

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Name or Subject Physics

File No.

Regarding

Date

SEE

Name or Subject

File No.

Michelson, A. A.

Millikan, R. A.

Compton, Arthur

Compton, Karl

File cross reference form under name or subject at top of the sheet and by the latest date of papers. Describe matter for identification purposes. The papers, themselves should be filed under name or subject after "SEE."



Cat. No. 30-5902

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CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

File No.

Name or Subject

Date

Regarding

SEE

File No.

Name or Subject

Michelson, A. A.

Millikan, R. A.

Compton, Arthur

Compton, Katy



For use in all Filing Systems
Cat. No. 30-8802

The cross reference form under name or subject at top of the sheet and by the latest date of papers. Describe matter for identification purposes. The papers themselves should be filed under name or subject after "SEE".

December 27, 1924

My dear Mr. Gale:

I am returning herewith a letter of Karl T. Compton to you with reference to the resignation of his Professorship here.

I am recommending the Board of Trustees here to accept it which is, I assume, in harmony with your judgment.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Henry G. Gale
University of Chicago

121
December 27, 1924

My dear Mr. Gale:

I am returning herewith a
letter of Karl T. Compton to you with
reference to the resignation of his
Professorship here.

I am recommending the Board
of Trustees here to accept it which is,
I assume, in harmony with your judgment.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Henry G. Gale
University of Chicago

December 27, 1924

Gentlemen:

The President reports that he has received from Professor Karl T. Compton of Princeton the resignation of the office of Professor of Physics at the University of Chicago which he had accepted to begin his duties on July 1st, 1925. The reasons which lead Professor Compton to offer his resignation are not dissatisfaction with the situation at Chicago but developments at Princeton which impel him to feel that his leaving Princeton would be a much more serious injury to that institution than he had anticipated.

The President recommends that the resignation be accepted.

The Board of Trustees
The University of Chicago

December 27, 1934

Gentlemen:

The President reports that he has received from Professor Karl T. Compton of Princeton the resignation of the office of Professor of Physics at the University of Chicago which he had accepted to begin his duties on July 1st, 1935. The reasons which lead Professor Compton to offer his resignation are not dissatisfaction with the situation at Chicago but developments at Princeton which impel him to feel that his leaving Princeton would be a much more serious injury to that institution than he had anticipated.

The President recommends that the resignation be accepted.

The Board of Trustees
The University of Chicago

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

Jan 1925

Physics

December 27, 1924

Gentlemen:

The President reports that he has received from Professor Karl T. Compton of Princeton the resignation of the office of Professor of Physics at the University of Chicago which he had accepted to begin his duties on July 1st, 1925. The reasons which lead Professor Compton to offer his resignation are not dissatisfaction with the situation at Chicago but developments at Princeton which impel him to feel that his leaving Princeton would be a much more serious injury to that institution than he had anticipated.

The President recommends that the resignation be accepted.

The Board of Trustees
The University of Chicago

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

September 21, 1934

Dear Sir:

The President's report which he has received from Professor Karl F. Compton of Princeton the President of the office of Professor of Physics at the University of Chicago which he had accepted to begin his duties on July 1st, 1934. The reasons which lead Professor Compton to offer his resignation are not dissatisfied with the situation at Chicago but developments at Princeton which lead him to feel that his leaving Princeton would be a much more serious injury to that institution than he had anticipated.

The President recommends that the resignation be accepted.

The Board of Trustees
The University of Chicago

December 27, 1924

My dear Professor Compton:

I have read with sympathetic attention your letter of December 3rd, and Mr. Gale has also sent me your letter of December 12th addressed to him. We of course deeply regret from the point of view of the University of Chicago that you feel obliged to resign the office to which you have been elected here before entering upon it.

We had counted much on the development of the Department of Physics which would be made possible by your coming to be associated with your brother and the other members of the Department, but we appreciate the situation at Princeton and recognize that in a very true sense the cause of higher education is one throughout the country.

I feel certain that the Board of Trustees will, upon my recommendation, accept your resignation at the next meeting. I shall present it, therefore, with a statement of the causes which have made it necessary.

Very truly yours,

Professor Karl T. Compton
Princeton, New Jersey

17
December 27, 1924

My dear Professor Compton:

I have read with sympathetic attention your letter of December 27th, and Mr. Gale has also sent me your letter of December 12th addressed to him. We of course deeply regret from the point of view of the University of Chicago that you feel obliged to resign the office to which you have been elected here before entering upon it.

We had counted much on the development of the Department of Physics which would be made possible by your coming to be associated with your brother and the other members of the Department, but we appreciate the situation at Princeton and recognize that in a very true sense the cause of higher education is one throughout the country.

I feel certain that the Board of Trustees will, upon my recommendation, accept your resignation at the next meeting. I shall present it, therefore, with a statement of the causes which have made it necessary.

Very truly yours,

Professor Karl T. Compton
Princeton, New Jersey

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

December 23, 1924.

Physics
My dear Mr. Tufts:

I have received from Karl Compton a definite resignation of the position which he had accepted here. He says that if we insist he will fulfil his contract by staying one year, but will return at the end of the year. I presume your advice would be to accept the resignation, but I shall be glad to know.

In view of the whole situation what would you think of an increase in Arthur Compton's salary to take effect January 1st? I judge he is, next to Michelson himself, the most promising research man in Physics with a very fair chance of getting the Nobel Prize this year. He has decided to stay with us, on faith of course, rather than on definite assurance. He seems to me precisely the type of man that we want in the University; - a case somewhat like McLean's last year.

A word on another matter. Ought not the Department of Bacteriology ^{to} be requested to decline to receive into any class doing laboratory work on typhoid fever a student who refuses to take the inoculation?

Very truly yours,

Mr. J. H. Tufts,
The University of Chicago.

Frederick S. Burton

EDB:CB

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

December 14, 1924

My dear Mr. Butler:

I have received from Karl Young a resignation of the position which he has accepted here. He says that if we insist he will resign his contract by staying one year, but will return at the end of the year. I presume your advice would be to accept the resignation, but I shall be glad to know.

In view of the whole situation what would you think of an increase in Arthur Compton's salary to take effect January 1, 1925?

himself, the most promising research man in physics with a very fair chance of getting the Nobel Prize this year. He has decided to stay with us, on 15% of salary, rather than on definite assistance. It seems to me you clearly the type of man that we want in the Laboratory; a close personal like Holsten's last year.

I want on another matter. I want Mr. Butler to accept of \$20,000.00 as requested to be able to receive into my office during laboratory work on typical fever a student who wishes to take the summer vacation. Very truly yours,

Robert A. Millikan

Mr. J. E. Butler,
The University of Chicago.

December 23, 1924.

My dear Mr. Tufts:

I have received from Karl Compton a definite resignation of the position which he had accepted here. He says that if we insist he will fulfil his contract by staying one year, but will return at the end of the year. I presume your advice would be to accept the resignation, but I shall be glad to know.

In view of the whole situation what would you think of an increase in Arthur Compton's salary to take effect January 1st? I judge he is, next to Michelson himself, the most promising research man in Physics with a very fair chance of getting the Nobel Prize this year. He has decided to stay with us, on faith of course, rather than on definite assurance. He seems to me precisely the type of man that we want in the University: - a case somewhat like McLean's last year.

A word on another matter. Ought not the Department of Bacteriology be requested to decline to receive into any class doing laboratory work on typhoid fever a student who refuses to take the inoculation?

Very truly yours,

Mr. J. H. Tufts,
The University of Chicago.

EDB:CB

December 23, 1924.

My dear Mr. Tuttle:

I have received from Karl Compton a definite resignation of the position which he had accepted here. He says that if we insist he will fulfill his contract by staying one year, but will return at the end of the year. I presume your advice would be to accept the resignation, but I shall be glad to know.

In view of the whole situation what would you think of an increase in Arthur Compton's salary to take effect January 1st? I judge he is, next to Michelson himself, the most promising research man in Physics with a very fair chance of getting the Nobel Prize this year. He has decided to stay with us, on both of course, rather than on definite assurance. He seems to me precisely the type of man that we want in the University: - a case somewhat like McLean's last year.

A word on another matter. Ought not the Department of Bacteriology be requested to decline to receive into any class doing laboratory work on typhoid fever a student who refuses to take the inoculation?

Very truly yours,

Mr. J. H. Tuttle,
The University of Chicago.

BBB:GB

December 22, 1924.

41

My dear Mr. Gale:

I have received the letters
of Karl Compton addressed to you and
to me. I should be glad of your advice as
as to the course to be pursued.

Meantime I am holding the
letters.

Very truly yours,

Mr. H. G. Gale,
The University of Chicago.

EDB:CB

December 22, 1924.

My dear Mr. Gale:

I have received the letters
of Karl Compton addressed to you and
to me. I should be glad of your advice
as to the course to be pursued.

Meantime I am holding the

letters.

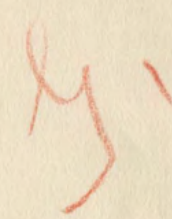
Very truly yours,

Mr. H. G. Gale,
The University of Chicago.

EDB:CB

PALMER PHYSICAL LABORATORY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

December 3, 1924.



President Ernest D. Burton,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

My dear President Burton:-

I believe that my brother has acquainted you with the situation which has arisen with regard to our future relations with Chicago and Princeton. After careful consideration of the matter from all angles I feel that I should remain with Princeton, although my brother feels unwilling to leave Chicago at this time. In this connection I wish to make the following explanation.

When the matter of my coming to Chicago was under consideration last year, I made the decision to come without the knowledge of anyone here in Princeton. Immediately after announcing this decision, and several times since, I have been asked to state any terms under which I might reconsider the move, but I have replied that the matter was definitely settled. A few weeks ago, however, the situation was presented to me in such a way that I could not but consider it again.

This situation was that probably the most prominent member of our department has unexpectedly decided to leave permanently to take up a work of such importance and for which he is so eminently well fitted that no one questions his obligation to undertake it. At the same time we are faced with the temporary, and possibly permanent, loss of another prominent member of our staff. Also, within two or three years, two more of the older members of the department will be forced to retire on account of age. These losses, together with my withdrawal, constitute a blow to our department which is much more serious than anything contemplated when my resignation was submitted last spring. There has arisen, therefore, a question of loyalty to and responsibility for the future of this laboratory, whose past record of achievement has been notable.

