

A Memorial Resolution

The Chicago Association
of Commerce

10 South La Salle Street

Chicago

March 10, 1927

At the meeting, March 4, of the Illinois Relations Committee of the Chicago Association of Commerce, the chairman announced the death of Nathaniel Butler. Gentlemen: Directions were given that we express in writing our loss and grief.

In behalf of President Mason I acknowledge with cordial thanks your resolutions in memory of Professor Nathaniel Butler. The paper has been filed for President Mason to see when he returns to Chicago.

Dr. Butler was a long time member and adviser of The Association of Commerce, rendering free and willing service, accepting committee duties and important assignments in the City and the State. He was one of this Committee, entering into its business discussions with

The Chicago Association of Commerce,
10 South La Salle Street,
Chicago, Illinois.
S.C.
rare hospitality of himself, making himself a friend and creating outside relations for the Association. We are distressed over our loss. We record our grateful appreciation for his public spirit and service and our personal relations with him. We deeply sympathize with his family and the University that he has served with loyalty, ability and sacrifice since its foundation.

Wm. A. de Koster Chairman, Illinois Relations Committee.
George H. Thomas, Jr. for the Resolutions Committee.

Wednesday, March 9, 1927.

Mar 93

March 10, 1937

Gentlemen:

In behalf of President Mason I acknowledge with
cordial thanks your resolutions in memory of Professor
Nathaniel Butler. The paper has been filed for President
Mason to see when he returns to Chicago.
Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President.

The Chicago Association of Commerce,
10 South LaSalle Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

S.C.

A Memorial Resolution.

The Chicago Association
of Commerce

10 South La Salle Street

Chicago

At the meeting, March 4, of the Illinois Relations Committee of The Chicago Association of Commerce, the chairman announced the death of Nathaniel Butler. Directions were given that we express in writing our loss and grief and that copy be given Mrs. Butler and the authorities of the University, also that the Committee attend the Burial Service at the Hyde Park Baptist Church.

Dr. Butler was a longtime member and adviser of The Association of Commerce, rendering free and willing service, accepting committee duties and important assignments in the City and the State. He was one of this Committee, entering into its business discussions with rare wisdom and gift of humor, making himself a friend and creating outside relations for the Association. We are distressed over our loss. We record our grateful appreciation for his public spirit and service and our personal relations with him. We deeply sympathize with his family and the University that he has served with loyalty, ability and sacrifice since its foundation.

Wm. A. de Koster. Chairman, Illinois Relations Committee.

George H. Thomas, Jr. for the Resolutions Committee.

Wednesday, March 9, 1917.

*Business History
Library*

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June 6, 1927

My dear Mr. Swift:

The receipt of your letter of June 2, relating to the possibility of a library of business history in the Rosenwald Industrial Museum, is acknowledged. I sent a copy of your letter of Mr. Spencer for his information, but before he had received it he wrote me as follows:

"We strongly recommend that Mr. Swift discuss with the Board of Trustees of the Rosenwald Industrial Museum the possibility of making a collection of such materials and storing them in the building which will house the Industrial Museum. We feel that inevitably a certain amount of materials of this kind will be collected and stored in the Rosenwald Museum. If this be true, it would not be going far afield for the Museum to attempt a comprehensive collection of business materials of all types even though not directly related to industrial exhibits.

"We also recommend that Mr. Swift discuss the possibility of the University cooperating with the Industrial Museum in the collection and use of such materials of this character as may be collected from time to time if the Industrial Museum decides that it is wise to undertake this activity."

Yours sincerely,

Frederic C. Woodward

Mr. Harold H. Swift
Union Stock Yards
Chicago, Illinois

W*1

Miss B. Jones

Business
Letter

June 8, 1927

My dear Mr. Swift:

The receipt of your letter of June 5, relating to the possibility of a library of business history in the Rosenwald Industrial Museum, is acknowledged. I sent a copy of your letter of Mr. Spencer for his information, but before he had received it he wrote me as follows:

"We strongly recommend that Mr. Swift discuss with the Board of Trustees of the Rosenwald Industrial Museum the possibility of making a collection of such materials and storing them in the building which will house the Industrial Museum. We feel that inevitably a certain amount of material of this kind will be collected and stored in the Rosenwald Museum. If this be true, it would not be going far afield for the Museum to attempt a comprehensive collection of business materials of all types even though not directly related to industrial exhibits."

"We also recommend that Mr. Swift discuss the possibility of the University cooperating with the Industrial Museum in the collection and use of such materials of this character as may be collected from time to time if the Industrial Museum decides that it is wise to undertake this activity."

Yours sincerely,

Frederic C. Woodward

Mr. Harold H. Swift
Union Stock Yards
Chicago, Illinois

W-1

June 6, 1927

My dear Mr. Spencer:

The receipt of your letter of June 3, relating to the collection of business history material, is acknowledged. I think the position which you have taken in regard to the proposal of Mr. Clemen is sound, and I shall pass along to Mr. Swift your recommendation in regard to the Rosenwald Industrial Museum.

Yours sincerely,

Frederic C. Woodward

Mr. W. H. Spencer
Faculty Exchange

W-1

June 6, 1927

My dear Mr. Spencer:

The receipt of your letter of June 3, relating to the collection of business history material, is acknowledged. I think the position which you have taken in regard to the proposal of Mr. Clemen is sound, and I shall pass along to Mr. Swift your recommendation in regard to the Rosenwald Industrial Museum.

Yours sincerely,

Frederic C. Woodward

Mr. W. H. Spencer
Faculty Exchange

W-1

The University of Chicago

The School of Commerce and Administration

June 3, 1927

Mr. Frederic C. Woodward
Faculty Exchange

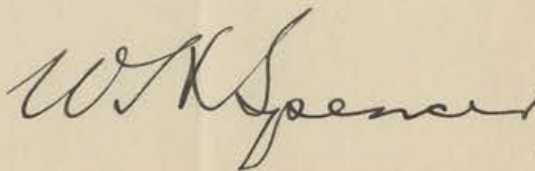
My dear Mr. Woodward:

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the School of Commerce and Administration we discussed what steps the University should take with respect to cooperating with the Business Historical Society in the collection of business cases and materials. We decided first that we ought to tell Mr. Clemen that the University is not in a position to make any commitment in this respect until it is more fully informed as to the nature of the cooperation and as to what will be expected of the University. In the second place, we strongly recommend that Mr. Swift discuss with the Board of Trustees of the Rosenwald Industrial Museum the possibility of making a collection of such materials and storing them in the building which will house the Industrial Museum. We feel that inevitably a certain amount of materials of this kind will be collected and stored in the Rosenwald Museum. If this be true, it would not be going far afield for the Museum to attempt a comprehensive collection of business materials of all types even though not directly related to industrial exhibits.

We also recommend that Mr. Swift discuss the possibility of the University cooperating with the Industrial Museum in the collection and use of such materials of this character as may be collected from time to time if the Industrial Museum decides that it is wise to undertake this activity.

Yours sincerely,

WHS:DD

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. K. Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "W" and "K".

The University of Chicago

The School of Commerce and Administration

June 7, 1927

Mr. Frederic C. Woodward
President, University of Chicago

My dear Mr. Woodward:

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Board of Commerce and Administration we discussed what steps the University should take with regard to cooperation with the Business Historical Society in the collection of business records and materials. We decided that we ought to tell Mr. Clemen that the University is not in a position to make any contribution in this respect until it is more fully informed as to the nature of the cooperation and as to what will be expected of the University. In the interim, we strongly recommend that Mr. Clemen discuss with the Board of Trustees of the Business Historical Society the possibility of making a collection of such materials and having them in the University Museum. We feel that the University is in a position to collect and store of materials of this kind and we collected and stored in the University Museum. It is our hope, it would be glad to assist for the Museum to accept a complete collection of business materials of all types even though not directly related to industrial activity.

We also recommend that Mr. Clemen discuss the possibility of the University cooperating with the Business Historical Society in the collection and use of such materials of this character as may be collected from time to time by the Business Historical Society. It is also to undertake this activity.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. C. Woodman

WHS:ED

Harold H. Swift
Union Stock Yards
Chicago

June 2, 1927

Mr. F. C. Woodward,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Answering your telephone query of a few days ago
in reference to the possibility of a library of business
history in connection with the Rosenwald Industrial Museum:

I have discussed the matter with the President of
the Board of Trustees and some members of the Executive Com-
mittee of the Commercial Club, which as you know is sponsor-
ing the project. There seemed to be a unanimous opinion that
there would be such a library in the Museum and that we might
wisely use our influence to turn historical business litera-
ture that way rather than encouraging its transmission to the
Business Historical Society, Incorporated, at Cambridge, Mass.

Cordially yours,

Harold H. Swift

Copy to Mr. W. H. Spencer

June 1, 1927

My dear Mr. Spencer:

Yesterday I had an opportunity to consult Mr. Swift about our relation to the Business Historical Society. He concurs in our opinion that we should be very careful in associating the University with the Society as a Western depository in view of the unofficial connection between the Society and the Harvard School of Business Administration. I think that we should find out definitely whether the material deposited here would be left here permanently, or would be subject to removal to Cambridge from time to time as the officers of the Society might desire

Mr. Swift thinks that we probably should endeavor to obtain the McCormick records for the University, although he has no notion of their value and is not aware of any previous attempt to secure them. In this connection we think you ought to consult Professor Dodd who, I know, has been requested by the McCormicks to write a life of Cyrus McCormick.

I suggested to Mr. Swift the possibility that the Rosenwald Industrial Museum might find it advisable to make a collection of records and similar material of a historical value and he said he would be glad to present the matter at a coming meeting of the Trustees of the Museum. He seemed to think it might be favorably received and that this would be a good arrangement for the University as well as for the Museum.

Yours sincerely,

Frederic C. Woodward

Dean W. H. Spencer
Faculty Exchange
W*1

June 1, 1887

My dear Mr. Spencer:

Yesterday I had an opportunity to consult Mr. Swift about our rejection to the Business Historical Society. He concurs in our opinion that we should be very careful in associating the University with the Society as a Western depository in view of the unofficial connection between the Society and the Harvard School of Business Administration. I think that we should find out definitely whether the material deposited here would be left here permanently, or would be subject to removal to Cambridge from time to time as the officers of the Society might

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Yours sincerely,

Frederic C. Woodward

Dean W. H. Spencer
Faculty Exchange
W.H.

RUDOLF A. CLEMEN

C
O
P
Y

May 19th 1927

Dean W. H. Spencer,
College of Commerce and Administration,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dean Spencer:

In taking up with Mr. C. W. Judd, Acting Manager of the Chicago Association of Commerce, the matter of his cooperating in gathering material for the Business Historical Society, there are one or two matters which I should like to bring to your attention.

I asked Mr. Judd if he would be willing to give letters of introduction to representative men in different industries here which would open the way for a graduate student this summer. He was cordially disposed to do so, but suggested that in approaching any Chicagoan with a request for such material, it would have greater weight if he could be assured that the material would be housed, for example, by the University of Chicago.

I do not imagine there will be very much material gathered in any one summer and I am wondering if you would write me to the effect that the University would be glad to receive any such material and house it as part of the Business Historical Society collection. I would refer to this letter in taking the matter up further with Mr. Judd and I am sure it would help matters greatly. I am writing you about this phase of the Historical Society work, since it is impossible with Mr. McCormick in Europe, to go ahead with the suggestion I made previously concerning the McCormick Agricultural Library.

I should look forward with interest to hearing from you.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Rudolf A. Clemen

RAC ZB

Original returned to Dean Spencer 6-1-27

RUDOLF A. CLEMMEN

May 1927

C
O
F
Y

Dean W. H. Spencer,
College of Commerce and Administration,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dean Spencer:

In talking up with Mr. G. W. Judd, Acting Manager of the Chicago Association of Commerce, the matter of his cooperating in gathering material for the Business Historical Society, there are one or two matters which I should like to bring to your attention.

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I should look forward with interest to hearing from you.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Rudolf A. Clemmen

BAC:EB

Original returned to Dean Spencer 8-1-27

The University of Chicago

The School of Commerce and Administration

May 20, 1927

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Mr. Frederic C. Woodward
Faculty Exchange

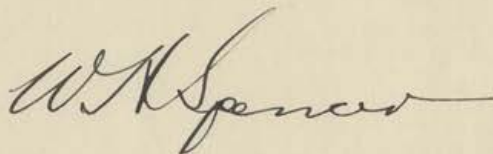
My dear Mr. Woodward:

I am transmitting a letter which I just received from Mr. Clemen with respect to housing materials for the Business Historical Society at the University of Chicago. In this letter he makes the specific recommendation that the University of Chicago now express its willingness to become a depository for this material.

I suppose there is no reason at all why within our limited storage space we might not at least become a temporary custodian of such materials. I am not at all certain that we desire at this time to commit ourselves as a permanent custodian. Indeed I wish that you, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Wright and I might talk this whole situation over before any commitment is made at all about the matter.

Yours sincerely,

WHS:DD
Enclosure

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. H. Spencer", written in a cursive style.

The University of Chicago

The School of Commerce and Administration

May 10, 1927

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Mr. Frederick G. Woodward
Faculty Exchange

My dear Mr. Woodward:

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Sincerely,
W. H. Woodman

W. H. Woodman
Enclosure

The University of Chicago
The School of Commerce and Administration

April 29, 1927

Mr. Frederic C. Woodward
Faculty Exchange

My dear Mr. Woodward:

In 1925 there was organized in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Business Historical Society. One of the moving spirits in the organization of this Society is Edwin F. Gay, who is a member of the Department of Economics in Harvard University. The purpose of this organization is "first the preservation of business records generally and the literature of business history; and secondarily the creation of a large, central collection." Under the present plans of the Society it is proposed to make the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration the central depository of the materials which they collect.

Some time ago Mr. Gay communicated with Mr. R. A. Clemen, a Ph. D. in Economics from Harvard, now the Assistant Director of Armour's Livestock Bureau in Chicago, asking for co-operation in the collection of business records in the Middle West. Mr. Clemen sought an interview with Mr. Wright and Mr. Rhoades about this matter. He spoke of the possible undesirability of carrying business records of the Middle West to a central depository in the East. He raised a question as to whether the University of Chicago might be willing to act as a depository for the Middle West. He spoke particularly of the collection of materials on the International Harvester Company, which Mr. Cyrus McCormick has brought together. So far as I know, he has made no direct contacts with the McCormick family for transferring this collection of materials to the Business Historical Society. I am quite sure, however, that he has such a transfer definitely in mind.

In connection with the situation there are certain issues which it seems to me ought to be raised:

- 1) Should the University directly or indirectly raise the question of becoming the western depository of the Business Historical Society? The chief danger which I see in doing this is that we may get ourselves into a situation in which we become something of a side-show to the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, in spite of the fact that Mr. Gay says in his letter that the Society, while co-operating closely with the Harvard Business School, has a separate identity.

