose the dates of the entries. Just where this information can be found I cannot say.

I trust you will find the plat satisfactory, and as a matter of courtesy to Mr. Pence I would appreciate it if you would write him a letter thanking him for the work. This is the first time that the ranges in question has been platted.

Wishing you success in your work, I am,

Very cordially yours,



JWO/F

September 12, 1916

Dr. John W. Oliver
Indiana State Library
Indianapolis, Ind.

My dear Mr. Oliver:-

I am in receipt of your letter of September 6 and also of the plat showing the ranges and dates of surveys in the part of the Vincennes land district in Illinois.

I appreciate very much your cooperation in securing this for me and shall be very glad to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Pence, if at any time I can be of assistance to you or your department, do not hesitate to command me.

Sincerely yours

SEP 18 1916

Indiana State Library

DEMARCHUS C. BROWN, Librarian

Department of Indiana History and Archives

HARLOW LINDLEY, Director

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. September 15 1916

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

My dear Mr. Buck:-

Mr. Geo. Pence of the State Auditor's department was in a few minutes ago, and showed me the letter of yours in which you asked for information relative to the dates of entry in the territory which he platted for us last week. In company with Mr. Pence, we carefully looked over all the land sale books here in the State House, but cannot find any mention of the sales or date of entry applying to the Vincennes land region, i.e. the portion that extended over into Illinois. No information is given except the dates of the surveys, together with the name of the surveyor.

I asked Mr. Pence where he thought such information as you desire could be found, and he stated that in the Land Record Office at Washington. He knows of ~~no~~ other place unless it would be Springfield. *but since you reported not finding it there, I don't know where else*
~~I know of no other place to suggest other than to suggest,~~
~~Washington, D. C.~~

I am very sorry that we are not able to give you the information, but it is something which we don't have.

Mr. Pence was well pleased with your courteous letter, and expresses his regret for not being able to serve you farther.

If there is any additional information which we may have that will assist you, kindly let us know, and we will gladly attend to it.

Very cordially,

John W. Oliver,

September 18, 1916

Dr. John W. Oliver
Indiana State Library
Indianapolis, Ind.

My dear Mr. Oliver:-

I have your letter of the 15th and appreciate very much the trouble which you have taken in the matter. Probably the fact that the land in question was outside of Indiana is the explanation for the failure to find entry records among your land archives.

In accordance with your suggestion I will write to the general land office at Washington.

Sincerely yours

July 15, 1916

Miss Georgia L. Osborne
Illinois State Historical Library
Springfield, Ill.

My dear Miss Osborne:-

I am in receipt of the copy
of the article from the original of the Illinois
Constitution of 1818 which you were kind enough to
have made for me at the request of Miss Helf.
Please accept my thanks for this favor.

Sincerely yours

JUL 9 1917

NORTHERN ILLINOIS
STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
DE KALB, ILLINOIS

4

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
EDWARD CARLTON PAGE
PROFESSOR AND
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

July 6, 1917

My dear Mr. Buck: -

"Illinois in 1818" is before me and it looks good. A cursory examination convinces me that it will be eminently useful in connection with the celebration of our centennial year. I am going to spend most of my vacation at home and I think I know one book I must read. I am just writing this note to tell you I am much pleased with the start of the centennial history.

Very truly,
Page

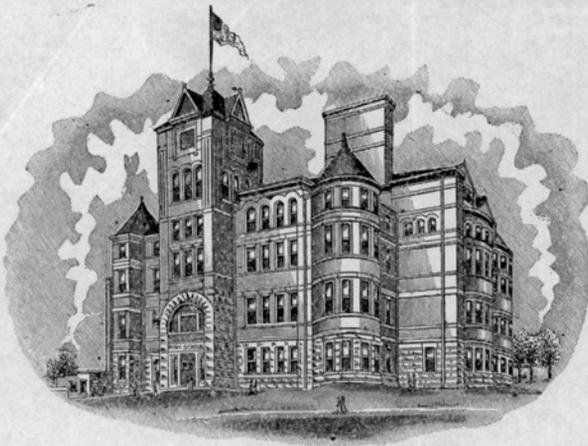
July 10, 1917

Professor Edward C. Page
Northern Illinois State Normal School
De Kalb, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Page:-

I have your note of July
6, and am very glad that "Illinois in 1818"
appeals to you. There are many things about
the book that are not as I would have had
them, if I could have had my way.

Sincerely yours,



Independent School District

MARSHALLTOWN

IOWA

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F. M. WILBUR, I. O. KEMBLE

January 21, 1926.

Doctor Buck,
University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, Minn.,

Dear Sir:-

Guy Stanton Ford has mentioned to me that you would probably give us a historical lecture in connection with our County Historical Society.

This organization is a small organization which tried to keep alive the historical sense in our locality. We would be pleased if you could give us your lecture on the teaching of local history some time between the first and the fifteenth of February.

I would say that we do not have funds to pay for lectures, but we would be quite willing to pay your railroad expenses and entertainment while here?

Truly yours,

Dic. P.

January 31, 1916

Mr. A. Palmer
Independent School District
Marshalltown, Ia.

Dear Sir:-

I have your letter of January 21, and appreciate the honor of being invited to give a lecture before your County Historical Society. I very much regret that the pressure ~~of~~ my work for the University and for the historical society makes it impossible for me to undertake this at the present time.

Would it not be possible for you to secure some one from the Iowa State Historical Society or the University of Iowa? If you would write to Professor Benjamin F. Shambaugh, who is superintendent of the Iowa State Historical Society and professor of political science in the University of Iowa City, I am confident he would make some arrangement for you.

Very truly yours

✓

January 20, 1917

Professor Louis Pelzer
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Ia.

Mr dear Mr. Pelzer:-

Mr. Alvord has asked me to arrange the material for the M. V. H. A. Proceedings. I do not find your paper among the material which was sent to me and understand that it was published elsewhere. Will you kindly give me the reference in order that I may make note of it in the Proceedings?

