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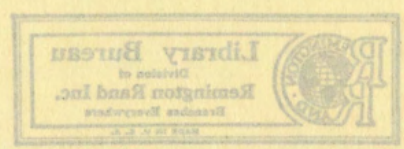
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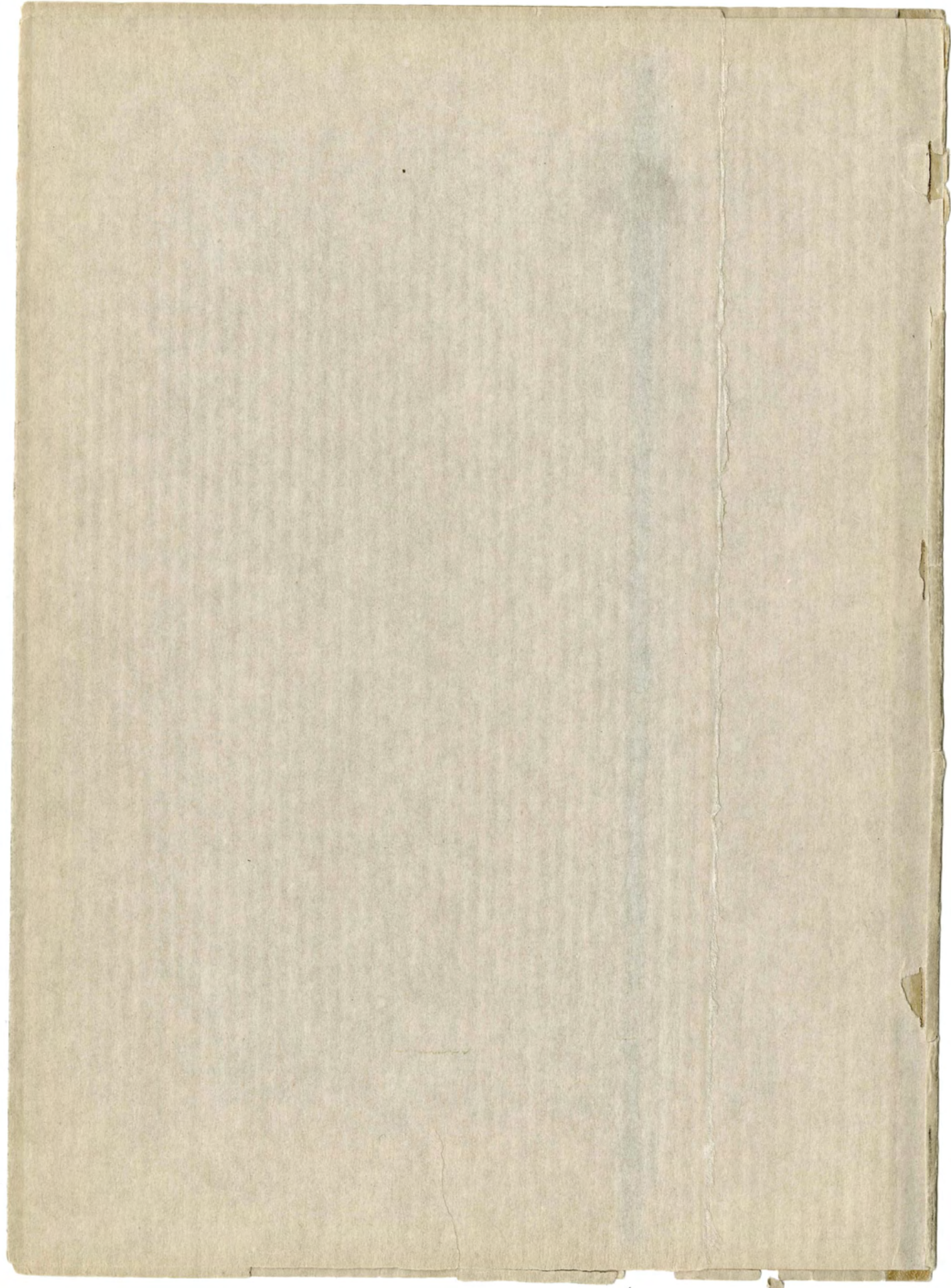


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OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY





8

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

DEPARTMENT
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POLITICAL ECONOMY.

1892-3.

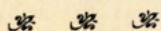
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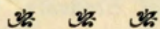
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 VOGT, PAUL LEROY
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 WALDO, KARL DOUGLAS
 WALDORF, LEE
 WALDRON, GEORGE BURNSIDE
 WALKER, EDSON GRANVILLE
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 WALRATH, ALBERT LELAND
 WALTZ, MERLE BOWMAN
 WARDLOW, CHESTER CAMERON
 WARE, RICHARD
 WARREN, HENRY KIMBALL
 WARREN, WORCESTER
 WATSON, ROBERT ELI
 WATTS, CICERO FLOYD
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 WEBSTER, ARTHUR FERDINAND
 WEBSTER, WILLIAM CLARENCE
 WEISMAN, RUSSELL
 WELLS, EMILIE LOUISE
 WELLS, OLIVER EDWIN

WEST, MAX
 WEST, VICTOR J.
 WESTLAKE, RUBY MOSS
 WESTON, JESSIE BEATRICE
 WETHINGTON, JOSEPH FRANCIS
 WHIPPLE, ELLIOT
 WHITAKER, HOBART KARL
 WHITCOMB, ADELE
 WHITE, FRANCIS HARDING
 WHITE, HENRY KIRKE
 WHITE, LAURA AMANDA
 WHITED, ORIC OGILVIE
 WILCOX, WILLIAM CRAIG
 WILDMAN, MURRAY SHIPLEY
 WILLARD, LAURA
 WILLIAMS, ARTHUR ROWLAND
 WILLIAMS, CHARLES BYRON
 WILLIAMS, FRANK NORTH
 WILLIAMS, JOHN WILLIAM
 WILLIAMS, PELAGIUS
 WILLIS, HENRY PARKER
 WILSON, EUGENE ALONZO
 WINANS, CLARENCE HENRY
 WINSTON, AMBROSE PARE
 WINSTON, JAMES EDWARD
 WIRT, WILLIAM ALBERT
 WITMER, JOHN EARL
 WOODS, ERVILLE BARTLETT
 WOOLLEY, EDWIN CAMPBELL
 WRIGHT, HELEN RUSSELL
 YAHN, HAROLD GEORGE
 YEISAKU, KOMINAMI
 YOUNGMAN, ANNA PRITCHETT
 ZARING, AZIEL FLOYD
 ZEE, TREUSINN ZOEN
 ZIMMERMAN, JOHN FRANKLIN