In an endeavor to escape such a catastrophe, Princeton has made to my brother and me the offer of which my brother has advised you, and has supplemented it with guarantees of assistance and equipment which make the professional aspects of the situation here distinctly superior to those at Chicago at present and equal, I think, to those which are contemplated at Chicago after a few years.

A feeling of loyalty and obligation, together with faith in the future, lead my brother to wish to remain with Chicago at this time. The same feelings lead me to desire to remain at Princeton. I have tried

PAINTER PHYSICAL LABORATORY

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

December 2, 1914.

President James P. Wilson,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

My dear President Wilson:-

I believe that my brother has nominated me for the position which has arisen with regard to our future relations with Chicago and Princeton. After several conversations of the matter from all angles I feel that I should remain with Princeton, although my brother feels unwilling to have Chicago at this time. In this connection I wish to make the following explanation.

When the matter of my coming to Chicago was under consideration last year, I made the decision to come without the knowledge of anyone here in Princeton. Immediately after announcing this decision, and several times since, I have been asked to state my terms under which I might reconsider the move, but I have replied that the matter was definitely settled. A few weeks ago, however, the situation was presented to me in such a way that I could not but consider it again.

This situation was that probably the most prominent member of our department has unexpectedly decided to leave permanently to take up a work of such importance and for which he is so admirably well fitted that no one questions his obligation to undertake it. At the same time we are faced with the temporary, and possibly permanent, loss of another prominent member of our staff. Also, within two or three years, two more of the other members of the department will be forced to resign or depart in one way or another. I believe that my brother's nomination is a blow to our department which is much more serious than any other one. Therefore, a question of loyalty to my responsibility for the future of this laboratory, whose past record of achievement and honor is so high.

In an endeavor to secure such a replacement, my brother has made an effort to find a man of whom my brother has advised me, and has suggested it with a sense of responsibility and earnestness which make the proposal and needs of the situation particularly pressing. To those at Chicago of recent and recent, I think, to those who are connected at Chicago after a few years.

A feeling of loyalty and obligation, however, with regard to the future, led me to resist the idea of coming to Chicago at this time. The one feeling that led me to desire to remain at Princeton, I have told

to look at the matter from the various standpoints of duty, obligation, and self interest, and these all lead me to the same conclusion.

I therefore feel impelled to ask whether, in view of this situation, you will release me from my appointment at Chicago. I recognize, of course, my obligation to come to Chicago in case you feel unable, for any reason, to release me. In such a contingency, however, I should feel under the obligation of resigning at the end of one year.

I regret very much that all the factors which are now important in this matter were not known last year, so that the present embarrassment and confusion might have been avoided. This, however, was not the case.

Very truly yours,

Karl T. Compton

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and self interest, and those all lead me to the same conclusion.

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situation, you will release me from my obligations of Chinese. I feel
of course, my obligation to come to China in case you feel
unable, for any reason, to release me. In such a contingency, however,
I should feel under the obligation of returning at the end of one year.

I repeat very much that all the factors which are now in
and in this matter were not known last year, so that the present
dilemma and confusion might have been avoided. This, however, was not
the case.

Very truly yours,

Karl T. Compton

File
copy sent to Dean Gale

December 17, 1924.

My dear Professor Compton:

I have received your letter of November 13th and have read it with careful attention. The situation which it presents gives me grave concern and will receive earnest consideration.

All of the things which you mention as necessary to enable you to carry forward your work satisfactorily I should be heartily glad to be in a position to promise at once.

You are doubtless aware that the University is just entering upon an effort greatly to increase its resources. It is indeed setting as its goal for 1925 the sum of \$17,500,000. and is including in that sum a substantial part of the things of which you feel the need. Great as is the sum, we mean to leave no stone unturned to reach our goal, and even though the whole sum should not be secured we should hope at least to take care adequately of the Department of Physics.

This being the case, will not you and your brother hold matters in statu quo while we put forth a determined effort to make such progress in our task as will enable us to give you definite assurance as to what you and your brother may expect here.

I assure you that we do not look with favor upon any plan

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I have received your letter of November 13th and

My dear Professor Compton:

December 17, 1924.

File
copy sent to Dean file

that involves you or your brother leaving us, and that we shall do all in our power to carry out our programme of advance with a speed that will make it unnecessary for you to consider anything else than staying here the rest of your life and helping to make the better University of the future.

I hope your brother's coming to Chicago will likewise be on a permanent basis.

Very sincerely yours,

Professor Arthur H. Compton,
The University of Chicago.

EDB:CB

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shall do all in our power to carry out our programme of
advance with a speed that will make it unnecessary for you
to consider anything else than staying here the rest of your
life and helping to make the better University of the future.
I hope your brother's coming to Chicago will like-
wise be on a permanent basis.

Very sincerely yours,

Professor Arthur H. Compton,
The University of Chicago.

ADB:GB

G-2

November 28, 1924.

My dear Mr. Gale:

President Burton would be glad to hear anything that you can tell him about the two Professor Comptons. He has as yet received no answer to his letter.

Truly yours,

Mr. Henry G. Gale.

WES:S

November 20, 1944.

My dear Mr. Eiler:

Professor Eiler would be glad to

have anything that you can tell him about the

two Professor Eiler's. He has not received

an answer to his letter.

Very yours,

Mr. Henry A. Eiler

1944

G 3 - P

The University of Chicago
The Ogden Graduate School of Science

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

November 24, 1924

My dear President Burton:

As I have already told you by telephone, the understanding that Professor A. H. Compton should remain here when Professor Karl Compton came was merely a private understanding between the two, and one in which the University did not enter.

I think you said exactly the right things to Professor Compton in your note of November 17. I shall be very much disappointed indeed if we have any difficulty in holding both of these men. It would be a tremendous calamity to lose either one.

Very truly yours,

Henry G. Gale

HGG:M

Henry G. Gale

President E. D. Burton

The University of Chicago

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

September 21, 1934

Dear Sir:

The President's report which has been received from Professor Karl F. Compton of Princeton the President of the office of Professor of Physics at the University of Chicago which he had accepted to begin his duties on July 1st, 1934. The reasons which lead Professor Compton to offer his resignation are not dissatisfied with the situation at Chicago but developments at Princeton which lead him to feel that his leaving Princeton would be a much more serious injury to that institution than he had anticipated.

The President recommends that the resignation be accepted.

The Board of Trustees
The University of Chicago

G 1 C

November 19, 1924.

My dear Mr. Gale:

I send you herewith a copy of a letter which I have just written to Mr. Compton, and no doubt you have seen his letter to me to which this is a reply. I am under the impression that when Dr. Karl Compton was approached with reference to coming to Chicago he indicated in substance that he would not care to come until the question of his brother's permanence here was settled, and that as a preliminary to calling him there was some sort of agreement on that matter.

I should be very much obliged if you would give me the facts. I have tried to reach you by telephone, but without success, a consequence, I presume, of your attention to the Michelson experiment. I should, however, like to have this information.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Henry G. Gale,
The University of Chicago.

November 19, 1934.

My dear Mr. Gale:

I send you herewith a copy of a letter which I have just written to Mr. Compton, and no doubt you have seen his letter to me to which this is a reply. I am under the impression that when Dr. Karl Compton was approached with reference to coming to Chicago he indicated in substance that he would not care to come until the question of his brother's permanence here was settled, and that as a preliminary to calling him there was some sort of agreement on that matter.

I should be very much obliged if you would give me the facts. I have tried to reach you by telephone, but without success, a consequence, I presume, of your attention to the Michelson experiment. I should, however, like to have this information.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Henry G. Gale,
The University of Chicago.

7. 1

The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

November 13, 1924.

President Burton,
The University of Chicago.

My dear President Burton:-

An offer to my brother Karl and myself has recently been made by Princeton University, which has presented to us a situation so desirable that we feel compelled to open the question whether it would be wise for me to remain here and for my brother to stay longer than necessary to fulfill his contract with the University. After a conference with my brother several days ago at Wooster, followed by supplementary correspondence, we have decided to lay the situation frankly before you.

The extraordinary work that has been accomplished at Ryerson Laboratory has naturally placed the University of Chicago in a leading position in physics, which gives it the opportunity and responsibility of setting the standard for physics research throughout the country. The fact that graduate work and research are so strongly emphasised at Chicago we feel places it in an exceptionally favorable position to meet this opportunity. We find, however, that due chiefly to the inadequacy of the funds that have been available for the department for a number of years, most of the experimental research is done in spite of severe handicaps, which have often delayed, and in some cases impaired the results of the investigations.

In view of the fact that we have placed research in physics and the development of graduate students as our chief aims in life, it is to us a matter of prime importance - our duty indeed - that we place ourselves in the most favorable conditions possible for such work. We feel that the facilities are not adequate unless our students and ourselves have available everything in the way of equipment and assistance that can be used to advantage. At present, on the other hand, we in Ryerson Laboratory find ourselves unable to obtain anything which is not actually indispensable for carrying on our work. Our experience with industrial research laboratories has shown us that the economical way to obtain results in experimental work is to supply every facility possible for its prosecution.

The University of Chicago

Physical Laboratory

November 13, 1934

President Burton,
The University of Chicago

My dear President Burton:-

An offer to my brother
Karl and myself has recently been made by Princeton
University, which has presented to us a situation
so desirable that we feel compelled to open the
question whether it would be wise for us to remain
here and for my brother to stay longer than necessary
to fulfill his contract with the University. After
a conference with my brother several days ago at
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In view of the fact that
to have physical research in physics and the develop-
ment of graduate students as our chief aim in life,
it is to us a matter of prime importance - our duty
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conditions possible for such work. We feel that the
facilities are not adequate unless our standards and
ourselves have available everything in the way of
equipment and assistance that can be used to advan-
tage. At present, on the other hand, we in Ryerson
Laboratory find ourselves unable to obtain anything
which is not actually indispensable for carrying on
our work. Our experience with industrial research
laboratories has shown us that the economical way
to obtain results in experimental work is to sup-
ply every facility possible for the prosecution.