Sincerely yours

Jan. 25, 1917.

Supt. Solen J. Buck,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Mr. Buck:

My paper on "Activities and Scenes of Old Fort Leavenworth", which was read at the Nashville meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, has not yet been published. I think, however, that you should find some record of it in the material sent to you for editing ⁱⁿ as much as I furnished Dr. Beverley W. Bond with an abstract of my paper. It was my understanding that this abstract was to furnish the record for the "proceedings." If I can be of any service here, be sure to command me.

Our Mr. Marcus L. Hansen spent a most delightful and profitable time at St. Paul and was most enthusiastic over the courtesies, help, and facilities which were extended to him by the staff of your Society. We appreciate your kindness very much.

Very truly yours,

Louis Pelzer

LP:CB

January 31, 1917

Professor Louis Pelzer
University of Iowa
Des Moines, Ia.

My dear Mr. Pelzer:-

Thank you for your letter of January 25. I am very glad, indeed, to know that Mr. Hansen found his work here profitable.

Miss White has written me to the effect that you expect to submit your paper on "Activities and Scenes of Old Fort Leavenworth" to the Mississippi Valley Historical Review. You are quite right in assuming that I have an abstract of the paper which was included by Bond in his general account of the meeting. Besides these abstracts, however, we are planning to print in full such of the papers as have not been or are not to be printed elsewhere.

Sincerely yours

APR 1 1917

7

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY

March 30, 1917.

Supt. S. J. Buck,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Friend Buck:

What do you think of the advisability of adopting a policy for the place of meeting in the future for the Mississippi Valley Historical Association?

It seems to me that it would not be unwise to hold meetings hereafter at places reasonably near Chicago--say a distance of two hundred and fifty miles. For us who are teachers, it becomes almost impossible to attend when the sessions are held at far and remote points of the Valley. It is a severe drain on both our class-room work and our expenses.

In my opinion, it would conduce to better attendance, interest, enthusiasm and profit if the meetings could be held at some central points of the Mississippi Valley.

Very amicably yours,

Louis Pelzer.

LP:CB

April 5, 1917

Professor Louis Pelzer
State University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Mr. Pelzer:-

I quite agree with you that the meetings of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association should be held in the future at points more accessible to the bulk of the members than they have been during the past four or five years. I have been advocating this for some time, and I think it would be well to adopt the policy of holding at least every other meeting in Chicago. Occasionally, however, it is desirable for special reasons to hold a meeting in a particular place and some times it stimulates very much the interest in historical work and the membership of the society in the region in which the meeting is held.

I expect that an invitation will be presented at the Chicago meeting for the holding of the meeting in 1918 at St. Paul. We will be fully installed in our new building by that time and if the meeting is held here, we will probably arrange to hold our dedication exercises in connection with it. For that purpose we hope to secure a speaker of prominence from the east, possibly Professor Turner.

I realize that a trip to St. Paul is quite an under-

L. P. 4/5/17--2

taking for our members in the southern part of the Valley,
but the last two meetings have been held in the south, and
I believe that circumstances would warrant a decision ^{in favor} of
St. Paul. I shall be glad to talk with you further about
this when I see you in Chicago.

Sincerely yours

September 12, 1916

Mr. George Pence
State Auditor's Office
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of the plat of the land contained in the part of the Vincennes land district in Illinois, showing the dates of surveys, and desire to express my appreciation of the trouble which you took to construct this plat for me. It provides me with a part of the information which I am very anxious to secure for use in an historical volume which I am preparing for the Illinois Centennial Commission.

I hesitate to trouble you further, but I am very anxious to secure also if possible a list of the land in this region entered before January 1, 1819. From the land papers in the auditor's office in Illinois, I have prepared a map showing exactly what land in the state had been entered up to the close of the year 1818 with the exception of that in the Vincennes district for which there are no records in Springfield. This map will be incomplete, of course, unless we can obtain this data for the region in question. I will appreciate it very much, therefore, if you will in-

G. P. 9/12/16--2

form me whether there are any records in your office such as tract books, entry books, etc., from which such a list of descriptions could be compiled. If so, I could doubtless arrange to pay some one for the work of compiling the list.

Very truly yours

THE SECOND PAN AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

DECEMBER 27, 1915—JANUARY 8, 1916

PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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January 24, 1916.

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CABLE ADDRESS: "PAU, WASHINGTON"

My dear Mr. Bick:

A comparison of the registrations made at the time

of the Second Pan American Scientific Congress

with the list of delegates and alternates, of-

ficially invited and nominated as such by Insti-

tutions and Societies, shows that you were not

registered at the time of the Congress. In the

belief that you were present and failed to regis-

ter may I beg you to fill in the enclosed blank

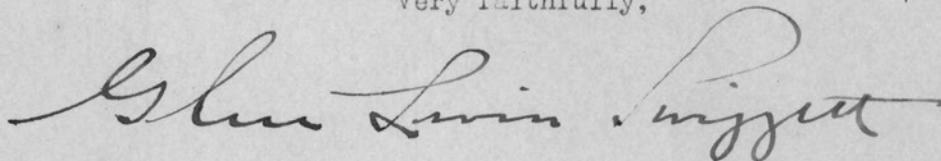
perinstructions.

If you were not present please fill in the blank

stating the fact of absence.

Thanking you in advance for this favor, I am,

Very faithfully,



Assistant Secretary General

Mr. Solon J. Bick,
University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, Minn.

THE SECOND PAN AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

DECEMBER 27, 1915—JANUARY 8, 1916

WASHINGTON, D. C.



MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Name and degrees

Profession or Occupation

Class of Membership

Society or institution representing

Paper(s) presented

Address—

Permanent

Washington

Accompanied by

Arrival

Probable departure

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HONORARY MEMBERS.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES OFFICIALLY APPOINTED.

