



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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MAY 8 1919

# Agricultural History Society

RODNEY H. TRUE, PRESIDENT,  
Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.  
WILLIAM J. TRIMBLE, VICE-PRESIDENT,  
Agricultural College, North Dakota.  
LYMAN CARRIER, SECRETARY-TREASURER,  
Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.

MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
R. W. KELSEY,  
Haverford College, Haverford, Pa.  
O. C. STEIN,  
Office of Farm Management, Washington, D. C.

Your attention is called to the AGRICULTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY organized at Washington, D. C., February 14, 1919. If you are interested in this subject and wish to join, fill out the application blank at the bottom and return with \$1.00 to the Secretary-Treasurer.

## CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, NAME. This society shall be known as the AGRICULTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II, OBJECT. To stimulate interest, promote the study and facilitate the publication of researches in the history of agriculture.

ARTICLE III, CHARTER MEMBERSHIP. The charter members of this society shall consist of all those who pay their dues and sign this Constitution prior to March 15, 1919.

ARTICLE IV, MEMBERSHIP. The society shall consist of charter members and any others who shall have been recommended by two members and elected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. All persons who are sufficiently interested to accept membership and pay their dues shall be qualified for election.

ARTICLE V, OFFICERS. The officers of this society shall be a president, a vice-president and a secretary-treasurer. The foregoing officers, together with two other members, shall constitute the executive committee. They shall be elected for the period of one year and shall serve until their successors qualify.

ARTICLE VI, DUTIES OF OFFICERS. The officers named shall execute the usual duties of the offices named. The executive committee shall consider applications of persons proposed for membership, shall be responsible for the holding of the annual meeting, shall make provision for programs and shall be subject in general to instructions coming from a majority of the membership present at any meeting.

ARTICLE VII, ANNUAL MEETINGS. The society shall hold an annual business meeting for the election of officers, for the auditing of accounts, and for such other business as may come before it. It shall meet at such time and place as the executive committee may determine.

ARTICLE VIII, LOCAL MEETINGS. Wherever sufficient interest develops to justify so doing the members may hold local meetings for the presentation of papers and discussion.

ARTICLE IX, DUES. Members shall pay the sum of One Dollar annual dues payable in advance. The sums received shall be used to pay the cost of postage, stationery, etc., and to defray the necessary cost of holding annual meetings and such other purposes as the society may determine. The expenses of holding local meetings shall be paid from funds levied by assessments on those forming the local section.

ARTICLE X, NONPAYMENT OF DUES. Members not paying their annual dues before July 1st of each year shall be dropped from membership.

ARTICLE XI, REINSTATEMENT. Any one whose membership has lapsed for the nonpayment of dues may be reinstated to full membership by the Executive Committee on the payment of all arrears.

ARTICLE XII, AMENDMENTS. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a three-fourths majority of those voting, provided that a written notice of the proposed amendment be submitted to the members at least one month previous to the meeting at which the vote is taken. Members unable to attend the meeting may vote on proposed amendments in writing or by authorized proxy.

*Dear B. male: Thank you for your interest. Our infirm society needs more members and will have some added in coming Sept. of W. 16, 1919. Very good to help in travel with you. Write and dial us back, William Trimble.*

I hereby apply for membership in the AGRICULTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Endorsed by \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 7 1918

# AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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

WORTHINGTON C. FORD, *President*, 1154 Boylston St., Boston.  
WILLIAM ROSCOE THAYER, *First Vice-President*, Cambridge, Mass.  
EDWARD CHANNING, *Second Vice-President*, Cambridge, Mass.

WALDO G. LELAND, *Secretary*, Carnegie Institution, Washington.  
CLARENCE W. BOWEN, *Treasurer*, New York.  
EVARTS B. GREENE, *Secretary of the Council*, Urbana, Ill.  
A. HOWARD CLARK, *Curator*, Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(OFFICERS, ELECTED MEMBERS, EX-PRESIDENTS)

EUGENE C. BARKER  
ULRICH B. PHILLIPS

GUY STANTON FORD  
LUCY M. SALMON

SAMUEL B. HARDING  
HENRY E. BOURNE

CHARLES MOORE  
GEORGE M. WRONG

ANDREW D. WHITE  
HENRY ADAMS  
JAMES SCHOUER  
JAMES FORD RHODES

JOHN BACH McMASTER  
SIMEON E. BALDWIN  
J. FRANKLIN JAMESON  
GEORGE BURTON ADAMS

ALBERT BUSHNELL HART  
FREDERICK J. TURNER  
WILLIAM M. SLOANE  
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

WILLIAM A. DUNNING  
ANDREW C. McLAUGHLIN  
H. MORSE STEPHENS  
GEORGE L. BURR

*Office of the Secretary,  
1140 Woodward Building,  
Washington, D. C.*

January 3, 1918.

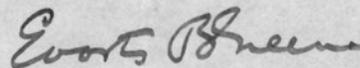
Dear Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the Executive Council of the American Historical Association has appointed you a member of the Public Archives Commission for the year 1918. I shall be glad to receive a reply signifying your acceptance of the appointment.

