

The University of Chicago

102  
October 30, 1901.

My dear President:

Mr. Laing's appointment as instructor expires this year. He has made a very distinct success.

He has been asked to apply for the Associate Professorship of Latin at Mc Gill College, Montreal, under circumstances that make it evident that he is being very carefully thought of there. The position would be in effect that of head of the department; for Principal Peterson is so busy with his presidential duties that he can give but little time to Latin.

Laing could, of course, bring the strongest kind of testimonials if he should apply for the position. This University should, of course, give him ungrudging praise, and the same thing would be the case with the Johns Hopkins men and with Minton Warren, now at Harvard. Warren regards him as one of the two best men that Johns Hopkins has turned out in Latin. — Obviously a man who brings such testimony from Johns Hopkins, Harvard and Chicago, would stand a very strong chance of election.

Laing would rather stay here, if promotion is awaiting him. I should myself feel that he deserves an Assistant Professorship, in any case. That ought to be made easier by the fact that he was successor to Moore, who held an Assistant Professorship.

On the other hand, if promotion is not awaiting him, Laing would prefer to apply for this very honorable position; and I should do the same thing in his case.

Unless your mind is already made up one way or the other, can you talk with me very soon on the subject? The letter sent to Laing



The University of Chicago

October 30, 1901.

My dear President:

Mr. Loring's appointment as instructor expires this

year. He has made a very distinct success.

He has been asked to apply for the Associate Professorship of Latin at McGill College, Montreal, under circumstances that make it evident that he is being very carefully thought of there. The posi-

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to Loring. He should apply for the position. This University should, of  
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Unless your mind is already made up one way or the other, can  
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The University of Chicago

October 30, 1901.

(2)

requires a respectfully early answer. Saunders, who is now at McGill and is going to Bryn Mawr to take the place of Smyth (who has gone to Harvard) is the one who wrote to Laing. He has told Laing that the department of Greek and Latin were to be reorganized at McGill and has asked Laing to write himself to Principal Peterson. Saunders added that he was writing with the knowledge of Principal Peterson. You will see then that the matter is urgent.

Faithfully yours,

W. H. Hale

If Laing were not so modest, he would have gone directly to you. He has never asked anything for himself. You remember, perhaps, that he made no conditions when he came here.



October 30, 1903.

(2)

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Harold H. Swift  
Union Stock Yards  
Chicago

March 5,  
1923

Mr. E. D. Burton,  
The University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Burton:

I attach herewith copy of letter I have dictated to Mr. Judson, which I propose not to send until after you have had at least a preliminary talk with Mr. Tufts.

Will you please be good enough to make any suggestions that occur to you. I shall consider your frank criticism a personal favor. And will you let me have the suggestions, either in writing or by phone, after you have talked to Mr. Tufts,- thus indicating that you favor sending a letter.

Yours cordially,

Harold H. Swift



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Handwritten notes in the top center, possibly a date or reference number.

Handwritten notes in the middle right section, possibly a date or reference number.

Main body of the document containing several paragraphs of text, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.

Handwritten notes at the bottom center, possibly a signature or date.



March 6,  
1923

Dear Mr. Judson:

Mr. Ryerson asked me to inform you when there had been any development on the question of asking Mr. Laing to return to us. His name seems to have been before us chiefly in connection with the position of Dean of Faculties if such an office should be inaugurated. After carefully considering the whole situation, Mr. Burton has come to the conclusion that if the office is established, he will offer it to Mr. Tufts.

I am sure that Mr. Burton and many others, including myself, hope that something may work out whereby it will be feasible to bring Mr. Laing back to us, but thought I should let you know that it is not in immediate prospect.

I hope you are having a restful, satisfactory time somewhere in the South. Since I don't know where you are, I am sending this letter to Mrs. Judson, asking her to forward it.