WRITERS OF PAPERS.

Kindly give information requested and return immediately in inclosed envelope to the Assistant Secretary General,
Blue Room, The New Willard Hotel.

January 31, 1916

Mr. Glen Levin Swiggett
Second Pan American Scientific Congress
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your letter of January 24 in which you address me as "Mr. Bick", and state that I apparently failed to register at the Second Pan American Scientific Congress. If you will consult your file under my name correctly spelled, I think you will find my registration. In case you do not, let me know and I will gladly fill out another.

Very truly yours

THE SECOND PAN AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS
DECEMBER 27, 1915—JANUARY 8, 1916
PAN AMERICAN UNION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 12, 1916.

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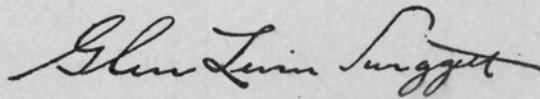
ROBERT S. WOODWARD, PH. D.,
PRESIDENT, CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON.

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the
Second Pan American Scientific Congress I take great
pleasure in sending you under separate cover a copy
of the first Report on the Congress, the marked suc-
cess of which was due in a large measure to the
uniform excellence of the 868 scientific papers pre-
sented in the various sections and to the generous
cooperation of the members of the Congress. In the
four anterior Scientific Congresses papers were
presented as follows: First, 121; second, 202; third,
120; fourth, 450. I inclose slip and return en-
velope for acknowledging receipt of the book.

This report of the Final Act with Appendices
will be followed shortly by the administrative Re-
port of the Secretary General, a copy of which will
be likewise sent you.

Very faithfully yours,



Assistant Secretary General,
Mills Building Annex.

ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

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SECRETARY GENERAL.

GLEN LEVIN SWIGGETT, PH. D.,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

CABLE ADDRESS: "PAU, WASHINGTON"

MAR 12 1917

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
DIVISION OF MAPS AND CHARTS
WASHINGTON

~~11~~

Phillips P. L.

March 8, 1917.

My dear Mr. Buck,-

I have been very interested in your article on Historical Activities published in the Mississippi Valley Historical review, as I find in it considerable matter of importance. As I meditate publishing future supplements to the List of geographical atlas, I am interested in knowing for future guidance, why in your review, you state "the arrangement is somewhat cumbersome, and there seems to be needless duplication of entries". In the management of the largest collection of maps and atlases on the Western Hemisphere, I am in considerable touch with the wants and ideas of many students who consult the Division. These ideas from them have proved to be of great value and have been used in the compilation of my works.

Very truly yours,

P. S. R. R. R.

Chief, Division of Maps.

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

January 21st,

1916

Mr. M. B. Pierce,
Registrar.

Dear Mr. Pierce:

I forwarded your letter of December 16th to
Dr. Buck and understood that he would adjust the matter.
I am enclosing your second letter to him, with a copy
of this, and am sure he will take care of the matter.

Sincerely,

Guy Stanton Ford.

GSE:FP

January 31, 1916

Mr. E. B. Pierce, Registrar
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

Your first letter to Dean Ford of which the enclosed is a copy was forwarded to me and its contents duly noted. It did not appear to call for any immediate action upon my part, but was rather an admonition for the future. In case, however, some readjustment of the grades which I turned in last year is necessary to relieve the situation, you have my authority to change those turned in as "satisfactory" to B, and the one turned in as "no credit" to F.

In handing in these grades I had no intention of disrupting the marking system of the University. In the other institutions with which I have been connected, either as student or instructor, it has not been customary to assign specific grades for work in purely seminar courses in which no examinations are given.

Very truly yours

December 5, 1917

My dear Mrs. Pirtle:-

I was very sorry, indeed, to learn from your letter of November 29 of the death of Judge Pirtle. I still appreciate very deeply his kindness and yours to me and my assistant at the time when we collated the copy of Clark's letter for the Illinois State Historical Library.

Since I am no longer connected with the University of Illinois, I am not in a position, of course, to assist you directly in the matter of disposing of the Clark letter. I take pleasure, however, in forwarding your letter to my friend, Professor Alvord, who has charge of the work of the Illinois Historical Survey at the University and who is also connected with the Illinois State Historical Library. It would certainly be very appropriate if this document should find a final resting place in one or the other of these Illinois institutions.

Sincerely yours

Mrs. James S. Pirtle
1408 South First
Louisville, Kentucky

JAN 8 1917

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

2253 Sherman Avenue,

Evanston, Ill.,

January 5, 1917.

Dr. S. J. Buck,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Buck:-

Since our talk in Cincinnati, I have been thinking rather seriously about that position at Lincoln. The fact that it might have some teaching in the University of Nebraska connected with it appeals to me. I wonder whether conditions are such as will allow you to get me some consideration for the place. In all probability the selection of a man will not be made at once and it will benefit me a great deal to have an opportunity to look over the ground with the idea in view of being considered as a candidate.

When we talked at first I was not sure that it would be a position into which I could fit myself but since there is some teaching to be done that would give me a hold until I adjusted myself to the new work.

Things are looking up for me here but probably the Lincoln position is big enough to make a decision between the two a small matter. Whatever you may be able to do for me will be appreciated very much.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

William F. Peck

January 9, 1917

Professor William V. Pooley
Northwestern University
Evanston, Ill.

My dear Pooley:-

On my return from the meeting, I found a letter from General John Lee Webster, president of the Nebraska State Historical Society, of Lincoln, in reply to my letter to him urging the appointment of a trained man for the position of superintendent of their society. General Webster acknowledged the importance of the training, but asserted that it was necessary for the superintendent to "be a man of executive and administrative ability, who knows how to organize and to push the work and to give the public the benefit of what he has accomplished. We are looking," he continued, "for a man in Nebraska who possessed the qualities you mention in your letter, with the additional qualities which I have stated supra."