If results of research in pure science are of value, and if our graduate students are to be trained in the true meaning and the correct methods of research, it is equally essential that university research be given adequate support.

We recognize that the present unfortunate condition of our facilities for experimental research can be rectified if the university seriously undertakes its support, and we are accordingly taking the freedom of suggesting what we should consider adequate facilities for the work of the Physics department. You will readily see that our own actions must be to a large extent guided by the attitude of the university toward these proposals.

In order to place Ryerson Laboratory on a working basis equal to that of other first class American laboratories, we estimate that approximately \$100,000 should be spent at once for permanent equipment; that in addition the annual budget of the department should be increased to about \$40,000 to cover mechanics and assistants salaries, expense and the purchase of new equipment; and that an addition to Ryerson laboratory should be built similar to that for which plans have recently been drawn at the request of Dean Gale. These estimates we have made on the basis of our recent experience at Princeton, Chicago and elsewhere, and they agree with those made independently by other qualified men with whom we have consulted.

We are aware that this involved the appropriation of more money than is usually allotted to any one department of the university. It has, however, become increasingly evident that Physics is necessarily an unusually expensive field for research, and if a university plans to encourage research in Physics, this department must be favored in the matter of expense. This is a universally recognized situation for the medical work of a university, which because of the elaborate equipment required presents a similar problem. It is only by its recognition of the exceptional requirements of physics research in this regard that Chicago will be able to keep the leading position in this field which it has long held.

If results of research in pure science are of value, and if our graduate students are to be trained in the true meaning and the correct methods of research, it is equally essential that university research be given adequate support.

We recognize that the present unfortunate condition of our facilities for experimental research can be rectified if the university seriously undertakes its support, and we are sure that the faculty will be ready to do what we should consider a adequate facilities for the work of the physics department. You will readily see that our own actions must be to a large extent guided by the attitude of the university toward these proposals.

In order to place Ryerson Laboratory on a working basis equal to that of other first class American laboratories, we estimate that approximately \$100,000 should be spent at once for permanent equipment; that in addition the annual budget of the department should be increased to about \$20,000 to cover mechanics and assistants salaries, expenses and the purchase of new equipment; and that in addition to Ryerson Laboratory should be built similar to that for which plans have recently been drawn at the request of Dean Gale. These estimates we have made on the basis of our recent experience at Princeton, Chicago and elsewhere, and they agree with those made independently by other qualified men with whom we have consulted.

It is true that the present situation of the department of physics is such that it is hardly possible to do any one department of the university. It has, however, become increasingly evident that physics is becoming an increasingly expensive field for research, and if a university plans to encourage research in physics, this department must be favored in the matter of expense. This is a universally recognized situation for the physical work of a university, which because of the elaborate equipment required presents a similar problem. It is only by its recognition of the exceptional requirements of physics research in this regard that Chicago will be able to keep the leading position in this field which it has long held.

It is difficult to decide to what extent the consideration of salary should enter, though we are agreed that it is secondary to the question of facilities for work. Perhaps in fairness to you and to ourselves, the best thing to do is to state simply the situation as it stands.

Here, you will recall, my brother is to receive next year a salary of \$8000, and my salary is \$6000. This we have to compare with a salary of \$8500 offered to each of us at Princeton.

A knowledge of the University's attitude on these points is necessary to us to arrive at a decision regarding our own actions. I hope that this attitude will be so satisfactory that our present enjoyable connection with the University may long continue.

With warm personal regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Arthur H. Compton

Arthur H. Compton.

It is difficult to decide to what extent the consideration of salary should enter, though we are agreed that it is secondary to the question of facilities for work. Perhaps in fairness to you and to ourselves, the best thing to do is to state simply the situation as it stands.

Here, you will recall, my brother is to receive next year a salary of £8000, and my salary is £6000. This we have to compare with a salary of £3500 offered to each of us at Princeton.

A knowledge of the University's attitude on these points is necessary to us to arrive at a decision regarding our own actions. I hope that this attitude will be so satisfactory that our present enjoyable connection with the University may long continue.

With warm personal regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Arthur H. Compton
Arthur H. Compton.

Physics

May 29, 1924

My dear Professor Compton:

I am writing this to express the great pleasure which I feel in common with many others, at your acceptance of the appointment as Professor of Physics in the University of Chicago. I hope that the prospect of your work with us is occasioning as much pleasure in your own mind. I believe that you will find great satisfaction in the acquaintance of men with whom you will be associated in the department itself and in our faculties in general.

Cordially yours,

Professor Karl T. Compton
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

President.

NB/R

May 20, 1924

Q. H. B. 1924

My dear Professor Compton:
I am writing this to express the great
pleasure which I feel in common with many others,
at your acceptance of the appointment as Professor
of Physics in the University of Chicago. I hope
that the prospect of your work with us is occasion-
ing as much pleasure in your own mind. I believe
that you will find great satisfaction in the ac-
quaintance of men with whom you will be associated
in the department itself and in our facilities in
general.
Cordially yours,

President.
Professor Paul T. Compton
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

W/R

The University of Chicago

(FOR POSITIONS ABOVE THAT OF ASSISTANT)

TO BE TRANSMITTED TO THE DEAN OF FACULTIES

To the Dean of Faculties:

Date May 5, 1924

School Arts, Literature, and Science Department Physics

The { promotion } of Karl Taylor Compton to the position of

Professor of Physics is recommended, at a salary of

Eight thousand dollars (\$ 8000.00) beginning

July 1, 1925 for a period of indetermined

Mr. Compton has the following academic record:

A.B. (or B.S. or Ph.B.) (college) Ph. B., Wooster College ; (year) 1908

M. S., ibid 1909

Ph.D. or other higher degree (institution) Princeton University ; (year) 1912

Previous experience in teaching: Instructor in Chemistry, Wooster, 1909-10; instructor in Physics, Reed College, 1913-15; assistant professor, Physics, Princeton, 1915-19; professor of Physics, Princeton, 1919-19

Publications:

A list of papers attached.

Qualities as investigator:

Probably the most prominent American physicist of his age (he will be thirty-seven years old on September 14, 1924). He is the leading spirit in the Physics Department at Princeton.

Qualities as a teacher:

Seventeen of the twenty graduate students in Physics at Princeton are now working under his direction.

Qualities as an administrator:

Personality:

Unusually charming, extremely popular, and very modest.

Provision for salary:

It is recommended that the vacancy left by Professor Swann's resignation be left unfilled next year and \$5000.00 saved from it be added to the amount now in the budget for a new professor

A. A. Nichols
Chairman or head of department

The above recommendation has also been considered by Deans

Further comments by Dean of Faculties:

Henry S. Gales
Dean of Faculties

The University of Chicago

(FOR POSITIONS ABOVE THAT OF ASSISTANT)
TO BE TRANSMITTED TO THE DEAN OF FACULTY

Date May 5, 1934

To the Dean of Faculty:

School Arts, Literature, and Science Department Physics
The { promotion } of Karl Taylor Compton
The { appointment }
to the position of Professor of Physics
is recommended, at a salary of Eight thousand dollars (\$8000.00) beginning July 1, 1935 for a period of indefinite time

Mr. Compton has the following academic record:
A.B. (or B.S. or Ph.D.) (college) Ph. B., Wooster College (year) 1908
M. S., ibid 1909
Ph.D. or other higher degree (institution) Princeton University (year) 1912

Previous experience in teaching: Instructor in Chemistry, Wooster, 1909-10; Instructor in Physics, Reed College, 1913-15; assistant professor, Physics, Princeton, 1915-19; professor of Physics, Princeton, 1919-19

Publications: A list of papers attached.

Qualities as investigator: Probably the most prominent American physicist of his age (he will be thirty-seven years old on September 14, 1934). He is the leading spirit in the Physics Department at Princeton.

Qualities as a teacher: Governance of the twenty graduate students in Physics at Princeton are now working under his direction.

Qualities as an administrator:

Personality: Unusually charming, extremely popular, and very modest.

Provision for salary: It is recommended that the vacancy left by Professor Seeman's resignation be left unfilled next year and \$8000.00 saved from it be added to the amount now in the budget for a new professor.

The above recommendation has also been considered by Deans

Further comments by Dean of Faculty:

Dean of Faculty

Papers Published by Karl T. Compton.
(Incomplete list compiled by A. H. Compton)

1. The Influence of the Contact Difference of Potential between the plates emitting and Receiving Electrons liberated by Ultraviolet Light on the Measurement of the Velocities of these Electrons, Phil. Mag., April 1912.
2. The Photoelectric Effect (with O. W. Richardson), Phil. Mag. October, 1912.
3. Note on the Velocity of Electrons Liberated by Photoelectric Action, Phys. Rev., May, 1913.
4. The Nature of the Ultimate Magnetic Particle, Phys. Rev., February, 1915.
5. Charged Surface Layers Formed on the Electrodes of Vacuum Tubes, Phys. Rev., Sept., 1915.
6. The Theory of Ionization by Collision, I., Phys. Rev., April, 1916.
7. II. Case of Inelastic Impact, Phys. Rev., May, 1916.
8. III., Case of Elastic Impact, Phys. Rev., May, 1916.
9. The Mean Free Path of an Electron in a Gas and its Minimum Ionizing Potential, Phys. Rev., October, 1916.
10. Application of the Electron Theory of Gaseous Dielectrics to the Calculation of Minimum Ionizing Potentials, Phys. Rev., October, 1916.
11. The Nature of the Collisions of Electrons with Gas Molecules, (with J. M. Benade) Phys. Rev., Nov., 1916.
12. Diffusion Cells in Ionized Gases (with E. B. Wood and O. A. de Long), Phil Mag., Nov., 1916.
13. The Theory of Ionization by Collision. IV. Cases of Elastic and Partially Elastic Impact. (with J. M. Benade), Phys. Rev., March, 1918.
14. Temperature Coefficient of Contact Potential. A Rejoinder, Phys. Rev., January, 1917.
15. The Passage of Photoelectrons through Metals, Phys. Rev., May, 1919.
16. A Sensitive Modification of the Quadrant Electrometer: its Theory and Use, (with A. H. Compton) Phys. Rev., August, 1919.
17. Note on the Radiating and Ionizing Potentials of Hydrogen, (with P. S. Olmstead) Phys. Rev., Jan., 1921.

