

Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Committee  
held at Newark, New Jersey, February 18, 1944

Present: Messrs. Maass, Louis Bamberger, Hardin, Leidesdorf, Moe, Veblen, Weed, Wolman, and the Director.

1. Professor Wolman was unanimously elected a member of the Executive Committee.
2. The Director reported on certain matters connected with buildings and grounds, as follows:

(a) The forest fire which occurred on February 10th destroyed between 4000 and 5000 seedling pine trees. Through good work by the local fire department and a group of men from Princeton University campus, the fire was put out before it reached the main woods on the Institute grounds.

(b) The Director explained that the fire insurance rate on Fuld Hall was high because of the fact that the Princeton Fire Department is a volunteer organization and the rules of fire insurance companies require a higher premium than in the cases of professional fire departments.

(c) The Director placed before the Committee two estimates for repairs to the road from the end of Olden Lane down to the farmhouses and to the red barn where the Institute bus and station wagon are garaged. Mr. Morrell had offered to clean out the ditches and apply one hundred sixty tons of crushed stone for the sum of \$642.40. Mr. Zupardi, who built the roads at Fuld Hall, had offered to rebuild this road in a similar manner for the sum of \$5425. The Committee decided that in view of the small amount of traffic it would be unwise to invest so large a sum, and the Director was instructed to accept Morrell's bid. Dr. Weed suggested that it would keep down the dust if a certain amount of calcium chloride were mixed with the lime, and the Director was instructed to inquire into the feasibility of this treatment.

(d) The Director was instructed to consult Mr. Wister concerning the planting of vines on Fuld Hall this Spring. It was the sense of the Committee that the cost should, if possible, be kept within \$500.00.

(e) The Committee discussed landscaping of the grounds and housing for members, but reached no decision.

3. The Committee discussed at some length the question of an Institute contribution to the Red Cross War Fund. Members of the Committee were

convinced that in principle it is not correct to use Institute funds for this purpose. The argument was made on the other hand that the war emergency justifies and even demands action which would be improper in peace time. On the question as to whether a subscription of \$250 should actually be made at this time, the Committee was evenly divided, and the matter was left to the Director with power.

4. The Director raised the question of the invitation from Bryn Mawr College to Professor Panofsky to take leave of absence in order to conduct their Department of Fine Arts this year. The Director reported that he had advised Professor Panofsky to decline this invitation and Professor Panofsky had done so, but that the question had been raised whether Professor Panofsky could go there once a week to give a lecture. The Committee approved the idea of the faculty giving occasional lectures in other institutions where these lectures fitted in with their own work and tended to cement relations between the Institute and other educational institutions. They were, however, opposed to having members of the Institute faculty undertake time-consuming responsibilities for the regular conduct of courses. The Director was instructed to work out a solution satisfactory to Professor Panofsky and to the Committee and to report back at the next meeting.

5. The greater part of the meeting was taken up by a report of the Director on the proposed study of certain problems in American social and economic history, which is being initiated at the Institute next year under the auspices of the Institute and Princeton University and under the direction of Professors Stewart, Warren, Earle, and Chinard. While the beginning will be modest, the plans proposed may eventually extend to a very significant study of the fundamentals of American civilization. An impressive group of scholars in other universities are interested in the plan and are seeking opportunities to cooperate with it. The Director recorded the

important contribution which Dr. Louis B. Wright of the Huntington Library had made in the development of these plans. The whole project was discussed by members of the Committee with the keenest interest and sympathy and the hope was expressed that the Director would proceed promptly in the development of the plans as outlined.

6. The Director informed the Committee of the interesting seminars to be conducted by Bertrand Russell under the auspices of the School of Economics in April on the subject of Profit versus Power as a motive of economic activity.

H. H. MAASS, Chairman