C O P Y

ARMOUR'S LIVESTOCK BUREAU

April 7, 1927

Professor Chester W. Wright
Department of Economics
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Wright:

With regard to the matter of a nucleus for a possible Business History collection in the University of Chicago Library, I believe I mentioned at our luncheon the possibility of using the McCormick Agricultural Library belonging to Cyrus H. McCormick, Sr.

The newspapers a few days ago contained an announcement to the effect that the old McCormick residence had been sold. As this library is at present housed in the stone stable attached to this residence, it has occurred to me that in the very near future other quarters will have to be found for the collection.

Mr. Harold F. McCormick is one of the trustees of the University, and it seems to me that it might be possible for the matter to be taken up by the Board through President Mason and Mr. Harold Swift, with the idea of laying before Mr. McCormick a proposal for the turning over of this collection to the University and establishing of a fund for its maintenance and possible additions.

As the purpose of Mr. Cyrus McCormick in having this material brought together was to have a life of his father and a history of the agricultural implement industry written authoritatively, he would probably stipulate that the University cooperate in seeing that this purpose is carried out at some time in the future. I feel strongly that this collection would form a splendid nucleus for the business history collection in this middle west area. It is much easier to add to a substantial nucleus such as this, than to create anew.

I shall be interested in hearing your opinion of this idea. If you think it has merit I shall be glad to go over it further with you, or any University officials you may suggest. Incidentally, I may say that I have known Mr. Swift for a long time.

It was a great pleasure to have had an opportunity to lunch with you at the Quadrangle Club a short time ago, and I appreciate the opportunity to talk over several ideas with you which I had been cogitating upon, in a general way, for some time.

With kind regards

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Rudolph A. Clemen

The University of Chicago
The School of Commerce and Administration

-2-

Mr. Frederic C. Woodward

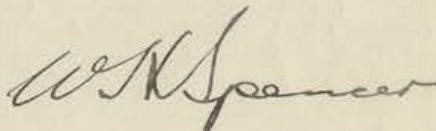
- 2) In any event, should the University adopt a passive attitude which may result in valuable business records and materials passing from our control into the control of an eastern organization?
- 3) More specifically, should we at this time, in view of the relation which we have had with Mr. Clemen, take steps looking to the acquisition of the McCormick collection as a part of our general library?

I wish that we might establish at the University a Library of Agriculture and Industry. The work which we have been doing, particularly Mr. Marshall's Industry Studies and Mr. Duddy's Terminal Marketing Studies would fit in admirably with such a scheme. Our chief difficulty now in launching this or a similar collection of material is inadequate library space.

I am transmitting the letter from Mr. Clemen which I showed you this morning; and some material sent me by Mr. Gay bearing upon the organization, plans and procedure of the Business Historical Society. I recommend that this matter be taken up with Mr. Swift, Mr. McCormick, or both with a view of determining what the University wishes to do in this situation.

Yours sincerely,

WHS:IL
Enclosures



ARMOUR'S LIVERSTOCK MUSEUM

April 7, 1927

Professor Chester W. Wright
Department of Economics
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Wright:

With regard to the matter of a nucleus for a possible Business
History collection in the University of Chicago Library, I have
mentioned at our luncheon the possibility of using the
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Sr.

The newspaper a few days ago contained an announcement to the
effect that the old McCormick residence had been sold. As this
library is at present housed in the stone stable attached to this
residence, it has occurred to me that in the very near future
other quarters will have to be found for the collection.

Mr. Harold F. McCormick is one of the trustees of the University,
and it seems to me that it might be possible for the matter to
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for the turning over of this collection to the University and
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brought together was to have a life of his father and a history
of the agricultural implement industry written authoritatively, he
would probably stipulate that the University cooperate in seeing
that this purpose is carried out at some time in the future. I
feel strongly that this collection will form a splendid nucleus
for the Business History collection in this kind of work. It
is much easier to add to a substantial nucleus such as this, than
to create anew.

I shall be interested in hearing your opinion of this idea. If
you think it has merit I shall be glad to go over it further with
you, or any University officials you may suggest. Incidentally, I
may say that I have known Mr. Swift for a long time.

It was a great pleasure to have had an opportunity to lunch with
you at the Washington Club a short time ago, and I appreciate
the opportunity to talk over several ideas with you which I had
been cogitating upon, in a general way, for some time.

With kind regards

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Rudolph A. Glaser

misc B

106 Morningside Drive,
New York City,
May 18, 1929.

The Acting President,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:

This is just to remind you that I have not forgotten you and to repeat that I shall require the testimony of Professor Compton and Dean Harvey, as I wrote you last Fall. I want these two men to explain why the University refused to permit me to study Physics and Medicine. I want to know every bit of information you heard about ~~me~~ as possibly influencing your actions. If an additional person is needed I should like Dean Gale. I also want an explanation of that asinine affair in the middle of the Fall Term with Dean Harvey. Just before I left the University Professor Logsdon of the Mathematics Department stopped me and said she had heard I was terribly disap pointed in not being admitted to your medical school. I consider that grounds for a slander suit and want to know how such an absurd story ever got around. I was a student in the Physics Department the entire time I was at the University and had no connection with the medical department. Last June, it is true I applied for admission to your medical school after I had been refused in several other schools but I did so only to tide over the time when I could get back East and investigate the reasons for the refusals. You have a perfect right to refuse any one, but I also have a right to demand the reasons for such refusal, especially under the circumstances and because of the fact that I have an extraordinary preparation.

The University of Chicago apparently refuses to honor M.I.T.'s degree. President Stratton was the Founder and Director of the Bureau of Standards for many years, and Dr. Harry Goodwin, Dean of Graduate Students, was formerly head of the Physics Department. I know these men will be very pleased to have Professor ^{M.I.T.} Compton tell them that Chicago University thinks their training ^{at M.I.T.} simply rotten. Professor Compton might give his reasons so emphatically that the Corporation would wake up and take steps to see that the Institute is given proper recognition. Personally I would crack your head if I were in their place.

I enclose a thesis which it was necessary for me to write before I could do anything. Professor Compton's attitude in October made it clear that I could do nothing or study nothing till it was written. It was such a shocking affair that I had a hard time writing it. It may be used as a sort of guide if I have to sue. The attitude of the medical schools and the University of Chicago are forcing this into court. You might ask Dean Gale what he thinks of the plan of my digenting the actual condition of medical education after this affair is settled and submitting it to the University of Chicago for a disseration for the Ph.D. degree in Physics.

Very truly yours,

Margaret L. Birge

100 Westchester Drive,
New York City,
May 10, 1939.

The Acting President,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:

This is just to remind you that I have not forgotten you and to
report that I shall require the testimony of Professor Compton
Dear Harvey, as I wrote you last Feb. I want these two men to explain
why the University refused to permit me to study Physics and Medicine.
I want to know every bit of information you have about this matter.
Influencing your actions. If an additional person is needed I shall
like Dean Calkins. I also want an explanation of that person's action.
In the middle of the Fall Term with Dean Harvey. Just before I left
the University Professor Landon of the Mathematics Department showed
me and said she had heard I was leaving there pointed in not being
admitted to your medical school. I remember that exactly for a while
and want to know how such an absurd story ever got around. I was
a student in the Physics Department the entire time I was at the Uni-
versity and had no connection with the medical department. I was
in the same building for several years and never saw a medical student
there. I returned in several other schools but I did not go to the Uni-
versity when I could not reach West and investigate the matter. I
am sure. You have a perfect right to refuse my offer, but I wish
have a right to demand the reasons for your refusal, especially when
the circumstances and honesty of the fact that I have an extraordinary
preparation.

The University of Chicago apparently refused to honor my offer.
Professor Landon was the speaker and director of the Physics
of Statistics for many years, and Dr. Harry Goodwin, Dean of Graduate
Studies, was formerly head of the Physics Department. I know these
men will be very pleased to have Professor Landon call them back.
Chicago University thinks these matters highly improper. Professor
Compton might give his reasons as completely as the University
could make up and take steps to see that the Institute is given proper
recognition. Personally I would attack your heart if I were in your
place.

I enclose a thesis which it was necessary for me to write before I
could do anything. Professor Compton's attitude is the only one
clear that I could do nothing or study medicine. I am sure
it was such a shocking attitude that I had a heart attack. I am
it may be used as a sort of guide if I have to see. An attitude of
the medical schools and the University of Chicago are forcing this into
court. You might ask Dean Calkins what he thinks of the fact of my
not the medical section of medical education after this attitude
settled and established it as the University of Chicago for a long time
for the Ph.D. degree in Physics.

Very truly yours,

Wangford C. Briggs

X-RAY STUDIES OF COLLOID GELS

BY

MARGARET C. BIRGE

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE.....SEPTEMBER 1927.

ACTUAL WRITE-UP.....MARCH 1929.

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BY

MARGARET C. BIRGE

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ACTUAL WRITE-UP.....MARCH 1939.

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Exhibit A: Dr. Goodwin's letter.

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FOREWORD

The title of this thesis is, I think, a very good one. It is sensible; it means something. Dr. Clark wrote it. It does not, however, refer to the subject matter of the thesis here submitted. President Stratton tells me that one of the most important lessons to learn in college is to conform. In respect to the title I have endeavored to conform with the practice demonstrated by the Department of Chemical Engineering in my undergraduate thesis. Dr. Lewis wrote that title over my vigorous protest. The title did not refer to any of the numerous theses Dr. Lewis had ordered me to take and was not very sensible in itself. As I did then, I have done in this present case--copied the title on the front page and written about something else.

FORWORD

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INTRODUCTION

This thesis is submitted to comply with the demands of the Department of Chemical Engineering. In February 1927 Dr. Lewis agreed with Professor C. L. Clark that I could perform my graduate thesis under Dr. Clark the following summer on some subject of X-Rays. At the time I asked Professor Haslam, who was in charge of graduate work in the Department, if there were any limitations on the subject matter of a thesis, that I wished to work on the problem of the effect of X-Rays on biological products. This problem had been accepted several years ago by the Research Laboratory of Applied Chemistry but no one in the laboratory up to that time had known enough about biology to work on it. Professor Haslam told me that there were no limitations. On the 31st of May, 1927, I went to Dr. Clark to start work on the master's thesis. I was going to collaborate with an instructor at Harvard. One or two days later Professor Haslam came down to Dr. Clark's office and specified that the Department of Chemical Engineering would require that my master's thesis conform to the following demands:

1. Be non-biological in subject.
2. Be highly original.
3. Be immediately publishable.

As regards item (1): All work for the master's degree had been completed except the thesis. My principal aim in doing this work for the degree was to have the privilege of performing this biological thesis under Dr. Clark. The Department knew this and that is the reason for the above requirement--to make it not worth my while to remain at Tech and so not get the degree.

As regards item (2): I have presented only some most regrettable facts and conclusions drawn from a close study of Dr. Lewis. The originality, if any, lies in Dr. Lewis's conduct. I sincerely trust it is unusual.

As regards item (3): This is the requirement which kept me from writing a thesis based on laboratory experimentation. I knew of no other case where such an outrageous demand has been made for any degree at the Institute. Dr. Lewis and Professor Haslam know nothing of X-Rays. I believe it was their intention to submit the thesis offered by me to one of the journals to see if it would be accepted for publication. They would not accept Dr. Clark's evaluation of the thesis as he was not under Dr. Lewis's thumb and so could not be controlled. And by the time I would come up for the degree, Dr. Clark would have left the Institute and could make no remonstrance. Dr. Clark had stated that this was the most outrageous affair he had ever seen and that if he were to be at the Institute he would fight to see that I got the degree. To conform with this demand I have submitted this thesis to a chemical journal for publication in its entirety. I have also sent copies to all members of the Graduate Committee, to all members of the Corporation, to President Stratton and the presidents of seven universities, to the officials of the American Chemical Society, and to many individuals. I think I can say that the thesis is published to a certain extent. If the Institute desires further publication, I shall comply with its wishes.

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I have tried to meet the demands literally and in spirit of the Department represented by Professor Haslam, who was a member of the Graduate Committee and who, according to Dr. Goodwin, is a honorable man and represents truly the aims and customs of the graduate policy of the Institute. According to President Stratton my degree rests with the decision of the Graduate Committee as to whether or not I have met the requirements for the degree. My program was accepted in February 1927 by my Department. This thesis conforms to the departmental requirements, though it is not the one I would have presented if not prevented by the Department's actions. I have even illustrated it. I submit it with the usual request that I be recommended for the degree of Master of Science by the Department of Chemical Engineering as having successfully complied with its demands and specify further that this thesis be bound and filed in the library in compliance with the usual custom as a permanent record of a most outrageous affair perpetrated by a presumably respectable institution.

I should welcome the opportunity of defending this thesis in Dr. Lewis's presence before the Corporation and Faculty of the Institute, with the additional presence of certain people of unquestioned integrity. That is the only way this matter can ever be cleared up. On every point the Institute has taken Dr. Lewis's evaluation and explanation because he is a member of the Faculty and because the Faculty is afraid of him. It has not dared to do otherwise. President Stratton himself promised to investigate this affair and then, after reading my full account of what had happened, declined to do so, saying that he would not because he would then have to ask Dr. Lewis to leave the Institute. Dr. Lewis is a most convincing talker and an absolute liar and can explain satisfactorily anything on earth. He is not hampered by facts if they are unknown to his hearers.

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SCOPE

The subject matter of this thesis deals with the outrageous conduct and gangster tactics of Dr. Warren K. Lewis and the Department of Chemical Engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology demonstrated particularly in the period from February 1927 to October of the same year. Reference is also made briefly to certain events occurring in the preceding years because of their application to the later period.

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THE ARGUMENT

In October 1924 I registered at the Institute for the first time as a candidate for a degree--the B.S. in Chemical Engineering. I was advised by Dr. Lewis at the time to sign up for the Master's degree without specification, for which I was eligible. I preferred the sound engineering training given candidates for the B.S. degree. The Master's degree from Tech is no different from that obtained from any other college--just a year of graduate work. I planned to remain at the Institute until September 1925 at which time I expected to complete all the requirements for the degree, or, if not all complete at that time, to finish the work for the degree the following summer, 1926. I had already been accepted as a student by a professional school and it was most essential that I enter on my professional training in September 1925.