Papers published by King's College
(Incomplete list compiled by A. H. Compton)

1. The Influence of the Combined Influence of Potential and Kinetic Energy on the Velocity of Electrons, Phil. Mag., April 1912.
2. The Photoelectric Effect (with O. W. Richardson), Phil. Mag., October, 1912.
3. Note on the Velocity of Electrons Liberated by Photoelectric Action, Phys. Rev., May, 1913.
4. The Nature of the Ultimate Magnetic Particle, Phys. Rev., February, 1915.
5. Charged Surface Layers Formed on the Electrodes of Vacuum Tubes, Phys. Rev., Sept., 1915.
6. The Theory of Ionization by Collision, I., Phys. Rev., April, 1916.
7. II. Case of Elastic Impact, Phys. Rev., May, 1916.
8. III. Case of Elastic Impact, Phys. Rev., May, 1916.
9. The Mean Free Path of an Electron in a Gas and its Minimum Ionizing Potential, Phys. Rev., October, 1916.
10. Application of the Electron Theory of Gaseous Discharge to the Calculation of Minimum Ionizing Potentials, Phys. Rev., October, 1916.
11. The Nature of the Collision of Electrons with Gas Molecules (with J. M. Randall), Phys. Rev., Nov., 1916.
12. Diffusion of Ions in Ionized Gases (with E. H. Wood and O. A. Lehm), Phil. Mag., Nov., 1916.
13. The Theory of Ionization by Collision. IV. Case of Elastic and Partially Elastic Impact. (with J. M. Randall), Phys. Rev., March, 1917.
14. Temperature Coefficient of Contact Potential. A Rejoinder, Phys. Rev., January, 1917.
15. The Theory of Photoelectrons through Water, Phys. Rev., May, 1917.
16. A Sensitivity Modification of the Quantum Photoelectric Theory and its Use, (with A. H. Compton), Phys. Rev., August, 1917.
17. Note on the Ionizing and Ionizing Potentials of Hydrogen, (with E. H. Wood), Phys. Rev., Jan., 1918.

18. The Effect of Fluorescence and Dissociation on the Ionizing Potential of Iodine Vapor, (with H. D. Smyth) Phys. Rev., Dec., 1920.
19. The Minimum Arcing Voltage in Helium. (with E. G. Lilly and P. S. Olmstead) Phys. Rev., Oct., 1920.
20. Ionization and Production of Radiation by Electron Impacts in Helium Investigated by a New Method, Phil. Mag., Nov., 1920.
21. Excitation of the Spectrum of Helium, (with E. G. Lilly) Astrophys. Jour., July, 1920.
22. On Ionization by Successive Impacts, and its Action in Low Voltage Arcs, Phys. Rev., June, 1920.
23. Dissociation of Hydrogen in a Tungsten Furnace and Low Voltage Arcs in the Monatomic Gases, (with O. S. Duffendack), Phys. Rev., 1922.
24. Remarks on Ionization by Cumulative Action, Phil. Mag., March, 1922.
25. Note of the Distribution of Range of Recoil Atoms, Phys. Rev., March, 1922.
26. Temperature Changes Accompanying the Adiabatic Compression of Steel. (with D. B. Webster), Phys. Rev., Feb., 1915.
27. A Tungsten Furnace for Experiments on Dissociation and Ionization, Jour. Optical Soc. Am. Rev. Scientific Inst., October, 1922.
28. Theory of the Electric Arc, Phys. Rev., March 1923.
29. Some Properties of Resonance Radiation and Excited Atoms, Phil. Mag., Apr., 1923.
30. Note on Brauer's Theory of the Function of the Cathode in Electric Arcs (with A. Trowbridge), Jour. Opt. Soc. Am., April, 1923.
31. Arc Spectra and Ionization Potentials in Dissociated Gases, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., vol 61, No. 3 (1922).
32. Theory of Ionization by Cumulative Action and the Low Voltage Arc, Phys. Rev., Oct., 1922.
33. Physics of the Three Electrode Bulb, Journ. Franklin Inst., July, 1922.
34. Recent Discoveries and Theories Relating to the Structure of Matter, Princeton Lectures, No. 10, June, 1922.

18. The Effect of Fluorescence and Dissociation on the Ionizing Potential of Iodine Vapor, (with E. D. Bayly) Phys. Rev., Dec., 1920.
19. The Minimum Arising Voltage in Helium, (with E. D. Bayly and P. S. Glascock) Phys. Rev., Oct., 1920.
20. Ionization and Production of Radiation by Electron Impacts in Helium Investigated by a New Method, Phil. Mag., Nov., 1920.
21. Excitation of the Spectrum of Helium, (with E. D. Bayly) Astrophys. Jour., July, 1920.
22. On Ionization by Successive Impacts, and its Action in Low Voltage Arcs, Phys. Rev., June, 1920.
23. Dissociation of Hydrogen in a Tungsten Furnace and Low Voltage Arcs in the Monatomic Gases, (with C. S. Dallenbach), Phys. Rev., 1922.
24. Remarks on Ionization by Cumulative Action, Phil. Mag., March, 1922.
25. Note of the Distribution of Range of Recoil Atoms, Phys. Rev., March, 1922.
26. Temperature Changes Accompanying the Adiabatic Compression of Steel, (with D. B. Webster), Phys. Rev., Feb., 1915.
27. A Tungsten Furnace for Experiments on Dissociation and Ionization, Jour. Optical Soc. Am. Rev. Scientific Inst., October, 1922.
28. Theory of the Electric Arc, Phys. Rev., March 1923.
29. Some Properties of Resonance Radiation and Excited Atoms, Phil. Mag., Apr., 1923.
30. Note on Brumer's Theory of the Function of the Cathode in Electric Arcs (with A. Trowbridge), Jour. Opt. Soc. Am., April, 1923.
31. An Atomic and Ionization Potential in Dissociated Gases, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., vol. 51, No. 3 (1923).
32. Theory of Ionization by Cumulative Action and the Low Voltage Arc, Phys. Rev., Oct., 1922.
33. Physics of the Three Electrode Tube, Jour. Franklin Inst., July, 1922.
34. Recent Discoveries and Theories Relating to the Structure of Matter, Princeton Lectures, No. 10, June, 1922.

35. The Electric Moment of Gaseous HCl and HBr Molecules (with C. T. Zahn), Phys. Rev., July 1924.
36. Excited Atoms in the Striated Glow Discharge in Mercury Vapor (with W. H. McCurdy, and L. A. Turner), Phys. Rev., July, 1924.
37. The Time of Imprisonment of Resonance Radiation in a Gas, Phys. Rev., 21, 207 (1923).
38. Radiation and Ionization in Helium, Phys. Rev. Feb., 1920.
39. The Theory of the Electric Arc, Phys. Rev. vol. 21, 266, (1923).
40. The Cause of Ionization in the Carbon Arc, Phys. Rev. v. 21, 476 (1923).
41. Terminal Speeds and Mobilities of Electrons in Gases, Phys. Rev. 21, 717 (1923).
42. Temperature Coefficient of Contact Potential, Phys. Rev., February, 1916.
43. Radiation Potentials of Atomic Hydrogen (with P. S. Olmstead), Phys. Rev. 21, 476 (1923).
44. The Nature of the Ultimate Magnetic Particle (with E. A. Trous-
dale), Science, Apr., 23, 1915.
45. Mobilities of Electrons in Gases, I., Phys. Rev. Oct., 1923.
46. Mobilities of Electrons in Gases, II., Phys. Rev., Nov. 1923.
47. Radiation Potentials of Atomic Hydrogen (with P. S. Olmstead),
Phys. Rev. 22, 559 December, 1923.
48. Oscillations in Low Voltage Arcs (with C. Eckart), Phys.
Rev. 23, 554 (1924).
49. A Possible Relation between the Resonance Potential and
the Specific Inductive Capacity of a Metallic Vapor, and
its Properties in the Solid State, Phys. Rev., (13, 295
1919.
50. Elasticity of Impact of Electrons with Gas Molecules (with
J. M. Benade), Phys. Rev., March, 1918.

35. The Electric Moment of Gaseous HCl and HBr Molecules (with C. E. Zahn), *Phys. Rev.*, July 1924.
36. Excited Atoms in the Blended Glow Discharge in Mercury Vapor (with W. H. McDermott, and A. A. Brown), *Phys. Rev.*, July, 1924.
37. The Time of Fragmentation of Resonance Radiation in Gas, *Phys. Rev.*, 21, 207 (1923).
38. Radiation and Ionization in Helium, *Phys. Rev.*, Feb., 1923.
39. ~~The Nature of the Electric Moment of Gaseous HCl and HBr Molecules~~ (1923).
40. The Cause of Ionization in the Carbon Arc, *Phys. Rev.*, v. 21, 476 (1923).
41. Terminal Speeds and Mobilities of Electrons in Gases, *Phys. Rev.*, 21, 717 (1923).
42. Temperature Coefficient of Contact Potential, *Phys. Rev.*, February, 1916.
43. Radiation Potentials of Atomic Hydrogen (with P. S. Olmstead), *Phys. Rev.*, 21, 476 (1923).
44. The Nature of the Ultimate Magnetic Particles (with E. A. Town-
dale), *Science*, Apr., 25, 1915.
45. Mobilities of Electrons in Gases, I., *Phys. Rev.*, Oct., 1923.
46. Mobilities of Electrons in Gases, II., *Phys. Rev.*, Nov., 1923.
47. Radiation Potentials of Atomic Hydrogen (with P. S. Olmstead), *Phys. Rev.*, 22, 209 (1924).
48. Oscillations in Low Voltage Arcs (with D. Schuch), *Phys. Rev.*, 25, 524 (1924).
49. A Resonance Relation between the Resonance Potential and the Specific Ionization Capacity of a Metallic Vapor, and the Properties of the Solid Metals, *Phys. Rev.*, 17, 225, 1919.
50. Absorption of Infrared of Discharge with Gas Molecules (with J. H. Donahue), *Phys. Rev.*, March, 1916.

