

1940

5/28

VEBLER, O.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen to Aydelotte.

"I enclose herewith a copy of the letter from Courant, May 26, to Lewis L. Strauss of Kuhn Loeb & Company to which I referred this morning. I think it would be very helpful in this connection if you would write to Mr. Strauss saying that the Institute would be very glad to extend an invitation to Professor Jakob Nielsen in case the necessary funds were available. In the conversation between Courant and myself, Mr. Strauss expressed great interest in the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Institute, and I invited him to come and visit it."

1941-1947

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

Times Index said: Called to active Naval duty 3/4/41 (7:5)  
Paper said: Probably he will be stationed in Washington  
in Bureau of Ordnance.

Times Index said: Noted as Army Navy Bulletin dir; career,  
7/26/45 (6:5)  
Paper said: Commodore Strauss is a special assistant to the  
Secretary of the Navy.

Times Index said: Nominated rear admiral in naval reserve,  
10/7/45 (34:1)  
Paper said: Forrestall's aid is designated by Truman to Reserve.

Times Index said: Put on inactive status; plans return to  
Kuhn, Loeb & Co., 1/5/46 (17:2)

Times Index said: Appointment Atomic Energy Commission por;  
text of President Truman's statement and appointment. [on Palestine]  
10/29/46 (1:7)

Times Index said: Appointment to A. E. C. confirmed by Senate,  
4/10/47 (1:1)

1945

FULTON, JOHN F.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS

A note in Fulton's Diary brought ~~Lew Weed~~ and a brilliant young New Yorker named Strauss on the Board. Grooming the latter to succeed Leidesdorf as Treasurer.

Fulton's Diary

1945

4/10  
4/12

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS W.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

Aydelotte to Moe, April 10, 1945.

"This is very funny about Strauss. In the latest edition of Who's Who in America, Vol. 23, he lists the Centy as one of his clubs, but I hardly see how that could be done unless he had been elected in 1944. Will you look the matter up on some up-to-date list at the Century and let me know the facts?

"I have always thought that the policy of looking for young men for our Board was dubious. The kind of experience and wisdom that we need seem to me more important than youth. A man in the early sixties will have at least five years."

Moe to Aydelotte, April 12, 1945.

"I note that the club Mr. Lewis Strauss lists in Who's Who is the

~~\*Century Club~~ 'Century Country'...It is, I think, a country club in Westchester County. I'm sorry I do not know Mr. Strauss."

D File, Moe, Henry Allen

1945

4/18

TRUSTEES

Corporation

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS

Biographical

FULTON, J. F.

Fulton to Hoo, April 18, 1945.

I have just had a confidential report on Lewis Strauss.

"Just a note to let you know that I talked to Adele Rosenwald Levy who knows your Lewis Strauss quite well. She says he is unusually able professionally and a good organizer. He is what she called an 'arch conservative' but I don't know if that makes any real difference to you. She thought he would be of no value at all in thinking through expansion of a program, et cetera."

Fulton adds that we don't need a Hoover Republican thinking in the last century on the Board of Trustees, but indicates that he thinks that he has probably been approached and has accepted.

John F. Fulton, Institute for Advanced Study, 1942-47

TRUSTEES

Corporation

LEWIS, Wilmarth

Biographical

STRAUSS, Lewis L.

Nomination of Lewis and Strauss for vacancies on Board.

Brief biographical notes on each.

Mtg. of Corp. 4/20/45 pp. 3-4

1946-1949

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Biographical

Strauss left Navy to return to Kuhn Loeb & Company  
January 5, 1946.

Appointed to A. E. C. by Truman October 29, 1946. Confirmed  
April 10, 1947.

Opposed A. E. C. release of isotopes for foreign distribution  
~~September 6, 1947.~~

Oppenheimer returned to University of California April 22, 1946.  
Article on proposed International Control Atomic Energy 6/9/46.  
Withdraws from Pres. Comm. on Bikini Test June 26, 1946.  
Appointed member U. S. delegation U. N. A. E. C. 6/27/46.  
Appointed A. E. C. General Advisory Board December 13, 1946.

New York Times, (dates of issue)



1946

2A  
2/27  
3/5  
11/12

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

EARLE, E. H.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS

Earle to Faculty.

On selection of preference among 5 candidates including Strauss (whose name came in through faculty? Earle? Correspondence shows friendly relationship).

Letters of above dates filed in Chronological file under 1946, 2/4.

Earle, I. A. S., 1944-5

1946

INDEX

5/12

DIRECTOR

Administration

OPPENHEIMER

Biographical

BROOK

VOBLEN

✓ STRAUSS, L. L.

Voblen to Strauss, April 12, 1946.

"Von Neumann told me about his conversation with you in which the names of several candidates for the Directorship of the Institute were brought up. Of these names it seemed to me on further consideration that Brook and Oppenheimer are ~~xxxx~~ the only possible ones. All of the others are too old except Condon, whom we both know very well and do not consider temperamentally or intellectually suitable for the job.

