



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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2

January 22, 1935

23 1935

Dr. Solon J. Buck
4338 Bigelow
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Buck:

I want to thank you for the copy of Lucien C. Boynton's Journal. I have found it both entertaining and informative and of course I am especially interested in his experiences in Virginia. Will you kindly tell me who owns the original since I should like to make a card for it in my file of Virginia manuscripts.

With best wishes for the progress of your work in Pennsylvania, I am

Sincerely yours

Lester J. Cappon

Lester J. Cappon
Archivist

Dr. Lester J. Cappon, Archivist
Library of the University of Virginia
University, Va.

Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh, Pa. January 25, 1935

Dear Dr. Cappon:

The Journal of Lucien C. Boynton is in my possession. I picked it up in Springfield, Illinois, about twenty-five years ago. There is much more of the Virginia experiences than was included in the extract^s, though I think I selected the most significant material.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

P

February 15, 1934

Miss Irene Stewart,
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

My dear Miss Stewart:

In connection with a report that he is preparing for my course on the history of western Pennsylvania, Mr. William C. Weaver, a graduate student in the University, desires to consult the early files of the Pittsburgh Gazette in the Carnegie Library. If he can be permitted to do this, the favor will be appreciated by him and by me.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

May 8, 1935

Miss Irene Stewart
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Miss Stewart:

Mr. Fred Hilton, by whom this letter will be presented, is a student in my history class at the University of Pittsburgh and is engaged in research work. Any courtesies that are extended to him, including that of stack privileges to the files of Pittsburgh newspapers, will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

DSC

P

December 9, 1935

The Carnegie Institution of Washington
Sixteenth and P Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Much to my regret, I find that it will be impossible for me to attend the lecture by George Sarton on Tuesday, December 10. I am, therefore, returning the tickets to you herewith, in accordance with your request. I assure you that your courtesy in sending them to me is appreciated.

Sincerely yours

Solon J. Buck

SJB:emm

EDMUND J. McCORMICK
Editor-In-Chief

JOSEPH E. ADAMS
Managing Editor

JOHN W. LOWES
Sports Editor

The Carnegie Tartan

Weekly newspaper published during the school year by the students of
CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Schenley Park, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WILLIAM J. WALDMAN
Business Manager

JACQUE S. MINNOTTE
News Editor

JAMES H. SANSONETTI
Plaid Editor

January 26, 1934

Mr. Solon J. Buck
c/o Historical Society of Western
Pennsylvania
Bigelow Boulevard
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Thanking you for the use
of this photo. I am

Yours truly,

Clifton P. Boutelle
Art Editor

CAB VMW CARNEGIE TARTAN

MAY 17 1934



P
Carter

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

4

May 16, 1934.

Dear Buck:

Archives legislation is at present in an inactive state. The Bloom bill passed the House April 16, and the McKellar bill has been held in committee since March 20. I understand that Senator Barkley, in charge of the bill, has been away for some time, and that when he returns some action may be expected. There is apparently a lively scrap on between three groups of Democrats. Those backing the McKellar bill are, it seems, interested in the appointment of a staff member of the Library of Congress; it is intimated that McKellar, Shepherd, Connally, Barkley and the Vice President belong to this faction. Certain members from Mississippi, it is further rumored, have other ideas, and it is said, are inclined to block action unless certain different assurances are given with reference to appointments et cetera. On the other hand the Bloom bill is disliked by the Southern Democrats of the upper branch, not so much because of its provisions, which are not so materially different from those of the McKellar bill, but

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

rather because if the Bloom bill is accepted the prestige of its author would be enhanced, and the matter of appointments would be affected. A gentleman of keen political insight, with whom I am associated, and who rarely guesses wrong, believes that the McKellar bill will become law.

It has also been suggested that in the event Congress does nothing the President will issue an executive order which will set up a staff to take charge pending fiscal action, which would be quite another story.

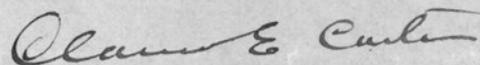
I have a copy of both of the bills, and if you haven't seen them and care to have them, I shall be glad to send them to you.

The reply to the resolutions of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society was drafted in my office, initialed by the Chief of the Division of Coordination and Review, and signed, supposedly, by the Secretary. We recently received instructions from the Secretary's office that all such letters were to be signed by the Secretary. Heretofore such communications have been signed by Assistant Secretary Carr, who actually read and signed them. This was much better, since Mr. Carr is also the budget officer of the Department. The term "RP" refers to the Division of Research and Publications. Of course my own office correspondence is always routed to my office without

having been opened.