The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

May 6, 1924

Physics

My dear President Burton:

I wish to recommend Professor Karl Taylor Compton of Princeton University to succeed Professor Swann in the Department of Physics here. Karl Compton is probably the most prominent of the younger experimental physicists. He is exceedingly popular and has a very charming and modest personality. His brother, Arthur Compton now a professor in our Department, will probably receive many offers from other institutions as his recent experimental work is of extreme interest and importance. If they are both members of our Physics Department, we can hold them both very much more readily than we can hold either one.

If Professor Compton accepts an appointment here, he will wish to bring with him his research assistant from Princeton. His research assistant, Mr. Van Voorhis, has completed approximately two-thirds of the work necessary for the Ph. D. degree. He has an M. S. and has published several papers during his five years in the Research Department of the Westinghouse Lamp Company. He is at present receiving a salary of \$2500.00 per year. While I regard this as unusually high for a man receiving a new appointment as research assistant here, it should be borne in mind that he has been in this position for several years in Princeton and has proved his very great value to Professor Compton. He is sufficiently mature and sufficiently well educated so that he can be of direct assistance in the handling of research students, which now constitutes one of the most pressing needs of the Department.

I wish to recommend that Mr. Van Voorhis be appointed research assistant from July 1, 1925 at a salary of \$2500.00. We shall attempt to arrange this within the departmental budget if it is authorized.

Professor Compton's standing is shown by the fact that he was the elected member of the National Academy of Sciences at the recent meeting in Washington.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Michelson

The University of Chicago

Physiology Department

May 8, 1934

My dear President Burton:

I wish to recommend Professor Earl Taylor Campbell of Princeton University to succeed Professor Jamin in the Department of Physiology. Earl Campbell is probably the most prominent of the younger experimental physiologists. He is exceedingly regular and has a very splendid and modest personality. His brother, Arthur Campbell was a professor in our Department, and probably received many ideas from other departments as his recent experimental work is of extreme interest and importance. If they are both members of our Physiology Department, we can hold them both very much more readily than we can hold either one.

If Professor Campbell accepts an appointment here, he will wish to bring with him his research assistant from Princeton. His research assistant, Dr. Van Voorhis, has completed approximately two-thirds of the work necessary for the Ph. D. degree. He has an M. S. and has published several papers during his five years in the Research Department of the Westinghouse Lamp Company. He is at present receiving a salary of \$2500.00 per year. While I regard this as unusually high for a man receiving a new appointment as research assistant here, it should be borne in mind that he has been in this position for several years in Princeton and has proved his very great value to Professor Campbell. He is sufficiently mature and sufficiently self educated so that he can be of direct assistance in the handling of research students, which now constitutes one of the most pressing needs of the Department.

I wish to recommend that Dr. Van Voorhis be appointed research assistant from July 1, 1935 at a salary of \$2500.00. We shall attempt to arrange this within the departmental budget if it is authorized.

Professor Campbell's standing is shown by the fact that he was the elected member of the National Academy of Sciences at the recent meeting in Washington.

Very truly yours,

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
SAINT LOUIS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



December 30, 1922.

Professor A. A. Michelson, and
Dean Henry G. Gale,
University of Chicago.
Gentlemen:-

I shall be glad to accept the offer which you have made me of a professorship of Physics at the University of Chicago. The high standard of achievement which you have set for your department, and the splendid opportunities for research, make this offer unusually attractive. My hope in taking this position is that I may succeed in doing work worthy of the name that has been established for professors of Physics at Chicago.

In considering the relative merits of the position at Chicago and a similar one offered me by the University of California, the matter of moving expense was of some importance. California agreed to take care of this for me if I should go there, and I hope that the University of Chicago will find it possible to do the same. As you are aware, the expense of moving, which I estimate will be about five hundred dollars for us, is always something of a burden when one makes a change in position.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
SAINT LOUIS



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

December 30, 1922.

Professor A. A. Michelson, and

Dean Henry G. Gale,

University of Chicago.

Gentlemen:-

I shall be glad to accept the offer which you have made me of a professorship of physics at the University of Chicago. The high standard of achievement which you have set for your department, and the splendid opportunities for research, make this offer unusually attractive. My hope in taking this position is that I may succeed in doing work worthy of the name that has been established for professors of physics at Chicago.

In considering the relative merits of the position at Chicago and a similar one offered me by the University of California, the matter of moving expense was of some importance. California agreed to take care of this for me if I should go there, and I hope that the University of Chicago will find it possible to do the same. As you are aware, the expense of moving, which I estimate will be about five hundred dollars for us, is always something of a burden when one makes a change in position.

I shall be ready to start my work at Chicago with the coming summer quarter (June 1923). In a separate letter I shall outline briefly certain courses which I shall be glad to offer if they fit in with the needs of the department.

Yours very truly,

Arthur H. Compton

I shall be ready to start my work at Chicago
with the coming summer quarter (June 1923). In a
separate letter I shall outline briefly certain courses
which I shall be glad to offer if they fit in with the
needs of the department.

Yours very truly,

Arthur H. Compton

Harold H. Swift
Union Stock Yards
Chicago

Physics

March 31, 1924.

*File
Physics*

President Ernest D. Burton,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Burton:

Messrs. Post, Sherer, and I called on Mr. Millikan in Pasadena and had a splendid hour with him. We tried to determine whether his administrative work was interfering with his research, and came to the conclusion that it was, somewhat, although perhaps not critically. He also told us that he was tremendously thrilled by some results which were being obtained in the laboratory, and as bearing on both points, Mrs. Millikan later told me that he worked in the laboratory until midnight about every night. Of course, I was trying to find out whether he wished he were back with us, and I don't know. He has a splendid plant and seemed enthusiastic, and if one were fundamentally interested in Scientific School administration, it would seem to be a convenient situation. Whether that is his fundamental interest, I don't know.

At any rate, it seemed wise to me to tell him that Swann was leaving, for the triple purpose of (1) getting his comment on Swann, (2) so that he would know we had a vacancy, and (3) to get him to say whether there were other unusual young men in the country that we might wisely associate with us. His reply was tremendously interesting along the following lines:

- (1) He was surprised that Swann would go anywhere from Chicago.
- (2) That Angell must have had to go to extreme lengths because scholastically there was nothing there in Physics.
- (3) That Swann's accepting facilities and equipment as against the scholarly associations at Chicago was of doubtful policy.
- (4) He would let us know whether there was some outstanding young man in the country that we ought to try to get.
- (5) That there were five outstanding places in the country where Physics was being worked at, as follows - not necessarily in the order of importance:

Pasadena
Chicago
Harvard
Wisconsin
Berkeley - think he said Berkeley, not certain.

March 31, 1934
Chicago

President Ernest D. Burton,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Burton:

Boas, Post, Shover, and I called on Mr. William
in Pasadena and had a splendid hour with him. We tried to
determine whether his administrative work was interfering with
his research, and came to the conclusion that it was somewhat
although perhaps not critically. He also told us that he was
temporarily chilled by some results which were being obtained
in the laboratory, and as bearing on both points, Mr. William
later told me that he worked in the laboratory until midnight
about every night. Of course, I was trying to find out whether
he wished to work back with us, and I don't know. He has a
splendid plant and seemed enthusiastic, and if one were funda-
mentally interested in Scientific School administration, it
would seem to be a convenient situation. Whether that is his
fundamental interest, I don't know.

At any rate, it seemed wise to me to tell him that
Swann was leaving for the triple purpose of (1) getting his
comment on Swann, (2) so that he would know we had a vacancy,
and (3) to get him to say whether there were other unusual young
men in the country that we might wisely associate with us. His
reply was phenomenally interesting along the following lines:

- (1) He was surprised that Swann would go anywhere
from Chicago.
- (2) That ingalls must have had to go to extreme lengths
because absolutely there was nothing there in
Physiol.
- (3) That Swann's association facilities and environment as
against the absolutely association as Chicago was
of doubtful policy.
- (4) He would not say whether there was any one
associated young man in the country that we ought to
try to get.
- (5) That there were five outstanding places in the country
where Physiol. was being worked at, as follows - not
necessarily in the order of importance:

Harvard
Chicago
Harvard
Chicago
Harvard

Harvard - which he said Berkeley, not certain.

He said, however, that there was no one at Wisconsin that we wanted; that the men there had already made their contributions and probably had done their best work.

- (6) And after all, we needn't worry much on losing Swann, provided we held on to Compton. Said he considered Compton the outstandingly brilliant man in Physics at the moment and predicted that he would win the Nobel prize within 10 years. He said whatever we did, not to let Compton get away.

He went on to say that Harvard's physicists couldn't get Compton's results but that he personally believed Compton exactly right and that in the discussion which is at present going on, he felt sure Compton would win out.

Millikan sails for Europe to deliver the Nobel Oration early in May so that he will be coming through Chicago in a few weeks.

Yours cordially,

Harold H. Swift

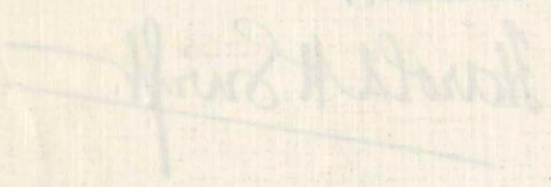
He said, however, that there was no one at Wisconsin
that we wanted; that the men there had already made
their contributions and probably had done their best
work.

And after all, we hadn't much more on looking down,
provided we held on to Compton. Said he considered
Compton the outstandingly brilliant man in physics
at the moment and predicted that he would win the
Nobel prize within 10 years. He said whatever we did,
not to let Compton get away.

He went on to say that Harvard's physicist couldn't
get Compton's results but that he personally believed
Compton exactly right and that in the discussion which
is at present going on, he felt sure Compton would win
out.

Millikan said for Bureau to deliver the Nobel Lecture
early in May so that he will be coming through Chicago in a few weeks.

Yours cordially,



Phygiene

March 17, 1924.