In March 1925 at the end of the 2nd term I was advised that I must withdraw from the Institute for a period of nine months. No definite reason was given; I never received a vote. The letter stated that the case would not be discussed until after nine months. Thru inexperience I did not know what to do though it was outrageous. Something rather terrible had occurred the first day of exams which was purely the Institute's fault--and I am suspicious it may have been caused by Dr. Lewis--which made it impossible for me to study thereafter and as a consequence I flunked some examinations. I had worked very hard during the term, however, and was carrying at the time a load of 91 hours a week. The normal load at Tech is 48 hours a week which is considered stiff enough. No investigation could possible have been made. The whole affair was shady and off-color. Later on one of the professors in Course X inadvertently stated that the Department had had a hard time putting me out. I am convinced, from what happened from February 1927 on, that this action of the Institute was brought about solely thru Dr. Lewis on personal grounds. This action on the part of the Institute, of course, made it necessary for me to finish the work at Tech and get the degree itself in Chemical Engineering before I could begin my professional work elsewhere.

I withdrew from the Institute at the time in accordance with my instructions of asking no questions for 9 months-- Charge of the Light Brigade stuff-- and matriculated for the master's degree in Zoology at another university to pass the time for the next 9 months. My work during this time had no bearing on any work at the Institute.

In February 1926 I returned to the Institute. I went several times during the term to the Dean to find out why I had been put out. My questions were always headed off. During the ensuing term I carried a heavy course in number of hours, though it was not heavy actually as much of it was repetition of work already performed which I would have normally passed in March 1925. The Department actually tried to prevent me taking Heat Engineering so as to hold up my graduation. During the middle 5 weeks of the term I never studied at all at night; I did not need to. I could have carried a great deal more but the Department refused to let me take more than they were forced to allow. There was never any question of my ability to carry the work. Dr. Lewis's argument was that to carry extra work was a "favor" and I was being punished for being put out of the Institute the previous year. This is an example

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of Dr. Lewis's logic: He put me out the previous year through personal motives and then proceeded to punish me for being put out.

In June I debated whether to finish the work for my master's degree at another college that summer or remain at the Institute for the summer and take my B.S. and M.S. degrees the following year from the Institute. I talked with my Registration Officer about it and decided to remain at the Institute. I also talked to Professor MacInnes at this time about writing a master's thesis under him in Colloids. He was leaving the Institute however. This meant that the only people interested in Colloid Chemistry were in the Department of Chemical Engineering and, therefore, that would be the Department in which I would have to take the M.S. degree.

By September 1926 I had accomplished less than I would have by September 1925 if unmolested. I had had an enforced year of absence from the Institute and because of that fact had been required to repeat work I would have normally passed by condition examination if I had remained at the Institute. Yet by September 1926 I had less than a term's work to finish for the B.S. degree. I was in a position to leave the Institute and return the following summer and complete the required work. This was exactly what I had planned to do in September 1925. But I could not leave the Institute in September 1926 to go to another Institute because I did not have the degree itself.

I could have taken the B.S. degree in February, but preferred to take it the following June instead so that during the first term I could take some graduate courses given only then. The fact that I expected to take my B.S. in June, and also expected to complete all work for the M.S. degree except the thesis by June, and write the master's thesis itself in the summer, and take the M.S. degree in September was known and discussed by Dr. Lewis and Professor MacAdams during the registration in September 1926. I registered solely under Dr. Lewis in September 1926. It took about 3 weeks to settle the registration. Dr. Lewis refused to let me take more than the very minimum allowed. I had ridiculously little work to do during the term. In January 1927, just before the exams, something happened similar to what had occurred in March 1925. As one learns by experience, I went at once to an official and the matter was settled and nothing in that respect ever occurred again. Dr. Lewis may have caused it to happen, as I know at the end of the term he was very hopeful that I would flunk out. At the end of the term Dr. Lewis stated, however, that my work had been better than ever before.

In February 1927, at the end of the first term, I went to Professor Haslem, who was in charge of the graduate students in Course X, to make formal application for the M.S. degree. Professor Ward was taking his place temporarily. We talked for quite awhile and I submitted the schedule of courses I wished to take. Professor Ward said that my application and schedule had to be presented to the Graduate Committee which met the following week. The proposed schedule consisted of over 800 hours of A courses in Course X and sufficient B courses to equal 1440 hours. Professor Ward said to come around the following week after the Graduate Committee had met.

Dr. Lewis had promised me to have my schedule arranged before the beginning of the term as I expected to take a heavy course and wanted to begin studying in peace and quiet the first of the term without the usual furor. My relations with my Department the previous term had been very pleasant-- as they had been in all previous terms except in the registration periods when Dr. Lewis was always trying to hold up registration.

On the Saturday before the beginning of the 2nd term I went to the Department to see about registration. Dr. Lewis, Professor Haslam, Professor MacAdams, and Professor Ward devoted the whole morning to it. It was wild. The Department wanted me to take two of the big quantitative courses in Course X. I had already planned to take Dr. Lewis's Thermodynamics. They wanted me to take in addition either Heat Transfer thru Pipes or Distillation. I knew what I was going to do after leaving Tech and that it was absolutely idiotic to take either of them. Moreover the course I had elected was almost identical with that recommended by Professor Haslam himself for a woman student the previous September working for the M.S. degree in Course X. He had recommended among other things Thermodynamics, Colloids, X-Rays, and Physical Chemistry-- only one of the big quantitative courses. She, however, had been interested in plant work, and had taken another quantitative course with Professor Haslam's expressed disapproval. In my case, however, as soon as I had expressed a desire to take these same courses, the Department at once insisted on the opposite thing. That was typical of the attitude of the Department throughout the term -- as soon as I said I wanted something they said I must do the opposite. In February they had said that the courses in Colloids and X-Rays were not any good -- the only good courses given by the Department were those taught by Dr. Lewis and Professor MacAdams. The most violent reactions of the Department were caused by my taking three little courses-- Cytology, Photomicrography, and Optical Crystallography-- 180 hours in all. One would have thought that I was offering 1000 hours of these courses for a Chemical Engineering degree. First of all none of the Department had ever heard of them and could not pronounce them. There were snorts of disgust about my wanting to take "bugology" and they asked me "Why in hell do you want to take such rot? Why not take a good course like Heat Transfer thru Pipes?" Professor MacAdams finally wrote a memorandum of what work I would finish by June for the M.S. degree according to 12 noon, February 5, 1927. I then went in to see Professor Haslam. He had the nerve to suggest that I take the degree without specification, although I was offering over 800 hours of A subjects including Thesis in the course from which I would get my B.S. degree. I asked him if the Department in that case would approve my program of study as offered without further fuss. He said it would; he said in that case I could take what I pleased provided I met the ordinary rules.

I went to see Dean Talbot about the matter of the M.S. degree on Registration Day, February 7th. I told him that I planned to get the M.S. degree in September and the B.S. in June. He said that the Institute would be very glad to give me the M.S. degree if I presented the requisite number of points. I told him that the Department would approve my chosen course of study only if I agreed to take the M.S. degree without specification, though I was offering over 800 hours of A subjects in the Department from which I was getting my B.S. degree. He said that was without his jurisdiction

and sent me to Dr. Goodwin who was in charge of graduate students. Dr. Goodwin said the question of taking a degree with or without specification lay with the Department, yet it is most distinctly stated in the catalogue that graduates of the Institute take the degree with specification if they present 800 hours of A subjects in the department in which they received the B.S. degree. Later on Dr. Goodwin used this catalogue as his Bible. It ought to work at all times. As I could do nothing further, I agreed to take the degree without specification. The next time Dean Talbot saw me he asked what I had decided to do and I told him that I would take the degree without specification.

The previous September I had wanted to take the big graduate course in Theoretical Chemistry. Professor Sherrill said it was foolish to repeat the work, and, after going back and forth between Dr. Lewis and Professor Sherrill several times (Dr. Lewis said he could no more advise me about Physical Chemistry than he could Musical Appreciation!), I had finally agreed with Dr. Sherrill to take the 4th term of Physical Chemistry with Course V and follow it in the 2nd term with Dr. Lewis's Thermodynamics. Dr. Lewis knew at the time I registered that I was planning to offer the course as graduate credit. In February, however, the Department said that they would accept the Theoretical course only if I could get it approved by the Graduate Committee; they would make no effort to get it approved. They laughed and settled back with satisfaction. It seems that Course X had just had a fight with the Graduate Committee about giving graduate credit to a student who took the undergraduate course by mistake. The Committee said in the future they would not grant graduate credit for the undergraduate course. I went to see Dr. Sherrill immediately about it, telling him that I had taken the course with the understanding that it was a graduate course. He said he thought it was too and telephoned to Dr. Goodwin to see how it was rated. Dr. Goodwin answered without hesitation that of course it was a graduate course for all those who were not in Course V. I had Dr. Sherrill telephone the verdict down to Professor Haslam and then I went down to the Department. They were mad enough to bite. Dr. Lewis started yelling and kept it up for the next six months. And in August 1927 Dr. Lewis was still maintaining, in spite of Dr. Goodwin's ruling, that he was doubtful whether or not this was a graduate course.

Just after my interview with Dr. Sherrill, I went to Dr. Lewis to ask him if I would have to take the Memoir Course. He had practically promised me that I could substitute a course taken two years before because it was then required for the degree. If I had taken my degree in February this substitution would have been allowed as a matter of course. The Memoir course was designed to teach us how to hang on to our shirts. It counted as 75 hours, and I was asking for the substitution so as to get in more of the courses I needed before leaving the Institute. I would get no extra credit by this substitution, for I already had graduate credit for this course I was offering as a substitute. Dr. Lewis assured me at the top of his voice that I would have to take the Memoir Course, that he considered it a "favor" to excuse me from taking it, and that he would grant me no favors. I did not question Dr. Lewis's decision though I thought it very unfair, and put it on my schedule without further comment. Later Dr. Lewis gave as another reason for his

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Just after my interview with Dr. Sherrill, I went to Dr. Lewis to ask him if I would have to take the Honor Course. He had practically promised me that I could substitute a course taken two years before because it was then required for the degree. If I had taken my degree in February this substitution would have been allowed as a matter of course. The Honor course was designed to teach us how to hang on to our shirts. It counted as 75 hours, and I was asking for the substitution so as to get in more of the course I needed before leaving the Institute. I would get no extra credit by this substitution, for I already had graduate credit for this course. I was offering as a substitute. Dr. Lewis assured me at the top of his voice that I would have to take the Honor Course, that he considered it a "favor" to excuse me from taking it, and that he would grant me no favors. I did not question Dr. Lewis's decision though I thought it very unfair, and put it on my schedule without further comment. Later Dr. Lewis gave me another reason for his

forcing me to take the course the fact that the Corporation 20 years before had put that course in the curriculum and Dr. Lewis wanted to know what he would say to the Corporation if the members asked him why I had not taken the course. I had no idea the Corporation exhibited such paternalism or took such a minute interest in the Institute's affairs and I am sending each member a copy of this thesis so that they will know all about it. Moreover, I later on applied the principles I learned in this course to Dr. Lewis's statements and he would get mad and yell.

About Thursday of that week I went to Dr. Lewis to get my thesis changed. I found that the work assigned to me had already been performed. Dr. Lewis said that he would not change the thesis. He talked and yelled as if he had come out of the gutter. I had gotten a thesis topic the previous June from Mr. Brian Mead. I asked for a thesis in Colloids. He gave me exactly what I wanted. I did not have time to work on the thesis during the summer. In September Mr. Mead left the Institute. I went to Dr. Lewis for a thesis as he was the only man interested in Colloids. He gave me a different thesis. Dr. Lewis had specified when I registered in the fall that I was to do 135 hours work on thesis. I had time enough during the fall term to do the complete thesis if I had ever been given a clean-cut topic. I never did find out what Dr. Lewis was really after for the very good reason that he did not know himself. But even if I had finished the thesis as given out to me, and no matter how many hours I had spent on it, I am positive that Dr. Lewis would have said that I had only done 135 hours of work. In February I went to Dr. Frolich and said that the thesis appeared to be already done. Dr. Frolich said that he had not thought it a very good thesis when it was assigned, but Dr. Lewis had been so anxious to have it done. Dr. Frolich said that I would get credit for the work I had done on the thesis and of course would get another thesis. During the first term I had become tremendously interested in X-Rays. As long as the thesis had to be changed, I wanted to do an X-Ray thesis. I had definitely planned to do my master's thesis in X-Rays under Dr. Clark. I had spoken to Dr. Clark about it during the first term, and in January he had definitely assigned me a topic. I wanted to do the undergraduate thesis in X-Rays so as to get the preliminary training in technic and so be better prepared to do a good job with the master's thesis. About a dozen X-Ray theses were offered for any students who wished to work in that department for the undergraduate thesis.

Dr. Lewis insisted that the thesis assigned had not been done already, even after I had brought him the literature on the subject and he had locked himself in his room with Dr. Frolich to tell him if he was right. Dr. Lewis refused to let me work with Dr. Clark because he had no control over him. I had gotten an honor in the first term of X-Rays much to Dr. Lewis's chagrin. He actually went to Dr. Clark and asked him why he had given me such a mark. Dr. Lewis knew I was really interested in X-Rays and would undoubtedly earn a good mark in the thesis which he would be powerless to prevent being given because Dr. Clark was not under Dr. Lewis's thumb. Dr. Lewis gave as his reasons for his decision:

1. He wanted to be sure that I wrote a good thesis and he said he had the best judgment of any man in the Department. He said with great pride that he never had made a mistake

in judgment. (This is important as I think most of what happened later was done to maintain this absurd reputation).

2. He wanted me to work on some subject he knew about (yet it was later evident that he knew nothing of the subject. I asked him if he and Dr. Clark could not get together. He said no, he was going to supervise this thesis himself alone. Yet every time in the next several months I went to Dr. Lewis for directions he had to call in Dr. Frolich to tell him what to do).
3. He wanted me to show originality. (His idea of originality, apparently, was to work on something that everyone else familiar with the subject had known for the last 25 years. Moreover during the thesis work I was given most explicit instructions and ordered to perform the thesis exactly as I was told.)

On the Saturday after Registration Day I had finally worked out my program. Dr. Lewis had refused to tell me how many hours I could carry till the very last thing Saturday before Registration Day. I went to my Registration Officer and registered for 975 hours. Professor MacAdams then said that Dr. Lewis wanted me to sign a statement that if I received an F in any of my undergraduate subjects including thesis I would accept the penalty imposed by the Department, which penalty would be the maximum the Department could impose-- 600 hours of additional work and a new thesis. I said I thought it the most outrageous demand I had ever heard of in any college. Professor MacAdams then inadvertently let fall that the Department had had a hard time putting me out in March 1925-- I carried at that time 91 hours a week of work-- and the Department did not want to take a chance on interference again. Professor MacAdams said I would not have to sign the statement if I agreed not to take any extra work. (If I did not take any extra work I would not have enough credits to take my master's degree the following September. That was the purpose of the request.) I agreed to sign the statement with a protest as to such treatment; I was not afraid of not passing the work. When I said I would sign the paper, Professor MacAdams would not let me. He went in to see Dr. Lewis. Dr. Lewis came flying in and said that he would refuse to let me take Advanced Calculus; it would be a "favor". I have been around the Institute for quite a while and I never saw such a rush to take any more Calculus than was absolutely required that only the favored few could take it. Moreover he had absolutely no right to prevent me from taking the course if I so desired. However, it would not have looked well to have me pass an advanced math. course. I had previously said that this course was the one I wanted to take most as I needed it in subsequent work. This cut my number of hours down to 840. Dr. Lewis then stated that he would not allow me to take more than 840 hours. He had previously promised to let me take as many hours as I wanted. 840 hours is only 56 hours a week; 975 hours is only 65 hours a week. I asked him if he would not increase the allowed number of hours to 870 so that I could take a 30 hour course in Machine Tool Lab., a course I had been most anxious to take for several years but could never fit into my schedule. I would get no graduate credit for it, of course. Dr. Lewis said no.