Keller has been here during the past few days,
and conveyed your greeting to me.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Clarence E. Carter".

Clarence E. Carter,
Editor, Territorial Papers

P.S. The resolutions adopted by the Pennsylvania
Historical Association were received May 14th.

8

May 18, 1934

Dr. Clarence B. Carter,
Editor, Territorial Papers,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Carter:

Thank you very much for your very informing and entertaining letter of May 16. I understand that the executive committee of the American Historical Association is going to take the national archives problem under consideration at a meeting next Sunday and that it hopes to be consulted by the administration. It seems to me unfortunate that politics and personal ambitions should be playing so large a part in the picture.

If you have a copy of the McKellar Bill that you can send to me, I should be glad to receive it. I have a copy of the Bloom Bill.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

MAY 31 1934

P
Cartier
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

May 29 1934

Dear Quilts -

Enclosed is the Wetzel
bill. I have tried to secure a
copy of the new bill reported
yesterday, without success.
See Cong. Record -

cc

June 4, 1934

Dr. Clarence E. Carter,
Editor, Territorial Papers,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Carter:

Thank you very much for the copy of the McKellar bill. I have read it with much interest. I should think that the department would object to giving the archives commission authority over their records. If you do get hold of an extra copy of the new bill, I shall be very glad to receive it.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

FEB 27 1935

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

②



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

February 25, 1935.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Society,
4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Buck:

I am sending you a set of the first issue of the
Territorial Papers, with my compliments. You will also
receive review copies for the Magazine.

Yours sincerely,

Clarence E. Carter
Editor, Territorial Papers



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 15, 1935.

Dear Buck:

I knew several weeks ago that your name had gone to the President's desk, and was also aware when it was sent to the Senate a few days ago. Of course there will be no hitch there, though I understand that the Library Committee is sometimes slow in reporting because of its infrequent meetings.

To say that I am delighted and happy at this development is to put the matter mildly. And I sincerely congratulate you, if that is in order. When you come to Washington I hope you will let me know, as I shall want to talk with you about a number of things.

As ever,

Clarence E. Carter
Clarence E. Carter

2
JUL 16 1935

8

July 19, 1935

Dr. Clarence E. Carter
Editor, Territorial Papers
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Carter:

Your letter of July 15 is much appreciated. Despite the smallness of the salary I feel that it will be pleasant to have a permanent position and agreeable work. I shall certainly get in touch with you as soon as I go to Washington. Have you any suggestions as to how I should go about it to find a house in which to live. We will want at least a nine-room house and it will have to be in reach of good schools. We would not object to being in the suburbs, however.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

DSC



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 22, 1935.

Dear Buck:

Yesterday's papers announced your confirmation by the Senate, so I assume that you will be in town in the near future.

With reference to finding a house I should think that it would be wise for you to precede the arrival of ^{goods} of goods by several days. There are numerous agencies here, of course, and I understand that there are facilities for taking prospective renters or purchasers to the various properties. We may be able to offer some suggestions in regard to the desirability of the various residential sections. If you know little concerning the residential part of Washington it may seem a bit confusing at the outset.

In the northwest part of the city the residential sections which are preferable are Cleveland Park, Massachusetts Park, Wesley Heights, Georgetown, Chevy Chase, D. C. and Chevy, Md. It is my impression that upper 16th Street has gone Jewish.

I think that a house the size you mention will rent for \$135 to \$150. Houses of six rooms rent for \$100.

Will be seeing you,

Clarence E. Clark
Clarence E. Clark

4
JUL 23 1935

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July 23, 1935

Dr. Clarence E. Carter
Editor, Territorial Papers
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Carter:

Thank you for your letter of July 22 and especially for your suggestions of desirable residential sections. We may have to go a considerable distance out, as we cannot afford to pay \$135 or \$150.

I am driving to Washington on Sunday to attend a meeting of the Archives staff Monday morning, and I shall try to get in touch with you while there. My wife will accompany me, and we will endeavor to find a suitable habitation. We expect to move to Washington about September first and I think it probable that I shall be taking up my work at the Archives on that date, but I shall know more about that after I have had a talk with Connor.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

DSC



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

JUL 26 1935

July 25, 1935.

Dear Buck:

I was wondering whether you would arrive in Washington on Sunday before night. If you do, we would be glad to have you give us a ring, and we could pilot you around through the residential parts. If otherwise, ring me up at the Department on Monday.