My dear Mr. Plimpton:

I have gone over the matter of Mr. Dempster with Mr. Gale, and much to my regret from the financial point of view I find myself unable to escape the conclusion that we must take the view more favorable to Mr. Dempster. In brief, Mr. Dempster ~~has~~ taught in the Summer of 1920 until overcome by illness. His work was finished by another member of the Department without compensation. The work was done and some one is entitled to pay for it. As the substitute did not receive pay, but did it as a favor to Mr. Dempster, it seems to me that Mr. Dempster is entitled to compensation. At the desire of the Department, and to meet the need of the Department, in the Summer of 1921 he did full work. The fact that no contract was made, and that he had in mind that it would make up for his illness in the previous summer, does not affect the fact that he did the work and is entitled to compensation for it. In the Spring of 1923, with the approval of President Judson in his annotation on Mr. Michelson's letter of February 16th, he did full work, and is of course entitled to his salary. The notation of Mr. Judson on this same letter bearing his initials separately also sustains the decision ~~both~~ that Mr. Dempster

the
occasion
of
little

March 17, 1934.

Handwritten signature/initials in red ink.

My dear Mr. Phipps:

I have gone over the matter of Mr. Dempster with Mr. Gale, and much to my regret from the financial point of view I find myself unable to escape the conclusion that we must take the view more favorable to Mr. Dempster. In brief, Mr. Dempster has taught in the Summer of 1930 until overcome by illness. His work was finished by another member of the Department without compensation. The work was done and some one is entitled to pay for it. As the attitude did not receive pay, but did it as a favor to Mr. Dempster, it seems to me that Mr. Dempster is entitled to compensation. At the desire of the Department, and to meet the need of the Department, in the Summer of 1931 he did full work. The fact that no contract was made, and that he had in mind that it would make up for his illness in the previous summer, does not affect the fact that he did the work and is entitled to compensation for it. In the Spring of 1933, with the approval of President Johnson in his annotation on Mr. Nicholson's letter of February 18th, he did full work, and is of course entitled to his salary. The notation of Mr. Johnson on this same letter bearing his initials separately also sustains the decision that Mr. Dempster

MA 9521 11
B
is entitled to pay ^{both} for the summer of 1920 and that of 1921.

In short, Though Mr. Dempster has on more than one occasion indicated a willingness to waive payment either for the summer of 1920 or the summer of 1921, such waiver is not justified by the facts as above stated, was not approved by the Department, and was, in effect, disapproved by Mr. Judson in his notation on Mr. Michelson's letter of February 16, 1923.

It is, I judge, some offset to these facts that Mr. Dempster is not to teach in the Spring Quarter. We are therefore escaping an obligation either for cash payment or future credit. I return you the correspondence.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Nathan Plimpton,
Office of the Auditor.

EDB:CB

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indicated a willingness to waive payment either for
the summer of 1920 or the summer of 1921, such waiver is not
justified by the facts as above stated, was not approved by
the Department, and was, in effect, disapproved by Mr. Jackson
in his notation on Mr. Nicholson's letter of February 16,
1923.

It is, I judge, some offset to these facts that
Mr. Dempster is not to teach in the Spring Quarter. We are
therefore escaping an obligation either for cash payment of
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Very truly yours,

Mr. Nathan Plimpton,
Office of the Auditor.

ADB:CH

XIX

The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

Copy to HHS.

March Board

Instructing Equipment
Monday.

March 7th, 1924.

President Ernest D. Burton,
Office of the President,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Physics

My dear President Burton:

I wish to thank you for your very kind letter of March 4th. It is not without many regrets that I have come to the decision to leave Chicago, where I have been increasingly happy since my appointment.

It would be out of place for me to dwell upon the fact that it is a source of real grief to me to be the cause of such inconvenience to the department of physics as will result from my leaving; and, I can only say that I shall regard it as a privilege to be allowed to do everything I can to be of service in an unofficial capacity, by keeping in touch with work started under my direction, and returning to Chicago at intervals for such conferences as may be necessary for this purpose.

Were it not that the decision is one which affects my whole life, I should not consider for one moment taking such a step as I am now taking in leaving so soon.

In tendering my resignation, to take effect on October 1st. next, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you personally, and, through you, all those at the University who have been so kind in contributing to my personal and professional happiness during the period of my activities here.

Very truly yours,

W. H. S. S. S.

The University of Chicago
Neurological Laboratory

Copy to file

March 28, 1934

President Ernest B. Burton
Office of the President
University of Chicago
Chicago, Ill.

My dear President Burton:

I wish to thank you for your very kind letter of March 28th. It is not without many regrets that I have come to the decision to leave Chicago, where I have been increasingly happy since my appointment.

It would be out of place for me to dwell upon the fact that it is a source of real grief to me to be the cause of such inconvenience to the department of psychology as will result from my leaving; and I can only say that I shall regard it as a privilege to be allowed to do everything I can to do of service in an unofficial capacity by looking in from time to time with work started under my direction and returning to Chicago at intervals for such conferences as may be necessary for this purpose.

Were it not that the decision is one which affects my whole life, I should not consider for one moment taking such a step as I am now taking in leaving so soon.

In tendering my resignation, to take effect on October 1st next, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you personally and through you, all those at the University who have been so kind in contributing to my personal and professional happiness during the period of my activities here.

Very truly yours,

W. D. Dill

March 4, 1924.

My dear Mr. Swann:

After conference with Mr. Nicholson I judge that we have no sufficient ground for urging you to continue your official relationship with us after October 1st. I greatly appreciate your willingness to render occasional service without salary and at travelling expense only to students who have begun investigative work under your direction, and I judge that on the whole this would be a more satisfactory arrangement to Yale, at least, if not to us, than for you to postpone entrance upon your work with them until February.

We very greatly regret that you feel obliged to sever your relationship with us. But I appreciate the reasons which influence you and wish you the largest happiness to yourself and family in your new place of work and residence.

At your convenience you will perhaps wish to send your formal resignation for presentation to the Board of Trustees.

Very truly yours,

Professor William F. G. Swann,
The University of Chicago.

EDB:CB

XIX
March 4, 1924.

My dear Mr. Swann:

After conference with Mr. Nicholson I judge that we have no sufficient ground for urging you to continue your official relationship with us after October 1st. I greatly appreciate your willingness to render occasional service without salary and at travelling expense only to students who have begun investigative work under your direction, and I judge that on the whole this would be a more satisfactory arrangement to Yale, at least, if not to us, than for you to postpone entrance upon your work with them until February. We very greatly regret that you feel obliged to sever your relationship with us. But I appreciate the reasons which influence you and wish you the largest happiness to yourself and family in your new place of work and residence. At your convenience you will perhaps wish to send your formal resignation for presentation to the Board of Trustees. Very truly yours,

Professor William F. G. Swann,
The University of Chicago.

WFB:GB

The University of Chicago
The Ogden Graduate School of Science
February 13, 1924

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Physics
Dean James H. Tufts
Faculty Exchange

Dear Dean Tufts:
to ask

Physics
It is necessary^A for an additional appropriation for supplies and equipment for the Physics Department. The demand this year has, of course, been unusually heavy due to the fact that two new professors, Swann and Compton, joined our staff last July. Professor Compton's field is X-Rays, and we have practically no X-Ray equipment in the Laboratory. Professor Swann's field of work is in Electricity and Magnetism, and we have had no one of professorial rank especially interested in these subjects since Professor Kinsley left before the war. The number of research students has also been increasing very rapidly. We now have about thirty men actively engaged in research in addition to the members of the Physics Departmental staff. If this work is to continue actively, it is necessary to spend \$600 to \$800 per month, mostly in comparatively small amounts. It has never been the policy of the Laboratory to buy apparatus and equipment except when it was in immediate demand. Most big laboratories throughout the country have been able to stock up with equipment, but we have never been able to really get ahead of the immediate needs. We shall be very glad to be as conservative as possible with our purchases for the remainder of the year and shall not expect to add materially to our equipment in the form of expensive pieces of apparatus. The expenses are always unusually heavy in the Autumn Quarter because most of the new research students have to be started off and equipped at that time. But the demand by no means ceases throughout the year since new developments and new research are apt to demand new equipment at any time.

The ether drift experiment which Professor Michelson has designed shows every promise of being successful, and the success of the preliminary experiment justifies us in wishing to continue with the final experiment. According to the best estimate which we can now make, we shall need an additional appropriation of \$7000 for this ~~experiment~~ ^{apparatus}. There should be a return of about \$1000 when we resell the air pump for which we shall have no further need after the completion of the experiment. I think you realize that this experiment has roused ~~an~~ international interest to a very unusual degree as it is expected to furnish another check on the truth of the Einstein Relativity Theory. Professor Michelson's reputation will insure a very large amount of highly desirable publicity to the University if this experiment is carried out.

I hope very much that the recommendations, I am informed the Auditor is going to make to the Committee on Expenditures for increases in the Physics appropriation for the remainder of the year, ~~are~~ ^{be} granted.

Very truly yours,

Henry G. Gale
Henry G. Gale
Dean.

HGG:M

XIX

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

February 8, 1924

Approved by
telegram
Feb 11

Physics

Dear President Burton:

I enclose the recommendation with reference to the Department of Physics which Mr. Plimpton estimates will cover the overdraft. I am asking Mr. Dickerson to arrange with Mr. Holden (who has been out of the city) for a meeting of the committee, if in his judgment this seems advisable. Otherwise I shall be glad to take up the points with him individually. A further consideration which it seems to me makes it important to provide for the overdraft instead of cutting down the staff by dropping the instrument maker is that Professor Swann has intimated to Gale this week the probability of his resignation to accept a position at Yale, the main inducement being the superior equipment which Yale is able to provide. I think this would be very unfortunate, and am expecting to have an interview myself with Professor Swann. If, however, we should dismiss the instrument maker this would be certain to decide Professor Swann to go, if he was still wavering.