Yours cordially,

HAROLD H. SWIFT

HHS:GB

cc EDB



March 6,  
1933

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Mr. Ryerson asked me to inform you when there had been any development on the question of asking Mr. Loring to return to us. His name seems to have been before us chiefly in connection with the position of Dean of Faculties if such an office should be inaugurated. After carefully considering the whole situation, Mr. Burton has come to the conclusion that if the office is established, he will offer it to Mr. Tuttle. I am sure that Mr. Burton and many others, including myself, hope that something may work out whereby it will be feasible to bring Mr. Loring back to us, but thought I should let you know that it is not an immediate prospect. I hope you are having a restful, satisfactory time somewhere in the South. Since I don't know where you are, I am sending this letter to Mrs. Johnson, asking her to forward it.

Yours cordially,

HAROLD H. SWIFT

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Harold H. Swift  
Union Stock Yards  
Chicago

*Jan 7 file*

March 5,  
1923

Mr. E. D. Burton,  
The University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Burton:

I attach herewith a copy of the petition in  
reference to Mr. Laing on the theory that you might at some  
time wish to have it to refer to as to signers, etc.

Yours cordially,

Harold H. Swift,



March 10, 1906  
Chicago

March 10, 1906

Mr. E. D. Burton,  
The University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Burton:

I attach herewith a copy of the petition in  
reference to Mr. Laidlaw on the theory that you might at some  
time wish to have it as basis for an argument, etc.

Very cordially,

W. B. Duff



(Copy)

December 12, 1922.

President Harry Pratt Judson,  
The University of Chicago.

Dear Mr. President:

The undersigned members of the University Senate respectfully recommend for your consideration the name of Professor Gordon Jennings Laing, as Dean of the Faculties of this University. We believe that he possesses the personality, the scholarship, and the executive ability which are desirable in this position. We also feel that he has to an unusual degree, a broad sympathy for advanced learning and research in all branches of the humanities and of science. Dr. Laing's long association with this University won for him the universal admiration and confidence of the Faculty, and we believe that his return would be welcomed with enthusiasm by all members of the University.

Henry W. Prescott  
John M. Manley  
Wm. A. Nitze  
Shaw W. Cutting  
Paul Shorey  
Ernest H. Wilkins  
Carl D. Buck  
Tom Peete Cross  
Gerald B. Smith  
J. M. Powis Smith  
S. J. Case  
Theo. G. Soares

A. A. Michelson  
Edwin O. Jordan  
E. H. Moore  
Julius Stieglitz  
F. R. Moulton  
A. J. Carlson  
F. C. Koch  
H. Gideon Wells  
R. R. Bensley  
Harlan H. Barrows  
E. W. Hinton

Albin W. Small  
Ernest D. Burton  
Marian Talbot  
Charles H. Judd  
Henry C. Morrison  
H. A. Carr  
L. C. Marshall  
C. E. Merriam  
Floyd R. Mechem  
Harry A. Bigelow  
Frederic C. Woodward  
Ernest Freund







(Copy)

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
Ryerson Physical Laboratory

December 13, 1923.

Dear President Judson:

All those who have signed the accompanying paper with reference to Dr. Laing's possible return to the University are very hopeful that he may be secured. Mr. Judd and Mr. Marshall were both cordial to the idea of attempting to secure his return, but asked to have it understood that they would have preferred a less specific reference to the possible duties he might be asked to undertake, especially in view of the possible changes in the plan of administration which the Senate Committee may take up with the Trustees.

I feel confident that the thought uppermost in the minds of all the signers is the hope that Dr. Laing may be induced to rejoin our staff, and they are quite willing to leave the possible title or assignment of duties to the administration. I feel equally sure that there is no wish on the part of any one to hamper future plans in any way.

Very truly yours,

Henry G. Gale

Prefessors Coulter, Tufts, Mathews, Hall, and McLaughlin all expressed the hope that Professor Laing could be induced to return, but thought that they should not sign the request on account of their membership on the Senate Committee.

H.G.G.



(Copy)

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Ryerson Physical Laboratory

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pressed the hope that Professor Laing could be induced to return,

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their membership on the Senate Committee.

H.G.G.



March 7, 1923.  
He indicates that this will undoubtedly involve the appointment of an additional instructor in Philosophy since the

My dear Mr. Swift:-  
registrations for the Department are rather rapidly gaining.

May I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 3rd and of your three communications under date of

March 5th. I am very much interested in your reference to Mr.