The other members of the Commission are:

Mr. Victor H. Paltsits, chairman, Mr. C. E. Barker, Mr. John C. Fitzpatrick, Mr. G. N. Fuller, Mr. George S. Godard, Rev. Peter Guilday, Mr. Thomas Owen.

Very truly yours,



Secretary of the Council.

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

*File  
American Hist. Assoc*

January 8, 1918

My dear Mr. Greene:-

I am in receipt  
of your letter of January 2 inform-  
ing me of my appointment as a mem-  
ber of the Public Archives Commission  
of the American Historical Association  
for the year 1918. I take pleasure  
in accepting this appointment.

Sincerely yours

Mr. Everts B. Greene  
1140 Woodward Building  
Washington, D. C.

✓

MAR 8 1918  
Sisters of Saint Francis of Rochester, Minn.  
Mother House and Novitiate

I

Professor Solon J. Buck

Saint Paul Minnesota

My dear Professor Buck:

It may be possible that I am imposing upon your good will for I have just mailed to you under separate cover, the fourth chapter of my thesis rewritten. If you remember, your criticism on this chapter as presented to you before was that it was too much in the form of a chronicle or annals. Have I succeeded in bettering the situation? If you will submit another criticism as soon as you can conveniently do so, I shall indeed be grateful.

March 6, 1918

Very sincerely,

*Sister M. Aquino*

March 11, 1918

My dear Sister Aquinas:-

I am returning to you under separate cover the copy of chapter 4 of your thesis which you submitted for my criticism. This seems to me to be a decided improvement over the previous draft, both in organization and in the handling of foot notes, etc. I have called attention to a few errors in grammar, etc., which should be corrected. I noticed a number of typographical errors but did not mark them as I assumed that you would eliminate them before making the final copy.

Sincerely yours

Sister M. Aquinas  
Sisters of St. Francis  
Rochester, Minnesota.

11/16/38 Title  
Jesuit Missions of the Northwest

MAR 28 1918

Sisters of Saint Francis of Rochester, Minn.

Mother House and Novitiate

*Miss  
Humball*

Professor Solon J. Buck  
Saint Paul Minnesota

My dear Professor Buck:

Permit me to thank you for the criticism submitted on chapter four of my thesis. Your suggestions have been followed in making corrections. The completed thesis will be in the office of the Graduate School within a day or two.

I am mailing you under separate cover the Bulletin of the Historical Society of Saint Boniface. This was very helpful as a secondary source. Thank you many times for the use of the same.

Very sincerely,

*Sister M. Aquinas*

March 28, 1918

*Send this  
to S. J. B.*

COPY  
Night Letter.

August 18, 1919.

Dr. Solon Buck,  
c/o J. M. Martin,  
Sayetteville, N. Y.

Wisconsin's brief on Saint Louis river boundary case just received. It contains exhaustive citations of congressional records, maps on file in Washington and reports to government departments of committees and so forth tending to show mouth of river between Minnesota and Wisconsin points at time of admission of states. This is very important point in our case and we must have whatever can be found to offset it. Case set for argument supreme court United States October 13 and we must have historical research work done in Washington within next four weeks at latest and work will take two or three weeks. Believe you can do this better than any one else. Will you go to Washington by first of next week and do work. We will send you Wisconsin brief there with letter of full instructions if you will go. Please do not refuse if at all possible. It means a great deal to state of Minnesota and to us all.

CLIFFORD L. HILTON,

Attorney General

AUG 27 1919

CLIFFORD L. HILTON,  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
C. LOUIS WEEKS,  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE  
ADDRESSED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

State of Minnesota  
Legal Department  
St. Paul

HENRY C. FLANNERY  
EGBERT S. OAKLEY  
JAMES E. MARKHAM  
JOHN E. PALMER  
ROLLIN L. SMITH  
MONTREVILLE J. BROWN  
JOHN EVERALL  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL

August 22, 1919.

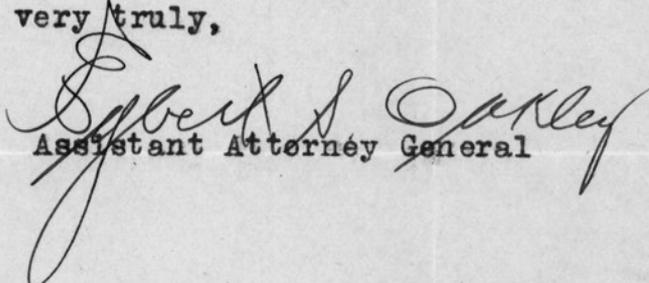
Dr. Solon Buck,  
c/o J. Liesenfeld,  
R. F. D. #1, Box #13,  
Comfrey, Minnesota.

My dear Doctor:

Will you, at your earliest convenience, on  
a reverse ticket, get in communication by phone with  
this office, and greatly oblige,

Yours very truly,

ESO/EM

  
Assistant Attorney General

AUG 27 1919

CLIFFORD L. HILTON,  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
C. LOUIS WEEKS,  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE  
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JOHN EVERALL  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL

August 22, 1919.