Very sincerely yours,

J. H. Tufts

President Ernest D. Burton
Hollywood
Southern Pines
North Carolina

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

February 8, 1954

Dear Professor [Name]:
I enclose the correspondence with reference
to the Department of Physics which Mr. [Name]
will cover and coordinate. I am writing Mr. [Name]
arrange with Mr. [Name] (who has been out of the city)
for a meeting of the committee. It is my judgment that
some assistance. Otherwise I shall be glad to take up
the points with him individually. A further consideration
which it seems to me would be important to provide for the
eventual interest of studying with the staff of the
Department of Physics which is the Professor [Name] has indicated
to take in a new responsibility of his resignation to
accept a position of [Name], the main responsibility being the
superior equipment which will be able to provide. I think
this would be very important, and we expected to have
an interview myself with Professor [Name]. It, however,
we should discuss the instrument which this would be
certain to be the Professor [Name] to do, if he was still
interested.

Very respectfully,
J. H. [Name]

Professor [Name]
Chicago, Illinois
Southern Cross
North Carolina

It is recommended by the (President and ?) Vice President that an additional appropriation of \$2~~2~~⁵00 be authorized for equipment and expense in the Department of Physics. This additional expenditure being necessary in part to cover the salary of an expert instrument maker who is much needed in order to enable the Department to carry on its work to best advantage, and in part to the purchase of tools for the making of apparatus rather than the purchase of apparatus itself. It is the opinion of the Department of Physics that in the long run this course is economical although in the first instance it involves additional expense.

It is recommended by the (President and ?)

Vice President that an additional appropriation of \$2,000 be authorized for equipment and expense in the Department of Physics. This additional expenditure being necessary in part to cover the salary of an expert instrument maker who is much needed in order to enable the Department to carry on its work to best advantage, and in part to the purchase of tools for the making of apparatus rather than the purchase of apparatus itself. It is the opinion of the Department of Physics that in the long run this course is economical although in the first instance it involves additional expense.

Physics

The Hollywood
Southern Pines, N. C.,
February 5, 1924.

My dear Mr. Tufts:

In view of the possibility, not to say probability, that I shall not be at the meeting of the Board of Trustees of February fourteenth, I should be glad if you would formulate and send to me for consideration your recommendation respecting the overdraft in the Department of Physics. This recommendation should, I think, be in effect that the expenses of the department for the remainder of the fiscal year be reduced to the lowest point consistent with real economy, and should point both the causes which have led to the unexpected excess above the appropriation and the reasons why the retention of the instrument maker and the purchase of tools rather than apparatus would be less expensive than the contrary policy of discharging the instrument maker and buying instruments.

While of course it is not technically necessary for me to approve your recommendation, in this case since you are President in fact, in view of the fact that the case was under consideration before I left Chicago I think it might be wise for us to concur in whatever recommendation is made.

Yours cordially,

Dr. James H. Tufts,
Vice President,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

EDB:MCH

The Hollywood
Southern Pines, N. C.,
February 8, 1934.

My dear Mr. Tuttle:

In view of the possibility, not to say probability, that I shall not be at the meeting of the Board of Trustees of February fourteenth, I should be glad if you would formulate and send to me for consideration your recommendation respecting the overhauling of the Department of Physics. This recommendation should, I think, be in effect that the expense of the department for the remainder of the fiscal year be reduced to the lowest point consistent with real economy, and should point both the causes which have led to the unexpected excess above the appropriation and the reasons why the retention of the instrument maker and the purchase of tools rather than apparatus would be less expensive than the contrary policy of discharging the instrument maker and buying instruments.

While of course it is not technically necessary for me to approve your recommendation, in this case since you are President in fact, in view of the fact that the case was under consideration before I left Chicago I think it might be wise for me to concur in whatever recommendation is made.

Yours cordially,

Dr. James H. Tuttle,
Vice President,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

EDB:WH

22

XIV

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

January 31, 1924.

Physics
My dear President Burton:

I talked with Mr. Gale about the over draft in Physics. He regrets the situation, but thinks there was some failure on the part of other offices in keeping him informed exactly as to the condition of his available balance. In the Committee on Expenditures last week Mr. Plimpton seemed to favor dismissing at once the instrument maker who had been hired by the Department. I was quite unwilling to agree to any such abrupt action because in the first place I was informed by Mr. Gale that the Department for a long time had been looking for an expert instrument maker, and considered itself very fortunate in securing the services of this man. Mr. Gale further said that one reason for the large expense of the Department had been that they had no expert instrument maker, and consequently had to buy instruments which might have been made in their own shop. He further said that Mr. Swan's orders had been quite largely ~~been~~ the occasion of the increase in expenditure for new apparatus. It was part of the understanding under which Mr. Swan came that apparatus for his special work would be secured. He said further that Mr. Swan's orders had been in many cases not for the purchase of complete apparatus, but for tools with which apparatus could be made. So that in the long run he

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

January 27, 1934.

My dear President:

I talked with Mr. Gale about the over staff in

physics. He regrets the situation, but thinks there was

some failure on the part of other offices in keeping him

informed exactly as to the condition of his available

balance. In the Committee on Expenditures last week Mr.

Wilmington seemed to favor discontinue the instrument

maker who had been hired by the Department. I was quite un-

willing to agree to any such abrupt action because in the

first place I was informed by Mr. Gale that the Department

had a large sum of money for the purchase of an instrument

maker, and considered itself very fortunate in securing the

services of this man. Mr. Gale further said that one reason

for the large expense of the Department had been that they

had no expert instrument maker, and consequently had to pay

instrument which might have been made in their own shop.

He further said that Mr. Swan's order had been given largely

from the occasion of the lecture which he gave

recently. It was part of the understanding that when Mr.

Swan came back apparatus for his special work would be secured.

He said further that Mr. Swan's order had been in many cases

not for the purchase of complete apparatus, but for tools with

which apparatus could be made. He said that the fact was

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

thought the apparatus would be justified. As a compromise the Committee on Expenditures agreed to pay the salary of the instrument maker until February 15th. This brings it to the time of the Board meeting. My view is that the matter will have to be taken to the Board because Mr. Plimpton feels that he is passing the limits of his authority in paying requisitions beyond the appropriation. I understand also informally from Mr. Gale that the appropriation for the Michelson experiment on light is not going to be adequate on account of the unexpected expenses already incurred in the preliminary testing of the procedure. But I do not understand that this would need to come up at the same time.

Mr. Gale has agreed to keep all the ordinary expenses down to the lowest point possible, but I do not myself believe that we ought to discharge the instrument maker from such an important department which is perhaps at present the most widely known of any department in the University.

Very truly yours,

JHT:CB

President Ernest D. Burton,
Hollywood,
Southern Pines, N. C.

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

though the apparatus would be justified. As a compromise
the Committee on Expenditures agreed to pay the salary of the
instrument maker until January 1st. This brings it to the
time of the Board meeting. My view is that the matter will
have to be taken to the Board because Mr. Wilson feels that
he is passing the limit of his authority in paying regular-
plans beyond the appropriation. I understand also informally
from Mr. Wilson that the appropriation for the Wilson ex-
periment on light is not going to be adequate on account of
the unexpected expenses already incurred in the preliminary
testing of the procedure. But I do not understand that this
would need to come up at the same time.

Mr. Wilson has agreed to keep all the ordinary ex-
penses down to the lowest point possible. But I do not myself
believe that we ought to discharge the instrument maker from
such an important department which is perhaps at present the
most widely known of any department in the University.

Very truly yours,

President Ernest B. Eyring
Hollywood
Southern Place, N. C.

The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

January 8, 1923.

Physics
President Harry Pratt Judson,
Harper Memorial Library.

My dear President Judson:

The physics department recommends the appointment of Professor A. H. Compton, now professor of physics and head of the department at Washington University, St. Louis, to a professorship in the department of physics, at a salary of \$8,000 per year. We believe that Professor Compton is the most productive man in research available. His special field has been X-rays and their application to physical problems, and he has made some notable contributions. He was thirty years old last September, and we expect that he will continue to be unusually productive for many years. Professor Compton received the degree of B. Sc. at Wooster in 1913, was a fellow at Princeton, 1913. He received his A. M. in 1914 and his Ph. D. in 1916. He was instructor of physics at Wooster in 1910 and '11, and in chemistry in 1911-12; instructor of physics at Princeton 1914-15, and at Minnesota in 1916-17. He was with the Westinghouse Lamp Company as research physicist in 1917 to 1919, and in 1919-20 he was a National Research Fellow in physics and spent the year at Cambridge, England. Since then he has held his present position at St. Louis.

Very sincerely yours,

A. A. Michelson

(Copy)
Person Physical Laboratory.
University of Chicago
October Twenty Eighth

To Mr. J.Y. Aitchison,
Assistant to the President,
University of Chicago,
1703 Lytton Building,
Chicago, Illinois.

My Dear Mr. Aitchison,

Your letter concerning an interview in regard to some of the 'prospective donors' reached me last night. It would give me great pleasure to cooperate with you in this matter as I desire to render the University of Chicago any service which might be in my power.

At the present time, however, my connection with the University is somewhat anomalous. Early in the summer, Dean Henry Gordon Gale suggested that I consider an appointment as a member of the faculty of the Physics Department, on a half time basis, at a salary of \$ 3600. per year, with the understanding that I devote half my time to the University in the capacity of associate architectural adviser instead of devoting it to teaching, the remainder of my time to be devoted to research work in Physics, which is the purpose for which I came to the University.

While this arrangement was under consideration, I was requested by Mr. Gale to make sketches for a new Mathematics, Astronomy and Physics Building. I worked out a scale sketch for this project, which met with the approvable of Prof. Michaelson, Dean Gale and Profs. Dickson and Slaughter of the Mathematics Dept. While this work was still under way, I was requested by Vice President Tufts to act in an advisory capacity in a committee on the proposed Administration Building. In this connection I worked out another plan for this building which was turned over to Mr. Fluke, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds who caused it to be reproduced and submitted it to President Burton on his return from Europe.

Since the architectural work in prospect appeared likely to require more of my time than that contemplated under the proposed arrangement and since Mr. Fluke was most desirous of adding the duties of resident architect to those which he rendered as Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Arnett's letter to Dean Gale of August twenty second in which he stated that the University would not wish to consider the question of my appointment for some time to come, saved me the embarrassment of making a similar decision myself.