McNair and the Alumni Fund. I have arranged to meet Mr. McNair at his request at luncheon tomorrow and am glad to have incorporated them all in the revised copy which I am now sending to the editor.

I am very glad to have a copy of the petition with reference to Mr. Laing, and shall place it on file.

I have no suggestions to make respecting your letter to

Mr. Judson excepting to say that Mr. Judson is still at the

Cosmos Club in Washington, and will be there until Saturday.

After that, judging from inquiries received from Mrs. Judson

about hotels at Southern Pines in North Carolina, he is going

in that direction, but I do not know where. If you choose

to address your letter to him, I think it would be proper to

send it to the Cosmos Club with instructions for returning

or forwarding. I have had a brief talk with Mr. Tufts about

the situation and he has promised to give me his reply

as soon as he can think it through. My suggestion to him is

that he should reduce his teaching to one-half the amount and

give to the new task the time thus released and somewhat more.

Cancelled  
by telephone



He indicates  
ment of an ad

March 7, 1923.

My dear Mr. Swift:-

May I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of  
March 5th and of your three communications under date of  
March 5th.

I am very grateful for your suggestions with  
reference to the article for the Alumni Magazine, and I  
incorporated them all in the revised copy which I am now  
sending to the editor.

I am very glad to have a copy of the petition  
with reference to Mr. Loring, and shall place it on file.  
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Unreliable  
by telephone



He indicates that this will undoubtedly involve the appointment of an additional instructor in Philosophy since the registrations for the Department are rather rapidly gaining, and are beyond the capacity of the Department, even with Mr. Tufts himself giving full time.

I am very much interested in your reference to Mr. McNair and the Alumni fund. I have arranged to meet Mr. McNair at his request at luncheon tomorrow and am glad to have this advance information as to what he will probably wish to discuss.

May I in this connection report that I have talked to Mr. Butler about his new work, and he has agreed to take it up at once.

Very cordially yours,

Mr. Harold H. Swift,  
The Union Stock Yards,  
Chicago, Ill.

EDB:CB



He indicates that this will undoubtedly involve the appointment of an additional instructor in philosophy since the registrations for the Department are increasing rapidly. and are beyond the capacity of the Department, even with Mr. Tait himself giving full time.

March 23rd. I am very much interested in your reference to Mr. McNeill and the Almont fund. I have arranged to meet Mr. McNeill at his request at luncheon tomorrow and am glad to have this advance information as to what he will probably wish to discuss.

May I in this connection report that I have talked to Mr. Butler about his new work, and he has agreed to take it up at once.

Mr. Johnson excepting to say that he will be there until Saturday. After that, judging from inquiries received from Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Harold H. Swift, The Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill. I do not know where. If you choose to address your letter to him, I think it would be proper to send it to the Chicago Club with instructions for forwarding or forwarding. I have had a brief talk with Mr. Tait about the situation and he has promised to give me his reply as soon as he can think it through. My suggestion to him is that he should reduce his teaching to one-half the amount and give to the new task the time that released and somewhat more.

Cancelled  
by telephone



**The University of Chicago**  
**The Ogden Graduate School of Science**

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 16, 1923.

President Ernest D. Burton,  
Faculty Exchange.

My dear President Burton:

Permit me to supplement our very brief telephone conversation of the other day by this note, in which I will attempt to summarize the reasons why I think it is highly advisable to attempt to get Mr. Laing back in the near future.

1. He has had a year and a half of exceptionally successful work as a college administrator. The best work of his life will probably be done within the next few years, and I should like to have the University of Chicago get the benefit of it.
2. His return would, I believe, be welcomed with enormous enthusiasm by faculty, students, and trustees. When we retain a strong man on the faculty who has been called elsewhere, very few know about it. If Mr. Laing should be called back every one would of course know about it, and I think the effect on the University morale would be splendid. Our whole community has been terribly depressed over the continual loss of our strong men, and his return would, I believe, be regarded as a turning of the tide. Many members of the University feel that Mr. Vincent, Mr. Angell, and Mr. Laing are the strongest men we have ever lost. It apparently is impossible to get either of the first two back, but I feel that it is possible to secure Mr. Laing's return.
3. With reference to the petition concerning his return, Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Tufts were the only ones who would not sign it, on the ground that as members of the senate committee they should not commit themselves. Mr. Coulter, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Mathews would have signed it gladly if I had not asked them not to. Mr. Judd and Mr. Marshall were the only ones who signed it with the reservation that while they were eager to have Mr. Laing return, they did not think the petition should specify any particular position to which he should be called. You yourself were the only additional man who evinced even slight hesitation in signing it.
4. If you think that someone else would be better as dean of the faculties I think it possible that Mr. Laing would return for (a) a professorship (not the chairmanship) in Latin, (possibly later a chairmanship of the classical department includ-