Dr. Solon Buck,  
R. F. D. #1, Box #13,  
c/o J. Liesenfeld,  
Comfrey, Minnesota.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a night letter sent to you at the address therein indicated by Mr. *Hilton for* W. D. Bailey of Duluth. Mr. Oakley wrote you today at Comfrey, asking that you communicate with this office by phone. We have just learned from your secretary that you will not reach Comfrey until Sunday and will therefore be unable to communicate with this office. However, the enclosed night letter conveys to you the information Mr. Oakley was desirous of giving you by phone.

Yours very truly,

*G. H. Spangenberg*  
Department Clerk.

S/M

Encl.

St Paul Press June 17, 1868

Auburn Gazette June 27, 68

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

1871 Sedgwick Hill mouth of River culla

1859 map of survey of Road

1855 map showing line of Canal

1870 Rice & Reed map

1870 Burdett's section map

*Law Offices of  
Washburn, Bailey & Mitchell,  
Alworth Building  
Duluth, Minn.*

*J. L. Washburn,  
W. D. Bailey,  
Oscar Mitchell,  
A. C. Gillette,  
A. Mc.C. Washburn,  
H. A. Carmichael,*

August 20th, 1919.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My Dear Dr. Buck:

Just a few days ago we received the brief of Wisconsin on the boundary case between Duluth and Superior. You will remember that at the time of trial the Attorney-General of Wisconsin was Mr. Owen. He is now a Judge of the Supreme Court in Wisconsin. I saw him on the train coming from Chicago some days ago, before I had received the brief, and he told me that Mr. Oldridge, who came in as Assistant Attorney General last January, had been putting in most of his time on this case since he entered the office. I could hardly conceive how he could spend so much time, but when we received their brief, it is apparent that he has made quite an exhaustive examination of the records and files in Washington relating to the one point as to what was considered the mouth of the St. Louis River.

Their discussion covers the first 128 pages of their brief. The references are almost entirely to matters outside of any evidence that was introduced in the case, but I am afraid that the Supreme Court of the United States will not pay a great deal of attention to whether the evidence on these points was actually introduced or not, inasmuch as these matters are largely historical records. The case is set for argument on October 13th and any reply brief that we put in must be prepared and printed and filed by about the first of October.

I know of no one as capable or in a better position to make an examination of these historical matters than are you, and I think that you could do it probably in a fraction of the time that I or any of us attorneys could. Frankly, I very much doubt whether such an examination will produce very much to offset the references which Wisconsin makes in its brief. However, I think the work must be done, so that even if we find that nothing of importance can be produced, we shall not feel that it has been neglected. The equities of the case are entirely with us. The evidence as to acquiescence in the state boundary being midway between the shores is almost entirely with us. The strength of Wisconsin's argument lies

-2- Dr. Solon J. Buck

August 20th, 1919.

in the proposition that if they can demonstrate so clearly to the court that at the time that Congress passed the acts admitting the states to the Union, Congress probably or necessarily had in mind that the mouth of the river, referred to in these acts, was between Wisconsin and Minnesota Points, then the court would probably say that if Congress intended to fix the mouth of the river at that point in those acts, then it was fixed for all time and the mere acquiescence of the states and the citizens in its being midway between the shores instead of following the thread of the stream would not be sufficient to authorize the court now to declare it halfway between the shores instead of upon the thread of the stream. If, however, we can find that there was sufficient doubt or ambiguity as to what Congress intended when it referred to the mouth of the river, then I think our evidence of acquiescence is so strong that the court would be likely to hold that the mouth of the River was in fact at or near Big Island and that the line up to that point ran midway between the shores, as it does in other parts of Lake Superior.

The single point, therefore, upon which we wish that you would make as exhaustive an examination as is possible within the time permitted, is to discover what, if anything, in ancient historical documents, in reports to the War Department or the Interior Department at Washington, possibly in communications between governmental offices, or anything of a public nature there may be which throws doubt upon the mouth of the river having been considered as between Minnesota and Wisconsin Points at the time that the acts of Congress admitting these States to the Union were passed. If we can show that the location of the mouth of the river was, by some historical writers and governmental departments, considered at one place and by some at another, then we have the foundation for the application of all of the evidence which we introduced showing the acquiescence in the line running midway between the shores, as all of the maps introduced show it to be.

I am sending this letter to Mr. Oakley, of the Attorney-General's office, for delivery to you, and I think that they will deliver to you a copy of Wisconsin's brief as well as a copy of our own brief, and possibly a copy of the record in the case. If they do not have the record and if you make the trip to Washington, you can unquestionably obtain for your use a copy of the record from the Clerk of the Supreme Court at Washington.