Our street number is 2920 - 28th, N.W.; phone Columbia 2750-J. Office, District 4510, branch 92.

I hope at any rate to see you while you are here.

As ever,

Clarence & Carl

Mr. Berck

Sandog.

2 Infant Circle.

Miss London.

Residence 4010.

DATA 22, 1933

8

A CENTURY OF PROGRESS

INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION

CHICAGO

1934

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May 15, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck
5839 Darlington Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

My dear Dr. Buck:

Inasmuch as the committees appointed by the Board of Trustees of A Century of Progress ended their labors with the successful close of the Exposition for 1933, the Executive Committee voted that all committees so appointed should be discharged as of December 31, 1933.

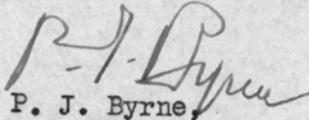
The officers and members of the Executive Committee of A Century of Progress feel that the work of the Historical Committee, of which you were a member, has been most efficiently performed and they are grateful for the helpful cooperation extended.

A certificate in appreciation of services rendered will be mailed to you under separate cover.

Yours very truly,

A CENTURY OF PROGRESS

By


P. J. Byrne,
Secretary

PJB:LL

FEB 9 1934

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS,
BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS
WASHINGTON

6

February 6, 1934.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Society,
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Buck:

I take pleasure in sending to you a copy of a paper which was recently presented before the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Cambridge, Massachusetts. Since the task of presenting historic sites is one of interest to all of us, I shall be glad to receive your suggestions.

Very truly yours,

Verne E. Chatelain

Verne E. Chatelain
Chief

Historical Division
Branch of Research and Education

Enclosure 321087

February 21, 1934

Mr. Verne H. Chatelain,
National Park Service
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chatelain:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your paper entitled "A National Policy for Historic Sites and Monuments." I have read it with a good deal of interest. I have never been able to get up much personal interest in the site of an historic event unless the features of the site had some part in the event. I am well aware, however, that the people in general are interested in the association aspect of sites as well as in association pieces in museums and I am convinced that it is worth while to cater to this interest to a reasonable extent, for it helps to secure support for more important scientific work. When, as you point out, the site played a part in the event, then it becomes an historic document and its importance is unquestioned. The most encouraging thing to me about the whole activity is the indication that the government is beginning to look upon history as its proper concern.

I have one suggestion to offer with reference to your proposed national board on historic sites: it is that the president of the AHA would not be a satisfactory member as a new one is elected every year. I would suggest taking the executive secretary instead.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

MAR 1 1934

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS,
BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS
WASHINGTON

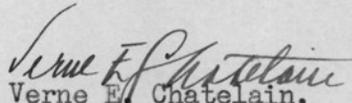
February 28, 1934

Mr. Solon J. Buck, Director,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Historical Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Buck:

I have received your letter of February 21, commenting on the paper which deals with Historic Sites. I want you to know that I appreciate your taking time to read the paper, and I enjoyed reading your comments and reflecting upon them.

Very truly yours,


Verne E. Chatelain,
Chief

Historical Division
Branch of Research and Education

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS,
BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1934

Dear Doctor Buck:

I have your letter regarding the Archives situation and, of course, I shall respect your confidence in regard to your own attitude in this matter and toward your present position.

Under my Division, the National Park Service has already begun its study of the problem, as a space control problem. Our custody of Public Buildings makes that desirable. As I get into the project study, I feel more and more that prospective Archives legislation, especially as contained in the Bloom and McKellar bills, represents an utterly impossible solution. I am not unmindful of the experiences of the Library of Congress, to which the Bloom bill, emphasizing the National Commission, seems not to have paid much attention. I think that this bill should be blocked because it does not set up a workable plan. Under it, authority would be mixed and the emphasis is top-heavy on politics. The McKellar (Senate) bill is hardly better.

Personally, I believe that a lot of very bad thinking has been done in this Archives problem and certainly a very bungled job of guiding it to date, in its legislative career. In saying that, I feel that no one in particular is to blame, but the historians of the country, by and large, have once more shown their collective impotence - or incompetence.

Having had some experience now with Governmental Service, I am strongly devoted to the merit system. I do not believe that the strongest Archives program can be secured by trying to create a condition in which there will be a wild scramble for the Archives jobs. But that is what has been done. The organization, I feel, should not be worked out so that the personnel problem is a matter of patronage. In this connection, I might say that the Library of Congress had another narrow escape only a few weeks ago.