"Oppenheimer seems to me to have so many of the qualifications that I would have very little misgiving about the future of the Institute if he were chosen. Von Neumann is not as favorable to Oppenheimer as I am, although he has great admiration for him as a scientist. The general opinion

among the faculty is that Oppenheimer would be very welcome as a colleague.

"Both von Neumann and I would be very happy to see Bronk chosen. In the first place he has, like Oppenheimer, already achieved a pre-eminent position as a creative scholar. We would rather take our chances with such a man than with one who lacked the qualifications even though he had the other desirable qualities. In the second place, Bronk has shown good capacity as an administrator and getting along well with other people. We have particularly flattering testimony as to his success in working ~~with the Army~~ for the Army. In the third place, Bronk is the foreign secretary of the National Academy of Sciences, and will be on this account in close touch with Washington and with international questions of a kind significant to the Institute. We are convinced that in the future the Institute must depend to a very considerable extent upon the national government for support.

"After saying this, I am going to take the chance of weakening it by the suggestion that it might be wise to

experiment with the continuation of the type of administration which has been in effect during Lydette's absence; namely, to vest the functions of the Director in the hands of a standing committee.' This method of administration seems to us to have been very satisfactory. The only drawback has been a certain disinclination by the standing committee to make decisions in the Director's absence which might seem to infringe on his prerogatives. The chairman of such a committee might be called, following European precedence, the Rector rather than the Director. He should not serve for more than two years. It would be an essential part of such a scheme that the President of the Institute should, like Mr. Nease, continue to take an active interest in its administration.

"Quite apart from this particular suggestion, I think it would be desirable for the members of the standing committee to attend meetings of the Board of Trustees and of the Executive Committee of the Board; and also for the president and perhaps other members of the Board to attend meetings of the faculty. There are no differences in interest

between the Trustees and faculty, but there are sometimes difficulties in mutual understanding.

"In this connection I may remark that I think the suggestion reported by von Neumann that the Institute ought to keep one or two rooms available for Trustees visiting in Princeton is an excellent one. May I add that I should be very happy to reserve a room for you at the Nassau Club if you will let me know when I may expect your long-promised visit to Princeton. The accommodations at the club are rather austere, but it is a good center from which to see Princeton.

"Von Neumann asked me to say that he intends to write you before very long. In the meantime, he agrees substantially with what I have said."

Veblen's files

1946

October - November

DIRECTOR

Administration

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN F.

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

MAASS, HERBERT H.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Flexner SA and Fulton are in correspondence. Flexner tells Fulton (October 23, 1946) that when Strauss accepted the Trusteeship at the Institute, he wrote and asked Flexner if he could see him sometime. Flexner replied cordially, any time in New York, and has never heard since from Strauss.

Flexner comments in a letter to Fulton October 30, 1946, "Surely he should have withdrawn immediately [Strauss should have withdrawn immediately] from the Chairmanship of the Committee to select a new Director of the Institute." when he had been made a

member of the President's Atomic Energy Commission.

Flexner raises the question as to the Board's permitting Aydelotte to retain his office in Fuld Hall (December 30, 1946, Flexner to Fulton).

Flexner to Fulton, December 27, 1946. "I was shocked" to read about Aydelotte's proposed office. "What does this mean? It can mean only one thing - that he and Neess will continue to run the Institute. No self-respecting scholar or scientist will take the directorship if Aydelotte is an occupant of Fuld Hall. I think it is going to be necessary to take public steps to put an end to this scandalous situation and I am not afraid to do it.

"I have never heard from Mr. Strauss. Can you write him and suggest that he get in touch with me? One thing is sure - the Institute must be saved."

Fulton's reply is non-committal, and there is no further evidence of correspondence on the subject.

John F. Fulton, Institute for Advanced Study, 1942-47

1946

10/30  
11/2

COMMITTEE (ON SELECTION OF DIRECTOR)

Academic Personnel

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

MAASS, H. H.

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS H.

MOE, HENRY ALLAN

Maass' letter to Aydelotte commenting on Moe's inactivity and asking Aydelotte to withdraw from committee. Note Aydelotte's refusal 11/2/56. Faculty committee appointed by Aydelotte with Maass' approval.

Filed in Vertical File under Aydelotte.

F. A., Confidential Files, 3/7/57



1946  
to  
1947

11/4  
1/27

DIRECTOR

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

COMMITTEES (ON SELECTION TO DIRECTOR)

EARLE, E. M.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

FORRESTAL

Letters (photostated) on the above headings filed in  
Vertical File under "P" for Participation in Administration.

Institute for Advanced Study, Directorship, Meetings, etc., 1946 & 1947

1946

11/4

TRUSTEES

Corporation

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS

The Director reported to the Faculty *inter alia* the resignation of Moe from the Board of Trustees, and his replacement by Strauss as Chairman of the committee on the appointment of a Director of the Institute to succeed Aydelotte. It was also reported by the Faculty committee on the Director's successorship that Moe had not answered a letter addressed to him by the committee in March, 1946, asking for a conference. It was decided by the Faculty to ask a conference with Mr. Strauss.