I hope that you can do this work. I know that if

-3- Dr. Solon J. Buck

August 20th, 1919.

you do, it will be as thoroughly and as ably done as time will permit. We shall not be seriously disappointed if the results of the work are small, but at the same time, it seems to me that there must be in some of these publications some evidence that will be helpful to us. You will, perhaps, remember that we introduced in evidence the reports or testimony of Major D. C. Houston, who was, along in the seventies, in charge of the engineering work at Duluth, in which he stated that he considered the mouth of the river at or near Big Island. The fact that the citizens of both States appear to have considered the dividing line as midway between the shores through these bays seems to me must have had its foundation in some basis of understanding in the early days. It may be that an examination of these various documents to which the State of Wisconsin has referred would indicate that there are other things in these documents tending to offset the claims which they make.

We earnestly hope that you will be able to undertake this work and at once. I think you could perform no greater service to the State during that time than this work.

Yours very truly,

*W. D. Bailey*

WDB/S

AUG 28 1919

CHRISTIE & DULUTH

*Law Offices of  
Washburn, Bailey & Mitchell,  
Alworth Building  
Duluth, Minn.*

*J. L. Washburn,  
W. D. Bailey,  
Oscar Mitchell,  
A. C. Gillette,  
A. McE. Washburn,  
H. A. Carmichael.*

August 27, 1919.

Mr. S. J. Buck,  
c/o Minnesota Historical Society,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Doctor:-

In looking up historical records, it occurs to me that you may be able to find something helpful to us on at least two points other than the ones covered by the Wisconsin brief. The first, as I suggested this morning, something in these writings showing that the channel of these waters was considered to be about midway between the banks before and perhaps after the admission of Wisconsin to the Union, and that the state boundary was deemed to go through the middle of these waters; and second, it may be that in the debates in the Territorial Legislature or in the discussions in Congress with reference to the admission of Wisconsin to the Union, something could be found showing that Congress or the people generally had in mind that the boundary line would go midway between the shores.

I have a copy of the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention of Minnesota and I find in those proceedings some considerable discussion as to the boundaries of Minnesota, but naturally there is nothing in these proceedings relative to the point in question inasmuch as Minnesota was admitted years after Wisconsin, and simply ran the line along the Wisconsin line. It may be, therefore, that in getting back into the similar Wisconsin proceedings something would be there found touching upon this point.

Yours truly,

WDB-C.

*W.D. Bailey*

August 29, 1919

Mr. W. D. Bailey  
Washburn, Bailey & Mitchell  
Alworth Building  
Duluth, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Bailey:-

Your letter of August 27 was received, and in accordance with your suggestion, I will look into the discussions in Congress and in the Wisconsin legislature with reference to the admission of the state to the Union.

I have already been through the journals and debates of the two Constitutional Conventions held in Wisconsin in 1846 and 1848. Although there was much discussion of the proposed boundaries of the state in these conventions, the particular section in which we are interested does not appear to have occasioned any discussion whatever, and when referred to, it is always in the language of the enabling act.

I am finding some material, however, which tends to controvert the claim that the waters under consideration were always considered a part of the river rather than of the lake.

An idea has occurred to me, and although quite apart from the ~~suggestions~~ which you asked me to work upon, I am going to take the liberty of suggesting it. Very likely you have considered it already. The enabling act provided that the line should run "through the center of Lake Superior to the mouth of the St. Louis river; thence up the main channel of said river." Webster's Dictionary defines "Channel" "a hollow bed where a stream of water runs or may run", and only secondly as "the deeper part of a river, harbor, strait, etc., where the main current flows or which affords the best and safest passage for vessels".

*first as*

It would seem to be reasonable to assume that Congress used the word in the first sense, the expression "main channel" being employed because the river was known to contain many islands and thus to have various channels or beds in the first sense of the word. This seems to be much more reasonable than to suppose that Congress intended by "main channel" to indicate that the line should run wherever the

W. D. B. 8/29/19--3

water happens to be deepest. Presumably there have been decisions as to the interpretation of the word "channel" in boundary cases which would either strengthen or invalidate this argument, but you can locate them much more readily than could I.

I will push the research work as rapidly as possible, but it takes a long time to go through a lot of un-indexed government documents.

Sincerely yours

B/P

SEP 2 1919

CHRISTIE DULUTH

Law Offices of  
Washburn, Bailey & Mitchell,  
Alworth Building  
Duluth, Minn.

J. L. Washburn,  
W. D. Bailey,  
Oscar Mitchell,  
A. C. Gillette,

J. A. Sinclair,  
A. McE. Washburn,  
H. A. Carmichael,

Aug 30, 19

Dear Dr. Buck:-

Your 7<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> I am glad you are  
at work out finding something.  
I am afraid as to what the <sup>main</sup> channel  
is we are concluded by Iowa vs Ill 147 U.S. 1  
to that which is mainly used in navigation.  
I appreciate your point but if there is  
no navigation in what one of the channels  
could we argue that the line run if not  
in the deepest ~~the~~ water. I think though if  
held a river the court will say the main  
channel is the one ordinarily used  
in navigation when navigation  
takes place even though there were  
none at the time of the acts.  
However maybe something can be  
developed along the line your suggest

Yours very truly,  
W. D. Bailey

September 18, 1919

Mr. W. D. Bailey  
Alworth Building  
Duluth, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Bailey:-

Herewith I am forwarding to you  
copies of the editorial in the St. Paul Press and ~~two~~<sup>the</sup> ✓  
extracts from Minnesota: its Character and Climate, ✓  
by Ledyard Bill. I regret to say that the reproductions  
of the maps are not yet ready to ship. We had some  
trouble with the photostat and have been unable to get  
them completed but hope to have them by tomorrow or the  
next day. The copies sent herewith were made and  
collated, under my direction, by typists from the attorney  
general's office.