In reply to General Webster I wrote as follows: "I quite agree with you that the superintendent of a state historical society should be a man of executive and administrative ability'. These are qualities, however, which are either born in a man or are developed by experience; whereas a knowledge of scientific historical methods can as a rule be acquired only by technical training in the profession.

"Dr. Quaife, who was selected to succeed Dr. Thwaites as superintendent of the Wisconsin Historical Society, primarily because of his training as a scholar, and who had had no experience in executive work, has developed a remarkable ability along these lines.

"While attending the meetings in Cincinnati, I learned that Professor William V. Pooley of Northwestern University at Evanston, might possibly be available for the position. Professor Pooley received his doctor's degree from the University of Wisconsin about 1905, and has published a valuable study on the settlement of Illinois. He has been teaching history at Northwestern for some time and has there had some experience in administrative work in connection with the athletic department. I believe he would prove an excellent man for the position if you could secure his services."

I have no personal acquaintance with anyone in Nebraska

W. V. P. 1/9/17--2

who is likely to be of any influence in this matter, so that I doubt if there is anything more that I could do now.

I am sending you under separate cover some of the publications of the Minnesota Historical Society which may be of interest to you. ✓

Sincerely yours

January 16, 1917

Mr. William V. Pooley
Northwestern University
Evanston, Ill.

My dear Pooley:-

I am in receipt of a letter from Malcolm G. Wyer, librarian of the University of Nebraska, dated January 12, in which he states that the directors of the Nebraska Historical Society have elected Mr. Addison E. Sheldon as superintendent. Sheldon has been director of the Legislative Reference Bureau for some time. I do not know the man, but from what I have heard of him, I have grave doubts of his fitness for the position.

Sincerely yours

426 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Illinois,
June 7, 1916.

Dr. M. M. Quaife,
Wisconsin Historical Society,
Madison, Wisconsin.

My dear Mr. Quaife:

I enclose a check which, through some mistake in the auditor's office, was made out to me instead of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and which is in payment for the photostats which you made for the Centennial Commission at my request. I have endorsed it over to the Society.

Very truly yours,

SJB:MJ

July 13, 1916.

Dr. M. M. Quaife
Wisconsin Historical Society
Madison, Wis.

My dear Dr. Quaife:-

This letter will be presented to you by Professor Eugene C. Barker of the University of Texas, who has been teaching in our summer school and who desires to consult some of the files of the Wisconsin Historical Society.

I am sure that you will be glad to facilitate his work and to help ~~he~~ make his stay at Madison a pleasant one.

Sincerely yours

NOV 21 1916

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN
(TRUSTEE OF THE STATE)
MADISON

M. M. QUAIFFÉ
Superintendent

November 20, 1916

Dr. S. J. Buck, Supt.,
State Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

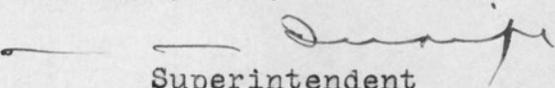
My dear Doctor Buck: I am greatly obliged for your kind note of November 13. I heard the other day from one of your Minnesota colleagues (unofficially, speaking) that you have engaged a field agent. I am wondering whom you have chosen for this work and whether you are willing to reveal the plan of operation which you have in view. If so, I might conceivably gain something of profit for my own guidance here.

Since coming to Madison I have entertained the ambition of being instrumental in producing what may be regarded as a model county history. Until recently I have found no opportunity of putting the thing over. Now I think there is a fair chance that we can do it with respect to La Crosse County. Our idea is to raise money by private gift of interested citizens to enable Professor Sanford to do the entire work of writing the book. As yet the enterprise is in the tentative stage and it may of course fail of realization. I write to you about it chiefly to ask whether you are willing to take the trouble to lay before me in as much detail as may be practicable your ideas as to what a model county history should be like. In view of your study of the existing literature on the subject I should think you ought to be able to

2-S.J.B.

suggest considerations which perhaps would not occur to me. I shall appreciate anything along this line which you may be able to afford me.

Sincerely yours,


Superintendent

MMQ-EEL

November 24, 1916

Dr. M. M. Quaife
Wisconsin Historical Society
Madison, Wis.

My dear Dr. Quaife:-

Your plan for publishing a model county history interests me very much, and I sincerely hope it can be put through. I have often thought that such a piece of work would be an excellent subject for a doctor's thesis, but I have never have been able to persuade anyone to undertake it. I have one student at the present time, however, who is writing a master's thesis on the settlement of Morrison County, Minnesota and who may possibly later attempt a complete history of the county for a doctor's thesis.

I am afraid I could not give you a systematic statement of my ideas of a model county history without spending more time on it than I can spare at present. In fact my ideas on this subject are somewhat inchoate, but I am glad to make a few suggestions which occur to me.

In the matter of organization, it seems to me that the main divisions should be chronological rather than topical. I see no reason why the history of a county should not be organized in much the same manner in which one would organize the history of a state or of the nation as a whole. If sufficient time and money be available, I would suggest that transcripts be secured of all available census schedules, either state or nation, down to and including the Federal Census of 1850, and so much further as might seem desirable. The schedules of the Federal Census of 1850 lists every individual with place of birth and thus make possible valuable statistical studies of the origin of the population of the county. This data as to place of birth could, in many cases, be carried back to similar names in earlier census schedules, and with supplementary information to be obtained elsewhere, would make possible similar conclusions.

Transcripts should also be secured of land surveys, plat books, lists of land entries, etc., from the land records in the capital of at Washington. It ought to be possible to construct a series of maps showing just what tracts of land passed into private possession each year. Of course, a series of maps illustrating the spread of settlement would also be extremely valuable.

M. M. Q. 11/24/16--2

You are doubtless familiar with the pamphlet published a few years ago by the Michigan Historical Commission containing suggestions for the writing of county histories, and also with the paper or papers on this subject in a recent number of the Proceedings of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Society.