DOCTORS OF PHILOSOPHY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

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- CHARLES CRISWELL ARBUTHNOT (1903)
The Development of the Corporation and the Entrepreneur Function.
- DONALD ELLIOTT BRIDGMAN (1907)
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Movements in the United States.
- HENRY PARKER WILLIS (1898)
A History of the Latin Monetary Union.
- ANNA PRITCHETT YOUNGMAN (1908)
The Economic Causes of Large Fortunes.

A STATISTICAL RECORD OF GROWTH,
1892-1916

Academic Year	Persons Giving Instruction (Ex- clusive of those appointed for the Summer Quarter only)	Graduate Students in Political Economy and Commerce and Administration	Registrations in Political Economy Courses		Majors of Instruction Given in the Depart- ment of Political Economy	
			Graduate Students ¹	All Students	Net—Excluding Courses Repeated	Total
1892-93	4	33	118	215	21	21
1893-94	4	27	149	272	28	28
1894-95	5	43	147	288	30	30
1895-96	5	43	124	299	25	25
1896-97	4	27	108	305	22	27
1897-98	5	33	124	280	20	25
1898-99	5	32	151	417	29	26
1899-1900	5	46	116	399	27	32
1900-01	5	38	105	419	27	29
1901-02	6	14	97	524	34	36
1902-03	6	40	158	687	29	39
1903-04	8	36	155	733	29	39
1904-05	7	33	113	670	36	44
1905-06	7	35	119	941	31	45
1906-07	7	36	124	1006	30	46
1907-08	7	37	146	808	25	46
1908-09	7	51	225	1051	31	50
1909-10	7	49	201	851	36	45
1910-11	7	48	322	1051	33	49
1911-12	8	58	168	984	30	46
1912-13	7	55	292	1278	35	54
1913-14	9	47	222	1366	35	57
1914-15	12	68	343	1537	43	71
1915-16	13	83	427	1992	42	89
			4254	18373	728	999

Ralph Fletcher Seymour
Fine Arts Building
Chicago

FOLEY, ROY WILLIAM
 FORREST, JACOB DORSEY
 FORTNEY, LORAIN
 FOUCHT, PEARL LEROY
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 FRANKLIN, FRANK GEORGE
 FRAZIER, EDGAR GEORGE
 FREEARK, FREDERICK AARON
 FREEMAN, HELEN ALDEN
 FREEMAN, RALPH EVANS
 FREER, HAMLINE HERBERT
 GALLOWAY, IDA GRAY
 GALLOWAY, LOUIS CALDWELL
 GAMBLE, GEORGE HAWTHORNE
 GARDNER, EMELYN ELIZABETH
 GARDNER, WILLIAM HOWATT
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 HAGERTY, JAMES EDWARD
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 HATFIELD, HENRY RAND
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 MACGIBBON, DUNCAN ALEXANDER
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 MCKENZIE, FLOYD STANLEY
 MCKINLEY, ALEXANDER DANIEL
 MCKINLEY, GERTRUDE
 MCKINNEY, WINFIELD SCOTT
 McLEAN, EARL
 MACLEAN, MURDOCH HADDON
 McLEAN, SIMON JAMES
 MACLEAR, JOHN FULTON
 McMULLEN, SAMUEL

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

1890-1915

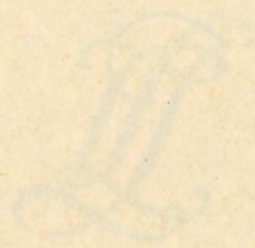
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

JAMES LAURENCE LAUGHLIN

Professor of Political Economy in the Department of Political Economy

1890-1915

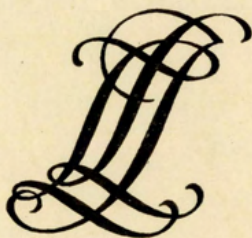


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CHICAGO, ILL.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

JAMES LAURENCE LAUGHLIN
Professor and Head of the Department of Political Economy
1892-1916



CHICAGO
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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