Sincerely yours

SJB-AW

September 22, 1919

Mr. W. D. Bailey  
Alworth Building  
Duluth, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Bailey:-

I am sending you under separate  
registered ✓  
cover as first class mail a roll containing the  
photostatic copies of maps which you desired. I hope  
that these will be of some use and trust that the  
delay in getting them to you has not seriously incon-  
venienced you. Our photostat broke down just as the  
work was begun and a little later the paper supply ran  
out but we finally managed to borrow some paper to  
finish up the maps. You will note that I have endorsed  
each of them on the back.

Sincerely yours

SJB-AW

SEP 25 1919

*Law Offices of*  
*Washburn, Bailey & Mitchell,*  
*Alworth Building*  
*Duluth, Minn.*

*J. L. Washburn,*  
*W. D. Bailey,*  
*Oscar Mitchell,*  
*A. C. Gillette,*  
*A. McE. Washburn,*  
*H. A. Carmichael,*

September 24th, 1919.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,  
C/o Minnesota Historical Society,  
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Doctor:

I am in receipt of your favor of the 22nd and the maps enclosed, for which I thank you. I think I shall be able to use them in some way on the argument. I have not, however, referred to them in the brief, nor have I referred to the other memoranda which you dug up, not because it would not be good material if we were putting in the evidence, but because, as I told you the other night in St. Paul, I think it better not to go into this phase of it in the brief unless we are able to successfully meet their contentions along these lines and we have so little to offset their claims that we thought it better not to develop this point in the brief at all.

I will send you a copy of the brief in a few days and beg to thank you for your diligent and able attention to the matter.

Yours very truly,

*W.D. Bailey*

WDB/S

FEB 10 1919

February 8, 1919.

5557 University Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois.

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

My dear Dr. Buck:

There seems to be a rather strong and growing conviction on the part of a number of our leading historians that one of the chief values to be gained from the study of history is what may be termed "Historical Mindedness". Granting this, how would you define this special sense developed through the study of history?

Miss Barnes, in her studies on Historical Methods, refers to this special sense as the "Historic Sense." Historic truthfulness, power of inference, the time sense, the selection of facts, the sense of cause and effect, character judgment, power of application, sense of the social unit, sense of historical evidence, constructive imagination, and sense of the continuity of history, have been suggested as elements of "historical mindedness."

What do you consider to be the chief elements of this special sense? I should greatly appreciate your suggestions and help in this study.

Very sincerely yours,

*Arvid S. Barr*

October 12, 1918

Professor R. M. Barton  
126 Folwell Hall  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Barton:-

This will acknowledge the receipt of pass number 1229, admitting me to the military reservation at the University.

My University address is 219 Library Building, and my home address is 428 Walnut St. S. E.

Several of the members of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society have been in the habit of using the University library for research purposes, and especially for consulting the Library of Congress depository catalogue which is on file there. This catalogue, I understand, is furnished to the University library by the Library of Congress with the understanding that it shall be accessible to people from other libraries who wish to consult it. Would it be possible to secure passes for these people which would admit them to the grounds and especially to the Library Building?

Sincerely yours

B/P

Mr. Blegen was a graduate student in the University of Minnesota a number of years ago, and had one seminar course with me in which he did excellent work. Since then he has been employed on several occasions by the Minnesota Historical Society for special work, and has given evidence of unusual ability and scholarship. I have no personal knowledge of him as a teacher, but understand that he has been successful in his work at the Riverside High School, Milwaukee, where he has taught for a number of years. His character, personal appearance, dress, etc., are all that could be desired, and I would take pleasure in recommending him heartily for any position for which he might apply.

You may possibly know that he received recently first prize in the Wisconsin contest conducted by the National Board for Historical Service in the writing of essays on "Why the United States is at War".

Minnesota Historical Society  
St. Paul, Minnesota

June 21, 1918

Asso. Professor of  
History, University of Minnesota, and  
Superintendent Minnesota Historical Society

August 23, 1918

Dear Blegen:-

Heartiest congratulations upon your success in securing a research assistant. We have been having great difficulty in securing people for our staff this summer, but have not thought of that method.

I trust that the young man will write his thesis in the field of eastern if not Minnesota history.