On Registration Day, the 7th of February, I had gone to Dean Talbot. I told him I had only 330 hours more to complete for the B.S. degree and asked him if the Department could withhold the degree. He said I would get the degree automatically provided, of course, I was recommended by the professor under whom I wrote my thesis -- which was almost automatic. After my interview with Professor MacAdams and Dr. Lewis on the Saturday after Registration Day, I went again to Dr. Talbot. Incidentally I refused to register under the terms laid down. I told the Dean that Dr. Lewis had promised me that I could take as many hours as I wanted this term, that he now refused to let me take more than 840, 75 of which were in a course he had virtually promised to let me substitute for, that he had made the outrageous demand that I must sign a statement agreeing to take the maximum penalty if I flunked any undergraduate courses, that he had refused to let me take Calculus though I was eligible for it, that he was forcing me to take a thesis absolutely against my will and one in which I was not interested. The Dean said he would ask Dr. Lewis to come around and explain his actions, as he had overstepped his authority. He said I could not be required to take a thesis I did not want. He said he would see about the Math. He added that I had come at a bad time for him to do anything for me as he was leaving the Institute the following Wednesday to take a trip for his health. Professor Merrill was present during part of this interview as Dean Talbot asked him to listen to what Dr. Lewis was demanding.

Dean Talbot saw Dr. Lewis with the result that Dr. Lewis came back to me boiling mad saying that if I wanted to write a thesis I had to take the one he had given me; if I did not want it, just let him know as he hoped I would not write it. He actually asked me to leave the Institute. He was wild. A child can recognize hate and fury. Everything I wanted or any request I made was met with a refusal. He used every device, every vulgarity, anything he could think of to make it so unpleasant that I would leave the Institute. There was nothing quiet or dignified about it. He would yell at the top of his voice everytime he spoke to me so that every one within a block of his office heard every word. Of course they only heard his side. I talked only to Dean Talbot, Dean Goodwin, Professor Merrill (the Secretary of the Faculty), Assistant Dean Lobdell, and finally to President Stratton. When Dr. Lewis found out that I was not swayed by what he said, that all I wanted was to be left alone so as to quietly do some serious study, that I knew definitely what I was going to do and was shaping my plans to meet those ends, and that I never expected to look at a Chemical Engineering book after graduation and did not want the Department to get me a job, he bent his entire energy seeing that I did not study the things I especially wanted and for which I was paying; he made the whole term a perfect brawl and like a madhouse so that quiet study was utterly impossible; and through malicious lies he did all he could to discredit me as a student. I never had any special trouble doing the work at Tech. He determined in February to do all in his power throughout the term to prevent me getting the B.S. degree; and I am sure that he planned in February that if he could not prevent my getting the B.S. degree, at least I should not get the M.S. degree. He prevented me from taking certain courses in February on the sold ground that they would not look so well on my record when he would have to specify why the Department refused to accept me as a graduate student. This state of affairs was known to all the members of the Department. Not one

of them said one thing to stop Dr. Lewis except Dr. Clark, with the result that Dr. Lewis flew at him so that Dr. Clark handed in his resignation.

In the meantime I was not registered. To agree to Dr. Lewis's demands meant to sacrifice all my carefully worked out plans and make the year a wasted one. It was not a case of silly stubbornness as the Department tried to infer. I sent a petition to the Petitions Committee, the only means a student has of bartering with the Faculty, stating that I could no longer respect Dr. Lewis as a teacher; that I thought an apology was due me publicly because of Dr. Lewis's conduct and his shouts and yells; I requested that I be allowed to take Advanced Calculus for which I was eligible and which Dr. Lewis had no power to prevent me taking other than force; I requested that I be not forced to take a thesis against my will. I told Professor Merrill to see Dr. Lewis personally and see if he could not arbitrate a settlement without having the Department's conduct spread all over the Institute. He did so, but Dr. Lewis told him gently that he was very sorry if I thought he was unjust but he could not help that. The morning of the day the Committee met I went to Professor Merrill to learn the result. He told me the above and said he would present the petition to the Committee and explain Dr. Lewis's attitude and not ask Dr. Lewis to be present. Dr. Lewis had actually told Professor Merrill that the reason he had wanted me to sign the statement, provided I took extra hours, was to impress upon me the importance of the undergraduate work! I talked to Professor Merrill for about a half hour with the result that Prof. Merrill telephoned to Dr. Lewis and asked him to come to the Committee meeting and explain his actions. There was much excitement and going back and forth. Everyone explained to me that nothing would come of it because the Head of the Department's word is practically law. I finally withdrew the petition believing that it would do no good. This was Friday of the 4th week of the term. Prof. Merrill had stated that he did not think I would be allowed to start the Calculus this late. It was a 135 hour course. Yet on the following Monday I went around to my Registration Officer and registered finally, thereby starting 840 hours the beginning of the 5th week. This withholding of my registration had pushed the hours of work up from 56 to 76 hours a week.

The week before the Committee met I had gone to Assistant Dean Lobdell who was taking Dean Talbot's place during the latter's absence and asked him if he could not arbitrate a settlement of this fight so that I could register and settle down to work. That is a legitimate request to make of a Dean if there ever was one. And what did he say? When I first went into his office he was much flustered. His reply to my request was, "Did you get a letter I wrote you?" I had received a letter saying that I was removed from the provisional list of students, which did not mean much to me as I had never found out what being on the list implied. I told him I had received the letter. Mr. Lobdell then drew a long breath and relaxed and stated that he could not do anything about Dr. Lewis. He wanted to know if the Head of the Department could not require a student to take a certain thesis. Dean Talbot had told me most emphatically he certainly could not and that Dr. Lewis had therein exceeded his authority. Mr. Lobdell was just hedging. He was afraid to interfere. This might not be very courageous or ethical but it was practical, for what would happen to Mr. Lobdell if he

started giving directions to Dr. Lewis? Some one would have to gather up the remains. Mr. Lobdell's hesitancy at first had been caused by the fact that if I had still been a provisional student I was under the jurisdiction of a committee who would have been forced to intercede. I had evidently been removed quick as a wink from the provisional list to prevent such a contingency from arising. I did not realize this at once. When I did, I had to laugh in Mr. Lobdell's face.

On Monday of the 5th week of the term I finally registered. It was evident that no one would interfere-- the Faculty was too scared. Professor MacAdams made me sign the paper stating that if I flunked an undergraduate course I would get the limit I could be imposed. I took only 840 hours. I did not take Calculus.

Shortly afterwards I sent in another petition to the Petitions Committee, as the matter was too grave to let pass. I demanded to be told the reason why I had been put out of the Institute in 1925 as from Dr. Lewis's actions since February, stripped of all pretense, made it pretty certain that the matter then had been wholly personal. Also I am convinced that Dr. Lewis said something either at that time or when I returned in February 1926, the truth of which statement he was frantically trying to bring about to prove that he never made a mistake. In the petition I also said that Dr. Lewis was telling untruths about me, that he was trying to discredit me, and hurt my future. I also requested that the thesis assigned be investigated and that I be given a new thesis. I requested to be allowed to come before the Committee and state my case. This petition of mine certainly brought grave charges which should have had immediate investigation unless these are the principles for which the Tech Faculty stands, or unless they are a bunch of crooks. Yet I never even received a reply. Just before graduation I asked Professor Merrill what had become of the petition and he replied shortly that the Committee did not care to consider the petition-- they thought it beneath my dignity to ask for an investigation. Which meant of course that the Committee did not dare consider it.

As to the thesis, Dr. Lewis said I would continue with the thesis assigned in the fall or do none. I had expressly asked for laboratory technic. Dr. Lewis said in February that the thesis would be mathematical wholly. I went to the literature again about the thesis. I was never quite sure what Dr. Lewis was after. I searched carefully, embodied the results in a required Preliminary Report, and submitted this to Dr. Lewis the last of April. This Preliminary Report is required of all students, and is an integral part of the final thesis. It also contains a review of the literature and the method of procedure suggested. Dr. Lewis read it, rushed over to shut the door (I had asked for an apology as Dr. Lewis had been yelling all these insults before everybody), and shut it, and then came yelling back to me that I had slapped his face. I had merely written the report as outlined in the instructions given by the Department. I had reviewed the literature with the conclusion that the topic assigned had been finished 15 to 25 years before (it was in the literature, there was no secret about it or especial difficulty in finding it). I further stated that if I had ever found out the definite topic assigned in October I could have finished the thesis in the first term. Dr. Lewis behaved

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It was evident that no one would intercede - the Faculty was too
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I finished an undergraduate course I would get the thing I could be
imposed. I took only 800 hours. I did not take Calculus.

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the conclusion that the topic assigned had been finished in 25
years before (it was in the literature, there was no secret about
it or especial difficulty in finding it). I further stated that if
I had ever found out the business topic assigned in October I could
have finished the thesis in the first term. Dr. Lewis behaved

like a spoiled child of 5 in a temper. And I laughed at him because he was ridiculous. Dr. Lewis then called in Dr. Frolich. He told Dr. Frolich that I had not understood the thesis and mentioned what he had given me. It was the first time he had ever said this topic in his life to me. It was absolutely different from what he had given me. Furthermore, it had no particular significance. Dr. Lewis said it suddenly so as to deny that I had been correct the first of the term when I said that the thesis had already been done. He said the first thing that came into his mind. It was then that I knew that Dr. Lewis did not know one earthly thing about the thesis he had given me. Also the Department's lack of knowledge of the subject of Amino Acids was shocking. Dr. Lewis is supposed to be an authority on Geletin. Dr. Lewis then dictated a letter telling me what I was supposed to do and what to include in the final write-up of the thesis. I stuck to that letter. The problem, done the way Dr. Lewis told me to do it, would never have been given as a thesis for it was too simple-- it could have been given to a Sophomore as an exercise.

I went to work on the thesis and worked very hard so as to get it done considerably before the end of the term. I finished the problem assigned. This was about ten days before the end of the term. I had neglected all work to rush the thesis thru. I now expected to do the back work and prepare for the examinations. I had plenty of time for this. Dr. Lewis was away at the time. When he returned I went to see him. The results of the thesis were entirely negative. I knew they were going to be that before I started and tried to tell Dr. Lewis so, but he would not believe it. Dr. Lewis looked at my results and then handed out a new problem--one which would take at least three months to do properly. Besides, it had no earthly use. He was just clutching at anything, as usual, to avoid saying he had made a mistake. I went back to the laboratory to do what was assigned. The thesis was due in 5 days. All the members of my class had finished their laboratory work and were checking out of the laboratory. Some of the theses had already been handed in. And at this time I was told to begin a new thesis.

I finished the thesis and turned it in at 20 minutes of five on Friday. It was due not later than 5 on Friday. The thesis represented exactly two days' work in the laboratory. (On Wednesday I had to do Chrystollography all day.) It took me about half a day to write the Foreword. I nearly cried at what I left out, but I thought I had better be discreet. I only wrote five lines, stating that the thesis subject had been changed numerous times and that I had protested against the use of impure chemicals. Yet the Department later insisted that I had been insulting. The thesis, of course, was worthless. Not only did it represent too little experimental work, but it was a problem that would require the minutest care and time to have it mean anything. And above my vigorous protest I was made to use impure reagents and conduct the work under absurd conditions. Dr. Lewis told me for heaven's sake not to be so fussy. The day the thesis was due I had a final in Chemical Engineering. I had exactly one hour to study for the examination. For the last five days I had worked almost incessantly. And I had not looked at Chemical Engineering for the past three weeks, devoting the time to thesis. I was furious to be made to go

like a spoiled child of 5 in a temper. And I laughed at him because he was ridiculous. Dr. Lewis then called in Dr. Prosser. He told Dr. Prosser that I had not understood the thesis and mentioned what he had given me. It was the first time he had ever said this topic in his life to me. It was absolutely different from what he had given me. Furthermore, it had no particular significance. Dr. Lewis said it suddenly as if I had just been correct the first of the term when I said that the thesis had already been done. He said the first thing that came into his mind. It was then that I knew that Dr. Lewis did not know one thing about the thesis he had given me. Also the Department's lack of knowledge of the subject of Animal Aids was shocking. Dr. Lewis is supposed to be an authority on Gestalt. Dr. Lewis then dictated a letter telling me what I was supposed to do and what to include in the final write-up of the thesis. I wrote that letter. The problem, done the way Dr. Lewis told me to do it, would never have been given as a thesis for it was too simple—it could have been given to a sophomore as an exercise.

I went to work on the thesis and worked very hard so as to get it done considerably before the end of the term. I finished the problem assigned. This was about ten days before the end of the term. I had requested all work to finish the thesis then. I now expected to do the book work and prepare for the examinations. I had plenty of time for this. Dr. Lewis was away at the time. When he returned I went to see him. The results of the thesis were entirely negative. I knew they were going to be that before I started and tried to tell Dr. Lewis so, but he would not believe it. Dr. Lewis looked at my results and then handed out a new problem—one which would take at least three months to do properly. Besides, it had no earthly use. He was just clenching at anything, as usual, to avoid saying he had made a mistake. I went back to the laboratory to do what was assigned. The thesis was due in 5 days. All the members of my class had finished their laboratory work and were checking out of the laboratory. Some of the teachers had already been handed in. And at this time I was told to begin a new thesis.

I finished the thesis and turned it in at 30 minutes of five on Friday. It was due not later than 5 on Friday. The thesis represented exactly two days' work in the laboratory. (On Wednesday I had to do Christology all day.) It took me about half a day to write the foreword. I nearly died at what I felt out, but I thought I had better be direct. I only wrote five lines, stating that the thesis subject had been changed numerous times and that I had protested against the use of vague chemicals. Yet the Department later insisted that I had been insisting. The thesis of course, was worthless. Not only did it represent too little experimental work, but it was a problem that would require the utmost care and time to have it mean anything. And above my vigorous protest I was made to use vague requests and conduct the work under absurd conditions. Dr. Lewis told me for heaven's sake not to be so funny. The day the thesis was due I had a final in Chemical Engineering. I had exactly one hour to study for the examination. For the last five years I had worked almost incessantly. And I had not looked at Chemical Engineering for the past three weeks, devoting the time to thesis. I was furious to be made to go

to a final examination in such a state of preparation. My degree depended on passing that final. Yet this was exactly what Dr. Lewis had planned-- to try to make me not get the thesis in and to flunk Chemical Engineering also. You remember the paper Dr. Lewis made me sign in February called for action in such a contingency. I passed the examination in Chemical Engineering, but that does not change the outrageous action of Dr. Lewis.