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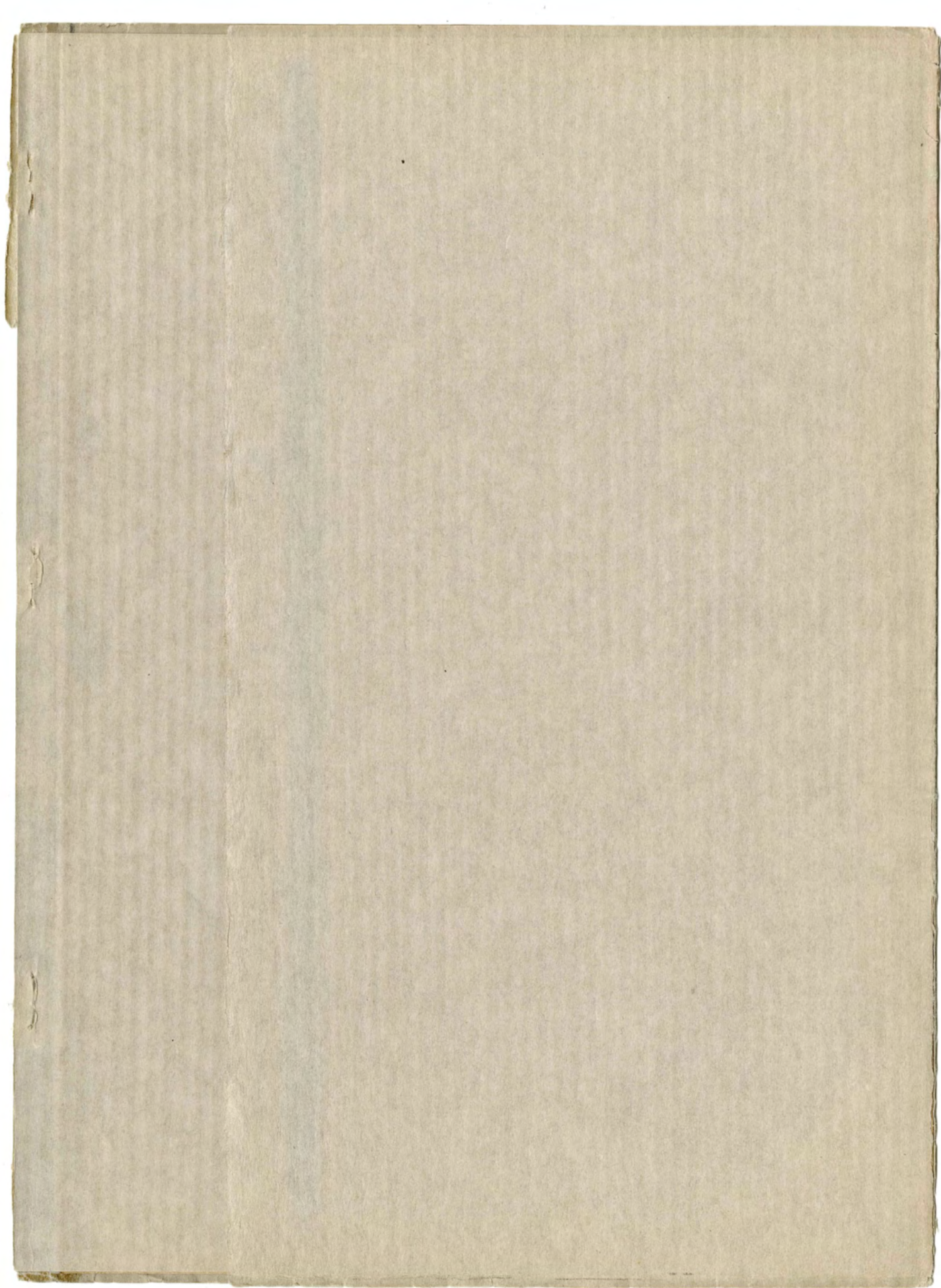
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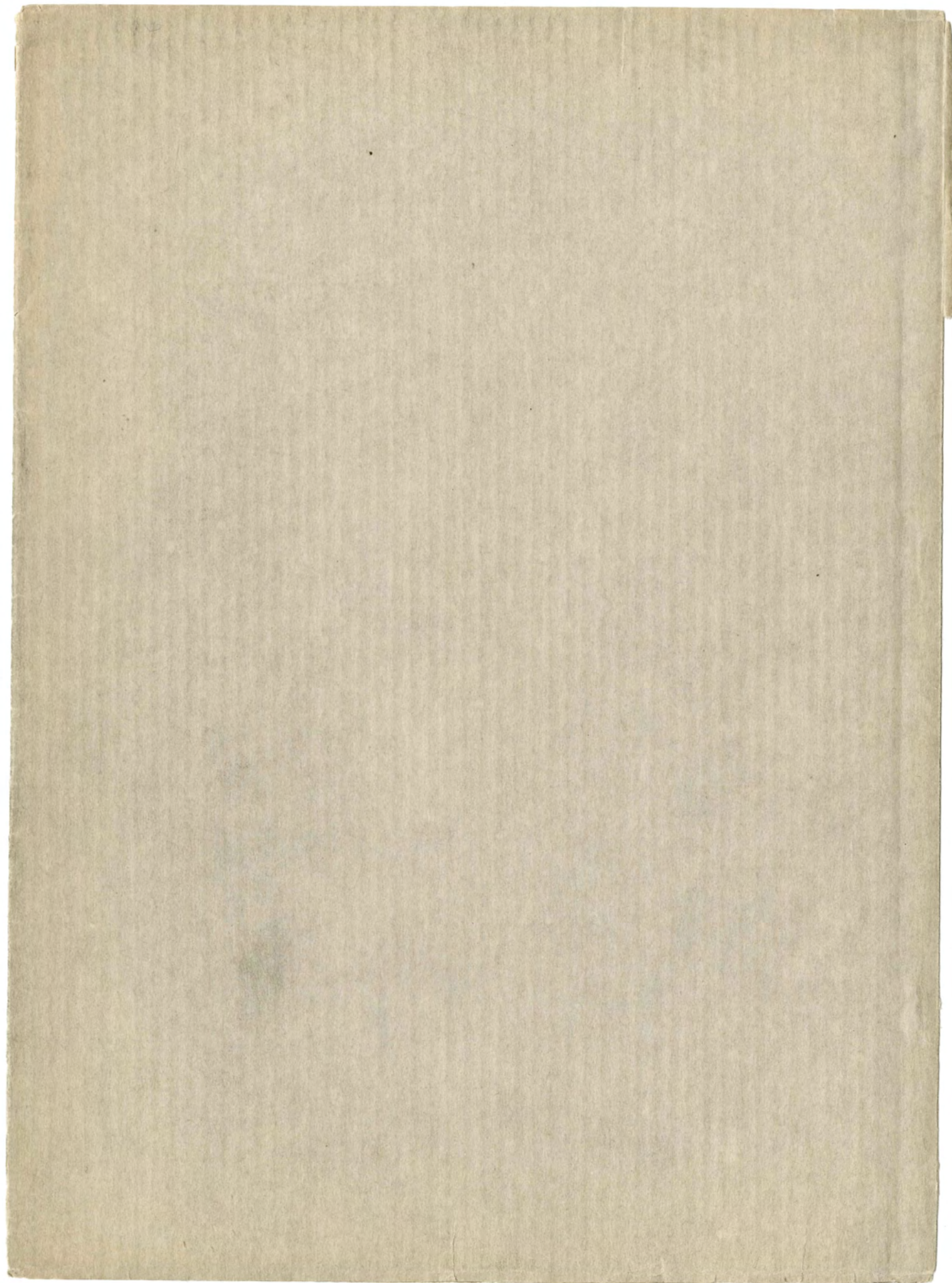
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1893-1918