D. Minutes Faculty. 1939-1947

1948

11/7  
11/21

DIRECTOR

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION  
(COMMITTEE ON DIRECTOR)

Academic Personnel

✓ STRAUSS

Biographical

EARLE

COMMITTEES

Academic Personnel

Strauss asks that Alexander, Panofsky and Earle meet and give him benefit of their current consideration in a memo discussing the individuals in the order of your preference.

h/ Earle's response: Faculty hasn't finished its discussions but finds itself/dilemma; eager to comply with rating candidates in preferential order but felt it could not be done with full justice to the faculty, the trustees, and the candidates. Furthermore, a new name, Linus Pauling, seems especially worth of serious consideration. Best way to

exchange information and attitude toward candidates is in full and frank discussion ~~exists~~ between the faculty and Trustee Committees. Barle hopes Strauss may claim a visit, Selfish though the hope may be.

D. Directorship (Committee on) Faculty

1946

11/9

GENERAL

Public Relations

STRAUSS

Biographical

New Yorker story regarding Strauss.

Filed in Chronological file under 1946, 11/9.

Earle, I. A. S., 1944-5

11/18

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

TRUSTEES

Corporation

NOMINATIONS

Academic Personnel

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

Miss Egrie presented to the Faculty the letter which had been sent to Lewis L. Strauss, substantially the same as that which had originally been sent to Mr. Moe, as Chairman of the ~~Committee~~ of Selection for Successor to Dr. Aydelette. Strauss replied, and asked that the Committee arrange the names in order of preference. The Committee circularized the Faculty asking ~~xxx~~ for their opinion. Riefler suggested there should be effective contact between the Faculty Committee and that of the Trustees so that the names could be discussed, and that it would not be well to send a written answer with the names arranged in order of preference. There was agreement with Riefler's point, and a motion was made providing for further contact.

Aydelotte then urged that other names be proposed to the Committee, and with the support of Professor Panofsky recommended Dr. Linus Pauling, Professor of Chemistry and Director of the Gates and Crellin Laboratories of Chemistry of the California Institute of Technology and recently appointed Eastman Professor at Oxford University for 1947-1948. His qualifications were discussed. Veblen pointed out that Pauling was very eminent in his field and an excellent theoretical worker. He is devoted to pure scholarship "and might be characterized as somewhat extreme in this respect."

Aydelotte brought forward the name of James Phinney Baxter, President of Williams College. Earle noted Baxter had not shown good judgment of people either as head of Office of Strategic Services or as President of Williams where he had made some unfortunate appointments.

Riefler urged discussion of candidates for the Directorship as detailed as the consideration given to candidates for the Faculty. Aydelotte suggested postponement of further discussion to the hours following the next Faculty Luncheon D. Faculty Minutes, ~~XXXX~~ Nov. 18, 1946 on December 2nd.

1946

12/6

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, P.

Aydelette to Strauss.

At a faculty meeting December 2 it was decided no useful purpose could be served by ~~max~~ preferential listing of candidates.

D, Committee to Select Director



1946

12/11

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS H.

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN M.

~~WEEK~~ WEED, LEWIS H.

Fulton to Weed, December 11, 1946.

"Strauss has gotten around to calling a meeting of the Nominating Committee which will forgather immediately after the meeting of the Executive Committee next Tuesday. One of my reasons for writing him about Dunham was to remind him that he had not called a meeting in November as he had promised. I ~~really~~ really think he ought to retire and let someone do it who could give the time to it."

John M. Fulton, Institute for Advanced Study, 1942-47

1946

12/13

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

← STRAUSS  
MERRIT

Biographical

Strauss informs the committee that he wants Oppenheimer.  
Merrit opposes anyone too intimately connected with the  
atomic bomb.

Faculty Minutes, December 13, 1946

1947

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

~~STRAUSS, L. W.~~

MERITT

MORSE

Veblen nominated Strauss for Director with a long, and she thought, facetious speech. That was how and why his name appeared on list. Veblen himself was a candidate, she recollected; so were Morse and Meritt.

*See Morse 6/25/56*

Hetty Goldman Interview, July 12, 1957

1947

✓ STRAUSS L. L.

Biographical

MORSE, MARSTON

EARLE, E. M.

Faculty would never have nominated Strauss for Directorship.  
Earle wanted it. Morse was sounded out by Aydelotte.

Interview Morse, 6/21/56, p. 10

1947

1/14

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

EARLE, E. N.

Earle to Aydelotte (in Florida).

Two long conversations with Strauss: <sup>if</sup> ~~as~~ his committee  
accepts his recommendations they will choose a Director from  
among the ~~5~~ persons suggested by the Faculty.

Earle

And/Hrga urges Aydelotte to go to meeting Committee 1/24 or  
1/25 to forestall a dark horse.

Suggests liaison with Harold Dodds to prevent his learning  
only when public does.

D, Committee to Select Director

1947

1/15

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOI

EARLE, E. H.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS

Earle to Strauss suggesting Trustee Committee on Selection inform Dodds of choice before public announcement. Tells Strauss he prefers Bronk to Oppenheimer and refers to discussions with Strauss.

Earle, 1944-5, I. A. S.

1947

1/21

DIRECTOR

Administration

EARLE, E. W.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

WOLFERS, ARNOLD

Earle to Strauss, January 21, 1947.