As to your part in the scheme of things, I can say, without hesitation, that you would give as strong an Archives Administration as anyone I know. I feel that Leland will not be an active

candidate. I think, also, that Martin perhaps is a candidate and Fitzpatrick.

However, frankly, at the present moment, there is no Archives position and there can't and won't be any decision on personnel. I do not believe that Congress will act before it adjourns but if it should pass the Bloom bill, it would be unfortunate in the extreme. The Archives building will hardly be ready before next January anyway.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Verne E. Chatelain
Verne E. Chatelain
Chief

Historical Division
Branch of Research and Education

May 9, 1934

Mr. Verne E. Chatelain,
Office of National Parks,
Buildings and Reservations,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chatelain:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 4. I quite agree with you that the historians have failed to seize the opportunity to make their influence felt in favor of satisfactory archives administration. The American Historical Association had for a number of years a committee on the national archives but that committee appears to have been disbanded and the public archives commission of the association apparently pays no attention to the national archives problem. I think that most of the active members of the association have assumed that some of the leading historians in Washington, including Dr. Jameson, were looking after the matter, but I suspect that Dr. Jameson, because of his position in the Library of Congress, has hesitated to take any very active part.

It is certainly very unfortunate that a situation should develop in which there is a scramble for the archives job. I have not had any experience with the merit system but I believe in it in principal and I should think that, if intelligently applied, it would work in this case.

It seems to me very fortunate that your office is in a position to study the ~~control~~ ^{control} aspects of the archives problem, as they will, of course, be of vital importance. Doubtless you are familiar with the work that Leland did in connection with the Illinois archives and have consulted the report that was published at that time. I should think that Leland with his extensive knowledge of European archives situations could be of great service to you in this study. Doubtless you have already consulted with him.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

8

2

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

OCT 8 1934

October 5, 1934.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Department of History,
University of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Buck:

Mr. Ronald F. Lee, of this office, told me about your recent visit to Washington and your call at National Park Service headquarters. I was in the New England states at the time, and regret very much missing you.

In connection with the Joint Council, the Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association, the American Military History Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies, this office is just now assisting in the launching of a national survey on local archival materials. The program will go forward under the FERA during this winter. I believe that this is on a better basis than the program would have been last spring under CWA.

Otherwise our historical program is generally a very busy and interesting one.

Qualey writes me that he has just returned from Europe. I am sorry that his health was such that he had to leave us. Compensating somewhat, however, is the fact that Ronald F. Lee, another Minnesotian, is a real find.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Verne E. Chatelain
Chief
Historical Division

October 9, 1934

Mr. Verne E. Chatelain, Chief
Historical Division
National Park Service
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chatelain:

I was sorry to miss you when I was in Washington, but I had a very interesting talk with Mr. Lee.

Your statement about the plan for a national survey of local archival material interests me very much and I should like to know more about how it is being worked out. We shall, of course, want to take every possible advantage of it in our region. Mr. Morford, who had charge of the State Library's C. W. A. project in Allegheny County and later directed an independent county project, has been trying to get his project set up again under F.E.R.A. A lot of very valuable work has been done in this county, but more remains to be done, and I hope that some scheme can be devised to carry it forward.

Can you give me Qualey's present address? I want to write to him. I had a letter from him just before he left for Europe but do not know how to reach him now.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DSC

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August 6, 1935

Dear Dr. Buck:

I just read in the Minnesota Historical News of your appointment as Director of Publications of the National Archives in Washington. I congratulate you upon your appointment and wish to extend to you my best wishes in your new work. I am sure that the President could not have made a better selection for this position than yourself because of your wide experience in the field of history and the publication of historical material. Going into a new field as you are will present many interesting problems which I am sure will be more to your liking than the work you have been doing at the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Again extending to you my best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

L. Hubbard Shattuck
Director

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Director of Publications,
National Archives,
% Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

P

August 8, 1935

Mr. L. H. Shattuck, Director
Chicago Historical Society
North Avenue at Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Shattuck:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of congratulation of August 6. I have spent a couple of days with the staff of The National Archives in Washington and I am sure that I shall enjoy the work there very much. I am planning to move to Washington about September first.

