

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

December 6, 1935

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute for Advanced Study was held at the Uptown Club, 60 East 42nd Street, New York City, on Friday, December 6, 1935, at 12:45 o'clock.

Present: Mr. Weed, Chairman
Mr. Aydelotte
Mr. Louis Bamberger
Mr. Flexner
Mrs. Fuld
Mr. Leidesdorf
Mr. Maass

Absent and excused: Mr. Houghton
Miss Sabin
Mr. Stewart

Mr. Flexner acted as Secretary.

Mr. Maass, Chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Grounds, presented a letter safeguarding the Princeton Bank and Trust Company and protecting the Institute for Advanced Study in any acquisition of real estate which might be made in behalf of the Institute. The execution and delivery of this communication were authorized.

The Director reported that, pursuant to the resolution adopted at the meeting held on October 14, 1935, he had authorized the transfer of \$4,250 of unexpended funds, the details of which had been reported to the Treasurer, for purposes not foreseen at the time the budget was made. He also reported the desire of Professor Panofsky to procure the services of Dr. Donald Wilber up to July 1, 1936, at a salary of \$1,200; ~~and~~ a suggestion made by the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars that the

Committee would supply one-half of the salary of Professor Ernst Herzfeld up to a total not to exceed \$4,000 over a two-year period; and further the necessity of appropriating a sum which would enable the School of Humanistic Studies to procure necessary materials, photographs, etc., and a similar need in behalf of the members of the School of Economics and Politics. For these purposes the Director was authorized to incur expense not to exceed \$12,200, which would be reduced by any further savings on the budget adopted on April 22, 1935.

To cover these contingencies the Director was authorized, in his discretion, to increase the budget from \$250,000 to \$265,000 for the year, 1935-1936.

The Director requested permission to ascertain whether Professor E. A. Lowe of the University of Oxford and Professor W. A. Campbell, field director of the excavations at Antioch, could be obtained as members of the staff of the School of Humanistic Studies beginning July 1, 1936, the former at a salary of \$14,500, towards which the Carnegie Institution of Washington has offered to contribute \$4,500 annually, which would be applied to the purchase of materials, the making of photographs, travel, etc.; the latter at a salary of \$5,000. The Director also stated that Professor Lowe had in preparation an important work which would ultimately be issued by the Clarendon Press in ten volumes, two volumes of which have already been published. The Clarendon Press is itself contributing one-third towards the total cost of this work, and the remainder has already been secured and is in the hands of the Clarendon Press. The Director was authorized to communicate with Professors Lowe and Campbell on the bases above mentioned.

There being no further business, on motion, the meeting adjourned.

Executive Committee Meeting
December 6, 1935
Uptown Club, 60 East 42nd Street, New York City

I have asked the Chairman to call this meeting in order that I might have an opportunity to present to the Executive Committee a few matters on which action is important without waiting for the January meeting of the Board.

There is little to be said regarding the School of Mathematics, which is in a most flourishing condition and regarding which I am in constant receipt of the highest commendations from centers of mathematical study both in this country and in Europe. I can report, however, one extremely gratifying occurrence. Last year Professor von Neumann was invited to ^{go} ~~come~~ to the University of Cambridge for the purpose of delivering a course of lectures during the summer term after the Institute had closed. Within the last few days a similar invitation has been extended to Professor Alexander, and in this connection I may add that Professor Meritt of the School of Humanistic Studies is now at Oxford. Thus within a little more than two years three of our very small faculty have been invited to come to the two great English universities in order to explain the new work which is being done in Princeton.

One result of the productivity of the School is the necessity of increasing the size of the Annals of Mathematics, jointly published by Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study under the editorship of Professor Lefschetz, representing the University and Professor von Neumann representing the Institute. It is estimated that this will involve an expenditure of \$1,500 a year. Princeton University has already appropriated an additional sum of \$750, and I should like to request the Executive Committee to authorize the expenditure of \$750 to meet our share. The money, as will be seen later, is available and does not require an increase of our budget since it can be transferred from unexpended items.

As nearly as we can calculate, the actual expenditure of the Institute during the year, 1935-1936, will be in the neighborhood of \$8,000 less than the budget which was voted. At its last meeting the Board passed a resolution authorizing the

transfer of items within the appropriation. Thus far I have authorized the transfer of something over \$3,000. I can foresee the necessity of further transferring in the course of the year, amounting to an additional \$1,800, a total of a little over \$6,000 as against a saving of almost \$8,000. There is also the possibility of further saving without injury to the Institute, but of this saving I am taking no account at this time.