With reference to our field agent, the appointment was made September 1, and I selected for this work Mr. Franklin Holbrook, who had been a graduate student in history in the University during the preceding year. Our plans for his work are rather comprehensive. / They embrace in the first place, and inventory of the county and other local archives of the state, similar to the work done along this line in Illinois. In addition to this, however, Mr. Holbrook will make a thorough search for material in private hands in each community which he visits, securing the same whenever possible for the society.

He will get in touch with the leading men in each town, inform them about the society and its work, and, if conditions seem favorable, invite them to join the society. Before going to a county, he prepares a bibliography of everything in the library relating to that county, including newspaper files, and then endeavors to supplement this so far as possible during his visit. He also familiarizes himself beforehand in a general way with the history of the county, and the people in it who would be likely to be of service. He keeps a card index of all clues to possible material and conducts an extensive correspondence with the object of locating collections.

The work has gone rather slowly at first and at present Mr. Holbrook is tackling his third county. In the second county which he visited, he discovered a very large collection of manuscript material which he succeeded in securing for the society. He keeps me informed of the progress of his work by frequent reports, and he has also prepared a summary report covering the first two months of his work. I am enclosing a copy of this report, but will have to request you to return it to me at your earliest convenience, as it is taken from our files. It is my intention to have Holbrook prepare a more comprehensive report upon his work and plans for presentation to the executive council of the society sometime during the winter, and he has also agreed to present a paper along the same line at the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association in the spring.

Sincerely yours

February 16, 1917

Dr. M. M. Quaife
Wisconsin Historical Society
Madison, Wis.

My dear Dr. Quaife:-

The Illinois territorial legislature at its first session in 1812 passed an "act regulating elections" by providing for voting by ballot. In 1818, however, votes were cast viva voce and some time between 1812 and 1818, the legislature must have passed another act regulating elections. There is a reference to this act in a communication published in the Illinois Intelligencer in 1818, and a quotation from the preamble which reads as follows:

"Whereas, voters have hitherto been obliged to vote by ballot, and the ignorant as well as those in embarrassed circumstances are thereby subject to be imposed upon by electioneering zealots; -- And whereas it is inconsistent with the spirit of a republican government since the opening for bribery and corruption is so manifest, which should ever be opposed and suppressed in such a government, for remedy whereof."

Unfortunately the date of the act is not given in the communication. I have searched carefully through the laws of 1815/16, 1816/17, and 1817/18 without finding any such act. I conclude, therefore, that it must have been enacted in 1813 or 1814 and published, if at all, in Pope's Digest (see my bibliography in Illinois Historical Collections, 9:395-396). There is no copy of Pope's Digest accessible here, so I wrote Mrs. Weber about it and I have just received a reply from her stating that Miss Osborne has been unable to find any such law. I am not satisfied with this, however, and as you have a copy of Pope's Digest, I have decided to ask you to have someone make a search in it for a law relating to elections passed during the period indicated. If it is found, I should like to have the reference, date of the law and an exact copy of the preamble.

I need this for my volume on "Illinois in 1818" which is now in the revised galley stage, and consequently, will have to have the information very soon if it is to be of use to me. If you can arrange to have this done for me, the favor will be greatly appreciated, and I will be glad to reciprocate in any way possible.

Sincerely yours

February 21, 1917

Dr. M. M. Quaife
Wisconsin Historical Society
Madison, Wisconsin

My dear Mr. Quaife:-

I have just received a letter from Mrs. Weber containing the extract from Pope's Digest which I desired and expressing regret that Miss Osborne had overlooked it in her first search.

I am sorry to have troubled you with this matter, but I was justified you see in not feeling satisfied with the first report.

Sincerely yours

FEB 27 1917

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN
(TRUSTEE OF THE STATE)
MADISON

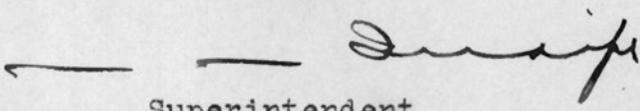
M. M. QUAIFE
Superintendent

February 26, 1917

Dr. S. J. Buck, Supt.,
State Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Doctor Buck: I have been away from the library through illness for several days and so your request for assistance with respect to the Illinois matter has not been attended to. Now, I find from your letter of February 21 that you no longer have occasion for help in connection with the matter. I write this note merely to say that I would have been exceedingly glad to have done anything I could for you in connection with it and that I regret the circumstances were such that I was prevented from attending to it promptly.

Sincerely yours,


Superintendent

MMQ-EEL

BOARD

President, H. Noble
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FEB 28 1917

Independent School District No. 63

Steele County Minnesota.

S. M. Ralston, Superintendent.

Blooming Prairie, Minn. Feb. 27, 1917.

Dr. S. J. Buck, Sec'y State Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Perhaps you may remember my being in your classes at the University a couple of years ago. I am applying for one of the scholarships that are offered through and by the University and I am writing to ask your assistance in this matter, if you are able to render any.

It is necessary for me to get such a scholarship in order that I may be able to do graduate work and any assistance that you may be able to extend will certainly be greatly appreciated. Thanking you in advance for any favors that you may be able to extend to me, I am,

Yours very truly,

S. M. Ralston

March 17, 1917

Mr. S. M. Ralston
Independent School District, No. 63
Blooming Prairie, Minn.

My dear Mr. Ralston:-

I should have replied before
to your letter of February 27.

I am very glad to know that you are applying
for one of the scholarships in the University, and
I should be glad to see you receive the appointment.
I have already written to Dean Ford my opinion of
your ability and qualifications in this respect,
and I shall be glad to restate this opinion when the
matter comes up in departmental meeting.

Sincerely yours

AUG 9 1916

Waukon, Iowa, August 7, 1915.

Mr. Solon J. Buck, Sec'y of the Minnesota State Historical
Society,

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Buck:

I wonder if you will remember my being in two
of your classes last Fall at the University. I was in your
class in American History and also in history of the West.