If you ever see Dr. Otto L. Schmidt and he is still able to converse, I wish you would give him my best regards and tell him of my new position. He has been very kind to me on many occasions, but I hesitate to write to him not knowing his condition.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

DSC

June 24, 1935

Dr. Thomas P. Christensen
304 Ronalds Street
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Dr. Christensen:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your
The Discovery and Re-Discovery of America. It looks interesting
and I shall read it at the first opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

DSC

8

June 5, 1934

Mr. Bayard H. Christy,
403 Frederick Avenue,
Sewickley, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Christy:

Herewith I am sending you a review of the Country
Rambler, which I trust will serve your purposes. I
have also written a briefer note about the book for
publication in the September number of our magazine.
I shall appreciate it if you will send me an extra
copy of the publication in which this review appears,
as I like to keep such things in my personal file.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

P

JUN 8 1934

LAW OFFICES OF

CHRISTY, CHRISTY & WHARTON

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P. O. BOX 950
CABLE ADDRESS
"PATENT PITTSBURGH"

June 7, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck,

The Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,

Historical Building,

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Dr. Buck:

I am very grateful to you for your kindness in reviewing the Country Rambler. I have read the review with a great deal of satisfaction, and I am putting it in the printer's hands. I will see that two or three copies of the magazine go to you. It will appear some time in July.

Yours very truly,

Bayard H. Christy

BHC/AMR

4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

March 28, 1934

Professor Arthur C. Cole,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Cole:

Oliver tells me that you are to visit us on April 13th to talk before the Social Science Seminar. I shall be delighted to have an opportunity to see you and I hope that it will be possible for us to have a talk about various matters, for I do not expect to go to the MVHA meeting. I am afraid that you may be planning to drive down in the forenoon and to start back in the afternoon, in which case neither I nor the other members of the department will have much opportunity to talk with you. If possible, therefore, I hope that you will arrange to stay over until Saturday and I hope that you will bring Mrs. Cole with you. Because of domestic complications the Bucks would not be able to take you in but the Olivers will be glad to do so, and they have a nice new home.

I have received a review copy of your new book and have already read two chapters of it. I am finding it so interesting that I read it when I ought to be doing other things.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

APR 5 1934

5

GRADUATE SCHOOL

April 4, 1934

Dear Buck:

At length I think that I can see my way clear for an affirmative answer to your suggestion that I stay over until Saturday - bringing Mrs. Cole with me. I shall surely appreciate getting from you suggestions on M. V. H. Q. matters that may come up at Columbia and in addition you may be sure that we shall both enjoy the social contacts which the longer stay will make possible. I shall write to Oliver shortly accepting his invitation. Please give my greetings to the Watkins and the Watson.

Until I see you, believe me

Most cordially yours,

Arthur P. Cole

P

Professor Arthur C. Cole,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Historical Building,
4338 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa.

April 9, 1934

Dear Cole:

Mrs. Buck and I are delighted that you and Mrs. Cole will be able to stay over until Saturday. I do not know now just what the arrangements will be but I would suggest that you get in touch with me at the Historical Building, as soon as you arrive. I am sorry to say that the Watkinses will be out of town this week but the Watsons will probably be here.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

P
Prof. Arthur C. Cole
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 13, 1934

Dear Arthur:

I am sorry not to attend the conference at Mitigwanga this year. I am very much in need of a rest and have decided to take a trip by water to Florida and back. James has been trying to get up a party to go to the conference but I doubt if he succeeds.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

C

P

THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW

GRADUATE SCHOOL
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

JUL 17 1935

MANAGING EDITOR
ARTHUR C. COLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

July 15, 1935

Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Buck:

Thanks for the copy of the Report of the Alvord Memorial Commission. May I congratulate you upon your prospects for the appoint to the position of director of publications in the National Archives. I assume that the Senate will not up-set the applecart. I hope that the new appointment will not interfere with your plans to come to Mitiwanga and bring Mrs. Buck.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur C. Cole,

ACC:C

Historical Bureau

STATE LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL BUILDING

140 N. SENATE AVENUE, INDIANAPOLIS

CHRISTOPHER B. COLEMAN, DIRECTOR

JUL 19 1935

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

My dear Buck:

Thanks for your report of the Alvord Memorial Commission. I take it that there is no business demanding immediate attention of the members of the Commission for which, personally, I am duly grateful.

Congratulations on your appointment as director of publications in the National Archives. I had not heard of it until I got your letter. It will be a great opportunity but it is even more gratifying to know that the publications will be in your hands. When I got your letter I said, "Hurrah for the National Archives."