Cordially yours

Mr. Theodore C. Blegen  
934 Oakland Ave.,  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

OCT 11 1918

934 Oakland Avenue,  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.  
October 9, 1918.

2

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

My dear Dr. Buck :-

A short time ago Dr. Guy Stanton Ford suggested my name for a position in the Intelligence Division of the War Department. The position will mean a commission in the army, and will call for the sort of training I have had. They have asked for some letters of recommendation, and I am taking the liberty of asking you to write such a letter directly to Captain David Keppel, Military Intelligence Division, War Department, Washington, D.C. I believe they want something particularly in regard to my loyalty and my capacity. Of course you don't know anything particularly about my war work here. I have put myself heart and soul into all the big campaigns here, and have especially tried to make my history teaching count. I have written several war articles, including the prize essay, and last summer I worked in a war factory here. Would you mind mentioning the Rynning paper in your letter to Captain Keppel? I ask that because it will convey the fact to him that I worked in Norwegian sources, and my knowledge of the Scandinavian languages will count for me in this position. I hope this letter doesn't sound presumptuous and egotistic. I am anxious to accept this chance for service, and I feel assured that you will help me. May I also hope that you will write to Captain Keppel just as soon as you can?

Very sincerely yours,

*Theodore C. Blegen*

Blegen

October 11, 1918

Captain David Keppel  
Military Intelligence Division  
War Department, Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Understanding that Mr. Theodore C. Blegen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is applying for a commission in your division, I take great pleasure in recommending him.

I have known Mr. Blegen intimately for about four years, first as a graduate student in the University of Minnesota, and later as a temporary assistant at different times on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society. I have had excellent opportunity to observe his development during this period, and believe him to be a man of exceptional ability and promise. He has been intensely interested in the war and has done everything that he could to further the American cause.

When the National Board for Historical Service arranged a prize contest for teachers in the public schools of Wisconsin in the writing of essays on "Why the United States is at War", Mr. Blegen entered the contest and won the first prize. Besides being a trained scholar and teacher in history, he is well versed in the Scandinavian languages. Last year at my request, he translated and edited a rare Norwegian book for publication under the title "Ole Rynning's True Account of America" in the November, 1917, number of our magazine, the Minnesota History Bulletin.

In 1915, he classified for us a valuable collection of manuscripts known as the Taylor papers, and then prepared an article entitled "James Wickes Taylor, a Biographical Sketch" which was published in the November, 1915, number of our Bulletin. More recently he wrote a note entitled "The Historical Records of the Scandinavians in America" which was published in the May, 1918, issue of the Bulletin. Under separate cover I take pleasure in sending you copies of all of these publications.

Mr. Blegen has also written a number of notes and articles published in Scandinavian papers, calling attention to the importance of work in the field of Scandinavian-American history. At the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association in Chicago in April, 1917, he read an article entitled "A Plan for the Union of British North America

D. K. 10/11/18--2

*wrote*  
and the States, 1866", which was later published in the  
Mississippi Valley Historical Review for March, 1918.

*are* I feel sure that Mr. Blegen's training and equipment  
~~is~~ such that his services would be valuable to the Intelli-  
gence Division.

Very truly yours

B/P

October 11, 1918

Mr. Theodore C. Blegen  
934 Oakland Ave.,  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Blegen:-

Your letter of October 9 was received yesterday, and I wrote immediately to Captain Keppel telling him at some length about your historical work and qualifications. I very much hope that you receive the commission, for I am sure that your services would be very valuable and that you would enjoy the work.

Keep me informed of developments. It is possible I may have the pleasure of meeting you in Washington before long.

Sincerely yours

B/P

January 30, 1918

Professor Herbert E. Bolton  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

My dear Mr. Bolton:-

I want to thank you for the copy of your paper on the "Mission as Frontier Institution in the Spanish-American Colonies", which you were kind enough to send to me. I am very glad to have this in the form of a separate.

Sincerely yours

MAR 8 1918

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ECONOMICS

2

February 27, 1918.

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

My dear Mr. Buck:-

Under another cover I am sending you the Proceedings of the Chicago meeting. I trust you will find the account satisfactory. I have followed your suggestion and omitted <sup>ed</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>1</sup> ~~the~~ inclusions to the business report, except those of a general nature. Hope you are coming through all right under the load of work of which you spoke at Christmas. I have been having a rather hard time myself but I suppose work makes one thrive.

With best wishes,

Most cordially,

*Beverly W. Bond, Jr.*

BWB/EJM

March 7, 1918

Mr. Beverley W. Bond  
Purdue University  
Lafayette, Indiana

My dear Mr. Bond:-

I received your letter of February 27 and also the account of the proceedings at Chicago. I have looked these over hurriedly, and it seems to me that you have done a very good job. Having had some experience in work of this sort, I realize that you must have put a good deal of time on it and feel that the association is greatly indebted to you for this work.

I am in hopes that we can get the volume out before the meeting, but there is some doubt about the ability of the Torch Press to put it through on time.

I trust that you are planning to be with us in May.

Sincerely yours

JAN 21 1918

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ECONOMICS

January 18, 1918.