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Coach Stagg Takes Advantage of the

Extension Course —

James of the University of Chicago has devised a new form of university extension work. It consists in a co-operation or combination of specialists from different universities to present the salient facts of their respective sciences by combined effort. The first experiment will be a course of lectures on modern social and economic problems. The lecturers thus far engaged are: H. C. Adams, University of Michigan; I. W. Ho-

worth, Chicago; S. M. Lindsay, Pennsylvania; H. H. Powers, Cornell; E. A. Ross, Nebraska; A. W. Small, Chicago; Walter A. Wyckoff, Princeton. The cities selected for the first experiment are Milwaukee, Cleveland, Detroit, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

Cummings

20 Holworthy Hall,

Cambridge, Mass.

October 20th, 1894.

My dear Mr. Harper,

I wish to acknowledge the receipt this morning through the mail of my doctor's diploma, and to express my deep gratitude for the honorable distinction of which it is the insignia.

May I thank you also for your letter releasing me from my appointment at the University of Chicago, and for the interest you express therein in my future?

The year which I spent at the University of Chicago passed with me most pleasantly and profitably. And if ever I become free to follow my own inclinations I feel that they will lead me westward once more.

Your letter gave me great comfort; for I had learned before receiving it that my resignation appeared to some an evidence of instability of character and of lack of fidelity to contracts. I regreted sincerely the embarrassment which my resignation might cause, although my conceit did not allow me to think that embarrassment would be serious. I believed, too, that our larger educational institutions expected instructors of low rank to accept advancement whenever opportunity occurred; and that an institution even felt pride in having its own men called from inferior positions to fill positions of greater responsibility elsewhere. I accordingly took some pride in informing you so soon after receiving my doctor's degree that I had accepted

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Cambridge, Mass.
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an appointment as Instructor in Harvard University.

The considerations which influenced me chiefly were, however, as I wrote you, of my mother's health.

You will pardon me if I have written at too great length, or if I have presumed too far upon your interest in my welfare.

Very truly yours,

John Cummings

President William R. Harper.

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Very truly yours,

Wm. R. Harper

President William R. Harper.

Pol Econ
Free Press
Cummings
(102)
135 Nahant St., Lynn, Mass.

September 10th, 1894.

Dear Sir,

I have received an appointment as instructor in Political Economy at Harvard University, and prior to accepting it I send you my resignation from the appointment as reader in Political Economy for the year 1894-5 at the University of Chicago.

I do not wish this to be considered as in any sense a bid for higher salary. I thoroughly canvassed that ground last Spring and am aware that the exigences of the University do not admit of any such increase.

I wish to express my sense of obligation to you for your many kindnesses to me last year. I shall always hold **sincere** affection for the University from which I received a Doctor's degree.

I have written to Professor Laughlin more in detail the reasons which have led me to take this step. Financial considerations and the matter of academic rank aside, I have been influenced chiefly by my anxiety for my mother's health and my consequently very strong desire to be during this Winter near her.

Very truly yours,

President William R. Harper.

John Cummings.

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Very truly yours,

John G. Brown

President William R. Harper.

Pol Econ
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.
HYDE PARK.

No 12
December 22, 1894.

My Dear Pres^t Harper,

The more I have reflected on this matter of the courses in Statistics on my journey here, the more I believe that there must have been some misunderstanding of the whole situation. I proposed the work in statistics; it was accepted as part of my original scheme; it has remained for three years under my charge; the books have been carefully collected under my guidance, and paid for out of our appropriations. If that original arrangement, including statistics, does not stand, that nothing in it stands, and doubt and uncertainty is the necessary consequence. If it is proposed to remove Statistics from my charge, I do not see why any other

subject should not also be taken away in the same unannounced fashion. The situation thus created would be intolerable. Therefore, I must insist that Statistics, if given by Dr. Gould, should be given under our department. If Dr. Gould is wanted in other departments for work other than Statistics, that does not concern me.

The relations with the department of Sociology have in the past been cordial and pleasant, as should be the case of two departments so closely allied; and I should hope they might remain so in the future. I cannot suppose that the arrangement, as briefly hinted to me, could be consummated; since it would radically alter existing relations between our two departments, and introduce a suspicion and tension which, I am sure, you would be the last to inaugurate. I have been unsuspecting; but if this plan is

seriously thought of, I must fin
myself against my environment for the
future.

You have always been most kind &
helpful in aiding us to better the work
of our department. I must continue
to speak to you freely and frankly,
confidant of your preventing what
must certainly grow into a very un-
fortunate situation. When Dr. Gould's
courses are arranged, as they should
be, with me, I shall then of course
be ready to consult, in the proper
spirit, with Professor Small so that
the work may also be most helpful
to his students. But Professor Small
should do this through me, and not
directly with Dr. Gould.

Professor Small has never even
approached this question with me. Never
in the past has he ever intimated
that the work in Statistics ^{had not} been suitable
to his students. It cannot for a
moment be said that, because of

Failure to arrange suitable work in Statistics, it has at last been found necessary to take it away from our department. I cannot possibly submit to the indictment - such as is contained in the proposed arrangement - of my fairness and judgment in managing this part of the work in my Department. If that is the real question at issue, then it is a different matter. But I do not suppose this for a moment.

I find Agatha in fine physical condition, and beginning to learn her species - finding out what other children are for.

With my best wishes for a Merry Christmas to you and yours, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. Laurence Laughlin,

Laughlin

Pol
Exam.
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.
HOBBS PARK.

File
Jan. 5th. 1894.

Pres W.R. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Chicago.