The University of Chicago  
The Open Graduate School of Science

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 15, 1933

President Robert A. Taylor,  
University of Chicago

My dear President Taylor:

I am so glad to hear of your return to the University of Chicago. I am sure that your return will be a great benefit to the University and to the country. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country.

1. It has been a year and a half of exceptionally successful work as a college administrator. The past year of his life will probably be more within the next few years, and I should like to have the University of Chicago get the benefit of it.

2. His return would, I believe, be welcomed with enthusiasm by faculty, students, and trustees. When he returns, a strong man on the faculty who has been called elsewhere, very few know about it. If he returns, he will be able to do much good for the University. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country.

3. With reference to the position of the University of Chicago, I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country.

4. It is my hope that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country. I am sure that you will be able to do much good for the University and for the country.



**The University of Chicago**  
**The Ogden Graduate School of Science**

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Page two.  
President Burton.

ing Greek and Latin), (b) the editorship of the Press, (in which he has always been very much interested, and which I am sure he would be glad to re-undertake) these two to begin as soon as he might choose, and (c) unless you have someone else in mind, the deanship of the Graduate School of Arts and Literature, to be undertaken July first of next year, or whenever Mr. Small retires.

5. If you would like to secure Mr. Laing's return I think some communication to that effect should be sent to him in the near future, as I fear that the social and domestic plans in which he is becoming inevitably involved are linking him closer and closer to Montreal. As you know, he is to be Vice-principal of the University next year, and this added responsibility will make it more difficult for him to accept what might appear to be a less important position in another institution.

6. I do not believe that you could find a more effective public speaker than Mr. Laing, or a man of greater social charm and tact, to represent the University on occasions when it is impossible for you to be present.

Very truly yours,

*Henry G. Gale*  
Henry G. Gale.

HGG Y

*Please do not feel that any  
reply to this is necessary, and please  
ignore it entirely if you are so  
inclined.*  
*H.G.G.*







COPY

March 21, 1923.

My dear Mr. Laing:

The present administration of the University is confronted with problems which will require careful study, thoroughly considered policies, and cooperation of strong men.

With this fact in mind the Board of Trustees has just appointed Professor Tufts Dean of the Faculties with the general task of "cooperating with the President in the educational administration of the University."

You are familiar with the situation in the Department of Latin and with the fact that the position of general editor of the Press has not been filled since your resignation. An early vacancy in the position of the Dean of the Graduate Schools of Arts and Literature is, I suppose, inevitable in view of Dean Small's age and state of health. It is the intention to give to this position a larger responsibility which will also involve relations to many general University policies. Three aspects of this larger responsibility may be named.

1) Initiative and responsibility in the better development of the Graduate Schools of Arts and Literature. The development of the various departments as regards personnel, productive research, courses and methods of instruction, and proper equipment has been left largely to the departments themselves. Some departments have developed strongly, others not so well. The Deans of the Graduate Schools in cooperation with the Dean of the Faculties should in the future, I believe, make careful studies of all departments to determine clearly their present status and needs and to make such recommendations as well in their judgment tend



March 21, 1923.

My dear Mr. Loring:

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to the best development of those lines of work which it may seem wise for this University to take for its proper task.

There will of course be involved in the office of the Dean a certain amount of contact with students, both in the interests of the students and to enable the Dean the better to understand the situation, but it is understood that the Dean's relationship will be largely with the several departments themselves.