Earle suggests Arnold Wolfers, Master of Ek Pierson College at Yale, for director and gives biographical details. Says, like Elegen and Mason, his interests are closely related to the School of Economics and Politics. Does not pretend to express consensus of faculty opinion, but points out, "The introduction of Professor Wolfers as a candidate stresses the importance of canvassing the situation with the utmost care before a definite decision is made. I am going to make some further discreet inquiries concerning Wolfers and may want to telephone you later in the week."

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Wolfers suggested by Notestein of Yale University.

On the same date, Earle wires Aydelotte, "After talking with Riefler and others have serious reservation a concerning candidate Notestein suggested. Writing Strauss but would recommend caution this name until you return here."

(There is no letter in the file indicating that he wrote Strauss withdrawing his suggestion. Shot from the hip.)

Earle papers, Institute for Advanced Study, Directorship, Meetings, etc., 1946 & 1947



1947

1/27

TRUSTEES

Corporation

EARLE, E. N.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Earle to Strauss, January 27, 1947.

Reminds him that he had suggested Mr. Forrestal to succeed Mr. Moe on the Trustees. "I could imagine no one who could better grace the Institute Board than your and my friend, The Secretary of the Navy."

Earle papers, Institute for Advanced Study--Directorship, Meetings, etc., 1946 & 1947

1941  
OFFICERS

Corporation

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Biographical

FRANKFURTER, F.

MAASS, H. H.

FULTON, J. M.

WEED, LEWIS H.

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS H.

For memoranda including Strauss' name regarding his possible chairmanship on the Board, see the three above dates. Memoranda are listed under the above headings (all except the name listed here, Strauss).

John M. Fulton, I. A. S., 1942-47

2/3  
2/13  
2/15

1947

2/6

OFFICERS

Corperation

FULTON, JOHN

Biographical

LEWIS, WILMARTH

✓ STRAUSS

WEED

Fulton to Lewis saying that he had asked Nease: "It would be unfair to the I. A. S. and to Strauss to become Chairman of the Board while the A. E. C. is at the height of its activity, and since young Lew Weed will have only four years more on the Board, why not let give him the honor?"

Fulton, Wilmarth Lewis

1947

April

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

Strauss appointment to the Atomic Energy Commission  
confirmed April, 1947.

9

D, Strauss, Lewis L.

1947

4/1

DIRECTOR

*Administration*  
Corporation

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Biographical

/ STRAUSS

Excerpt from the Diary of John F. Fulton, M. D.,  
Tuesday, April 1, 1947.

Filed in Chronological file under 1947, 4/1.

/ Fulton, John F., Diary, Sterling School of Math

1948

W/2  
L/22  
L/23

OFFICERS

Corporation

TRUSTEES

HAASS, H. H.

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS

FULTON, JOHN P.

*See P. v Lewis to*

*Fulton*

*Lewis was Chairman of*

*non. Cor*

Fulton to Lewis, April 21, 1948.

Comments on his surprise at the recommendation of the Committee to re-elect Haass for five years. "This must have been a move to keep Strauss from taking over at a time when he is completely preoccupied; but the vote puts both the Trustees and Haass himself in a very awkward position..." Here he alludes to pushing Aysclette out on the basis of age and re-electing a 70 year old Chairman. It might have been better to give Haass a one-year appointment as Chairman, but a five-year appointment seems entirely inconsistent. (Aren't the

officers elected annually? -- My observation).

Fulton notes there is barely a quorum, and that the vote ought to be re-phrased. Nease, apparently, expressed freely embarrassment at the time of the meeting.

"Having said all of this, let me reiterate that I personally should much prefer Nease to Strauss."

"I was fascinated by John Hancock. Although I probably should not say this, it is nice to have in our midst a good Anglo-Saxon who knows something about investment banking."

Lewis to Fulton, April 22, 1948.

The first I heard of Nease's reappointment was when it was proposed. The Nominating Committee knew nothing whatever about it. "As I recall it, we were both appointed to this Committee." He suggests this is no time for a rumpus, let's take it up quietly with Oppenheimer. Oppenheimer is doing a superb job.

Fulton to Lewis, April 23, 1948.

He has sent a copy of both of these letters to Wood.

He said, "The whole thing seems to me even more fantastic if there had never been a meeting of the Nominating Committee. You, Leidesdorf, and Rosenwald were the Nominating Committee this year and my impression is that Leidesdorf was the Chairman. He should certainly have gone through the motions of calling a meeting of his Committee, otherwise the proposal stands as a pure farce. I am quite content to leave the whole thing in your hands as you have a way of dealing with such things with consummate tact."

John F. Fulton, Institute for Advanced Study, 1948-49



1948

5/13  
5/15

HOUSING

Facilities

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

RIEFLER, W. W.

Strauss had asked about the Riefler house on Riefler's leaving.

Mrs. Leary sends information for which he thanks her May 13, 1948. Information not available. He says that at his next visit to Princeton he will make a point of looking at the house and asks for some idea of the price for which it would rent. In other words, if he bought it but couldn't live in it for a year or two, he was told \$250 to \$275. (May 15, 1948)

May 15, 1948, Leary to Strauss:  
/ ~~May 15, 1948~~ The Institute has not decided what use to make of the house.