Dear Sir:

That I demanded that Prof. S^{Small} or any one else should consult me before "using the statistical method" is too absurd to discuss. Is it possible that a head of a department should be unable to distinguish between teaching the methods of statistics or history, on the one hand, and the use of the statistical or historical methods on the other hand? This distinction however, is seriously argued, without any basis by Prof. Small.

In my confidential letter to you, which you sent to Prof. Small I expressly stated I had nothing to do with courses other than statistics in Prof. S^{Small's} department. If ^{he} S^{Small} wishes courses in sociology, in which statistical methods are used, that is none of my business; but let them be called and defined as sociological and not courses in the methods of statistics.

Now please understand that I do not claim that statistics are

in the department of Political Economy solely for the members of that department and that others are regarded as interlopers. That is pure assumption; as well say that economic students are interlopers in the department of Political Science. But what I do claim is that the courses of statistics were proposed by the department of Political Economy and have been in it for three years and I do not see that any single ~~argument~~ argument has been advanced why they should not still be given in the same department.

The suggestion that I even hinted that the department of sociology should be placed under the department of Political Economy and that Prof. ^{Small} ~~Small~~ desire to apply statistical methods is a reflection upon my conduct of the department of Political Economy is too puerile to require discussion. If however courses formerly in my department are transferred to another without even consulting me, I should ask an investigation.

The issue made by me is clear and distinct. An instructor in statistics is talked over and his plan of courses considered by the President and the head of another department, unknown to me. I have, at this writing, not yet even seen the plan of courses, while Prof. ^{Small} ~~Small~~ has; and he has had the initiative in making suggestions to the instructor. But these courses of statistics have been and are now in my department. Reverse the situation. Suppose

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.
HYDE PARK.

2. Miss Talbot, or Prof. Starr had gone, and I had consulted with the President and a successor had been planned without Prof. S^{Small's} knowledge, and I had had the oversight of planning the courses in Anthropology or Sanitary Science to be given, and Prof. S^{Small} had never seen this plan, not even after the appointment was made. He should have a right to feel unjustly treated. If I had done such a thing, without even hinting of it to Prof. S^{Small}, I should feel I had been at least lacking in friendliness to the head of another department.

I am not claiming and never have claimed, any right whatever to even suggest anything concerning the courses in Sociology; but Dr. Gould's courses in statistics must justly remain in the department of Political Economy. If they are not, it can only be done on the ground that the department of Political Economy is so narrow and illiberal that its courses in teaching statistical methods are adapted only for economic students; and to that I cannot submit. If Prof. S^{Small} wishes courses in Sociology and not in Statistical Methods whatever ods with the former I have nothing to do. That the department of Political Economy monopolizes the "statistical method" is too

absurd for discussion. But the teaching of students in statistical methods has been assigned to the Department of Political Economy since the establishment of the University; and if a change is proposed, I have the right to know the reason why.

Very truly yours,

J. Lawrence Laughlin.

Laughlin

Cambridge, Mass,

Dec. 23, 1894.

My Dear President Harper,

After writing

you about Closson, I have a telegram from Hill's friends saying he is "absolutely normal, clear, reasonable, consistent". Your instructions, however, were that even if Hill recovered he could not do work again in the University. At any rate, we are now bound to Closson.

Of course, about Dec 10th, when I was instructed to find someone for the Winter quarter, no one could say how long Hill's difficulty would continue; and if anyone was to be had by Jan 3, immediate action was necessary. It would be rash to wait the development of Hill's health.

But - in spite of all this - may it not be necessary to consider whether it

would not be inhuman or cruel to drive a man out of the University for acts committed when irresponsible. When we consider that in every detail - even when irresponsible - his business arrangements were strictly honorable & honest, it could not be just to deprive him for his business operations. On which ever side we look at it, it would look hard.

Then, again, there is the fact that his strongest subject, Railways, is one that we wish to develop in Chicago; & I should not know where to turn for his equal in that subject. Mr. Chase has had a request from Pres. Hughtell for 2000 copies of Hill's article just printed in the Dec. Journal.

Of course, if Hill were to be taken back, he must be made to choose finally never to mix business and teaching again. I believe that if he definitely dropped this business, confined himself to teaching & study, he would go on perfectly well. His work all this autumn has not suffered.

In view of the awful ruin to Hill's future, if we decide against his ever teaching with us again, it behoves

us to be as considerate as possible. Of course, we must consider the University mainly & primarily. In that case, if he has only been mind-sick, & done really nothing dishonorable or dishonest, ought that to disqualify him?

I have inquired into precedents in such cases at Harvard. Pres. Eliot has several times reinstated a man after public knowledge of his temporary insanity. I recall two cases in my day, one Mr. Howard in History. Recently, one instructor in insanity tried to cut his throat, & the newspapers got it all; but he is today teaching, after his recovery.

The publicity given Hill's case in the newspapers shocks us. But that may be the very reason why - as in Blum's case - we cannot afford to drop him. Else any eccentric reporter might drive out any instructor by such outrageous publicity of private matters. The strictest investigation into Hill's business affairs will not show the slightest deviation from the strictest honesty. He erred in following

an excited business suggestion to the point of folly. But what business man has not done that?

When it is to be considered that he had been teaching 15 months without vacation, is it not likely that his body might not be so well able to resist the effects of excitement? In view of this long unbroken service should we not be clement?

Of course, it may not be true that Hill has recovered. I am writing on the assumption that he has. If he has, then it may be well for him to rest until summer, before returning. Inasmuch as Hill goes abroad next year, we should need Closson & Hill both; & Closson's engagement now should not complicate Hill's case.

I am writing you on Hill's case, that you may know my opinion. Should he & his friends come to you soon.

I go Wednesday night to New York to the Astor House; returning to Boston Sunday night; leaving Boston at 2 P.M. Dec 3rd for Chicago (Monday).

Sincerely yours
J. Laurence Laughlin

February 1st, 1901.