About the last of May I happened to drop into Dr. Lewis's office. He was just in the act of dictating the title of my thesis to go in the graduation program. I heard what he said and protested immediately that the title had nothing to do with the thesis. Everything stopped for an hour while we had a "conference". Dr. Lewis did not even know what the words he had used meant. I told him that he could not define words one way while every other chemist in the country defined them another way. I told him that one of the most important things he had to learn in life was to conform, and that at his age it was about time he learned that. The final title, as usual, was exactly as Dr. Lewis had first stated it as he insisted that he was right. And, accordingly, when I handed in my thesis, I wrote the title on the front page and wrote about something else.

My thesis, after being turned in to Prof. Merrill, to be checked off, was then returned to the Department. The theses, as a general rule, are never even read by the professors of Course X under whom the work is carried on, as it is too much bother. Yet Dr. Lewis gave my thesis to some one else to read who knew nothing of the circumstances connected with its writing. Moreover, there was nothing really to write about. Dr. Lewis said he did this because he did not want to be considered unfair! The verdict was that I had done a very poor job on the thesis. About a week before graduation, the Faculty meets to vote the degrees. The students are arranged into two groups:

- (1) Those who have passed all their work and are sure to graduate;
- (2) those who have failed in something or have done poor work on thesis.

I understand the first group are passed at once. These in the second group are discussed individually. I was placed in the second group because I "had done a poor job with the thesis". Incidentally I did a swell job with that thesis and I had at that time over 1000 hours in excess of the degree-- more than any other student. I was voted the degree. Prof. MacAdams and Prof. Haslam later explained what had been done with gusto. They gave the impression to the rest of the Faculty, evidently, that I had had a terribly hard time getting thru and had written a poor thesis, but I had worked so hard that as a "favor" I might be given the degree. You will recall that Dean Talbot had said in February that the only way my degree could be held up was not to be recommended by the professor under whom I had written the thesis. And that Dr. Lewis had refused to let me register in February unless I signed a paper saying that if I failed to pass my thesis I should get the maximum penalty. You will recall that I said in February that Dr. Lewis was trying to make me fail on the thesis. You will recall that Dr. Lewis kept changing the thesis, the last time five days before it was due. In the last interview I have never seen a person look more hunted and desperate. He knew I had him on the thesis and that he had made an awful ass of himself. Yet, with a nerve which I am forced to admire, he still carried out in June what he had planned to do in February. What do facts mean to a man who has got to maintain that he never made a mistake?

I have sent Mr. Ford, the Bursar, a bill for \$80.21 (385/1440 x 300) the amount I paid of tuition for thesis, and instructed him to balance his books by collecting \$80 from Dr. Lewis. I was forced to work as a private assistant to Dr. Lewis though I was a student and paying for instruction which I never got.

The Monday before graduation I was notified that I was to graduate. On graduation day I refused to march up and get the diploma. I would have thrown it in the President's face. It was only after several days that I finally decided to go around to the office and get the diploma. Not to do so would have been too great a satisfaction to Dr. Lewis.

The morning of the 31st of May I had my last examination. That afternoon I went to Dr. Clark to get my thesis. I had a 700 hour thesis to do that summer and I knew that I had no time to waste. I thought I was free at last from the jurisdiction of Dr. Lewis and under the Graduate Committee. Dr. Clark told me to come back in two days. I was going to collaborate with an instructor over at Harvard and he wanted to see him. In the meantime I went to Professor Haslam to have the summer research card signed by him. Professor Lewis was out of town for several weeks and the Department did not know how to act. They compromised by saying that they had decided that I could not work for the master's degree. I said that my program had been approved by them in February. They haggled and said it had not. My research was approved provisionally only. Dr. Lewis had told Dr. Clark in February that I could write my master's thesis under him the following summer. And I had asked Prof. Haslam expressly if there were any strings on the master's thesis and he had said there were none-- that I could write on any subject. Yet Prof. MacAdams and Prof. Haslam in the next two or three days went to Dr. Clark and told him that the Chemical Engineering Department would demand that my master's thesis be (1) non-biological, (2) be original, (3) be immediately publishable. The first demand was made because they knew I intended to write a biological thesis and they hoped that maybe if prevented from doing this I would withdraw. The biological thesis I was to do was work accepted by the Research Laboratory of Applied Chemistry several years before which up to that time had not been touched because there had been no one who knew enough about biology to do it. You will notice that the Department was demanding originality (though why Dr. Lewis should harp on that I do not see) in the master's thesis though they had not allowed a speck of it in the bachelor's thesis. Also they were demanding originality from me in a field in the laboratory end of which I was totally untrained. You will recall that I made strenuous efforts to be allowed to write my bachelor's thesis in X-Rays as I knew I was going to do my master's thesis in this field and wanted the training. You will recall that Dr. Lewis would not let me do this, saying I must show "originality" in my bachelor's thesis. Apparently I was to get the laboratory training in X-Rays thru prayer. As to the demand that the thesis be immediately publishable, that was said I am sure with the intention of submitting my thesis to one of the journals to see if it was acceptable, as none of the leaders of the gang knew anything of X-Rays. Dr. Clark rose to the occasion and gave me a thesis any results from which would be publishable. It was in textiles, however, in which I had not the slightest interest. He said he could not give me the biological thesis, and later when I decided I did not want this type of thesis anyway but one that would train me in the fundamentals of X-Ray science, Dr. Clark would not give me this because it

would not have been immediately publishable. He said himself that this was the type of thesis that I needed. As I had some very specific needs and had not the time for any more nonsense, I protested this action. I thought I had stood enough of Dr. Lewis's temperament. Then Professors MacAdams and Haslam actually had the nerve to tell Dr. Clark that he must not interfere and that he was not now a member of the Institute's Faculty but of the university to which he was going. When I came down to see Dr. Clark the next day after the previous interview, Dr. Clark told me what had been said and advised me to get right out of the Institute as the Department of Chemical Engineering was going to do all in its power to prevent me from getting the master's degree. As this conduct on the part of Dr. Lewis and thru him the Department of Chemical Engineering was not merely a thing of the moment but of several years standing and was instigated by malicious endeavor to hurt me in any way possible, I refused to budge from the Institute until I had exposed this state of affairs. That was what I had been trying to do all the past term without much success.

I thought I was not under the jurisdiction of the Graduate Committee. I went to Dr. Goodwin. I explained at least a half dozen times the whole affair and the motives that were behind Dr. Lewis's actions. Dr. Goodwin tried like a rabbit to get away from me and at last admitted that I brought grave charges against my Department. I asked him to see Dr. Clark. This he would not do. Dr. Goodwin asked me if I had filled out an application blank for the M.S. degree. I said I had never heard of it. I filled one out and presented it and Dr. Goodwin now said that the last meeting of the Graduate Committee had met until the fall and that I could not be acted upon until then. The Department had allowed this to happen on purpose. I was never told about filling out a blank. My program should have been presented in February. This was apparently the custom for Prof. Ward, who was taking Prof. Haslam's place temporarily, said that this must be done. Yet my program was not presented at the time, and I am sure that it was Dr. Lewis's intention then to see that such a situation that resulted be brought about. Other members of my class who were continuing for the M.S. degree had their applications presented the last of May. The Department knew I was continuing for the M.S. degree also. Yet I was told nothing about filling out a blank. Dr. Goodwin was trying to hold things up till September when he knew I was going to leave the Institute permanently.

Professor Haslam said the first few days of June that he was sure I would not be accepted as a graduate student by the Graduate Committee. He said he would offer no explanations but would submit my record with the statement that I had written a poor thesis and had been proposed for the B.S. degree only among those students to whom it was doubtful the degree would be given, and that the Department did not recommend me. I discovered later the record was falsified. Also no one can read it until it is arranged in chronological order. Yet this was what Prof. Haslam offered to a committee who knew nothing of the case. He gathered as many of the members of the Graduate Committee that were around and discussed my case. The unofficial result of course was that I would not be accepted. Dr. Goodwin says that the Graduate Committee just acts as a group committee and the acceptance of a student and his schedule lies wholly within the decision of a Department.

would not have been immediately publishable. He said himself that this was the type of thesis that I needed. As I had some very useful ideas and had not the time for my more numerous, I protested this notion. I thought I had stood enough of Dr. Lewis's temperament. Then Professor Macdonald and Haskin actually had the nerve to tell Dr. Clark that he must not interfere and that he was not now a member of the Institute's Faculty but of the University to which he was going. When I came down to see Dr. Clark the next day after the previous interview, Dr. Clark told me what had been said and advised me to get right out of the Institute as the Department of Chemical Engineering was going to do all in its power to prevent me from getting the master's degree. As this conduct on the part of Dr. Lewis and that of the Department of Chemical Engineering was not merely a thing of the moment but of several years standing and was instigated by malicious endeavor to hurt me in any way possible, I refused to leave from the Institute until I had exposed this state of affairs. That was what I had been trying to do all the past term without much success.

I thought I was not under the jurisdiction of the Graduate Committee. I went to Dr. Goodwin. I explained at least a half dozen times the whole affair and the motives that were behind Dr. Lewis's action. Dr. Goodwin tried like a rabbit to get away from me and at last admitted that I brought grave charges against my Department. I asked him to see Dr. Clark. This he would not do. Dr. Goodwin asked me if I had filled out an application blank for the M.S. degree. I said I had never heard of it. I filled one out and presented it and Dr. Goodwin now said that the last meeting of the Graduate Committee had not until the fall and that I could not be voted upon until then. The Department had allowed this to happen on purpose. I was never told about filling out a blank. My program should have been presented in February. This was apparently the custom for Prof. Ward, who was Acting Prof. Haskin's place temporarily, said that this must be done. Yet my program was not presented at the time, and I am sure that it was Dr. Lewis's intention then to see that such a situation that resulted be brought about. Other members of my class who were continuing for the M.S. degree had their applications presented the last of May. The Department knew I was continuing for the M.S. degree also. Yet I was told nothing about filling out a blank. Dr. Goodwin was trying to hold things up till September when he knew I was going to leave the Institute permanently.

Professor Haskin said the first few days of June that he was sure I would not be accepted as a graduate student by the Graduate Committee. He said he would offer no explanation but would submit my record with the statement that I had written a poor thesis and had been proposed for the B.S. degree only among those students to whom it was doubtful the degree would be given, and that the Department did not recommend me. I discovered later the record was falsified. Also no one can read it until it is arranged in chronological order. Yet this was what Prof. Haskin offered to a committee who knew nothing of the case. He gathered as many of the members of the Graduate Committee that were around and discussed my case. The result of course was that I would not be accepted. Dr. Goodwin says that the Graduate Committee just acts as a group committee and the acceptance of a student and his schedule lies wholly within the discretion of a Department.

Professor Haslam left for Europe on the 18th (or thereabouts) of June. One or two days before he sailed I asked him if he would go with me to Dr. Goodwin's office and discuss this affair jointly with him. He refused-- saying that he had not the time. Yet as soon as I had left the office he tore around to Dr. Goodwin's office and explained his version of the affair. He was afraid to go with me. Dr. Goodwin hung on to Prof. Haslam's version for dear life. It was after this when I had explained for the nth time what the Department had done, that Dr. Goodwin said that he must of course believe what Prof. Haslam said as he was a member of the Faculty. With my knowledge of the Faculty's truthfulness, that is a funny reason. He refused to see Prof. Clark. Prof. Clark would tell a different story. What was Dr. Goodwin going to do when two members of the Faculty said two different things about the same affair?

About the middle of the month Dr. Lewis came home. I went to him at once and told him what Prof. Haslam had done and said. He replied blandly that it was the first time in his life he had heard anything about my wishing to work for the M.S. degree-- though Dr. Lewis and I had been discussing it for the last eight months. He said to hand in the schedule that I wanted to take for the M.S. degree. This was apparently as if I was just starting for the degree instead of having everything except the thesis already completed. As usual I did as I was told. Dr. Lewis hauled in two other members of the Department so as to form a Committee and the verdict was that I could not be accepted as a student because of my previous record and lack of unity in my schedule. Dr. Lewis also yelled at the top of his voice that he believed that I was not capable of doing graduate work. He never explained how I managed to accumulate the 800 hours of graduate work already performed.

I wrote Dr. Stratton a short letter stating that Dr. Lewis and the Department of Chemical Engineering had been dishonorable and unfair and asked for an investigation and immediate approval of my schedule as I had not yet started my thesis and had to complete everything by the middle of September. I stated that Dr. Goodwin was acting like a rabbit. I asked if he would see me personally. I saw Dr. Stratton. He told me to write out definitely what Dr. Lewis had done and he would investigate the matter. He said Dr. Lewis was using his official position for his own private ends. That statement sums up this whole affair exactly but I was a student in the Institute and the Institute should have interfered. Dr. Stratton said the next time he was going to have Dr. Lewis and me up there in his office together.

I went down and wrote Dr. Stratton a fourteen-page typewritten letter explaining in detail the dishonorable and outrageous conduct of Dr. Lewis and the Department of Chemical Engineering, and took it to Dr. Stratton. I waited a week and heard nothing. Dr. Stratton I knew was busy with the Sacco-Venzetti case. I asked his secretary to find out if he was going to do something about the matter. If not, I was going to finish the work for my M.A. degree that summer. As I did not hear definitely by the 13th I settled down to wait. In the meantime I was doing no work in the laboratory as Dr. Lewis had apparently given orders that all courtesies should be withheld from me.