Shortly after this I received an opportunity from Prof. Lemon who is in charge of the Junior College work in Physics, to give a course in Heat, Sound and Light in the Junior College, which I was very pleased to accept. Also I intimated to Dean Gale and also to Prof. Michaelson that it would give me great pleasure to be permanently associated with the Department of Physics. I suggested to Dean Gale that I would be very glad to teach, not to exceed four majors per year in the Junior College at the minimum scale of \$ 250. per major if the University could see their way to appointing me to an Assistant Professor-ship in the Physics Department on a half time basis. This proposition was referred to Vice-President Tufts, who discussed it with Pres. Burton, who referred it back to the Physics Department. Dean Gale assured Vice-President Tufts in my presence that the Physics Department was in favor of this arrangement.

October Twenty Eighth
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

To Mr. J. Y. A. Allison,
Assistant to the President,
University of Chicago,
1705 Lyden Building,
Chicago, Illinois.

My Dear Mr. Allison,

Your letter concerning an interview in regard to the
the prospective honors' research we had given in
great pleasure to cooperate with you in this matter as I desire
to render the University of Chicago any service which might be
in my power.

At the present time, however, my connection with the
University is somewhat anomalous. Early in the summer, Dean Harkness
suggested that I consider an appointment as a member
of the faculty of the Physics Department, on a half time basis,
at a salary of \$5000. per year, with the understanding that I
devote half my time to the University in the capacity of associate
architectural adviser instead of devoting it to teaching, the
remainder of my time to be devoted to research work in Physics,
which is the purpose for which I came to the University.

While this arrangement was under consideration, I was
requested by Mr. Gale to make sketches for a new Mathematics
Astronomy and Physics Building. I worked out a scale sketch for
this project, which met with the approval of Prof. Nicholson,
Dean Gale and Prof. Jackson and thought of the Mathematics Dept.
While this work was still under way, I was requested by Vice
President Tilton to act in an advisory capacity in a committee
on the proposed Administration Building. In this connection
I worked out another plan for this building which was turned over
to Mr. Tilton, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds who caused
it to be reproduced and submitted it to President Burton on his
return from Europe.

Since the architectural work in progress appeared likely to
require more of my time than that contemplated under the proposed
arrangement and since Mr. Tilton was most desirous of adding the
building of permanent character to those which he regarded as
superfluous of Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Tilton's letter to
Dean Gale at about twenty second is which he stated that the
University would not wish to consider the question of my appoint-
ment for some time to come, saved me the embarrassment of asking
a similar question again.

Shortly after this I received an opportunity from Prof.
Lester who is in charge of the London College of Science, to
give a course in Heat, Sound and Light in the latter College,
which I was very pleased to accept. Also I intended to spend some
time at Prof. M. B. Harkness' that it would give me great pleasure
to be personally associated with the Department of Physics. I
suggested to Dean Gale that I would be very glad to teach, not
to exceed one hour per year in the London College at the
minimum salary of \$500. per year. If the University would see
their way to appointing me to an assistant professorship
in the Physics Department on a half time basis. This proposition
was referred to Vice-President Tilton, who discussed it with Prof.
Burton, who referred it back to the Physics Department. Dean
Gale caused Vice-President Tilton to inform me that the Physics
Department was in favor of this arrangement.

As I have heard nothing further from Vice-President Tufts in regard to this matter and as I am devoting all the time I can spare from my teaching to the completion of a series of papers on the Structure of Matter for the National Research Council, which embody my researches during the past three years under my National Research Fellowship in Physics, I do not feel that I can afford to spare any of my time at present in outside work, however much it appeals to me and however much I desire to render such service.

Trusting that you will pardon this overly long letter and that you will understand my position in this matter. I am

Very sincerely yours

Tand Kristian Mors.

National Research Fellow in Physics.

Copies to
President Burton,
Prof. A.A. Michaelson,
Vice-President Tufts,
Dean Henry Gordon Gale.

As I have heard nothing further from Vice-President Tullis in regard to this matter and as I am devoting all the time I can spare from my teaching to the completion of a series of papers on the Structure of Matter for the National Research Council, which embody my researches during the past three years under my National Research Fellowship in Physics, I do not feel that I can afford to spare any of my time at present to outside work, however much it appeals to me and however much I desire to render such service.

Trusting that you will pardon this overly long letter and that you will understand my position in this matter, I am

Very sincerely yours

Arthur H. Compton

National Research Fellow in Physics

Copies to
President Barton
Prof. A.A. Michelson
Vice-President Tullis
Dean Henry Gordon Gale

The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

May 11, 1921.

President Harry Pratt Judson,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear President Judson:

You are aware of the strong movement which has been started in this country either for the establishment of a detached Physical Research Institute somewhat analogous to the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, or else for the development of such Research Institutes in connection with a few universities.

You know, too, that this movement has enlisted powerful support from many quarters, notably from medical men who are firm in the conviction that progress even in Public Health is dependent in last analysis upon progress in the methods of the Physical Sciences and in the knowledge of matter which is now coming chiefly from physical laboratories.

You are also aware that I have for two or three years been trying to direct this movement toward the universities, and particularly toward the University of Chicago.

Funds have already been provided in California for this type of development and I have the best of reasons for thinking that they are soon to be provided in at least one place on the Eastern Seaboard. Yet no place is so well suited for it as Chicago, both because of its location and because of its exceptional success thus far in combining research and instruction - a success attained in such degree, I think, by no other institution.

If the University of Chicago is to play a leading role in the development of Physics in the United States, it is necessary that it embark at once upon an enlarged program in this field. In accordance with your request made this noon, I am sending you herewith a concise statement of what seems to me to be needed to enable the Ryerson Laboratory to become at once as strong a Research Institute in Physics as is likely to be developed anywhere in the United States.

(1) An annual \$10,000 Equipment fund to be used solely for the purchase of new apparatus and to be allowed to accumulate so that pieces costing more than \$10,000 may be bought in some years as need arises. This

The University of Chicago

Physical Department

May 11, 1931

President Harry Pratt Judson,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear President Judson:

You are aware of the strong movement which has been started in this country either for the establishment of a detached physical department or for the establishment of a department of physical science in connection with a few universities.

You know, too, that this movement has enlisted powerful support from many quarters, notably from medical men who are firm in the conviction that progress even in Public Health is dependent in last analysis upon progress in the methods of the physical sciences and in the knowledge of matter which is now coming chiefly from physical laboratories.

You also know that I have for many years been trying to direct this movement toward the University of Chicago, and particularly toward the University of Chicago.

There have already been provided in California for this type of development and I have the best of reasons for thinking that they are soon to be provided in at least one place on the Eastern Seaboard. Yet no place is as well suited for it as Chicago, both because of its location and because of its exceptional success thus far in combining research and instruction - a success which, in such degree, I think, by no other institution.

If the University of Chicago is to play a leading role in the development of physics in the United States, it is necessary that it embark at once upon an enlarged program in this field. In accordance with your request made this noon, I am sending you herewith a complete statement of what needs to be done in order to develop an Institute of Physics to become at once an active research center in the United States.

(1) An annual \$10,000 appropriation should be used solely for the purchase of new apparatus and for the lowest to accumulate so that pieces could be replaced. This \$10,000 may be bought in some years as well as others. This

The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

-2-

should be in addition to this year's budget of \$52,500 for salaries and supplies. 1000

(2) An annual appropriation of \$10,000 for five Research Fellowships. This is a most essential part of the new research program. The most important of the research work of the famous Cavendish laboratory (Cambridge, England) has been done by such fellows. They are much less expensive research workers than could be obtained for the staff of a detached research institute. (See my letter to Mr. Ryerson of February 28, 1921). 10000

(3) An annual new appropriation of \$5,000 per year for new shop facilities and assistants. The shop is the heart of a research laboratory. Mr. Michelson says that this item should be doubled. 5000

(4) An annual fund of \$3,000 for bringing to the University of Chicago for one quarter each year an outstanding European Physicist. This is a most vital part of any research institute program. 3000

(5) A new permanent \$5,000 appointment in Mathematical Physics. This has, as you know, been urged for five years. We can get the man now. War-stricken Germany has recently established several Institutes for Theoretical Physics. This field is very weak in the United States and must be developed. 5000

(6) A new permanent \$6,000 appointment in applied Physics, for dealing with wireless problems, electrical circuit problems, etc., etc. This position is vital to a "Research Institute in Physics". Professor Kinsley formerly held it in the Ryerson Laboratory, but it has been vacant since his withdrawal. 6000
39000

The last two items are not contained in my letter of February 28, though I there mentioned briefly these needs.

The whole program above outlined is actually less than that for which funds have been provided at Pasadena and which I should at once inaugurate if I went there.

Sincerely yours,

R. A. Millikan

RAM/EPR

The University of Chicago

Physical Laboratory

-2-

should be in addition to this year's budget of \$25,000 for salaries and supplies.

(2) An annual appropriation of \$10,000 for five Research Fellowships. This is a most essential part of the new research program. The most important of the research work of the famous Cavendish Laboratory (Cambridge, England) has been done by such fellows. They are much less expensive research workers than could be obtained for the staff of a detached research laboratory. See my letter to Mr. Peterson of February 22, 1931.

(3) An annual new appropriation of \$5,000 per year for new shop facilities and assistance. The shop is the heart of a research laboratory. Mr. Nicholson says that this item should be doubled.

(4) An annual fund of \$5,000 for printing to the University of Chicago for one quarter each year as outstanding European Physicists. This is a most vital part of any research institute program.

(5) A new permanent \$25,000 appointment in applied electrical physics. This has, as you know, been asked for five years. We can get the man now. Dr. Richardson, Germany has recently established several institutes for Theoretical Physics. This field is very new in the United States and must be developed.

(6) A new permanent \$5,000 appointment in applied physics, for dealing with wireless problems, electrical circuits, etc., etc. This position is vital to a "Research Institute in Physics". Professor Kinsler for many years in the Physics Laboratory, but has been absent since his withdrawal.

The last two items are not contained in my letter of February 25, though I there mentioned briefly these needs.

The whole program above outlined is actually less than that for which funds have been provided as permanent and which I should at once inaugurate if I want there.

Sincerely yours,

R. O. Miller

RM:RFB