With best wishes, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Christopher B. Coleman
Christopher B. Coleman

CBC-G

Historical Bureau

STATE LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL BUILDING

140 N. SENATE AVENUE, INDIANAPOLIS

CHRISTOPHER B. COLEMAN, DIRECTOR

April 9, 1935.

APR 10 1935

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Secretary,
Historical Society of Western
Pennsylvania,
4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Buck:

At the Washington meeting of the American Historical Association and the Conference of Historical Societies, it was agreed by Dr. Herbert A. Kellar and Paul M. Angle, past chairmen of the Conference, Dr. Julian P. Boyd, present chairman, and myself, that an informal meeting of men, engaged primarily in historical organizations other than teaching, should be arranged at the first opportunity presented by a general historical meeting. The object is to promote better acquaintance and the idea is to make the occasion a purely social one. I have engaged Parlor G. at the Hotel Sinton-St. Nicholas, Cincinnati, for 8:30 P.M. Thursday evening, for this purpose. This will be headquarters for the Mississippi Valley Historical Association and the annual dinner of the Association will be held there earlier in the evening. It will probably be feasible for the proposed group to leave the dinner before the end of the program, if necessary.

Please let me know if we can count you in on the group.

Very truly yours,

Christopher B. Coleman

Christopher B. Coleman, Secretary
Conference of Historical Societies

CBC-G

P
Conf. of Hist. Soc.

Dr. Christopher B. Coleman
Historical Bureau
140 N. Senate Ave.
Indianapolis, Ind.

Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey, Pittsburgh
April 11, 1935

Dear Coleman:

I have received your letter of April 9 and I shall be
glad to attend the informal meeting to which you refer
on Thursday evening.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
COLORADO COLLEGE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

JAN 22 1934

January
Nineteenth
1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director,
The Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Historical Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Buck:

I want to thank you for your letter concerning Dr. John D. Barnhart who has inquired about a teaching position in Colorado College.

The vacancy caused by Professor Hulbert's death is being filled temporarily by members of our own staff. We are glad to have Dr. Barnhart's application and letters of endorsement for consideration when a more permanent appointment is made.

Very truly yours,

C. B. Hershey

Acting President.

C. B. Hershey
HBO

Dictated by Dr. Hershey;
transcribed in his absence.
HBO

Prof. R. D. W. Connor
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, N. C.

4360 Center Ave
Pittsburgh Pa.

July 21, 1934

Dear Mr. Connor:

Soon after the information got around that the archives bill had passed several of my friends wrote me that they were going to recommend me to the President for the position of archivist if such action would be agreeable to me. I was not very enthusiastic about the proposition for I am sick of executive work and should much prefer an editorial or teaching position, but the situation here is so unsatisfactory to me that I consented, and the more readily because those whose names I had heard mentioned in connection with the position did not seem to me to be fitted for it.

It has now come to my attention that the executive committee of the U. N. U. has persuaded you to be a candidate for the position; and, believing that you have excellent qualifications for it and that the professional interest in this matter should not be divided, I have asked my friends to make no further efforts in my behalf. ~~and~~ I am have also written to the President that I am not a candidate and urged him to appoint you to the position.

Sincerely yours

West Virginia University
MORGANTOWN, W. VA.
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

July 25, 1934.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Dr. Buck,

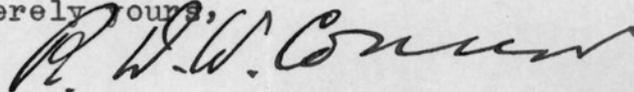
I do not know how adequately to express my appreciation of your very kind letter and of your action in withdrawing your name from consideration by the President for appointment as Archivist. It was an exceedingly generous act on your part, but I wish you had ~~done~~^{asked} done so. There is no certainty that the President is going to follow the suggestion of the executive committee of the A. H. A. and it is certainly to the advantage of the profession that he should have before him the names of several qualified men. I know of none better qualified by training and experience and scholarship than yourself and if you had not already written to the President I would earnestly urge you not to do so.

Like you I was quite reluctant to go into this matter, and for the same reason. My present work at Chapel Hill is entirely satisfactory in all respects, and my situation there leaves nothing to be desired. However the matter of the Archivist was presented to me in such a way, and by men whose opinions I was bound to respect, that I felt to seek the easier and pleasanter course smacks somewhat of running away from an obligation and I finally determined to let them have their way about it. F. D. R., of course, may have entirely different views on the matter and if he does I shall not worry about it.