D, Strauss, Lewis L.

1949

3/14

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS

Biographical

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

The Hot Springs, Ark. Sentinel-Record for March 14, 1949 stated that Oppenheimer announced a special \$15,000 Einstein award established by the Lewis and Rose Strauss memorial fund. It would award the \$15,000 prize every three years to a scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to knowledge in the mathematical and physical sciences.

On the occasion of Einstein's 70th birthday three world-famous physicists issued statements of appreciation of Einstein's work: Dr. Arthur Compton of St. Louis, Nobel prize winner and leading atomic energy authority; Professor Jacques Hadamard of France, noted mathematician; and Professor Niels Bohr, outstanding physicist and Nobel prize winner. Their statements were issued through UNESCO.

A File, Albert Einstein

1949

6/8 - 6/13

OPPENHEIMER, J. ROBERT

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Notes of a Report of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy,  
81st Congress, First Session: Strauss and Oppenheimer testifying.

Filed in Vertical File under "O" for Oppenheimer.

1949

6/9  
8/1

OFFICERS

Corporation

TRUSTEES

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS

FULTON, JOHN P.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

MAASS, H. H.

A copy of the statement of Strauss, June ~~11~~ 9, 1949, on his testimony June 8, 1949, before the Joint Committee of the Congress of the Atomic Energy Commission. In this statement Strauss discloses the events in a meeting of the Atomic Energy Commission at which he was the sole dissenter to send radio active isotopes to foreign countries, and he does a terrific job in this statement.

Strauss sends the mimeographed copy of the statement to Fulton. Fulton replies to Strauss, July 18, 1949.

"I am very glad to have it because many of your friends were profoundly disturbed ~~at~~ by the fact that you testified first, against your chairman and later, against Robert Oppenheimer for whom I had assumed you had a high regard scientifically.

"The summary of your testimony makes your position clear, but I am not satisfied that as a ~~non-scientist~~ non-scientist you are in a position to take issue with Robert Oppenheimer whose background in these things places him ~~in~~ in a position to speak with authority.

"In the circumstances, I assume that you propose to withdraw from the Atomic Energy Commission and I would suppose, also, from the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study."

Fulton sends a copy of his letter to Strauss to Haas.

Maass to Fulton, July 22, 1949, taking violent exception to Fulton's position, and saying that the matter is not so much scientific as it is legal. Nor does he believe that in the execution of a man's duties he must resign if he differs with his colleagues.

"In so far as any difference in point of view between Lewis Strauss, member of the Atomic Energy Commission, and Robert Oppenheimer, citizen, (not Director of the Institute for Advanced Study) may go, this certainly does not affect the relationship of either of them to the Institute. As I reflect upon the matter, I am inclined to believe that your letter must have been written in haste and that while it may express your personal view, it should not have contained your suggestion regarding the resignation of Lewis Strauss as President of the Institute, unless you had reason to feel that a majority of the Board of Trustees concur in your attitude.

I, for one, would certainly not do so, and I doubt, if the whole matter were laid before the Board, that many or perhaps any of the other Trustees would concur with you."

Fulton to Haass, August 1, 1949.

"The thing that has upset so many of Strauss' one-time friends is that he should have chosen to attack David Lilienthal in a public hearing at a time when Mr. Lilienthal was under outrageous attack by that scurvy fellow, Rickenlooper.

"...the issue involved was not a legal one but a question requiring mature judgment of an experienced scientist. Lewis Strauss elected to pontificate in a field  $\neq$  that was not his own, and it has left an extremely sour taste in the minds of those who know the facts.

"In view of what has happened I don't think Robert Oppenheimer will ever feel comfortable as Director of The Institute for Advanced Study so long as Mr. Strauss continues on our Board of Trustees. I repeat, however, that this is a purely personal reaction and I send it to you without consultation with any other Board member."

John F. Fulton, Institute for Advanced Study, 1948-49

1949

6/28

TRUSTEES

Corporation

FULTON, JOHN R.

Biographical

LEWIS, WILMARTH

✓ STRAUSS

Fulton sends a draft of a proposed letter to Strauss for the consideration of Wilmarth Lewis. In the letter he tells Strauss that after his testimony against Lillenthal and Oppenheimer (June 25, 1949) he should get off the Board of the Institute. Lewis replies telling Fulton to hold his fire and calculate the time for the offensive as Oppy does. He doesn't think Oppy would resign without consulting him (Lewis). "We'll get Strauss off, but by careful strategy."

Fulton - Wilmarth Lewis



1949

6/29

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN

LEWIS, WILMARTH

✓ STRAUS

Fulton to Oppenheimer, June 29, 1949.

"Your Senate testimony was superb. I was shocked beyond words by the testimony of L.S. the week before, and both Lefty Lewis and I feel that for your sake we must somehow see to it that he is eased off the Board of Trustees. I drafted a letter questioning the judgment which he had exercised in testifying against his chairman and the Director of the Institute, but Lefty Lewis advised against sending it because he thought it would create too much ruction in our Board; so it has gone into the wastepaper basket."

