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File No.

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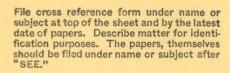
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Name or Subject

File No.

Pritchett, H. S.





File No.



Boston, March 14th, 1901

Dr. William R. Harper,
President, University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Dr. Harper; -

As you are interested in school administration, I send you a copy of a bill which our reform committee is advocating before the Massachusetts Legislature. We shall at least see if this is the "stuff" which pulls down the committee.

Among other agencies to arouse public opinion working this winter is the course indicated on the enclosed ticket.

I think you would have been very proud if you had seen the audience which listened to Dr. John Dewey and known the make up of it. It was a great tribute to the little people in general have known of the deeply interesting philosophical ideas which Dr. Dewey is so patiently and scientifically working out. It is because of this careful experimental, truly scientific development that the world, which is as yet quite unscientific, has failed to grasp the meaning of his work. But I was delighted the other day both with his clear, logical presentation

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# SENATE . . . . No. 34.

[To accompany the petition of Henry L. Higginson and others for legislation redistributing the powers and duties relative to the public schools of the city of Boston. Education.]

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and One.

# AN ACT

To establish a Schoolhouse Department of the City of Boston.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 1. The schoolhouse department of
- 2 the city of Boston is hereby established, to be
- 3 under the charge of a board of three commission-
- 4 ers, all of whom shall be citizens of the city of
- 5 Boston, and shall be known as the schoolhouse
- 6 commissioners, and be appointed by the mayor of 7 said city.
- 8 During the current year one of said commis-
- 9 sioners shall be appointed for the term of three

10 years, one for the term of two years, and one for 11 the term of one year, beginning on the first day 12 of May in the year nineteen hundred and one; and 13 hereafter in the year in which any term shall ex- 14 pire a commissioner shall be appointed for a term 15 of three years, beginning with the first day of May 16 in the year of appointment. Any vacancy occur- 17 ring among said commissioners shall be filled by 18 appointment of a commissioner as aforesaid for 19 the remainder of the term.

The members of said board shall each receive such salary as said city may by ordinance provide. The provisions of chapter two hundred and sixty-six of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and eighty-five and all other acts relating to the departments of the city of Boston or the officers or employees thereof, except as otherwise herein provided, shall be applicable to said departments and the officers and employees thereof.

1 Section 2. The schoolhouse commissioners 2 shall have and exercise all the powers and author-3 ity and be subject to all the duties and limitations 4 now held by or imposed upon the school committee 5 of the city of Boston, relating to the purchase, 6 design, construction, erection, alteration, repair 7 and furnishing of all school buildings in the city 8 of Boston, and the procuring by purchase or 9 otherwise of lands for school purposes: provided, 10 however, that no land shall be purchased or taken 11 for school purposes except upon a request of the 12 school committee designating the limits of terri-

- 13 tory within which the land is to be acquired; and
- 14 provided, further, that no schoolhouse shall be
- 15 constructed and no addition to or alteration upon
- 16 any existing schoolhouse shall be made until the
- 17 plans therefor shall have been approved by the
- 18 superintendent of schools.
  - 1 Section 3. This act so far as relates to the
  - 2 appointment of said commissioners shall take
  - 3 effect upon its passage, and for all other purposes
  - 4 shall take effect on the first day of June, nineteen
  - 5 hundred and one.

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### Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

#### To Alumni and Former Students:-

At a meeting of the Corporation of the Institute, held on October 11, a report was received from the Executive Committee advising the Corporation that, in the view of the Committee, the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts relative to the land on Boylston Street made it impossible for the Institute to take further steps in the plan of co-operation with Harvard University, which has been under consideration the past year.

In view of the facts set forth the Corporation thereupon adopted a resolution instructing the Executive Committee to notify the authorities of Harvard University that the Institute found itself unable to proceed with the plan of co-operation, and to express at the same time the appreciation of the Corporation for the fairness and courtesy with which the authorities of Harvard had joined in this common effort to solve a difficult question.

The Corporation further authorized the President to communicate this result to the alumni, Faculty, and friends of the Institute, and to invite their hearty cooperation in the future upbuilding of the Institute.

This decision disposes not only of the matter of an alliance, but also, for some time to come at least, of the question of a site. It seems clear that the Institute's home must continue to be, for a number of years, its present one, with such added room and buildings as may be found necessary and practicable. With these questions settled, it is clear that the duty of each Institute man, of each friend of the Institute, is to go heartily and

enthusiastically at the problems which lie immediately and clearly before us, with the ambition to make the Institute the most efficient means possible for ministering to the intellectual, moral, and social life of its students. The questions upon which we have honestly differed are now out of the way. Let us now pull together for the solution of our common problems. Some of these problems need to be attacked at once. Outside of the guestion of increased endowment, which is most pressing, additional land ought to be secured as soon as possible; a site for the Walker Memorial Building must be provided and the building started as promptly as possible; and an additional building, such as a chemical laboratory, and the erection of one or two modest dormitories on our land in Brookline adjoining the athletic field would serve a great need of the student life. To the solution of these pressing and specific problems the Corporation asks your heartiest support and assistance.

HENRY S. PRITCHETT.

Boston, October 12, 1905.

#### To Alumni and Former Students:-

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

My dear Harper:-

I enclose a brief circular of mine to the alumni which is self-explanatory. After the court had decided that our title to our saleable property was not good it seemed to me wise to terminate a position which was somewhat embarrassing, and to turn heartily to the development of the Institute on its old site.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

October 19, 1905.

President W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Chicago, Illinois.



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