2) The best development of the University requires team work. The Dean of the Graduate Schools of Arts and Literature will not only have a primary relationship to that division of the University; he will be one of a group who must consider University problems and share in general duties and responsibilities. The other graduate and professional schools on the one hand, the colleges on the other, have numerous points of contact with the Graduate Schools of Arts and Literature. The responsible officers of all these divisions of the University will need to confer and to work out certain policies together, looking to the achievement of the total purpose of the University.

3) The University has an important relationship to the community, not only to Chicago but to the country at large. The University is not only a seat of learning and research; it is one of the formative influences in a democracy and has an opportunity and responsibility for leadership in the cultural, civic, and moral life of the city and country. Its higher officers in an especial sense will represent the University in this respect. It is hoped that its influence may be increasingly significant in this as well as in the more highly specialized work of the individual investigators and teachers.



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I have great ambitions for the University which I believe you would share with me. I am very desirous to bring to it to share my work and to continue if after me, men whose conception of education and whose ideals of life personal, social, and national, will not only contribute to the development of the University in its intellectual aspect, but will make a strong and healthy impression on the student body and the community.

Because my acquaintance with you has impressed me that you belong to the group of men who would exert this kind of influence and who would find in the realization of such ideals a congenial task, I have been wondering whether you would be willing to return to the University. From our point of view the precise position that you should fill is less important than that you come back to share in our task. But I have had in mind that you might return to your professorship, doing for the present half work, resume the office of Editor of the Press, and now or a little later, take on the office of the Dean of the Graduate Schools of Arts and Literature.

Hoping that you would be interested in these opportunities and policies I have thought that it would be desirable for Mr. Tufts to have a personal talk with you and with this in view wired you today, your answer to which has just been received.

I earnestly hope, my dear Mr. Laing, that you will give serious and favorable attention to what he will have to say.

Cordially yours,  
Signed  
Ernest D. Burton

Mr. Gordon J. Laing,  
731 Sherbrooke St., West,  
Montreal, Canada.

EDB/CB



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Cordially yours,  
Signed  
Ernest D. Burton

Mr. Gordon J. Laine,  
731 Sherbrooke St., West,  
Montreal, Canada.

RDB/CB



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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARY  
 PRESIDENT E. D. BURTON  
 HE HAS NOT EXAMINED THE DOCUMENTS  
 LONG AND OTHER ACTION OF POLICE BELIEVE ATTITUDE  
 SATISFACTORY SAYS HE IS IN FAVOR WITH YOUR LETTER WILL ABOUT  
 EIGHT THOUSAND BUT WOULD IT MAY LATER BE INCREASED IN OTHERS ARE  
 RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE UNDERSTAND BEGIN OCTOBER AND THE  
 SET WHITE OFFER MUST COME FROM YOU HE REFUSED TO SIGN FROM YOU AS  
 BEEN AS POSSIBLE AND ALSO THAT MATTER IS NOT MADE PUBLIC AT CHICAGO  
 UNTIL HE HAS



CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT

1923 MAR 25 PM 11 17

X2176

NA832 SHEET 2

HAD TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS TO HIS BOARD PERHAPS TEN DAYS THIS DOES NOT  
MEAN THAT HE HAS ANY HESITATION ABOUT ACCEPTANCE BUT IS HE THINKS  
IMPORTANT AS COURTESY AND FOR BENEFIT OF HIS INSTITUTION WOULD PREFER  
DEANSHIP MIGHT BEGIN OCTOBER

JAMES H TUFTS.







South Amherst, Mass  
March 26. 1923.

President E. D. Burton  
Univ. of Chicago.

Dear Dr. Burton:

I regret that South Amherst is innocent of typewriters and that you will have to get my fuller report in a not very easily legible script. As indicated in Telegram I conferred at length with R. - from ten in morning to five in afternoon.

As to all the intellectual problems of the Graduate work I found him keenly alert and suggestive. I think that if given proper opportunity for initiative he would be a stimulating force. He advanced views with regard to re-appointment of assistant-professors, the retirement of relative inactive members of the staff, etc. similar to those which you have expressed. He believed that the Deans should know the calibre and productivity of all men in their respective divisions and therefore be able to advise what men should be given special encouragement to devote their primary energies



South Church, Boston  
March 25. 1823.