On the 22nd of July I heard that Dr. Stratton had sent my letter down to Dr. Lewis, Dr. Lewis had gone to President Stratton and apparently explained everything. The Department was boiling. I had been waiting to hear from Dr. Stratton, thinking he was still busy with the Sacco-Venzetti case. On hearing the above I went .,

immediately to Dr. Stratton's office. I asked him why he had done nothing after he had promised to investigate. He said he would not investigate, for if he did he would have to ask Dr. Lewis to leave the Institute-- which meant just as it sounded. As soon as he had read my letter containing the accusations he did not dare to investigate though he had promised to do so when he thought the matter some slight affair. I talked for an hour and then Dr. Stratton asked Dr. Lewis to come up. He did. I then spent one of the most satisfying hours in my life. No regular investigation was made by Dr. Stratton. He merely listened to us talk. At first Dr. Stratton asked me to tell what I wanted done. I said, as I had for the past six months, that I wanted an investigation of the dishonorable conduct of Dr. Lewis and the Department of Chemical Engineering. Then Dr. Lewis went up into the air. Dr. Lewis said he had not approved the schedule in June because of my previous record and the disunited character of the schedule. Just one casual mention was made of my previous record here, though it was the principal point of attack before and after. He based his argument mainly on the alleged fact that the program submitted by me was just a hodge-podge. As a matter of fact it was a well-rounded schedule with the chief interest stated as being X-Rays and Colloids. Advanced Calculus and Thermodynamics would have been on it if the Department had allowed them. So much emphasis was put on the disunited character of the record that apparently it pulled the wool over Dr. Stratton's eyes, for later in writing to the Graduate Committee he said that this Committee was to determine the fitness of my program and to see that I had completed all details for the degree. My ability to take the degree was not mentioned. Dr. Stratton had said both in the first and second interviews that I could work for the M.S. degree in any Department but he said he was not going to interfere in any special arrangements. The Department of Chemical Engineering accepted my schedule in February; in June they said they had never heard of it; I could only remain at the Institute till the following September and something had to be done. In this interview Dr. Lewis actually accused me of having some brains and of deliberately not doing my work. We discussed the undergraduate thesis in detail. Dr. Stratton had to come to Dr. Lewis's rescue as he was getting soundly licked, and Dr. Stratton asked me not to talk about it any more but talk of the graduate work. Dr. Lewis called up Dr. Clark's office for effect to ask him to come up and verify some falsehoods. He knew that Dr. Clark always left the Institute at 4 o'clock and it was then 5:30 and that he was safe. Of course Dr. Clark was not there. He then called up Dr. Frolich. Dr. Frolich had not one earthly thing to do with my graduate work and knew nothing about it, but he came as he was not going to miss a ring-side seat for this scrap; the Department had enjoyed it hugely the whole summer. Dr. Frolich actually backed up Dr. Lewis's statement that no pressure was ever used to make a student take a thesis unwillingly. Dr. Stratton ended the interview by stating that he would of course do whatever Dr. Lewis suggested. The interview lasted two hours. Dr. Lewis was to have another conference in the Department and I was to see him the following Monday. Dr. Stratton trailed Dr. Lewis down to Dr. Lewis's office where he evidently had a private interview with him after I left.

On Monday I went to Dr. Lewis. He had previously called up Dr. Clark and asked him how much of the thesis I had done, the title, and how long it would take to finish it. Dr. Clark said that Dr. Lewis was very pleasant about it, and asked questions as if he had

immediately to Dr. Stratton's office. I asked him why he had done nothing after he had promised to investigate. He said he would not investigate, for if he did he would have to ask Dr. Lewis to leave the Institute--which meant just as it sounded. As soon as he had read my letter containing the accusations he did not have to investigate though he had promised to do so when he thought the matter some light after. I talked for an hour and then Dr. Stratton asked Dr. Lewis to come up. He did. I then spent one of the next early-morning hours in my life. No regular investigation was made by Dr. Stratton. He merely listened to us talk. At first Dr. Stratton asked me to tell what I wanted done. I said, as I had for the past six months, that I wanted an investigation of the disreputable conduct of Dr. Lewis and the Department of Chemical Engineering. Then Dr. Lewis went up into the air. Dr. Lewis said he had not approved the schedule in June because of my previous record and the disreputable character of the schedule. Just one casual mention was made of my previous record here, though it was the principal point of attack before and after. He based his argument mainly on the alleged fact that the program submitted by me was just a hodge-podge. As a matter of fact it was a well-rounded schedule with the chief interest stated as being X-rays and Colloids. Advanced Calculus and Thermodynamics would have been on it if the Department had allowed them. So much emphasis was put on the disreputable character of the record that apparently it pulled the wool over Dr. Stratton's eyes. For later in writing to the Graduate Committee he said that this Committee was to determine the fitness of my program and to see that I had completed all details for the degree. My ability to take the degree was not mentioned. Dr. Stratton had said both in the first and second interviews that I could work for the M.S. degree in my Department but he said he was not going to interfere in any special arrangements. The Department of Chemical Engineering accepted my schedule in February; in June they said they had never heard of it; I could only remain at the Institute till the following September and something had to be done. In this interview Dr. Lewis actually accused me of having some brain and of deliberately not doing my work. We discussed the undergraduate thesis in detail. Dr. Stratton had to come to Dr. Lewis's rescue as he was getting soundly licked, and Dr. Stratton asked me not to talk about it any more but talk of the graduate work. Dr. Lewis called up Dr. Clark's office for effect to ask him to come up and verify some falsehoo. He knew that Dr. Clark always left the Institute at 4 o'clock and it was then 8:30 and that he was safe. Of course Dr. Clark was not there. He then called up Dr. Trollich. Dr. Trollich had not one earthly thing to do with my graduate work and knew nothing about it, but he came as he was not going to miss a ring-side seat for this scrap; the Department had enjoyed it hugely the whole summer. Dr. Trollich actually backed up Dr. Lewis's statement that no pressure was ever used to make a student take a thesis unwillingly. Dr. Stratton ended the interview by stating that he would of course do whatever Dr. Lewis suggested. The interview lasted two hours. Dr. Lewis was to have another conference in the Department and I was to see him the following Monday. Dr. Stratton finished Dr. Lewis down to Dr. Lewis's office where he evidently had a private interview with him after I left.

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never heard of it before. Dr. Lewis's plan to smooth out the difficulties and see that I was given a fair chance to get the degree was to let the Graduate Committee in the fall review the case "without prejudice" on account of what Dr. Lewis and Course X had done and said and see if the Committee agreed with the decisions of the Department or not. I was to continue or start the thesis and finish it by the middle of September. It was now about the first of August -- six weeks to perform a 700 hour thesis! I said that that left the matter exactly where it stood the first of June. I said I had written a one page letter to Dr. Goodwin in June stating the dishonorable conduct of the Department and had asked that the matter be straightened out immediately as I could not return to Tech after the middle of September. And Dr. Goodwin had stated that the Committee would consider my letter in the fall after I had left! Also every one knew of this scrap and to agree that I could get the degree would be a slap in Course X's face. Also the portion of the Committee gotten together by Prof. Haslam in June after hearing only Prof. Haslam's version had agreed that I probably would not get the degree. Dr. Lewis asked me to agree with his plan so that he could tell Dr. Stratton that I thought it was fair. I said I certainly would not agree to it. Then Dr. Lewis's face got scarlet and he walked up and down the room screaming that I wanted to prove that he was a crook and a liar. I quote Dr. Lewis's words. Every vestige of control was gone. He was like a cornered rat screaming with rage and fear. I never dreamed that I would ever see any human being give such a ghastly exhibition. As I refused to agree to his plan, Dr. Lewis finally said that that was the plan he was going to recommend to Dr. Stratton as he had to tell him something. He said I was a fool to believe Dr. Goodwin. I later saw the letter Dr. Lewis forwarded to Dr. Stratton.

During the last two weeks before graduation I went once to Dr. Lewis and twice to his secretary to get my Preliminary Report to incorporate it in my thesis of which it is required to be an integral part. You will recall that when I presented this Preliminary Report, Dr. Lewis had yelled that it was a slap in his face. When I first asked Dr. Lewis to return this report, I knew by the expression on his face that he did not want me to get hold of it. He said he could not find it. His secretary looked for it also and could not find it. I accused Dr. Lewis in President Stratton's office of tearing the report up. When Dr. Lewis came down to his office after the interview he produced the report immediately. He had hidden it! Such conduct! He told me he would not surrender it because it was "documentary evidence". It is, but it happens to be a part of my B.S. thesis and should be bound with the thesis in the library.

I went to Dr. Clark to talk things over since the interview with Dr. Stratton. There was a good deal of laughter downstairs about what had happened. I told Dr. Clark that since Dr. Lewis had said in Dr. Stratton's presence that the Department laid no restrictions on the subject of a thesis that I now wanted to take the thesis I had been asking for since June and which I could not take because it was not immediately publishable. This type of thesis would require some supervision. I asked if some one of the men working in the X-Ray laboratory could be assigned to look after my work and show me about the X-Ray machines. Dr. Clark was leaving the Institute at the end of the week. Dr. Clark said he would speak to the men and for me to come back. When I returned he said it was too much to ask of one of the men-- that the slightest courtesy shown me would incur

for that individual the hostility of Dr. Lewis, and the men were not in a position to stand it as their jobs depended on pleasing Dr. Lewis. Dr. Clark said if I wanted to continue with the thesis given in June, or if I worked over in the Physics X-Ray laboratory, to send him the final write-up for grading and he would return it to the Institute.

As it was obviously impossible to do any work thru the orders given by Dr. Lewis down in the laboratory, I left the Institute. I decided at that time that I would write up what had occurred at the Institute in the form of a thesis and present it in place of a thesis based on laboratory experimentation, since all work for the degree had been finished and accepted by my Department and the time planned to devote to thesis had been deliberately wasted by the Department unless this thesis herewith submitted be accepted. You will recall Dr. Clark's advice to me in the first part of June: Leave the Institute immediately. The Department of Chemical Engineering is going to do all in its power to prevent you from getting the degree.

The day before I left Boston I met Dr. Lewis in the corridor at the Institute. He asked me what I was going to do. He looked so like a whipped dog that I was sorry for him and said I was going to leave the Institute. I had already stated that I would not return.

I left Boston on the 5th of August. I was in Boston again the 3rd of September. I telephoned over to the Institute and asked Mr. Jackson in the Information Office to tell me the exact date the Graduate Committee first met in the fall. He did not know and switched me on to Dr. Tryon's wire. Dr. Tryon was Secretary of the Graduate Committee. I talked to Dr. Tryon himself over the phone. He told me the first meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday the 27th or Wednesday the 28th of September. When I went over to the Institute later in the day I found waiting for me in the Margaret Cheney Room a letter from President Stratton saying he had received Dr. Lewis's letter, that it seemed fair to him and that the Graduate Committee would consider in the fall whether I had completed all requirements for the M.S. degree. He evidently expected me to present my thesis to the Committee in the fall. You will recall that this letter from Dr. Lewis wished to withhold all consideration of the case till fall when I would have left the Institute, and when I refused to O.K. the letter because it left matters exactly where they were in June then Dr. Lewis dropped all pretense and screamed with rage and fear because I was trying to prove he was "a crook and a liar".

In the meantime, I tried to write this thesis as here presented. I intended to send it to the Corporation and to a Journal for publication. It was so intensely disagreeable to write, however, and the shock and horror of those last six months was too close, so that I simply could not do it at the time. On September 26th I sent a night letter to Dean Goodwin requesting that a discussion of my case be postponed till I got the full and necessary material before the Graduate Committee as it must act as a tribunal and the meager letter sent to Dr. Goodwin in June with a request for an immediate investigation then was wholly inadequate for consideration of the case. As a matter of fact I was going to let the matter rest here. Dr. Lewis had been so squarely licked, and knew it, that I thought that if he was so pitifully and childishly

attempting to maintain his reputation before his colleagues, though he cared nothing for his word or honor, that I would make no further comments. It is one of the regrets of my life that a man of Dr. Lewis's great ability should be so lacking in ordinary decency and honor.

Shortly after this I received a letter from Dr. Goodwin (see Appendix, Exhibit A) dated September 27th in which he stated that the Committee had met on September and discussed my case and had unanimously decided that I would not be allowed to begin graduate work nor could I register in the future as a graduate student. Dr. Goodwin evidently called the Committee before its scheduled time on purpose to consider my case, as at that time nothing had been received from me and he was afraid if he waited longer I might send in something and the Committee then be forced to act as a tribunal. The photostat was considered in detail. In the previous summer I discovered that the photostat had been falsified; later it was changed several times. It is a legitimate question to ask what was in the photostat prepared for submission to the Graduate Committee. Dr. Goodwin had said in June that my work was all right. He said that I could work for a degree in any department I wished. Yet in September, on looking at a falsified record (and with me safely out of the Institute) he reversed all these statements. Moreover, Dr. Goodwin had heard everything in this thesis verbally and a lot more besides. He said I made grave charges against my Department. The Committee in September heard, I suspect, only Professor Haslam's version as instructed by Dr. Lewis. Dr. Goodwin knew that one of us was lying. And I suspect that if he had any doubts as to my veracity he would have pressed an investigation in June. Presumably President Stratton's instructions were not followed out. This thesis and the schedule must be reconsidered to see if all the details for the M.S. degree have been fulfilled. And the Committee must act as a tribunal to see whether Dr. Lewis is telling the truth or I am. The decision of the Committee in September 1927 of course is worthless because of the nature of the photostat. Should the M.S. degree be withheld, I shall have to demand that this thesis be considered in minute detail to discover wherein it failed to satisfy the Institute's standards. The thesis is the only part of the work for the M.S. degree that has not been considered and approved.

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CONCLUSIONS

The main conclusions drawn from my contacts with the Institute are as follows:

1. That I was made to leave the Institute in March 1925 solely thru Dr. Lewis's demands on personal grounds.
2. That from then on Dr. Lewis's whole outrageous conduct was instigated by a desire to try to justify himself for what he had done.
3. That Dr. Lewis took advantage of my inexperience, for, until February 1927, when Dr. Lewis dropped all pretense, I did not believe that Dr. Lewis was other than an honorable man. I knew, of course, that the Institute was being terribly unjust. I make no apologies for this inexperience. It was my first contact with a bunch of crooks and rowdies, and I still think that a college faculty is no place to come in contact with such individuals.
4. That from February 1927 on, when I knew perfectly well what Dr. Lewis was trying to do, Dr. Lewis fought like a wildcat to prevent the officials of the Institute from interfering.
5. That Dr. Warren Kendall Lewis is a crook, a liar, an absolute scoundrel, and a rotter thru and thru. He is the first person I have ever met who is a force of evil. I think he illustrated remarkably the case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.
6. That Dr. Lewis said himself that he was a crook and a liar when he was screaming with fear and rage after the interview with President Stratton because he was forced to permit the first of August what I had been demanding since the first of June.
7. That Dr. Lewis runs Course X like the leader of the worst gang of crooks in Chicago. His word is absolute law. No one dares do or say anything he would not approve of. I have heard professors of the department turn squarely around and deny something they had previously said because Dr. Lewis's opinion later differed from their original one. Dr. Lewis controls the actions and statements and marks given in Course X.
8. That Dr. Lewis never tells the truth if it serves his purpose better to do otherwise. He is a master at stating something untrue most convincingly and hanging on like a bulldog to his statement so that if any one dares to disagree an issue is made as to his veracity. He also has a gift for starting out on one question and swerving the discussion gradually so that at the end, unless he is watched closely, the subject is totally changed and a wrong impression given.
9. That Dr. Lewis used his official position for his own private ends. President Stratton admits this. If Dr. Lewis had spoken to any of the men in the way he spoke to me the first part of February and thereafter, the man would have knocked him down. I could only

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4. That from February 1937 on, when I knew perfectly well what Dr. Lewis was trying to do, Dr. Lewis fought like a wildcat to prevent the officials of the Institute from interfering.
5. That Dr. Warren Kimball Lewis is a crook, a liar, an absolute scoundrel, and a rotten third and fourth. He is the first person I have ever met who is a force of evil. I think he illustrated remarkably the case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.
6. That Dr. Lewis said himself that he was a crook and a liar when he was working with fear and rage after the interview with President Stanton because he was forced to permit the first of August what I had been demanding since the first of June.
7. That Dr. Lewis runs Goussin X like the leader of the worst gang of crooks in Chicago. His word is absolute law. No one dares do or say anything he would not approve of. I have heard protests of the dearest from many a young and busy scientist, they had previously said because Dr. Lewis's opinion later differed from their original one. Dr. Lewis controls the nation and determines and makes given in Goussin X.
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9. That Dr. Lewis used his official position for his own private ends. President Stanton admits this. If Dr. Lewis had spoken to any of the men in the way he spoke to me the first part of February and thereafter, the men would have knocked him down. I could only

ask for an apology and request that my work be so arranged that I would not have to speak to him again.