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

My Dear Mr. Buck:-

Under another cover I am sending you Mrs. Paine's report and also the two papers. These are the only papers in my possession and I have made abstracts of them. I believe I have abstracts of all the papers at the present, including the one by Pease. The minutes I did not receive from Professor Alvord, although Mrs. Paine thinks that she sent me a copy. I have been unable to find it however, after a careful search.

With regard to the account of Proceedings, I will do the best I can. Dr. Moran has secured a three months' leave of absence and is now in Washington with Dr. Bestor of the Committee on Public Information; consequently my work has greatly increased and there are likely to be a number of unexpected calls. Accordingly I can only say that I will try to complete the account by the first of March. If I find that it will be impossible to do so I will notify you.

Very truly yours,

Beverly W. Bond, Jr.

✓

January 15, 1919

Mr. H. A. Bone  
Principal of High school  
Sioux City, Iowa

My dear Mr. Bone:-

Professor Alverd has asked me to put the M. V. H. A. Proceedings into shape for publication, and I am in hopes to get them ready for the press in the near future.

The material which he sent on to me does not include your paper entitled "Geographic Problems in American History", and he states in his letter that this paper was not received at his office. I trust that you will supply me with a copy of the paper in the near future, or if you have other plans for its publication, will inform me about them so that it may be printed at least by title in the Proceedings.

Sincerely yours

B/P

✓

4

January 15, 1919

Professor J. E. Bradford  
Miami University  
Oxford, Ohio

My dear Mr. Bradford:-

Professor Alvord has asked me to put the M. V. H. A. Proceedings into shape for publication, and I am in hopes to get them ready for the press in the near future.

The material which he sent on to me does not include your paper entitled "The Population of the Ohio Valley during the Eighteenth Century", and he states in his letter that this paper was not received at his office. I trust that you will supply me with a copy of the paper in the near future, or if you have other plans for its publication, will inform me about them so that it may be printed at least by title in the Proceedings.

Sincerely yours

February 6, 1919

Professor J. E. Bradford  
Miami University  
Oxford, Ohio

My dear Mr. Bradford:-

Not having heard from you in reply to my letter of January 15 requesting a copy of your paper for the Mississippi Valley Historical Association Proceedings, I take it that you do not desire to have the paper included in the volume. Whether or not that is the case, it will be very much appreciated if you will send just as soon as possible to Professor C. S. Boucher, Washington University, St. Louis, a brief abstract of what you read on that occasion.

As you doubtless recall, it has been customary to include in the Proceedings a general account of the meeting in which are embodied abstracts of the papers read, whether or not they are printed. This abstract should be sent in just as soon as possible as we are anxious to get the Proceedings out before the St. Louis meeting. I trust that you will be willing to cooperate with me in this work for the M. V. H. A. to the extent of giving this your prompt attention.

Sincerely yours

B/P

*Prof. Buck  
Please Reply -*

Kansas City, Mo.

March 17, 1918

3

Prof. G. S. Ford  
Univ. of Minn.,  
Minneapolis

Dear Mr. Ford:

I am at present working on a debate the subject of which is, "Resolved that the United States should so change its Constitution as to make the Cabinet responsible to the people through the House of Representatives".

As I am a member of the Negative team of the Northeast High School I would be much obliged if you would write me a letter concerning the Negative side of the question. I intend to use the letter in my speech or rebuttal.

We of the Negative are greatly in need of help as our coach left us after only two weeks work and we have been without one for some time. Hoping that I may hear from you immediately as our debate is scheduled for the last of this month.

Respectfully,

*Miss Elwyn Bridgens.*

3826 E. 11th St.  
Kansas City, Mo.

March 21, 1918

Miss Elwyn Bridgens  
3826 E. 11 St.,  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Miss Bridgens:-

Your letter of March 17 to Professor Ford has been turned over to me for reply, as Professor Ford is now in the government service in Washington, and is too busy to be troubled with such matters.

We are sorry to know of the difficulty that you are having to prepare for your debate, but we do not feel that we ought to write a letter expressing a mere opinion upon the subject to be used in the debate.

You can find much more valuable opinions in the works of men who have made a special study of the subject. Some of President Wilson's books dealing with American government contain especially valuable material on this subject.

Very truly yours

April 1, 1919

Mr. R. P. Brooks  
University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia

My dear Mr. Brooks:-

Professor A. B. White of our Department has received a letter from a former student of his in France telling him about a friend in the service, a lieutenant, by the name of Jesse G. Gainey, who is a graduate of the University of Georgia, and who, the writer of the letter thought, might be induced to apply for a fellowship in the History Department at the University of Minnesota for next year.

We are sending him an application blank, but it will take some time for this to be filled out and returned and for us to get into communication with the people whom he gives as references, so it occurred to me that it would be a good idea to write to you at once for such information as you might be able to give me about him, and his qualifications for historical work.