Dear Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst. in relation to the proposed subscription for the purchase of a lot of land for the purpose of erecting a new church building. I am very glad to hear that you are so interested in the cause of the South Church, and that you are so anxious to see it provided with a new and commodious place of worship. I am sure that the friends of the church will be very glad to hear of your interest in the cause, and that they will be very anxious to see you and your friends united in the same. I am sure that the friends of the church will be very glad to hear of your interest in the cause, and that they will be very anxious to see you and your friends united in the same. I am sure that the friends of the church will be very glad to hear of your interest in the cause, and that they will be very anxious to see you and your friends united in the same.



2/ to research.

As to the relation of the University to the city, he believes that we need to cultivate friendly relations, and seek such a standing as shall ~~be~~ not only be dignified but shall represent on all suitable occasions our function as a great civic institution. He thinks we are suffering from an over-reaction against the undesirable publicity we received at one time. His experience in M. has made him value intimate relations with the city as a great asset to a university in a city. While I presume that if he were himself addressing a Club, or the Association of Commerce, or a banquet, he would speak more intelligently for the "cultural" than for the "social science" aspects of the university's function, yet if did not detect any indications of one-sided emphasis.

As to "Commerce & Administration" he remarked that there was a division of that at M. and that he was the dean of it. He was always a strong advocate, as Editor, of Marshall's work in publication.







3/ and I should not apprehend disharmony there. Each is a strong man; each could present his ideas, and we should have to adjust them if necessary.

We got to discussing certain of the college problems of the day, not only at Chicago but more generally. I remarked that I had been disturbed by the frivolous or flippant attitude that I had been told seemed common in my own alma mater on the use of language whose sale is forbidden by law. He observed that such an attitude toward this law was likely to lead to a disregard of all law. I considered this a sufficient statement, and that it covered the central point about as plainly as one could expect unless one framed an extremely explicit question. In the course of conversation in a half-serious, half-smiling fashion I had previously asked "Would it trouble you to come back into the United States under the Eighteenth Amendment?"







4/ To which he replied, as though it did not touch a luxury that meant any thing to him, "Oh, no." Of course it is possible that such a reply (given in much such a tone as if I had asked "would it trouble you to have your Latin class come in the afternoon?") might not, if strictly interpreted, mean much. But the tone of this remark seemed to me to indicate that he did not care enough for that particular form of pleasure to regard it as any serious importance in considering a change of residence. The other remark about the students' regard for law did seem to me to be important.

One other remark made casually seemed to me to have a bearing on one point mentioned in your conversation with me. In speaking of the present freedom of our faculty from faction he remarked that we never had had any intriguing group except for a short period when there was a small group of this sort. He spoke with such decided aversion of this, and of intrigue generally that it seemed







5/ Some pretty conclusion.  
In general I thought he spoke spontaneously and frankly as to your letter when he said "I had a fair letter from Mrs. B." I asked him explicitly. This was the most direct question I put. I understood then, that you would accept Mrs. B.'s letter as the basis of the position? He had no reservations so far as I could judge in replying. Yes, he was quite in accord with it.  
I thought I got about as satisfactory an impression of his own personal attitude as I could without being offensive.

As to salary, he now receives \$8,500. Says that he will come at \$8,000. He regards it however as unfortunate that the maximum actually paid by us (theoretically \$8,000 but in practice 7,000 would I suppose more nearly represent our maximum) is the same as fixed at the opening of the University, despite the changes in living costs, and the considerable increases made elsewhere. He is however willing to leave a later







of head justment W<sup>r</sup> considered at a  
proper time in connection with other  
salaries.

He has engaged to teach in the  
Columbia Summer Session this sum-  
mer, and so would properly not become  
until October 1, which I supposed  
would be our desire also.

As to the dearship: he said he  
was a good friend of U<sup>r</sup>on Small  
and would not wish to have any  
thing done that would at all break  
the appearance of hurrying him out  
of the office, but it would make it  
decidedly easier for him to give a  
sufficient and convincing reason  
for the change if he were to go to the  
office of dean (as well as of Editor to)

As to publicity: on receipt of your  
telegram and letter he had gone to  
the Principal (or whatever the official  
title of his chief) and explained to  
him the nature of the trip he  
proposed to take to Spring field.  
In case he should be invited to Chicago  
he thought his Board would feel  
much better about it if they had a  
little time to look about and de-  
cide on some policy and arrange-  
ment before the news came  
from the Chicago papers. A delay







1/2 of ten days or so he thought would soften matters.