Robt. E. Con
Mr. John Cummings,

135 Nahant Street, Lynn, Massachusetts.

My dear Mr. Cummings:

I have been very much interested in your letter of January eighteenth and in your plans. I confess, I am not sorry that you have found the editorial work too wearing, for I think you have a larger career in the academic field. Mr. Laughlin and I were talking about you yesterday and we agreed that you were just the man they need at Leland Stanford University. We have both written to President Jordan concerning you. I wish that we had an opening at the University of Chicago, for in that case there would certainly be a place for you.

Very truly yours,

H. P. Judson

February 1st, 1901.

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Very truly yours,

H. P. Judson



REFORM CLUB
233 FIFTH AVENUE.

Mr. Lauphin
Please to Mr. Lauphin
Jan. 1901

My dear Dr. Harper,

Mr. Craus may have told you that I am renouncing journalism - or perhaps I should rather say, it renounces me. Last year I had an opportunity to go on the Editorial staff of the Evening Post (and Nation) as writer on social and economic topics. The venture was entirely an experiment, as I had had no experience in journalism whatever, and, probably because I have not the editorial facility and because all my training has been scientific rather than journalistic, the strain of the work here has somewhat impaired my health. I think my work here has not been in any

very discreditable (I am assured the contrary) and the experience in writing and in other ways has been of great value to me.

I hope to secure an appointment to teach economics another year, and I write to ask if you will bear me in mind, as I think you know I have taught five years in the Harvard department. I have had considerable experience in handling large classes, and my work has covered a pretty wide field, from elementary economics to advanced courses in sociology (the labor question), public finance, ethnology in its relations to the social sciences, and the theory and practice of statistics (this last my more special field).

until I secure some permanent appointment I shall be glad to take up any work temporarily, and as you have always manifested a somewhat personal interest in my welfare, I write to ask you to bear me and my wants in mind, if you will.

Very truly yours.

John Cummings

My address will be

135 Nahant St.

Lynn, Mass.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO,
HYDE PARK.

Dec. 12, 1900.

Pol. 6000
Dear Pres. Harper,

The weakness of our historical collections is so well known that it is operating against us in the minds of those who might come here to work in allied departments. If we had no modern equipment in science, we could not offer certain advanced laboratory courses; hence very expensive laboratories, of which we are proud. But in our group, the absence of books and materials acts just as an absence of scientific laboratories would in ^{the} science group. Our libraries are our laboratories. Without them we cannot do proper research work. We do not have the English blue books; but Harvard has, also Columbia; therefore, with other such materials, those institutions are getting the advanced students. If we are not to be provided with materials, then certain kinds of courses (of a research character) which we now offer, ought to be given up. The historical department needs a very large appropriation to cover its immediate ~~needs~~ wants; there is almost nothing on early or modern commerce. Such gains would be of help to all the allied departments. Please compare our conditions even with those at Cornell, which has the White Historical Library; and it would be sadly to our disadvantage. And yet Cornell is far behind Harvard, Wisconsin & other universities. I am sure the needs of this group have not been

appreciated as yet. What a boon it would be to have
as much done for our laboratories, as has been given to
only one of science study, like Geology. Compare the
uses made of historical books with the uses made of
geological collections, & you will see they are more
immediate & necessary.

Very truly yours,

J. Lawrence Laughlin

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO,
HYDE PARK.

Dec. 3. 1901



Dear President Harper,

Here is another performance of the Extension Department of which I have reason to complain. You have always held that the head of the department is responsible for the work in his subject in the extension field, and that he must, therefore, be consulted. This enclosed clipping is in violation of that principle. I never knew anything about this plan until I saw it in the newspaper.

We are laying up for ourselves difficulties in the future. Moreover, as in the case of Bemis, I object to certain persons being chosen by the Extension Dept. to go over the country, and make an exposition of economics which is certain to prejudice the scientific quality of our work here. There has been too much of that in the past; and our the quality of students coming here to study has been injured. I refuse my consent to this scheme as injurious to our department. If it goes on, I have the ear of the public enough to make such counter-statements as will protect us from this sort of injury. But do you wish us to carry this difference to the public? I feel very strenuous about this matter.

Yours truly

J. Lawrence Laughlin

✓
Fifield, Wis. -
Aug. 23. 1902

Dear Pres^t. Harper,

The criticism of
the Department such in your letter,
doubtless, was intended to keep us
"stirred up". On knowing the facts,
and analyzing the gossip, you would
probably not have thought it worth
passing on. I try to send the analy-
sis on the accompanying sheets.

Miller's case has nothing
in common with Mitchell's. I
happen to know the fundamental
reasons leading Miller to go; and
they are not those you mention,
nor are they of a kind which
should be talked about.

Mitchell is young, he has
had no other field of work (except
one year on the Census) than Chicago,

and the change appeals to him;
but I believe you will find eventually that the influence of some one else, connected with the possibility of marriage, has chiefly moved Mitchell.

His ostensible reason of "isolation" in Chicago is quite too slight to be reasonable, when the geographical isolation of California is taken into account; and to get with "new economists" whom he goes with one who has long been associated with him here is not logical. There is something else than this behind his going.

However, in his state of mind, he ought to go, as you say.

Very truly yours,

J. Laurence Laughlin

Pol Econ

April 14th, 1902.

My dear Mr. Laughlin:

Will you not send in your material for the programme immediately? The programme will not be of any service to us unless it goes out before May first.

Hoping that you will hurry the matter through, I remain

Very truly yours,

W. R. Harper

April 14th, 1902.

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Hoping that you will hurry the matter

through, I remain

Very truly yours,

W. R. Harper

Pol Econ

Dec. 5th, 1901.

My dear Mr. Laughlin:-

I have your note of December third in reference to the proposed Extension course with Adams, Howerth, Lindsey, etc. I think that probably a mistake was made unintentionally in including the word "economic" in the statement. Perhaps the course has been understood to be in the Department of Sociology and has been approved by Professor Small. I take it that the line between departments is a line quite difficult to draw, and that this would be especially true in any effort to separate the Sociological department from certain others. In any case, I think the University Extension Division cannot be blamed for any wrong procedure in this case, since it has carried out ~~these arrangements~~ which in securing the head of the Department in connection with these lectures are to be given. I think it is a matter for you and Mr. Small to talk over.