I am applying for a position as a History teacher
in the John A. Johnson High School in St. Paul and providing
that you remember me, I should be glad to have you write them
a little note in my behalf. Address Mr. John M. Guise,
Principal of the John A. Johnson High School, St. Paul, Minn.

If you can render me this favour, I shall greatly
appreciate the same and be glad to return the favour at any time
possible. Of course I don't ask you to do it if you don't
remember me.

Thanking you in advance for the favour and with
regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

S. M. Ralston.

August 9, 1915

Mr. S. M. Ralston,
Waukon, Iowa.

My Dear Mr. Ralston:

I certainly do have a very clear recollection of you and of the excellent work which you did in my classes in American history last year. I am very glad indeed, therefore, to write to Mr. Johnson and recommend you for the position. I hope that you will secure it, and in case you do, would be glad to have you drop in and see me in the Historical Society rooms when you come to St. Paul.

Sincerely yours,

AUG 17 1915

Waukon, Iowa, August 16, 1915.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
Saint Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Buck:

I am in receipt of your favour of the 9th inst. stating that you had written recommending me for the position of a teacher of History in the Johnson High School in St. Paul.

I was up to St. Paul last week and saw the City Supt. of Schools, Mr. D. M. Lange. He has the selecting of the teachers and I should have told you to write him instead of the principal, Mr. John M. Guise.

If it is not too much trouble, will you please write to the Supt. of Schools Mr. D. M. Lange, St. Paul in my behalf. Am sorry to bother you again about this. Thanking you in advance for the favour and with regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

Samuel M. Ralston

AUG 31 1915

Waukon, Iowa, August 30, 1915.

Mr. S. J. Buck,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Buck:

In order to save you annoyance, I am writing to ask if you can furnish me with a general recommendation regarding my work with you in History.

This will obviate the necessity of my asking you to write the people where I make application. I just want a general recommendation stating what my work was with you in History.

Thanking you in advance for this favor and with regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

S. M. Ralston

September 1, 1915

Mr. S. M. Ralston,

Waukon, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Ralston:

Enclosed you will find a general letter of recommendation, as requested by your letter of August 30, I trust that this will serve your purposes and that you will succeed in securing a good position.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure.

September 1, 1915

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. S. M. Ralston, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, was a student in two of my classes in American history last ^{year} fall, and did excellent work. In fact he generally stood at or very near the top of a large class. I consider him an exceptionally capable man, and believe that he will make a first-class teacher. I would be glad to recommend him for a position as teacher of history in any high school or academy.

Very truly yours,

Dear Sir:-

Mr. S. M. Ralston, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, was a student in two of my classes in American history last fall, and did excellent work. In fact he generally stood at or very near the top of a large class. I consider him an exceptionally capable man, and believe that he will make a first-class teacher. I would be glad to recommend him for a position as teacher of history in any high school or academy. Mr. Ralston's personal appearance is agreeable, and so far as I know his "moral and religious character etc.," is above reproach, and he has no "habits, peculiarities, or physical defects liable to interfere with success."

Very truly yours

Assistant professor of history

Albert Teachers' Agency

Mr. S. M. Ralston, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, was a student in two of my classes in American history last year, and did excellent work. In fact he generally stood at or very near the top of a large class. I consider him an exceptionally capable man, and believe that he will make a first-class teacher. I would be glad to recommend him for a position as teacher of history in any high school or academy.

University of Minnesota

March 24, 1916

Asst. professor of
history.

St. Paul Teachers' Agency

April 8, 1916

Mr. S. M. Ralston, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, was a student in two of my classes in American history last year, and did excellent work. In fact he generally stood at or very near the top of a large class. I consider him an exceptionally capable man, and believe that he will make a first-class teacher. I would be glad to recommend him for a position as teacher of history in any high school or academy.

Very truly yours

Assistant professor of history
University of Minnesota

Mr. Rapacz was a student in my course in the History of the West at the University of Minnesota during the first semester of the current year. He did excellent work in the course and received a very high grade. He impresses me as being a capable young man and I believe that he will make a successful teacher.

March 1,

7

Assistant Professor of History
University of Minnesota

April 15, 1916

Miss Ray was a student of mine in the General Course in American History during the first semester of last year and did very good work. I am convinced that she possesses unusual ability and believe that she will make a good teacher.

Asst. Professor of History

October 3, 1916

Miss Eleanor F. Raymond
3042 Fifth Ave. So.,
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Miss Raymond:-

I am asking the graduate students who are planning to write theses in American history to meet me tomorrow, Wednesday, at four P. M. in room 218 of the University Library Building. If convenient, I should like to have you attend this meeting.

Very truly yours

MAY 17 1916

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana

Tuesday, May 16.

My dear Mr. Buck:

It is taking me two days to get through here. I have arranged carefully for all the copying so that if you get here before I return all the chapters will be ready for you. I start for Springfield to-morrow morning. Mr. Alvord thinks that I had better do the land entries while there. That, with the census, will take at least ten days. I have not seen Mr. Pease yet, but may in Springfield as he is there now. He has written Mr. Alvord that Miss Gorman does not know what it is you wanted copied; no one knows. Mr. Alvord wrote back to him to have it for me to settle. I am going to set her at the legislative journals for 1817-18 and have everything copied that bears on the movement for statehood unless I hear from you to the contrary. Write me care of the Ill. Hist. Soc. I hope to find a boarding place instead of going to a hotel. From Springfield I expect to go to St. Louis to do the work in the Mercantile Library. From there my plans are still uncertain. Miss Kile is now in the southern part of the state - sent down to steal the census of 1810. In order to save expense, Mr. Alvord has written her to do the Randolph Co. records. She

is to go also to Pope Co. to copy an election list for 1818 that is there. That is the only county besides Randolph, Edwards and St. Clair for which we thought there was anything worth going after. Whether or not she is to do Edwards Co. I don't know. I am to go to Belleville to check up the election list which I took from the county history.