10. That Dr. Lewis deliberately set out to destroy my reputation as a student as much as possible in February 1927 and thereafter. He also determined in February, I am sure, to discredit me in every way possible so that I would not get the M.S. degree.

11. That Dr. Lewis is intellectually dishonest and a bluffer. I cite the thesis he forced me to perform under his explicit directions.

12. That Dr. Lewis is a man of inordinate vanity. He stated on several occasions with great pride that he never made a mistake in judgment. As might be expected, a man who has such a reputation to uphold cannot be too finicky about the methods used to maintain it. I refer to outrageous lies, hiding part of thesis, getting records falsified, ordering absurd theses to be performed.

13. That I received my B.S. degree in June 1927 only because Dr. Lewis was afraid, after the publicity I had forced to the attention of the officials, to flunk me point blank on thesis as I am sure he planned to do in February. He made me sign that statement in February and resorted to everything he could possibly do and say to make me fail to graduate. When the degrees were being voted I was put in the doubtful class because he was still trying to prevent graduation and I think he hoped to get combined faculty ruling that I could not graduate. He made it appear that I had had a terribly hard time graduating,-- though I had at the time over 1000 hours in excess of the needs of the degree, more than any other student-- and had only graduated because of the leniency of the Department. After the open warfare of the second term, that last statement has its points of hilarity. I refused to budge during the whole term; I did everything that was forced upon any student in any college in the country. And I cleaned it up satisfactorily and licked Dr. Lewis squarely on his own grounds with all the odds against me. He made a perfect ass of himself over the thesis which I honestly tried to prevent him from doing as I saw where he was galloping, but all I had to do was to say one thing and he would immediately insist on the opposite. At the very last I have never seen a man look so hunted in my life or so desperate. Also at the end of the term he was howling that I had slapped his face.

14. That Dr. Lewis was and is afraid to discuss this affair in my presence, for if I am not present to check him up he can explain anything and a professor's evaluation of a student will in general be taken without question. Dr. Lewis has posed all along to the Faculty as the conscientious instructor whereas to me he was a leering, snarling fiend.

15. That the Institute is analogous to a corrupt police force functioning in a city which protects the operations of crooks. The officials of the Institute knew everything that is in this thesis. Almost every word of it is in President Stratton's files. The Faculty was too scared to interfere.

and for an apology and request that my work be so arranged that I would not have to speak to him again.

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11. That Dr. Lewis is intellectually dishonest and a liar. I cite the thesis he forced me to perform under his explicit direction.

12. That Dr. Lewis is a man of inordinate vanity. He stated on several occasions with great pride that he never made a mistake in judgment. As might be expected, a man who has such a reputation to uphold cannot be too flimsy about the methods used to maintain it. I refer to outrageous lies, hiding part of thesis, getting records falsified, and the absurd threats to be performed.

13. That I received my B.S. degree in June 1927 only because Dr. Lewis was afraid after the publicity I had forced to the attention of the officials, to limit my power to make an attack as I am sure he planned to do in February. He made me also state in February and resorted to everything he could possibly do and say to make me fail to graduate. When the degree was being voted I was put in the doubtful class because he was still trying to prevent graduation and I think he hoped to get convinced finally that I could not graduate. He made it appear that I had had a terribly hard time graduating,-- though I had it the time over 1000 hours in excess of the needs of the degree, more than any other student-- and had only graduated because of the leniency of the Department. After the open warfare of the second term, that last statement was the point of hostility. I refused to make during the whole term; I did everything that was forced upon any student in any college in the country. And I cleaned up satisfactorily and liked Dr. Lewis especially on his own grounds with all the odds against me. He made a perfect man of him. I over the thesis which I honestly tried to prevent him from doing as I saw where he was going, but all I had to do was to say one thing and he would immediately insist on the opposite. At the very least I have never seen a man look as humiliated in my life as he did at the end of the term he was howling that I had slapped his face.

14. That Dr. Lewis was and is afraid to discuss this affair in my presence, for if I am not present to cheer him up he can explain anything and a professor's explanation of a student will in general be taken without question. Dr. Lewis has gone all along to the faculty as the conscientious instructor whereas he is a liar, lying, swindling fiend.

15. That the Institute is analogous to a corrupt police force functioning in a city which protects the operations of crime. The officials of the Institute know everything that is in this thesis. Almost every word of it is in President Stewart's files. The faculty was too scared to interfere.

16. That the officials of the Institute show a shocking lack of moral integrity. I remember Dr. Stratton telling the incoming Freshmen that they would have to make the first advances to know the Faculty personally and that they would probably be repaid for such association. I think the students should be warned against such associations as the Faculty went on record in September 1927 as adhering to Dr. Lewis's principles.

17. That no teacher deserves respect because of his profession. Some of those I have seen would land in jail inside of a week if they followed their apparent customs in the business world.

18. That one cannot deal with a bunch of rowdies with politeness and the manners of decent people. This is mistaken for weakness. Dr. Lewis tried to make things so terrible that the mere denial and demand for investigation was an insult and he hoped he would prevent my saying anything by these means.

19. That one is powerless before a liar if the officials or police force happen to be cowards.

20. That the primary aim of the Institute is certainly not education. It endeavors to crush students who are really interested. It prevents students from getting the training for which they specifically came there to obtain. It countenances outrageous working conditions and tried to prevent any remonstrance from the students by such vulgar rudeness and rowdyism that only in desperation will a student demand intervention.

21. That the Records Office is astoundingly incapable and crooked.

16. That the officials of the Institute show a shocking lack of moral integrity. I remember Dr. Stinson telling the incoming freshmen that they would have to make the first advances to the faculty personally and that they would probably be rejected for such association. I think the students should be warned against such associations as the faculty went on record in September 1937 as advising to Dr. Lewis's policies.

17. That no teacher deserves respect because of his position. Some of those I have seen would find it hard to work if they followed their superior customs in the business world.

18. That one cannot deal with a bunch of twaddlers with politeness and the manners of decent people. This is mistaken for weakness. Dr. Lewis tried to make things so terrible that the mere thought and demand for investigation was an insult and he hoped he would prevent my saying anything by these means.

19. That one is powerless before a liar if the officials or police force happen to be cowards.

20. That the primary aim of the Institute is certainly not education. It endeavors to crush students who are really interested. It prevents students from getting the training for which they specifically came there to obtain. It encourages outrageous working conditions and tries to prevent any remuneration from the students by such vulgar means and rowdiness that only in desperation will a student demand intervention.

21. That the Records Office is astoundingly incapable and crooked.

DEMANDS

1. That I have conferred on me the degree of Master of Science on the basis of this thesis and the 800 hours of graduate work performed in accordance with the graduate program accepted in February 1927 by the Department of Chemical Engineering. I think I have conformed to the demands-- though outrageous-- of the Department of Chemical Engineering in this thesis. According to Dr. Stratton's letter to me after his session with Dr. Lewis and myself, he expected the Committee on Graduate Studies to decide whether or not my program of work already done and the thesis submitted had satisfactorily met the requirements for the Master's degree-- not whether or not I would be allowed to start graduate work, as I had already started the work a year before and had completed everything except the thesis by June 1927. The Committee met before its scheduled time in September 1927-- on purpose I think-- before the thesis could have been in. I had previously ascertained the date of the first meeting from Dr. Tryon, Secretary of the Committee. My telegram for postponement of discussion of the situation till my material was in arrived after the actual meeting but before the scheduled meeting. The Committee to date has never yet followed Dr. Stratton's instructions.
2. That the reason why I was put out of the Institute in March 1925 and what was said by Dr. Lewis at that time be reviewed in my presence. The Institute has refused to discuss it.
3. That there be a reimbursement of my entire expenses beginning with the fall of 1925, the time I would have left the Institute if Dr. Lewis had behaved himself. In addition adequate recompense for the wasted years must be made. I have asked numerous prominent men to evaluate this.
4. That I be given a true record, correct in every detail, in spite of the offense to Mr. George Welch's sense of tidiness; and that this true record by a permanent record.
5. That there be a discussion in my presence of my entire record.
6. That the integral part of my Bachelor's thesis, hidden by Dr. Lewis in the spring of 1927, be taken from Dr. Lewis's files and bound with my undergraduate thesis in the library where it belongs. Dr. Lewis swore in February 1927 that this Preliminary Report had to be incorporated in the final thesis, and forced me to take a good deal of time writing it up. After the interview with President Stratton, Dr. Lewis produced the report since I had accused him of tearing it up. Dr. Lewis refused to give it to me then. He said it was "documentary evidence". It is, and for that reason Dr. Lewis's files are no safe place for it. (I wrote to the Librarian in March 1928 to find out if Dr. Lewis had sent it up. At that time, according to Dr. Lewis, it was still in his files.) This report shows that the thesis given to me in the fall had already been done and was common knowledge to any one at all acquainted with the subject. I told Dr. Lewis this in February but he insisted, as usual, that he was right and forced me to continue with the assigned thesis. I want the last page of this report read to determine in the opinion of other people whether or not it is a slap in Dr. Lewis's face. He said it was. I merely stated facts.

7. That there be a complete review of my undergraduate thesis. I have asked the Presidents of the American Chemical Society and of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (as prominent and competent men and in no way involving their respective Societies) if they would be judges of the chemical value of the thesis, having Dr. Lewis and myself present it jointly to them on some occasion. This is the only fair way. As stated before, Dr. Lewis, if given a free rein, can explain anything on earth. I explained to these Presidents that persons of their learning and distinction were not really necessary to judge the thesis, that it could be done by any undergraduate, as it really amounted to determining how big an ass a man could make of himself, but my asking them was a sop to the pride of Dr. Lewis and the Institute.

8. That the circumstances of my being voted the B.S. degree in June 1927 be reviewed in my presence.

9. That the Institute explain the disgraceful and outrageous conditions it allowed to exist for any student to work in.

10. That there be a complete review in my presence of what occurred in the following courses:

Industrial Chemistry and Industrial Stoichiometry
Chemical Principles 5.66
Advanced Calculus
Memoirs.

11. That the Institute explain why I, when a student in Chemical Engineering, was given such a swell training for the study of criminal law?

12. That the Institute explain its refusal to let me get the training in the following subjects all of which were needed for subsequent work:

Laboratory work in X-Rays
Laboratory work in Electrical Engineering
Machine Tool Laboratory
Higher Mathematics.

13. That the Institute explain why in the first place I was made a provisional student; why I was kept on the provisional list so long; why I was removed from the provisional list in such a hurry.

14. That the Institute explain how, under the circumstances, Professor Haslam came to ask me in February to take the M.S. degree without specification of department.

7. That there be a complete review of my undergraduate theses. I have asked the President of the American Chemical Society and of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (the present and former) to do this and in no way involving their respective societies. It they would be judges of the general value of the theses, having Dr. Lewis and myself present it jointly to them on any occasion. This is the only fair way. As stated before, Dr. Lewis, given a fair trial, can explain anything on earth. I explained to these Presidents that persons of their learning and distinction were not really necessary to judge the theses, that it could be done by any undergraduate as it really amounted to nothing for him to have a man could make of himself. But my asking them was a sign to the pride of Dr. Lewis and the Institute.

8. That the circumstances of my being voted the B.S. degree in June 1927 be reviewed in my presence.

9. That the Institute explain the discrepancy and outrageous conditions it allowed to exist for any student to work in.

10. That there be a complete review in my presence of that occurred in the following courses:

Industrial Chemistry and Industrial Stoichiometry
Chemical Principles 5.00
Advanced Calculus
Electricity

11. That the Institute explain why I, when a student in Chemical Engineering, was given such a low rating for the study of Organic Chemistry.

12. That the Institute explain its refusal to let me get the training in the following subjects all of which were needed for independent work:

Laboratory work in X-Rays
Laboratory work in Electrical Engineering
Machine Tool Laboratory
Other laboratories.

13. That the Institute explain why in the first place I was made a provisional student; why I was kept on the provisional list so long; why I was removed from the provisional list in such a hurry.

14. That the Institute explain how, under the circumstances, Professor Haines came to ask me in February to take the B.S. degree without specification of department.