Possibly you could have a transcript of his record sent on to me. Please address me Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

B/P

August 5, 1918

My dear Mr. Brooks:-

I have not, I believe, thanked you as yet for the Bibliography and Syllabus of the History of the South which you were kind enough to send me some time ago. I have looked this over with much interest, and I am very glad to have a copy for my personal collection. I am sure that it will be of assistance to me in my work. With best wishes,

Sincerely yours

Professor Robert E. Brooks  
University of Georgia  
Atlanta, Georgia.

*RJB/aw*

April 10, 1919

Miss Lizzie M. Brown  
Casselton, North Dakota

My dear Miss Brown:-

I shall be glad to do what I can to help you to secure a position of the sort which you desire. I talked with Dean Coffman of the College of Education, who is chairman, I think, of the appointments committee which has charge of such matters, and he said that he would be very glad to keep you in mind.

I am sending your letter on to him, therefore, and you are likely to hear from him in the course of time, as he says the demand for competent teachers is extensive. I shall also speak to Mr. Krey about the matter, for he frequently knows about positions.

Sincerely yours

B/P

APR 28 1919

3

Casselton, N. Dak., April 26, 1919

Dr. Solon J. Buck  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Dr. Buck:-

Dr. Libby of the University of North Dakota informs me that Prof. H. C. Fish of the State Normal School at Minot, North Dakota who has the history there, is off next year on leave of absence and there is a vacancy for that period in his present position. I am very much interested in this position.

A letter from you to Mr. Fish telling of my work - particularly as an assistant in the department of history at the University of Minnesota would have a great deal of weight, I am sure. I am hoping, therefore, that you will write to him very soon if possible.

I received a communication from the Minnesota Secretary of the Appointments Committee as a result of your suggestion. Your kind interest is deeply appreciated and I trust that I am not asking too much now.

Very sincerely yours,  
Lizzie M. Brown

April 28, 1919

Miss Lizzie M. Brown  
Casselton, North Dakota

My dear Miss Brown:-

I am in receipt of your  
letter of April 26 and will write immediately  
to Mr. Fish about your qualifications  
for the position in the State Normal School.

Sincerely yours

B/P

NOV 6 1918

The University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 7, 1918.

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

My dear Mr. Buck:

President Burton wishes me to thank you for the copy of "Proceedings of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, 1916-17" which you so kindly sent to him with your compliments. He has looked this over with the greatest interest and appreciates your thoughtfulness in transmitting it to him.

Very sincerely yours,

*Kathryn Webster*

Acting Secretary to the President.

✓

June 19, 1918

Professor F. K. Batters  
315 So. Seventh St.,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Batters:-

This is to remind you that  
you were going to send me a list of the  
recent initiates of the Phi Beta Kappa  
in order that the names may be entered  
in the treasurer's book.

Better send it to me here  
as I might not get it if mailed to the  
University.

Sincerely yours

SJB/MEP

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

Feb 6

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Dear Buck, -  
I am furnishing a revised and greatly enlarged edition of that bill. Also the documents concerning the \$3,35. Fix the last up any way that will square accounts - I should not worry exceedingly if I got stuck for it.

Yours  
Butler

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

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Feb 4, '19

Mr. Solon J. Buck  
Department of History,

Dear Buck,

Will you make out a check for \$2.65 payable to the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, and send it over to me that I may send it in with the registration cards of the newly elect-

We have to pay \$1.00 per member which makes \$6.00, but we already have a credit for \$3.35 on the last batch of keys ordered - there is a further complication about the \$3.35 but its too long a story to write out. I am also enclosing my bill for secretary's expenses up to date -

Yours

Butler

February 8, 1919

Professor F. K. Butters  
205 Pillsbury Hall  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Butters:-

Enclosed you will find my check for \$13.10 which covers your revised statement of secretary's expenses, \$7.10, and dues to the United Chapter, \$6.00.

If you will send your own check for \$2.65 to the United Chapter, you will then find yourself reimbursed for the \$3.35 which you were out.

Please receipt the voucher for secretary's expenses enclosed herewith, and return to me. Then if you will forward to me the receipt for the balance of the dues to the United Chapter when it is received, I will file it with the receipt for keys, etc., as the voucher for the dues which I am entering in the book at the full amount, \$6.00. I think this will straighten things out.

Sincerely yours

B/P

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

Feb 14, 1919 —

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Prof Solomon J. Buck,  
219 Library Bldg —

Dear Buck, —

Your letter just received. I am enclosing  
the receipted bill for secretary's expenses. I have  
sent my check to the United Chapters for 2<sup>65</sup>  
and will send you the receipt when it arrives  
Also I will try not to tangle up affairs quite  
so badly again —

Yours  
Butler

Minneapolis June 24, 1919

Dear Solon

I enclose my check for  $\$69<sup>80</sup>$  being the fees for 16 initiates to U.B.K. @  $\$5$  per initiate less  $\$10<sup>20</sup>$  already paid you. I also enclose my bill for  $\$78<sup>60</sup>$  for secretary's expenses with subvouchers for all items except postage. Please send me also a check for  $\$16<sup>00</sup>$  made out to the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, that I may send it in along with the cards for the new initiates.

Yours -

Fred K. Butler -