Please send me at Springfield the typed copies of the two communications to the Intelligencer signed "Aegis". The first is in the issue for June 17, 1818, pp 2-3; the second July 1, p. 1. I want them to compare with Cole's writings of a later period. You had better send too the blank for me to petition about Commencement. I don't see how I can possibly get back by the eighth. It will be June before I get back to Urbana.

Miss Kile has decided that if she does not get the fellowship she will keep her position here.

Sincerely yours
Francis H. Relf.

May 18, 1916

Miss Frances W. Relf
Illinois State Historical Society
Springfield, Ill.

My dear Miss Relf:-

We sent the "Agis" communications to you yesterday, but I did not have time to answer your letter then.

I am enclosing the blank which Mrs. Pierce gave me for you. She stated that this would have to be submitted to the executive faculty of the graduate school. I do not think there will be any difficulty about it, however. You had better send it in to Mrs. Pierce at once.

I am very glad to learn about your plans and hope that everything goes all right.

I know very little about what Miss Gorman was supposed to have copied. Over a year ago when Alvord and I were in Springfield together, we looked over ^{some} ~~all~~ manuscript record books in the secretary of state's office and made notes of certain things which we thought should be copied. I was about to leave for Minnesota and Alvord was to make arrangements for the copying. Recently he told me that Miss Gorman had done some copying and we both

F. H. R. 5/18/16--2

supposed that this was what she had done. You will have to use your own judgment as to what should be copied, but you had better go through the material in the secretary of state's vault for the later territorial period. Pease can probably help you to locate the desired material.

If my present plans are carried out I will reach Urbana about June 1. I will certainly need your assistance there for a while, as in looking over the type-written copy of the first chapter I find a large number of statements for which no source is indicated.

Sincerely yours

May 22, 1916

Miss Frances H. Relf
Illinois Historical Society
Springfield, Ill.

My dear Miss Relf:-

Yesterday in going over some of the notes I discovered the enclosed cards listing material in the secretary of state's vault A, cases 9, 10, 12, and 18. These may be of some assistance to you in locating the material if you have not already found it. It was some of this material that Mr. Alverd agreed to have copied.

You will have to use your own judgment, of course, as to how much of it should be copied, but it would be better to copy too much than too little. Please return these cards to me in Urbana.

Sincerely yours

MAY 24 1916

E. B. GREENE, Urbana, President.
 CHARLES H. RAMMELKAMP, Jacksonville, Vice President.
 OTTO L. SCHMIDT, Chicago, Secretary.
 JESSIE PALMER WEBER, Springfield, Librarian.



Monday, May 22, 1916.

My dear Mr. Buck:

Last Thursday and Friday I spent on the territorial records. The only thing in the bound volume which touched our period was the Journal of the Legislative Council for 1817-18. I went through it very carefully taking notes. There was nothing there that I thought we would want copied. In the Executive Files for 1818, I found a great many letters recommending men for county offices. Some were signed by from ten to fifty names, generally from the same township. These lists will be a great help on "heads of families." Unfortunately there were none for Randolph or Edwards counties. I thought it best to copy them myself. Saturday morning I started in on the Census. And I am finding enough errors to make it well worth while - names omitted as well as mis-read. Saturday afternoon I went over the Senate Journal for the first session of the General Assembly. There is a good deal there that Miss Loman is going to copy.

The census will take me most of this week. I haven't even had a look at the land entries yet, but will go down to the Auditor's office before Mr. Pease leaves on Thursday. But I shall

need most of this week to finish the
census. Unless I hear from you or
Mr. Alvord to the contrary I expect to
go down to St. Louis on Saturday,
do the work in the Mercantile Library
on Monday and go over to Belleville
on Wednesday, then back here to finish up.
I am planning on the supposition that
Miss Kile will do all the other work
in the counties. If she does I hope
to get back to Urbana soon after
you reach there.

Sincerely yours

— Frances H. Relf.

May 24, 1916

Miss Frances H. Relf
Illinois Historical Library
Springfield, Ill.

My dear Miss Relf:-

I have your letter of the 22nd and am glad to know that the work is progressing.

When I get to Illinois I think I shall begin to write the political chapters and leave the earlier chapters until you get back and the additional material is looked up. I doubt very much if you will be able to work the land material satisfactorily in the time which will be available, but it will be well to do what you can with it.

Sincerely yours

Springfield, Illinois
May 17, 5 p. m.

Have already met Mr. Pease and talked
over the whole campaign of work with
him. He will be here all day to-morrow
We hope to make so finds.

F. H. Kelly.

MAY 19 1916



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Solon J. Buck
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul
Minn.

I have found the additional census for
Randolph Co.

Friday, May 26, 1916.

My dear Mr. Buck:

Yesterday afternoon, with
Mr. Pease, I went over the material
for land entries. For the Shawneetown
and Edwardsville districts it is fairly
simple. Each has a book giving the
sales only through 1819 arranged by
location. The Kaskaskia district would
be much harder to work out. For the
lands still sold in Indiana there is no
record giving the names. At a rough

I had been over all the material indicated in the notes you sent me. Miss Gorman has given me one day's work copying from the Senate Journal for 1818. She cannot possibly give us any more time. But there is nothing else, which I thought that we needed to have copied.

My address in St. Louis will be Care Mr. Murray
W. Hough, Kirkwood.

Sincerely yours

Frances H. Relf.

From your letter of the 24th, just received, I take it that you want me to put some time on the land entries. Please write me more definitely so that I can know whether or not to return to Springfield. I shall have everything finished to-morrow but the lands. F. H. R.

guess, I should say that the work would take at least two weeks. Do you want me to spend that much time on it? Would you care to have the Shawneetown and Edwardsville districts done if the other was not touched? Those, I think, I could do in a week. Mr. Pease returned last evening to Urbana and will tell Mr. Alvord what I have been writing you. I expect to finish the census to-morrow morning. I have made so many corrections that I have a long list of names to look up in the county histories. The time needed for that must also be taken into consideration.