D, Fulton, John NE F.

1950

2/22

✓ STRAUSS, KENNIX LEWIS

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Fulton to Oppenheimer, February 22, 1950.

9. It was a good meeting of the Board yesterday and I must confess to having been rather pleasantly surprised by Lewis Strauss' chairmanship. He actually encouraged a little general discussion and it is practically the first time that this has happened during the seven years I have served as a trustee.

D, Fulton, John F.

July.

Strauss

David prominent Near Admiral July 1950



Number of the ~~card~~ is

~~15~~

15

1951

6/25

OFFICERS

Corporation

✓ STRAUSS, Z

Biographical

LEWIS, WILMARTH

Wilmarth Lewis opposed Strauss for Chairman.

One of Fulton files.

January 15

May

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Strauss to Oppenheimer, January 15, 1952.

Sends Oppenheimer copy of the report made by a Joint Committee of the American Association of University Professors and the Association of American Colleges published May, 1950, in the Bulletin of the Association of American Colleges. It is on the retirement problem. While most colleges are using the 65 year age for normal retirement, the consensus of the report appears to be that if no financial considerations entered the picture, the best fixed retirement age would be "around 68" and that "financial considerations would indicate an older, rather than a younger, age."

D, Strauss, Lewis L.

1952

4/18

✓  
STRAUSS

Biographical

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

"Mr. Strauss brought up the subject of academic retirement age, observing that there had been a general tendency among other institutions in recent years to postpone retirement to a later age. A general discussion ensued, and the following decision was reached: The President was requested to name a committee of three which would bring in a report with affirmative recommendations on the subject of academic retirement age."

Trustees' Minutes, Volume 6, April 18, 1952, page 3

1952

11/3  
11/8

GENERAL (AMPHITHEATRE)

Facilities

POLICIES

Administration

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN F.

WEED, LEWIS H.

ROSENWALD, JULIUS

Fulton to Weed, November 3, 1952, and Weed to  
Fulton, November 8, 1952.

Letters are filed in the Chronological file under  
1952, 11/3.

Fulton, John F., Correspondence, Sterling School of Math



1953

3/10

OPPENHEIMER

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Oppenheimer to Strauss, March 10, 1953, congratulating him upon the official notice of his duties (appointment as Chairman of the AEC). "I know that the tasks to which you have been summoned are not easy, and that they will be a heavy burden for you, despite the support and companionship of those with whom you will be working. But I also know of your long interest and deep devotion; and that is why in the whole this is a note, not of condolence, but of celebration."

D, Strauss, Lewis L.

1950

12/1

1950

12/29

TRUSTEES

Corporation

POLICIES

Administration

KANTOROWICZ

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS

MAASS

OPPENHEIMER

At meeting Executive Committee December 1 nomination of Kantorowicz presented. Debate, apparently on his action in oath controversy. Strauss apparently opposed--Meeting adjourned with understanding that if President did not confirm appointment within next few days, Executive Committee adjourned session should be called. It was on December 29th and the vote to confirm on motion of Strauss was unanimous--Maass opposed separate minutes and sought to obscure fact that debate was serious. He submitted his own draft of minutes to Oppenheimer (1/2/51) coalescing minutes to obliterate debate and fixing final action as at 12/1/50.

John Fulton questioned aides memoires of Oppenheimer on both meetings 1/26/51 and the omission of substantive debate. Leary informed him of Maass' action, and Fulton subsided with statement he considered meeting 12/29/50 "probably the most important that we have had since I joined" the Board in 1942.  
(2/2/51)

D, Notices Drafts- ~~{either Nominations or Minutes}~~

NOTES

4/7

BROWDER, PELIX

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

✓ STRAUSS, L. L.

Excerpts from a mimeographed, "Confidential Memorandum to the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study."

Since the Board meeting of April 3 on which the Browder matter was not resolved, Oppenheimer and von Neumann have called upon Admiral Strauss. Oppenheimer reported that the Guggenheim Foundation would probably act on Dr. Browder's application for stipend, which would then put the Institute on the spot to admit him as a member. Oppenheimer brought recommendations from scholars.

The reason for the Board's considering the admission of a short-term member is the fact that of the relationship. Columbia University dropped consideration of Browder as teacher or professor "for reasons of policy."

~~VEBLENXXXXXXXX~~

Straus suggests further meeting might not be necessary  
if the Trustees would write him as to what they would do:

- (1) If Browder obtains a Guggenheim grant, and
- (2) If he does not.

1953

NOTES

4/13

BROWDER, FELIX

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

✓ STRAUSS, L.L.

Veblen to Strauss.

Transmits his recommendation and that of Aydelotte, two non-voting members of the Board, for the appointment of Browder on the basis of the recommendations that indicate that he is a thoroughly qualified mathematician.