I do not myself think that the scientific quality of the work at the University has really been prejudiced to any extent. I do not think that it would be wise for one department publicly to discuss the efficiency, motives or purpose of another department, and I am quite sure that you will agree with me on this point.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

Dec. 25th, 1901.

My dear Mr. Laughlin:-

I have your note of December third in reference

to the proposed Extension course with Adams, Howarth, Lindsey, etc. I think that probably a mistake was made unintentionally in including the word "economic" in the statement. Perhaps the course has been understood to be in the Department of Sociology and has been approved by Professor Small. I take it that the line between departments is a line quite difficult to draw, and that this would be especially true in any effort to separate the Sociological department from certain others. In any case, I think the University Extension Division cannot be blamed for any wrong procedure in this case, since it has carried out ~~the~~ ^{which} in securing the head of the Department in connection with these lectures are to be given. I think it is a matter for you and Mr. Small to talk over. I do not myself think that the scientific quality of the work at the University has really been prejudiced to any extent. I do not think that it would be wise for one department publicly to discuss the efficiency, motives or purpose of another department, and I am quite sure that you will agree with me on this point.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

Aug. 15th, 1902.

My dear Professor Laughlin:-

I received your letter and also Mitchell's. I have had a full and entirely satisfactory talk with him. He has explained to me why he thinks he ought to go away, and thinking as he does, I agree with him that it may be best for him to go. He himself will write you frankly the situation. It is not very different, I think, from that which was the basis of Miller's action. There is a strong feeling that the Department of Political Economy in our University is isolated from the work of Political Economy throughout the country; that the members of our staff do not come in contact with other men interested in the same subject, and which the work at large; that perhaps by going to some other institution a better relationship with the outside economic world can be secured.

I have told Mr. Mitchell that I think it doubtful whether he ought to leave us before January first, and he is willing to remain until January first if we think it best.

I hope that you are having a very pleasant vacation.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

Aug. 15th, 1902.

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Mitchell's. I have had a full and entirely satisfactory talk with him. He has explained to me why he thinks he ought to go away, and thinking as he does, I agree with him that it may be best for him to go. He himself will write you frankly the situation. It is not very different, I think, from that which was the basis of Miller's action. There is a strong feeling that the Department of Political Economy in our University is isolated from the work of Political Economy throughout the country; that the members of our staff do not come in contact with other men interested in the same subject, and that the work at large; that perhaps by going to some other institution a better relationship with the outside economic world can be secured. I have told Mr. Mitchell that I think it doubtful whether he ought to leave us before January first, and he is willing to remain until January first if we think it best.

I hope that you are having a very pleasant vacation.

Yours very truly,

W. R. H. H. H.

Pol. Econ.
Note on Pres. Harper's letter of Aug. 15, 1902

Pol. Econ.
(1) "The Department of Political Economy is isolated from the work of Political Economy throughout the country." That refers either (a) to me, or (b) to other members of the corps. (a) If to me, I beg to say that I am intimately informed as to the work going on elsewhere; and my personal relations with such men as H. C. Adams, J. W. Jenks, R. P. Sly, J. B. Clark, A. T. Hadley, H. W. Farnum &c. &c. are very friendly and cordial. (b) If to other instructors, they all know perfectly well they are free to form any personal relations they please with other men elsewhere. This point is rather absurd. If they are "isolated", they are so only in the sense that any scholar, in any department, is isolated - because of engrossing occupation in study, or lack of means to travel, - or to inertia (in one possible case). And each man, in his specialty, keeps himself (with one well-known exception) well informed as to the work done elsewhere, not merely in this country, but in Europe.

(2) "The members of our staff do not come in contact with other men interested in the same subject." That certainly is not true. We see personally more outside economists in Chicago than ^{they} at Cornell or Harvard. We have invited men like H. C. Adams, Hobson, &c. But when Adams was here Mitchell never saw him; nor several of the other instructors. This charge covers a

justification of personal inertia, which will not
 bear examination. Are men to sit down supine-
 ly, saying they do not meet other men, because
 some one else does not drive foreigners into their
 own tents? Each instructor is free to go and come,
 to economic meetings, &c. This point is not worth
 further attention.

Moreover, several years ago I worked hard to
 organize a Nat. Sci. Assoc. of the Central States. It
 held its first meeting here. Contrary to my urgent
 warnings, Judson & others here allowed the organization
 to slip out of our hands. Ely and others finally throttled
 the scheme when they held the officers.

But, I have already organized a body of Econo-
 mists solely, the Econ. Com., ^{of which} is composed of Eckels,
 Kinley and myself. The first meeting takes place in
 October.

(3) Our men do not come in contact "with the
 work at large". This is incomprehensible. The
 "work at large" is done either ^(a) by teaching, or by ^(b) publi-
 cation. (a) I think we know the methods of teaching
 as well as any others of our guild, - or even better.
 (b) As to publications, very few institutions in the
 world have better means (than ours (with the Journal
 &c.) of keeping in touch with the progress of thinking
 in our subjects. There are some few better informed ^{who} ^{and better informed} than some I could mention who make
 broad their phylacteries when they get one suggestion from
 outside.

(4) "By going to some other institution a better relation-
ship with the outside economic world can be secured".
This evidently refers to a state of things in which you
can help. When I came to Chicago, announcing a
new Journal, it was opposed by the Columbia people
others, and we were regarded as rivals of other in-
stitutions having journals. As you know, I got little
support from Miller and Hill. Persistent efforts are
constantly being made to get us to join our publications
with the Econ. Association. Our refusal has excited
a feeling that we propose to separate ourselves from the
others. In addition, Seligman influences the Amer. Econ.
Assoc.; and he with a few others regard Chicago as their
most efficient rivals. They are ready to make diffi-
culties for us. I could give details, if I chose. If we
were to give up our separate publications, others would, and
the work against us from certain sources would dis-
appear. This would take away the substance of this
charge (4). I have too much spirit to yield to this
kind of pressure; and I am sure we can look to
you for help and not for criticism in upholding our
economic publications.