He said he had enjoyed his connection there greatly, but in. as after all a small university; he preferred the larger institution.

In conclusion, while it is possible that I am mistaken, I feel much strengthened in my confidence as to both the intellectual and the other aspects of his attitude. I cannot say that every one of the possible difficulties mentioned in our conversation has been completely eliminated; one of them I think you did not expect to receive explicit discussion. But I think that I with the possible exception of that single last query mentioned by you, we have a good basis in your letter and in his general attitude as I saw it. To feel as reasonably safe as it is often possible to be in dealing with our fellow humans.

Sincerely yours  
James H. Tufts.







731, Sherbrooke Street West,

Montreal, Que.

27th. March 1923.

Dear Mr. Burton,

As Tufts has probably already told you, I am keenly interested in the plans for the development of the University outlined in your letter to me, and highly gratified by your thinking of me as one who could contribute to the carrying out of the policies mentioned. I wish to assure you that I shall be very glad to co-operate in every way possible.

It is indeed a new era that is beginning in the history of the University. The Graduate School, already the best in America, is, I believe, capable of great extension, and with more systematic organization and the more careful building up of connections with colleges not themselves offering graduate work can easily be put in a place of undisputed preeminence. A very large part of the work at the Press (I have in mind the journals and research books) is closely connected with the Graduate office.

I am very much interested also in what you say about the relations of the University







- 2 -

to the City. That too little has been done along this line in recent years I am convinced. All the Deans could be called on to help in forming and maintaining contacts with the City people. I do not mean only with the school people (that goes without saying) but with business associations of all sorts. The Deans can be liaison officers with the city.

The first of October would suit me best for the beginning of the work in Chicago. I could begin the Press and Department work then, and take on the Deanship as soon as the matter could be conveniently arranged.

With kind regards, and thanking you for your letter.

Yours very truly,

*Gordon J. Laing*

President E.D. Burton,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Ill.



- 2 -

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Yours very truly,

*Franklin D. Burton*

President E. D. Burton,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Ill.



The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

March 30, 1923.

My dear Mr. Laing:-

I have received and read your letter of the twenty-seventh with great satisfaction. As indicated in my telegram, I desire to proceed at once in the matter and I am looking forward with great anticipation to your return to the University of Chicago. I am persuaded that with Mr. Tufts as Dean of the Faculties, and with you and Mr. Gale in the Graduate Schools we shall be able to make rapid and substantial progress in all matters pertaining to the educational development of the University, especially in the field of research.

I have great satisfaction also in your resumption of your place as Editor of the Press, and no less in the conviction that you will stand shoulder to shoulder with Mr. Tufts and myself in our efforts to develop the morale of the whole University. In saying this I do not mean that it is low now. But as in every live institution, there is room for progress, and I am deeply desirous of making a substantial contribution to the development of a faculty which by their ability, their learning, their character, their high ideals for the University, and their spirit of cooperation, will make a strong and helpful impact on American life. As I said



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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
Office of the President

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# The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

## Office of the President

in my former letter, I am asking you to come because I am confident that you will sympathize with this purpose and contribute effectively to its realization. That the realization of our ideals will call not only for men but for money, and for this in rather large amounts, is of course obvious. I have, however, great confidence that with the right hand of leadership in the educational work of the University the money can be found from various sources. I am now considering with Mr. Swift the appointment of a man who shall devote himself especially to the increasing of the financial resources of the University. Our thought is that if we can find such a man he shall work in closest cooperation with the education administration, and all of us will have to take a hand in the work with him. Under such a plan I am sure we can find, if not all we want, enough to insure real and substantial progress.