I have been teaching here during the first session of the summer school, which closes on Friday. I am leaving next Monday for Chapel Hill.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

August 13, 1934.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Dr. Buck:

Thank you for your letter of August 8th. I made two or three plans for a visit to Pittsburgh during my stay at Morgantown, but each time something turned up to make it impossible for me to go. I would have enjoyed seeing you and visiting the great Smoky City, but I would enjoy even more seeing you in Chapel Hill.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

R. W. Coe

C/T

October 15, 1934

Dr. R. W. D. Connor
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Dear Mr. Connor:

Congratulations on your appointment. I am very much gratified by it: In the first place, because it means that the archives will be administered by a professionally trained and competent man; Secondly, because it is a victory for the American Historical Association; and finally, because it strengthens my faith in the administration.

I enclose herewith a clipping containing a marked item that may interest you if you have not already seen it.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DSC

P

R. D. W. CONNOR
CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

OCT 20 1934

Oct. 18, 1934.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Society,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Dr. Buck:

Your letter of October 15th is very heartily and sincerely appreciated. I have not forgotten the nice letter you wrote me about the matter of the Archivist during the summer, and I am very greatly gratified that the President's appointment meets with your approval.

Thank you for the clipping. I already had an intimation that such a scrap was on and that I would fall into the midst of it. It is a pleasant prospect, isn't it?

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

R. D. W. Connor

C/T

MAY 14 1934

The Committee on Course 101 & 102, The Contemporary World, at its last meeting decided to ask members of the staff to submit, in order of preference, two or three titles of lectures that they would like to give. The course will consist of a series of fifteen lectures. There are eleven men to submit titles. Therefore, it is an obvious impossibility to place every title on the program. Furthermore, the committee will of necessity have to review the offerings with the view of securing as much coherence in the course as possible. It may therefore have to postpone to another semester the whole of or a part of the offering of some men. Such action is, of course, not to be construed as a reflection upon anyone.

In submitting lectures the following fact should be borne in mind. This is a course on the Contemporary World. Anything within your field of specialization or general reading that you consider important to an understanding of the contemporary world is appropriate.

John W. Oliver

A. P. James

Solon J. Buck

Ralph E. Turner

B. J. Hovde - Co-ordinator

February 25, 1935

Professor Isaac J. Cox
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois

Dear Cox:

A few days ago Mrs. Elvert M. Davis, whose paper entitled "By Invitation of Mrs. Wilkinson" is doubtless known to you, presented the enclosed paper to the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. I was not here when she came in and I do not know whether or not she had any thought of our publishing it or whether she has any other plans for publication. Certainly we would not want to bring it out, because it is outside our field. It occurs to me however that the paper might possibly have some value or at least might be of some interest to you. I shall appreciate it if you will return it to me at your convenience and I should be interested in any comments that you might care to make about it.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DSC

March 7, 1935

Professor I. J. Cox
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois.

Dear Cox:-

The rumor reached me a little while ago that James is thinking definitely of retiring. This brought to my mind some conversations that I had with Buck on the train and in Washington at Christmas time. Buck, ever since he left here, has been on my mind because I know he has found the Pittsburg job less satisfactory than he anticipated it would be. In the last year or so things have become decidedly worse and from what he told me I am pretty sure that he would welcome an opportunity to make another connection. He does not know that I am writing you about this because it was the coincidence of the rumor and the conversations with him that stimulated me to do so. If you are going to make a change and have in mind the appointment of anyone with the maturity and standing that Buck has I think you would make no mistake in casting your mind in his direction.

I remember with pleasure the opportunity of talking with you at some length, especially at the dinner which Hill

gave. It seems to me that the meeting in Washington was a particularly pleasant and profitable one, especially for one being held in so large a place. Normally, I think the meetings in smaller towns are more satisfactory.

With re gards to James and others whom I may know at Northwestern.

Very truly yours

LBS:E

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

March 25, 1935

Professor L. B. Shippee
University of Minnesota
Department of History
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Shippee:

Your letter with regard to Buck has definitely reached me. I am, of course, favorably disposed toward Buck but the situation in the university at present precludes all expectation of getting a man of professorial rank to take James's place. We are, however, anticipating adding two younger men to our department, one of whom will be in the American History field, but we have nothing to offer Buck that would be at all tempting to him, even though the place at Pittsburgh is not proving all that he had hoped for. Personally, I regret that we cannot bring in a mature man at this time. We are hoping, however, to find a promising youngster whose work in the course of a few years will be worthy of James's reputation.