Worcester Library, St. Louis
Thursday, June 1, 1916.

My dear Mr. Buck:

I have just finished the
work here and in two hours take the
train back to Springfield. Since I am
to do the work on the land entries,
it seems to me that the best plan
would be for me to come over to
Dobana Saturday afternoon, finish up
all the little jobs that you have
for me to do, and then return to
Springfield. From my work to-morrow
and Saturday morning I can tell
better how rapidly it is going to work
out.

Sincerely yours

Frances H. Relf.

September 18, 1916

Miss Frances H. Relf
85 Victoria St., So.
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Miss Relf:-

I am in receipt this morning of a letter
from Professor Alvord from which I quote the following:

I find your letter of August 1 unanswered by me. I
have no objection to Miss Relf publishing her article on
the Michael Joneses whenever she is ready to do so. .

I regret the delay in this matter, but it was doubt-
less due to Professor Alvord's illness.

Sincerely yours

November 9, 1916

Mr. Morgan P. Robinson
Virginia State Library
Richmond, Virginia

My dear Mr. Robinson:-

I appreciate very much your courtesy in sending me a copy of your work on Virginia Counties. I have looked this over with very great interest and believe that it will be extremely valuable to historians and genealogists. I am especially glad to note the reproductions of the series of maps illustrating the settlement of Virginia. These will be very useful in connection with my course in the University on the history of the west which begins with a study of the westward advance of settlement in Virginia. I believe you are to be congratulated on the production of a remarkably thorough piece of work.

The copy of this publication for the library of the Minnesota Historical Society has not arrived as yet, but will doubtless come in a few days. If possible, I should like to secure a second copy for the library in order that one may be kept with the other numbers of the Bulletin and another bound separately and classified with its subject. I am sure that the work will be much used by the many genealogists who frequent our library.

Sincerely yours

SEP 13 1917

DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
JACKSON



DUNBAR ROWLAND, LL.D.
DIRECTOR

Jackson, Miss., Sept. 11, 1917

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

Dear Prof. Buck:-

A great many members of the American Historical Association wish to show their admiration for President Wilson by electing him second Vice-president of that association, at the Philadelphia meeting. I think the idea will appeal to you. I shall appreciate it, more than I can tell you, if you will return your voting blank to the Secretary of the Association, with the name of Woodrow Wilson for Second Vice-President. It seems to me that we should avail ourselves of this opportunity to show our confidence in the President.

Hoping that I shall have the pleasure of a favorable response, I am with highest regard,

Cordially yours,

Dunbar Rowland

NOV 16 1918



22 RUSSELL SQUARE,
W.C.

London

Oct. 30. 1918

Dear Sir

The Council of the Royal Historical Society are anxious to reward as follows as many as possible of those who have published historical works of importance & your book 'The Granger Movement' certainly comes under this category.

I am venturing, therefore,



to send you particulars of
the Society.

The Council would, I
know, be very glad to elect
you as a fellow, if you will
do them the honour of
allowing your name to be
proposed.

Yours faithfully
Henry Elliot Madden
Hon. Sec. R. Hist. S

Solon Justus Bucke Esq
Ph. D. etc.

2

URBAN
LONDON
NOV 14
5 30 PM
1916
65130168



S. J. Brock Esq.
~~Ph.D. etc.~~

~~University of Illinois~~
Minnesota Historical Society,
~~Verbaan St. Paul,~~

~~U.S.A.~~

~~Ill.~~ Minnesota

3770



**OPENED BY
CENSOR.**

V I
Z
November 24, 1916

Mr. Henry Elliot Malden
Hon. Sec. Royal Historical Society
22 Russell Square, W. C. London, England

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of October 30 addressed to me at the University of Illinois and inviting me to allow my name to be proposed for election as a Fellow in the Royal Historical Society has been forwarded to me here. In the letter you state that you are sending "particulars of the society". This, I presume, referred to something sent under separate cover and which failed to reach me.

I appreciate very much the honor which would be conferred upon me by such an election, but before replying to your invitation, I feel that I ought to know more about the obligations and duties of a Fellow. Will you be kind enough, therefore, to send me another copy of the document which failed to reach me.

Very truly yours

February 5, 1917

Mr. Henry Elliot Malden
Hon. Sec. Royal Historical Society .
22 Russell Square, W. C. London, England

Dear Sir:-

Recently I received a copy of your pamphlet of information respecting the Royal Historical Society, which was requested in my letter of November 24. I am now in a position, therefore, to answer your letter of October 30, in which you did me the honor of inviting me to allow my name to be proposed for election as a fellow of the society.

I appreciate very much your kind invitation, but I do not feel that I can accept it at the present time. I find that I am spending considerable money for the payments of dues to the various historical societies in America to which I belong, and I do not feel in a position to add another obligation of this sort, particularly as the publications of the Royal Historical Society, while undoubtedly of great value, are somewhat remote from my special field of work.

Very truly yours

SEP 1 1916

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Superintendent's Office

September 8, 1916

Dear Mr. Buck:

Miss Jeannette W. Rutledge who is an
applicant for the position of substitute teacher in these
schools gives your name as reference.

We are making a special effort to improve the
organization of our department of substitutes. Under the
rule recently adopted by the Board of Education we are
appointing as substitutes only those who meet the educa-
tional requirements for appointment as regular teachers
in order that those who succeed as substitutes may be
considered for regular appointment.

At your earliest convenience, will you please
complete and return the enclosed Substitute's Characterization
and Certificate of Preparation.

Your statements will be considered absolutely
confidential.

With sincere thanks for your attention.

Respectfully,

F. E. SPAULDING, Supt
By Ruth E. Coak