(5) Because of the Bemis affair, and attacks upon
the University as an organ of great capitalists, per-
sistent attempts have been made to misrepresent
the economic attitude of our department. It was
taken up by Hill when sore and disabled. We have
been represented as intolerant, rigid in our views,
narrow, old-fashioned, and unwilling to take new
departures. This is false, all through; it can be dis-

found any day in our class-rooms. When asked to specify, neither Mill - nor any one else - has ever been able to refer to a written, or spoken, statement of mine which justified any such characterization of the department as has been made.

In my own special subjects of Money, instead of following Ricardo, and the conservative classical school (as is done at Harvard, for instance) I have gone so far the other way that I may possibly be called an iconoclast. In teaching the general principles, my classes know that I have introduced the most recent points of view - changing and leaving very little of Mill.

It probably simmers down to this: no man of any force of character - as you will know, from your own experience - will always satisfy each man's idea as to how a department should be managed. Always instructors may be asked to do things they dislike. Any man's amour propre is easily abraded. In trying to secure the highest efficiency, this is often inevitable. In the very case which has called out your letter, I could give specific instances; but there is no use.

On the whole question, I am always ready to receive any suggestions which will improve the position of our department both within and without the University.

Respectfully Submitted

J. Laurence Laughlin

The University of Chicago

570 E 55th St
Chicago Ill. Mar-5-05

My dear Dr Webster,

We were very glad to get your letter, and to see that you had not forgotten us. I intended to write before, but kept putting it off, hoping to hear from you or Mr Weinand, I am sorry you are not feeling better this winter, I trust you will be able to get out and enjoy the warm spring weather soon.

Mr Richmond and I have been well, and have enjoyed our life here very much. The winter here has been about the same as in Rochester. The snow is now all gone and the boys are out playing marbles on the street. The people here are friendly and sociable. We go to the University Church, and

to The Baptist Church a block a-
way. The only draw back we
have in Chicago is The horrible
old street cars. We live 8 miles out
and The cable cars are worse than
any I ever saw in Rochester. There
is an elevated line however about
 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from our house. Mrs Powers
was out here for four or five weeks
this winter and that kept Mrs
Richmond from being homesick.

I have put in over a year of
school work and have enjoyed it so
much. It has been a great opportu-
nity for me. In some respects the
University is better than I expected,
and in some it is not so good.
There are a great many courses
of study offered on a great variety
of subjects. Some of the instructors
are good men, and some are
poor. I have had work under
both classes. The best men are
in the graduate departments.
This is what gives such a name
to the institution. Again,

The University of Chicago

The professors are of all shades of opinion. Prof Laughlin, head of the Political Economy department is a capitalist, through and through. Associate professor Cummings is a strong trades-union man, and believes in the "closed shop".

Prof. Meyers is a strong individualist in regard to government ownership. He is continually exposing the weakness of municipal ownership in England.

Dr Merriam, on the other hand, is distinctly in favor of municipal ownership. He thinks that is the only way to improve city government, to have better city officials elected, etc.

Municipal ownership of street railroads in Chicago is a burning question. The municipal elections are held here in April. The Democrat party are for

immediate⁴ ownership of street
railways. The Republican
party ostensibly favor city
ownership, but want to wait
a few years till the city has
more money.

I think the Democrats will
win. One eight-mile ride in
a summer car with but a little
coal stove in the middle, and
the temperature about zero,
will convert most anyone
to municipal ownership.

The city government here is
fairly honest. There are several
citizen organizations which have
been energetic for 4 or 5 years
and have succeeded in getting
about 24 honest aldermen out of
a total of 35.

You no doubt have read
about Dr Harper's recent illness
and the hopelessness of his
case. He has been a hard
worker. He gave 5 to 6 lectures

The University of Chicago

every day while other professors give 2 or 3. In addition to this Dr Harper has the administrative duties to look after. He has also written three books which are now on the press. Dr Harper has been the hardest worker in the University. He is now busy on plans to enlarge the University by several new buildings to cost about \$5,000,000,

Give our respects to your family, and to Mr + Mrs Weinans. I should be glad to hear from them.

Sincerely yours—

A. L. Richmond

The University of Chicago

every day while other professors
give a rest. In addition to this
the library has the administrative
business to look after. He has also
written three books which are
now in the library. The library has
been the most successful in the
country. It is the only one to
exceed the University of Harvard
in the number of books. The cost of
the building is not small.

Since our meeting the year
has been very busy. It has been
a pleasure to hear from you.
Sincerely yours

W. B. E. B.

7 124
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

March 9, 1918.

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

Dear Sir:

At the instance of the President and the Council of National Defense, the Department of Labor has undertaken to organize a unified war labor program. To assist me in developing an outline of the plans for carrying the purpose into effect, I created an Advisory Council, of which Dr. L. C. Marshall of your University was a member. That Council has about completed its work, and a general outline has been formulated that is only awaiting the action of Congress to enable us to put it into effect.

A number of new divisions are contemplated in the plan proposed, which, in actual administration, will have to be properly coordinated. They will also have to be coordinated with the activities of other Departments already in existence. To do that will require considerable investigation, planning and negotiation. The number of other duties arising within the Department will preclude the possibility of my giving that personal attention to it which the importance and pressing necessity of the work requires. I need some one to assist me, at least until the work is in running order, in whose ability, judgment and tact I can rely.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

March 5, 1918.

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

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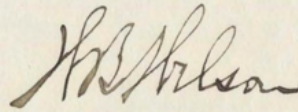
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- 2 -

My observation of the work of Dr. Marshall has convinced me that his services would be invaluable in handling the work under consideration. I write to urge you to give him leave for a long enough period to enable him to undertake this work.

Trusting that you will be able to grant my request, I am

Sincerely yours,

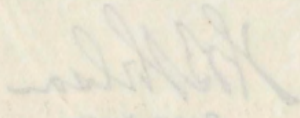
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W.B. Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Secretary.

WEW-H

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Sincerely yours,


Secretary

NEW-H