28

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Faculty of the Institute look up in the dictionary the following words: Honor, Truth, Courtesy, Dignity, Cad--and go to Sunday School. In addition, that Mr. George Welch look up the meaning of the word "Permanent". He talks of my "permanent" record. He changed the record 5 times at least since graduation. How is one to know when it is permanent?
2. That the Records Office of M.I.T. be cleaned up. It is a disgrace at present. I have never gotten a photostat from that office which did not have to be corrected. Why is a very rude young man put in charge of the records who from his own demonstration is either a crook or astoundingly incapable?
3. That the powers of the Graduate Dean be increased so that he may deal with authority with a situation logically under his jurisdiction. Or, if such powers are in effect, that they be carefully explained to Dean Goodwin. President Stratton, Dean Talbot, Dr. Tryon, Professor Norton and Professor Norris said he had such powers. Dean Goodwin was scared to death and said he was merely the Chairman of a Committee which verified, usually without question, anything the separate departments requested. Or that a dean be appointed who is not a coward and is capable of transacting his duties without relying on precedent--particularly when I trust there is no precedent. This whole affair could and should have been settled quietly the first week in February 1927 by Dean Goodwin.
4. That the powers of the Undergraduate Dean be increased so that he has authority to at least straighten out a student's registration and not have it held up till the fifth week of the term as mine was in the second term of 1927. Dean Lobdell said he had no authority to interfere with Dr. Lewis. President Stratton said he had such authority. The matter should be settled one way or the other.
5. That some person or committee be appointed to deal with authority with such situations as this so that no individual professor can drag the name of Technology in the dirt as Dr. Lewis has done. The Petitions Committee is the only bridge between the student body and the Faculty. It showed itself to be woefully incompetent in the Spring of 1927 and refused to consider the gravest charges. Dean Lobdell and Dean Goodwin refused to do anything, being too scared, and in July President Stratton likewise said he would not investigate because if he did so he would have to ask Dr. Lewis to leave the Institute. He also said he would not interfere with anything under the jurisdiction of any of the deans or committees as these were empowered to act. An excellent example all around of passing the buck.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Faculty of the Institute look up in the dictionary the following words: Honor, Truth, Courtesy, Dignity, God--and go to Sunday School. In addition, that Mr. George Welch look up the meaning of the word "permanent". He talks of my "permanent" record. He changed the record 5 times at least since graduation. How is one to know when it is permanent?
2. That the Records Office of W.I.T. be cleaned up. It is a disgrace at present. I have never gotten a photograph from that office which did not have to be corrected. Why is a very rude young man put in charge of the records who from his own demonstration is either a croak or astoundingly incapable?
3. That the powers of the Graduate Dean be increased so that he may deal with authority with a situation logically under his jurisdiction. Or, if such powers are in effect, that they be carefully explained to Dean Goodwin. President Stratton, Dean Talbot, Dr. Tyson, Professor Norton and Professor Norton said he had such powers. Dean Goodwin was scared to death and said he was merely the Chairman of a Committee which verified, usually without question, anything the records department requested. Or that a Dean be appointed who is not a coward and is capable of transacting his duties without relying on precedent--particularly when I find there is no precedent. This whole affair could and should have been settled definitively the first week in February 1927 by Dean Goodwin.
4. That the powers of the Undergraduate Dean be increased so that he has authority to at least straighten out a student's registration and not have it held up till the fifth week of the term as mine was in the second term of 1927. Dean Lobdell said he had no authority to interfere with Dr. Lewis. President Stratton said he had such authority. The matter should be settled one way or the other.
5. That some person or committee be appointed to deal with authority with such situations as this as that no individual professor can drop the name of Technology in the list as Dr. Lewis has done. The Post-Office Commission is the only bridge between the student body and the Faculty. It showed itself to be woefully incompetent in the Spring of 1927 and refused to consider the gravest charges. Dean Lobdell and Dean Goodwin refused to do anything, being too scared, and in July President Stratton likewise said he would not investigate because if he did so he would have to ask Dr. Lewis to leave the Institute. He also said he would not interfere with anything under the jurisdiction of any of the deans or committees as these were empowered to act. An excellent example all around of passing the buck.

SUMMARY

29

In March 1925 I was thrown out of the Institute thru the instigation of Dr. Warren K. Lewis on purely personal grounds. After my return to the Institute, Dr. Lewis did everything he could to prevent my graduation. Until February 1927 I did not dream what Dr. Lewis was trying to do, knowing only that the Institute was being very unjust. From that date on Dr. Lewis never bothered to pretend. He was like a wild beast. He resorted to malicious untruths and everything contemptable imaginable to discredit me as a student.

My schedule for the M.S. degree was accepted in February 1927 and everything for the degree except thesis was completed by June 1927 as I had planned. The Laboratory work on my M.S. thesis was held up purposely from June 1st till about August 1st--and only all wed then because of the interference of Dr. Stratton. From June 1926 on I had stated I could not remain at the Institute after September 1927. The present thesis is, therefore, a necessary substitute.

Demands for an investigation of the whole affair were made to all the officials of the Institute who were either cads and cowards, or out-and-out crooks and what had happened was a usual procedure. The method of investigation was analogous to the following sketch: A crook (Dr. Lewis) was seen to commit a crime. He was accused of the crime by an eyewitness (me). The police officials (the Deans and Chairman of the Faculty) called the crook in, told him what he had been accused of, and asked him to explain the affair saying that no other witness would be called and anything he said would be believed. Of course the crook rose to the occasion and explained everything satisfactorily. At the continued insistence of the eyewitness, the case was finally brought to trial. The Judge (President Stratton) heard only partially what had occurred. He instructed the Jury (the Graduate Committee) to decide the matter, instructing them to determine whether the accused crook was guilty of his crime. The Jury met, discussed something else, and reported the crook was not guilty because the Rocky Mountains are not in Chicago.

The shocking nature of the affair and its extent over such a long period of time make a full presentation of the facts an impossibility unless one writes something of the size of an encyclopedia. A verbal review is necessary--presented jointly by Dr. Lewis and myself.

At the present time my record at the Institute states that I was thrown out of college because I could not do the work, that I had a terribly hard time getting thru the courses, that I could only write a poor thesis, that I finally got the degree thru the leniency of the Department of Chemical Engineering because I had worked so hard, that I was not allowed to do graduate work because I was not capable of doing it--all of which is of course contrary to facts. Dr. Lewis should be congratulated on the accomplishment of his plans.

SUMMARY

In March 1935 I was thrown out of the Institute thru the instigation of Dr. Warren K. Lewis on purely personal grounds. After my return to the Institute, Dr. Lewis did everything he could to prevent my graduation. Until February 1937 I did not dream what Dr. Lewis was trying to do, knowing only that the Institute was being very unjust. From that date on Dr. Lewis never bothered to pretend. He was like a wild beast. He resorted to malicious intrigues and every-thing contemptible imaginable to discredit me as a student.

My schedule for the M.S. degree was accepted in February 1937 and everything for the degree except the thesis was completed by June 1937 as I had planned. The Laboratory work on my M.S. thesis was held up purposely from June 1st till about August 1st--and only after I had then because of the interference of Dr. Strickland. From June 1936 on I had stated I could not remain at the Institute after September 1937. The present state is, therefore, a necessary substitute.

Demands for an investigation of the whole affair were made to all the officials of the Institute who were either cowed and cowardly, or out-and-out crooks and what had happened was a usual procedure. The method of investigation was analogous to the following sketch: A crook (Dr. Lewis) was seen to commit a crime. He was accused of the crime by an eyewitness (me). The police officials (the Deans and Chairman of the Faculty) called the crook in, told him what he had been accused of, and asked him to explain the affair saying that no other witness would be called and anything he said would be believed. Of course the crook rose to the occasion and explained everything satisfactorily. At the continued insistence of the eyewitness, the case was finally brought to trial. The Judge (President Strickland) heard only partially what had occurred. He instructed the jury (the Graduate Committee) to decide the matter, in trusting them to decide whether the accused crook was guilty of his crime. The jury met, discussed something else, and reported the crook was not guilty because the Rocky Mountains are not in Chicago.

The shocking nature of the affair and its extent over such a long period of time make a full presentation of the facts an impossibility unless one writes something of the size of an encyclopedia. A verbal review is necessary--presented jointly by Dr. Lewis and myself.

At the present time my record at the Institute states that I was thrown out of college because I could not do the work, that I had a terribly hard time getting thru the courses, that I could only write a poor thesis, that I finally got the degree thru the leniency of the Department of Chemical Engineering because I had worked so hard, that I was not allowed to do graduate work because I was not capable of doing it--all of which is of course contrary to facts. Dr. Lewis should be congratulated on the accomplishment of his plans.



An illustration of Dr. Lewis's attitude from Feb. 1927 on-- sinister and malicious. A child can recognize blazing hate. It was all the more shocking as it came out of a clear sky. Dr. Lewis's attitude, stripped bare of all pretence in Feb. 1927, made it clear to me why I had been ordered to withdraw from Tech in 1925-- a fact the Institute would never explain.

In February Dr. Lewis set out to do all in his power thru the most outrageous lies to destroy my reputation as a person of even ordinary intelligence. Such action on the part of a professor toward a student is certainly very cowardly and I think actually criminal, as the professor's word will always be taken unless there is a bitter fight. Well, there certainly was a row (Dr. Goodwin called it a misunderstanding!) but the faculty was too scared of Dr. Lewis to do anything, preferring the role of ostriches.



This picture needs a word of explanation. The one in skirts is Dr. Lewis. I got hit. It illustrates Dr. Lewis's method of maintaining his reputation that he never made a mistake in judgment. His method was to put Baron Munchausen to shame and then fight like a wild-cat, either himself or at his instigation the members of Course X, to prevent any check-up on his statements being made at my request. One is powerless before a liar unless one has a trial or tribunal to judge the statements made. My demands for an investigation to every official and executive body at the Institute was refused-- they dared not investigate.

M. I. T.
Records Office



The above is self-explanatory. My present record contains 23 false records. Since graduation I have received 5 sets of photostats, each set being different and looking worse than the preceding one. In order to make any change, the entire record must be recopied and then photographed. The changes, therefore, were made deliberately. I am very suspicious of Dr. Lewis's hand here. On my demand that a correct record be given me, Mr. Welch refused. He said he thought the record looked "neat". He speaks of a "permanent" record.

Of course this knocks to blazes every argument used by Course K in this affair and also the findings of the august Graduate Committee. Every argument I heard the Department state was based on the incorrect record. The Department refused to make any explanation whatsoever, basing everything on the photostat. The Graduate Committee likewise rested its decision solely on the photostat. Dr. Goodwin had told me the previous June that I could take the degree in any department.

No one ever accused the Tech faculty of having any manners; but you all take great pride in your brains. Now how can I say you are smart when you do something like this? Are spectacles needed to see where this affair is heading unless proper amends are made?

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

C O P Y

September 27, 1927.

My dear Miss Birge:

I have to inform you that as requested in your letter dated June 16th and at the request of President Stratton in a letter dated August 6th, your application for acceptance as a candidate for a Master's Degree was referred to the Committee on Graduate Courses and Scholarships at its first meeting this fall in Friday, September 23d, "for action with power on its merits and without prejudice on account of any action that his (Professor Lewis's) department may have taken hitherto". The case was discussed in detail by the full Committee with a photostat copy of your complete Institute record before it, and it was ~~was~~ voted to inform you that in view of the unsatisfactory character of your record you will not be allowed to register as a candidate for a higher degree. The Committee was unanimous in coming to this decision.

I regret exceedingly the misunderstanding which has arisen between you and the Department of Chemical Engineering regarding your work during the past year, but I can assure you that with a scholarship record such as yours, the Committee on Graduate Courses and Scholarships would not recommend a student in any department to proceed with work towards a higher degree.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) H.M. Goodwin
Dean of Graduate Student.

COPY

September 27, 1927.

My dear Miss Bigger:

I have to inform you that as requested in your letter dated June 15th and at the request of President Stratton in a letter dated August 6th, your application for acceptance as a candidate for a Master's Degree was referred to the Committee on Graduate Courses and Scholarships at its first meeting this fall in Friday, September 23d, for action with power on its merits and with out prejudice on account of any action that the (Professor Lewis's) department may have taken heretofore. The case was discussed in detail at the Fall Committee with a photostat copy of your department Institute record before it, and it was voted to inform you that in view of the unsatisfactory character of your record you will not be allowed to register as a candidate for a higher degree. The Committee was unanimous in coming to this decision.

I regret exceedingly the misunderstanding which has arisen between you and the Department of Chemical Engineering regarding your work during the past year, but I can assure you that with a scholarship record such as yours, the Committee on Graduate Courses and Scholarships would not recommend a student in any department to proceed with work towards a higher degree.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) H. W. Goodwin
Dean of Graduate Students.

Misc B

Physical Department
December 14, 1928.

December 14, 1928

The Acting President of the University of Chicago,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:

I wish to formally withdraw from the University of Chicago today as a result of the attitude of the Physics Department which is opposed to my getting any of the training I desire and to withhold from me the courtesies usually extended to all graduate students. I am returning herewith your file of the case of Miss Margaret Birge. She has written to me a letter of the same tenor as

her letter of December 14 addressed to you. I have been definitely decided to go last Tuesday. I understand that the University is closing because of the flu. I am sorry my withdrawal coincides with the closing of the University but I can not help that.

Yours cordially
FREDERIC WOODWARD

I am writing this letter as a matter of record because the matter will be referred to later. Later I am writing I refer to the Dean of the Physics Department and Dean Harvey of the Medical School to appear as witnesses in a lawsuit and of course I want them to come as representatives of the University of Chicago.

Dean Henry G. Gale
Faculty Exchange

I came to the University to get a degree. I shall never return again. I can say with sincerity that the three terms spent at the University have been a waste of time. I object, however, to let the matter pass.

I should like to say that I have been a student only in the Physics Department of the University and none other. Last June I applied for admittance to your medical school and was refused though I do not believe there is another student in the country who can anywhere equal the unusual excellence of my preparation. The matter, however, was closed then. Yet last November Dean Harvey had the effrontery to send me an official summons to go to some unknown individual and be psychoanalyzed.

Respectfully yours,

Margaret Birge

Misc 8

December 14, 1928

My dear Dean Gale:

I am returning herewith your
file of the case of Miss Margaret Higgs. She
has written to me a letter of the same tenor as
her letter of December 14 addressed to you.

Yours cordially

FREDERIC WOODWARD

Acting President

Dean Harry G. Gale
Faculty Exchange

Ryerson Physical Laboratory,
December 14, 1928.

The Acting President of the University of Chicago,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:

I wish to formally withdraw from the University of Chicago today as a protest against the attitude of the Physics Department which is apparently to prevent me getting any of the training I desire and to withhold from me the courtesies usually extended to all graduate students. I should like to have you communicate this fact to the Graduate Office as I do not think I am allowed to sign my name there. I should like a return of tuition fees or to see an itemized account of what the University offered me in return for such fees. I came here with some very definite wants and accomplished nothing.

I have been contemplating withdrawing from the University off and on during the term, and definitely decided to do so last Tuesday. I understand that the University is closing today because of the flu. I am sorry my withdrawal coincides with the closing of the University but I can not help that.

I am writing this letter as a matter of record because the matter will be referred to later. Later I am going to require Professor Compton of the Physics Department and Dean Harvey of the Medical School to appear as witnesses in a lawsuit and of course I want them to come as representatives of the University of Chicago.

I came to the University to get a degree. I shall never return again. I can say with sincerity that the three terms spent at the University have been a waste of time. I object, however, to let the matter pass.

I should like to say that I have been a student only in the Physics Department of the University and none other. Last June I applied for admittance to your medical school and was refused though I do not believe there is another student in the country who can anywhere equal the unusual excellence of my preparation. The matter, however, was closed then. Yet Last November Dean Harvey had the effrontery to send me an official summons to go to some unknown individual and be psychoanalysed.

Respectfully yours,

Margaret Birge