Veblen's Files

1953

4/16  
4/22  
4/28

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER

Oppenheimer to Strauss, April 16, 1953. The final bills have now come in from Marks and from Volpe. The total comes to \$14,219.11. (later corrected by Mrs. Russell to \$14,780.48). Of this \$12,000 is for professional services of the two lawyers. The remainder is for their out-of-pocket expenses, mostly in connection with the investigations which they conducted for me. There are two earlier items of such expenses in 1950 and 1951, also caused by Mr. Crouch. They come to \$768.32. (The amount which Mrs. Russell said she overlooked). I did not raise the question of these at the time, and paid them since they were well within my means.

I have not discussed with counsel in any way the disposition of this bill. It is a large sum of money, but represents a quite frugal and modest charge for the very great amount of time and effort that they put into the case, and that in the end apparently was well rewarded.

Strauss to Oppenheimer, April 22, 1953. Would like to consult him about how best to proceed. "Should I conduct some soundings first with a few of the Trustees here in New York or do you wish me to take it up at the next meeting of the Board? I am somewhat inclined to the first procedure but would like to be guided by your preference."

April 28<sup>th</sup> 1953, Katherine Russell to Strauss correcting to the larger figure.

3/10/53 Strauss app. Chm. AEC - RO to Strauss. Took office 4/3/53

Wernick matter: RO reports to B) 4/15<sup>th</sup> possible his involvement in Wernick perjury trial. (Guy Board did not hold RO responsible for appointment of Wernick to Radiation Lab in Berkeley.

D, Strauss, Lewis L.



1934

7/13

DIRECTOR

Corporation

MAASS, HERBERT H.

Biographical

VEBLER, C.

FULTON, JOHN F.

✓ STRAUSS

SMYTHE, HARRY

Veblen to Fulton from Switzerland, bitterly inveighing against the Chairman's plan to call a meeting to see if the I. A. S. should retain the Director. Veblen is boiled up about it. He talks of academic freedom at length. He sends says he has written Maass telling him exactly what he thinks of it.

Wilmarth Lewis expresses his thought that such an action would destroy the Institute. He says he thought Veblen's letter to Maass was a corker. It changed Maass' mind. Veblen suggested replacing Strauss with Harry Smythe.

One of Fulton Files

1954

8/3

OPPENHEIMER, ROBERT

Biographical

✓ STRAUSS

MAASS, HERBERT H.

VEBLER, O.

FULTON

LEWIS, W.

Letter from Fulton to Wilmarth Lewis, August 3, 1954.

Filed in Chronological file under 1954, 8/3.

Fulton File, Wilmarth Lewis

1956

1/30

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

ROCKEFELLER

Foundations

TRUSTEES

Corporation

STEWART, W.W.

Biographical

RIEFLER, W.

VEBLÉN, O.

HERZFELD, E.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

✓ STRAUSS, L.

LEWIS, WILMARTH

FRANKFURTER, F.

WARREN, R.

Interview with Walter W. Stewart, January 30, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Stewart, 1/30/56

1956

1/13

GENERAL

Corporation

TRUSTEES

DIRECTOR

Administration

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

✓ STRAUSS, L. W.

AYDELOTTE, F.

PLEXNER, A.

Interview with Professor Veblen, January 13, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Veblen 1/13/56

1956

5/7

DIRECTOR

~~Executive~~ Administration

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Corporation

FULTON, JOHN

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER, R.

WEED, LEWIS H.

VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS W.

VON NEUMANN, JOHN

~~KENNAN~~ KENNAN

Interview with Dr. John Fulton, May 7, 1956.

Filed in Vertical file under Fulton Interviews.

5/29 5/29

FOUNDERS  
GENERAL  
INSTITUTE FILE  
GIFTS  
DIRECTOR  
ECONOMICS  
SCHAAP  
FARRIER  
BAMBERGER, LOUIS  
FULD  
HANDIN  
BAMBERGER, EDGAR  
LEIBESKONF  
HAASS  
STRAUS  
FLAXNER  
AYDELOTTE  
✓ STRAUSS

Corporation  
Facilities  
Institute File  
Finance  
Administration  
Academic Activities  
Biographical

Interview with Messrs. Schaap and Farrier, May 29, 1956,  
in the Board room at Bloomingdale's, New York City.

Filed in Vertical File under Schaap and Farrier Interviews.  
Interview with Schaap and Farrier, 5/29/56

1956

6/21

PRINCETON (8, 9, 10)	Relations WCAI
HARVARD (1)	
MATHEMATICS (2, 7, 14)	Academic Activities
E. C. P. (5, 6)	
APPOINTMENTS (2, 3, 4, 5)	Academic Personnel
SALARIES (3)	
PACULTY (10, 11)	
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS (5, 9, 14, 15)	Academic Organization
SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES (14)	
JOHNS HOPKINS (7, 8)	Educational Institutions
DIRECTOR (10, 11)	Administration
TRUSTEES (11)	Corporation
RESEARCH (13)	Academic Procedures
MORSE (1, 5, 8, 10)	Biographical
BIRKHOFF (1, 4)	
WHITNEY (2)	
STEWART (2, 3)	
FLEXNER (3, 7, 8)	
GODEL (3, 5)	
MAYER, WLAETHER (3)	Interview with Morse 6/21/56.
SIEGEL (5)	
BIGELOW (5, 6)	Filed in Vertical File under Morse Interviews.
ELIOT, T. S. (7)	
✓ STRAUSS (10)	
EARLE (10)	
BOREL (15)	
VEBLEN (1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 13)	
DODDS (2)	
WARNER (2, 3)	
VON NEUMANN (3, 5, 6)	
PLAZCEK (3)	
WIENER, NORBERT (4, 6)	
WEYL (5, 8)	
EINSTEIN (6, 8, 11, 12, 16)	
VINER (9, 10)	
AYDELOTTE (10, 11)	
OPPENHEIMER (15)	