The members of the School of Humanistic Studies and the School of Economics and Politics have up to this time made practically no requests but have very carefully studied their needs, and I have studied memoranda which have been supplied to me by them. It happens by a chance that is extremely fortunate for us that conditions abroad are such that the School of Humanistic Studies can be strengthened now by the addition of two or three eminent scholars, whereas, if we wait, the same men may be invited to other institutions. Professor Panofsky is extremely eager to procure the services of Dr. Donald Wilber at a salary which up to July 1, 1936, will amount to \$1,200.

The Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars has approached me with an offer to supply one-half of the salary of Professor Ernst Herzfeld, one of the most eminent scholars who have been dismissed by the Hitler regime. The Committee ^{stipulates} ~~proposes~~ a flat salary of \$4,000 to be paid these men over a two-year period. The Committee will make an appropriation of \$2,000 per annum, provided the Institute appropriate an equal sum. I have discussed the matter with Professor Panofsky and Professor Morey, and they are agreed that Professor Herzfeld is a man of the highest eminence who would add great distinction to the School of Humanistic Studies. I do not know precisely the date at which Professor Herzfeld could come to Princeton but in the resolution I submit I shall provide a modification of the budget in his behalf at the rate of \$2,000 a year.

Finally, while Princeton Library is rich in books and in material, the new lines of work represented by Professor Panofsky and Professor Herzfeld cannot be effectually carried out unless additional material in the way of books, photographs,

and reproductions are procured. It is estimated that the sum of \$5,000 will be required for this purpose. In order that I may not be embarrassed, I am assuming that the maximum may be required by July 1. I therefore submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That a sum not to exceed Seven thousand five hundred Dollars (\$7,500) be and hereby is added to the budget to be expended by the Director in his discretion for the expansion of the School of Humanistic Studies.

The members of the School of Economics and Politics are proceeding with extreme care. Professor Riefler and Professor Mitranj have prepared an able and modest memorandum outlining the tasks which they are to undertake at this time and the probable cost. For the remainder of the current year for material, office equipment, etc., they will require approximately \$1,500, for assistance approximately \$2,500, and an appropriation not exceeding \$4,000 would therefore cover their needs.

I submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That a sum not to exceed Four thousand Dollars (\$4,000) be and hereby is added to the budget to be expended by the Director in his discretion for the School of Economics and Politics.

For the year, 1936-1937, there is an opportunity, I believe, to strengthen enormously the School of Humanistic Studies by the addition of Professor E. A. Lowe now at the University of Oxford and Professor W. A. Campbell who has been field director in the important excavations at Antioch. Professor Campbell's salary need not exceed \$5,000 a year. Professor Lowe's salary and his expenses in the way of supplies, secretary, travel, etc. would amount to \$15,000, of which, however, the Carnegie Institution of Washington is prepared to supply \$4,500 annually, a proposition that has emanated from President Merriam of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. This represents a second contribution from the outside towards the work of the Institute. A further contribution of enormously greater value is the following: the librarian of the Morgan Library has told me that this library possesses material, the value of which amounts to millions in money, while the material itself is in some

way unique since it cannot be found in any other library in the world. No American scholar is equipped to deal with it. It will be placed at Professor Lowe's disposal as if the Institute owned it. Professor Lowe's work will be published in ten volumes, and the entire sum requisite to its publication has already been provided and is in the hands of the Clarendon Press at Oxford, and so highly is this work esteemed that the Clarendon Press is itself contributing one-third towards the total cost of the enterprise, which, when completed, will be a monumental work. I offer therefore the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Director be and hereby is authorized to negotiate with Professor E. A. Lowe and Professor W. A. Campbell on the basis of the salaries above mentioned for the year 1936-1937.

The total amount recommended for the current year does not exceed \$11,500, of which a part can undoubtedly be covered by the use of unexpended funds in the present budget. Inasmuch as in the development of the Institute there are various unforeseen expenditures, it is, I believe, safe to say that, if the budget were raised from \$250,000 to \$265,000, there would be no difficulty in carrying out the projects above mentioned. I therefore recommend the passage of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the budget for the year 1935-1936 be and hereby is increased from \$250,000 to \$265,000, the additional sum needed to be expended in accordance with this memorandum in the discretion of the Director.

The conduct of the Institute inevitably compels expenditure for various odds and ends that have to be paid out of the petty cash account of the Assistant Secretary. The amount involved is not large and cannot be accurately foreseen. I can only say that Mrs. Bailey has been most scrupulous in keeping the expenditures down to the lowest possible limit and that I have made no demands which did not seem to me to be justified. For example, inasmuch as the men work to so large an extent individually, it has seemed to me well worth the expenditure to bring them together socially. The amount involved could of course be saved, but I am persuaded that the actual effect of these social contacts upon their happiness in Princeton and upon their work has been well worth what it has cost.