The recommendation that I desire to carry to the Board of Trustees at their meeting April 10th is as follows:

That you shall be elected a) to be professor of Latin, to do for the present one-half the usual service of a professor; b) to be Editor of the Press, and c) to be Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Literature; to enter upon your duties in all three relations October 1, 1923, and to receive a salary of \$8000 a year. The Committee on Instruction having already approved this proposal, there is no doubt that the Board will concur.



The University of Chicago  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
Office of the President

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The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

I may add that I think of the task of the Deans of the Graduate Schools as that of the general oversight and development of the Graduate Schools, not, as it has been hitherto, mainly one of registration of students. I shall anticipate that you and Mr. Gale will work closely together with one another and with Mr. Tufts and myself in the effort to build up the Graduate work.

The salary named is not regarded as a maximum. It ought soon to be increased, and I hope that this may prove possible.

Mr. Tufts mentioned your desire to have ten days elapse between the definite offer to you and its announcement here. I am hoping that on the basis of my telegram and this letter you can take up the matter in Montreal and thus make it possible for us to announce your election and acceptance here immediately upon the action of the Board of Trustees April 10th.

With great pleasure in the prospect of your returning to us, and our work together, I am

Very truly yours,

Mr. Gordon J. Laing,  
731 Sherbrooke St., West,  
Montreal, Canada.

EDB:CB



The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

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Very truly yours,

Mr. Gordon J. Laing,  
731 Sherbrooke St., West,  
Montreal, Canada.

HDB:GB



Lee

March 31, 1923

Dear Mr. Judson:

My Ryerson asked me to get in touch with you as soon as I could say anything definite about the possibility of Mr. Laing's return. I understand Mr. Burton reviewed the matter with Mrs. Judson a few weeks ago.

You will be glad to know that Mr. Burton is now in correspondence with Mr. Laing and we hope it will result in favorable action. Both Mr. Burton and especially Mr. Laing ask that the matter be considered entirely confidential for the next ten days.

I hope that you had a satisfactory time in the South. It is good to have you back again.

Yours cordially,

HAROLD H. SWIFT

HHS\*GB

Mr. Harry Pratt Judson,  
1146 East 59th Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.



March 31, 1933

42

Dear Mr. Jackson:

My person asked me to get in touch with you as soon as I could say anything definite about the possibility of Mr. Laine's return. I understand Mr. Burton reviewed the matter with Mrs. Jackson a few weeks ago. You will be glad to know that Mr. Burton is now in correspondence with Mr. Laine and we hope it will result in favorable action. Both Mr. Burton and especially Mr. Laine ask that the matter be considered entirely confidential for the next few days.

I hope that you had a satisfactory time in the

South. It is good to have you back again.

Yours cordially,

HAROLD H. SWIFT

HHS:GB

Mr. Harry Pratt Jackson,  
1146 East 53rd Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.



ack.

McGILL UNIVERSITY  
MONTREAL.

7.

00445

FACULTY OF ARTS.  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN.

Deans

April 14 / 23

~~Saving~~  
My dear Mr Burton

I enclose your  
letter.

I was delighted to receive  
the telegram from Mr Dickerson  
announcing the action of  
the Board. I have resigned  
here.

I hope you will not hesitate  
to call on me for anything I  
can do during now and  
the first of October. Or if  
you are in New York



00415

McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

OFFICE OF THE DEAN  
FACULTY OF ARTS

April 14/23

~~Letter~~

My dear Mr. Boucher  
Yours

Letter  
I was delighted to receive  
the telegram from Mr. Boucher  
concerning the action of  
the Board. I have responded

there.  
I hope you will not hesitate  
to call on me for anything I  
can do. I am very anxious  
the first of October. As of  
you are on



McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

FACULTY OF ARTS.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN.

at any time and would like  
me to come down for a con-  
ference, I shall be glad  
to do so. I shall be there myself  
during July and the first-  
part of August.

With kindest regards

Sincerely Yours,

Gordon J. Laing



McGILL UNIVERSITY  
MONTREAL

OFFICE OF THE DEAN  
FACULTY OF ARTS

at any time and would like  
me to receive them for a re-  
ference. I shall be glad  
to do so. I shall be very happy  
to turn out the first  
part of the book.

Very truly yours  
Wm. R. R. R. R. R.  
Wm. R. R. R. R. R.