In view of Professor James's retirement we are planning, as the enclosed statement will show, to give him a complimentary dinner in May. If you feel so disposed, we should welcome a personal letter directed to him as is suggested in that statement. I believe you are on our list for due notification, so I will take advantage of this present occasion to send one to you. Ford, among your colleagues, will also receive such a statement and possibly there are other friends of his who would like to participate in this commemorative volume.

Trusting I shall see you at Cincinnati, I remain, with best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

J. H. Cox

If you can do so, come along so as to spend Wednesday morning with us (Apr. 24). We are leaving at noon on that day for Cincinnati.

IJC:PH
Enc.

P

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

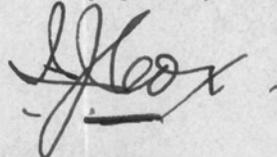
March 20, 1935.

Professor Solon J. Buck,
4360 Center St.,
Pittsburgh, Penn.

My dear Professor Buck:

Professor James as you know will retire from active teaching at the end of the present year. It is our intention to give him a complimentary dinner on or about May 10. In that connection, we wish to present him with a bound volume of letters from his former students and from friends in all parts of the country. May we count upon you to contribute such a letter, addressed to Professor James as is suggested in the enclosed statement. Thanking you for your cooperation, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



IJC:KS

DINNER IN HONOR OF DR. JAMES

At the close of the present academic year, Professor James Alton James will retire from active teaching at Northwestern University. In commemoration of his thirty-eight years of loyal and efficient service his colleagues and fellow-townsmen feel that it would be most fitting to honor him at a formal dinner which will occur sometime in April or early May. His friends in Evanston as well as his associates and former students at the University are invited to be present on this occasion of which due notice will be given later.

Meanwhile we are writing to his friends of both groups and asking them to contribute a personal letter expressing their appreciation of Professor James and their good wishes for the future. Such letters, in order to secure uniformity, should be written or typed on one side only of a standard size paper, 8 x 10, with sufficient margin for trimming and with a generous left margin for binding. The sheet should not be folded in mailing. After the letters are received they will be bound and presented to Professor James at the dinner.

We hope to make this a surprise feature of the occasion and we are asking you therefore to send these letters in a separate cover to Mr. I. J. Cox at his home address, 2611 Hartzell Street, Evanston, Illinois. Please respond promptly (by April 1, if possible) for some time will be necessary to assemble and bind the letters.

We appreciate your hearty cooperation in this matter.

March 27, 1935

Professor I. J. Cox
Department of History
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois

Dear Mr. Cox:

I appreciate very much your giving me the opportunity to write a letter for the volume to be given to Professor James on the occasion of his retirement from teaching. The letter is enclosed herewith, and I trust that it conforms with your requirements.

I am hoping to see both you and Dr. James at the N.V.H.A. meeting in Cincinnati.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DSC

COPY

March 7, 1934

Dear Craven:

Apropos of the conversation one evening in Urbana in which you said that you had an offer of a permanent position at the Huntington Library if you cared to remain there, but felt you would probably prefer to return to the University of Chicago, if you have made up your mind definitely to come back to Chicago I happen to know that Solon Buck might be interested in the Huntington position.

Solon is not particularly happy in contemplating future prospects in connection with the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society and the University of Pittsburgh (they evidently have had serious economic curtailments), and I believe that he might be interested in that position if you are not going to stay on there. Buck, as you know, is one of the ablest men in this country, and would undoubtedly be an asset to the Huntington Library.

Please keep this matter confidential. Of course there is no objection to your telling Farrand about Buck. If Farrand is interested, he can then take up the matter with Buck directly.

I shall be glad to hear what possibilities are present in the above suggestions.

Regards,

Herbert A. Keller.

COPY

HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY AND ART GALLERY
SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA

MAX FARRAND
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

March 10, 1934

Mr. Herbert A. Keller
The McCormick Historical Association
679 Rush Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Keller:

I received your letter of March 7 and can only say there is nothing here in the form of a permanent position for Buck. It is not a case of a job being filled. It is purely a case of a research program which makes way for individuals as desired. It is therefore useless to say anything to him for it isn't a case of that kind at all.

I do not know yet as to what I am going to do and will not know for many months. In the meantime, I am saying and doing nothing but trying to keep my research work going.

We have been buying quite a few things from Mrs. Philips and I shall do all for her that I can along this line. I appreciate your interest in Buck and I have as high an opinion of him as you do. If anything comes to my notice I will let him know.

With highest personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Avery Craven

AOC:ELK