1956

7/12

DIRECTOR

Administration

POLICIES

COMMITTEES

GIFTS

Finance

GENERAL (TAXES)

Government Relations

BY-LAWS

Corporation

TRUSTEES

FACULTY

Academic Personnel

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

REPORTS

Academic Procedures

OPPENHEIMER, J.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

✓ STRAUSS

AYD BLOTTE, F.

KANTOROWICZ

Interview with Dr. Oppenheimer, July 12, 1956.  
Filed Vertical under Oppenheimer Interviews.



7/16

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS  
PROFESSORS  
MEMBERS  
FACULTY  
PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION  
ECONOMICS  
HARVARD  
BEST ORIENTAL LIBRARY  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
GENERAL  
OPPENHEIMER  
FERGUSON  
TOYNE  
ELIOT  
PLACEK  
KENNAN  
EYSON  
STEWART  
VINEY  
ALEXANDER  
RIEPLER  
WARREN  
MAYER  
GODEL  
EARLE  
DOUGLAS  
✓ STRAUSS  
FRANKL

Academic Organisation  
Academic Personnel  
Academic Activities  
Educational Institutions  
Facilities  
Relations WPAI  
Publications  
Biographical

Interview with Robert Oppenheimer, July 16, 1956.  
Filed in Vertical File under Oppenheimer Interviews.

1957

3/21

COMMITTEES (NOMINATING)

✓ STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

MITCHELL, SIDNEY

Corporation

Biographical

Strauss (President) appointed Mitchell to vacancy on  
Nominating Committee!!

Oppenheimer tumbled to it. (Oppenheimer to Lewis March 22)

D, Nominations, Committee on

1947

4/13  
4/29

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WPAI

KENYON COLLEGE (GAMBING, OHIO)

SCHROEDINGER, ERWIN

Biographical

✓ SUTCLIFFE, DUNHAM

Dunham Sutcliffe, President of Kenyon College informed Adelaide April 23, 1947 that they were having a conference on "The Heritage of the English-Speaking People and their Responsibility" and had invited Schroedinger of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. He encloses a copy of Schroedinger's answer which is that he as an Austrian is deprived of a national passport because the four occupying powers cannot agree on the terms. He writes from Dublin, the School of Theoretical Physics at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies: "So I suppose I shall remain on this pleasant and hospitable island, until the world is ruled by a

little more reason than it is now. Which may mean, until I  
pass away.

"You see I am slightly despondent on mankind as a whole."

Aydelette sent a memorandum to Weyl, Veblen, and  
von Neumann, April 29, 1937, asking whether if Kenyon supplied  
travelling funds and the passport were obtainable they would  
want him as a visitor at the Institute. Question raised by  
Eutcliffe. Von Neumann on the bottom of this letter pencils  
that he would be very strongly in favor of inviting Schroedinger  
and suggests discussion of the matter, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ There  
is no disposition of the matter in the file.

D, Schroedinger, Erwin

1951

NOTES

1/4

POLICIES

Administration

FLEXNER, A.

VEBLÉN, O.

✓ STRAUSS, L. L.

Biographical

FINNENFELDK

Veblen to Strauss.

S. C. 17/29/50

? T  
M

"The discussion in our meeting last week was a very interesting manifestation of continuity in the history of the Institute. It could have been tied on quite closely to what many people consider to be our basic document; namely, Dr. Flexner's book in which he compared European and American universities, very much to the disadvantage of the latter. I remember Flexner's book as being more concerned more with certain picturesque and perhaps flagrant symptoms than with underlying reasons for these phenomena. A European university is, by its origin and history, a corporation of scholars which has a very high degree of autonomy. In Germany, in the period before Hitler, for

example, the only control exercised by anyone outside the faculty was the rather mild influence of the Ministry of Education. In the English universities of Oxford and Cambridge, outside control was even milder. It was only Parliament who could intervene, and Parliament could intervene only as it could in the case of any other semi-public corporation. In practice, such intervention did not occur more than, perhaps, two or three times in a century.

"Simultaneously with the growth of universities in Europe, there developed an academic tradition, a set of ideas about obligations, behavior, and privilege, some of them formally stated and others tacit, but nonetheless firmly held--a kind of academic mystique.

"In the process of transplanting to the United States, the university and the academic tradition has undergone a number of changes which show themselves in the symptoms described by Dr. Flexner, but which are due, I think, to the important role played by business and pecuniary power in our society. At any rate, our universities normally have trustees or boards of regents who are drawn from the

If only LLS had known  
of Thorstein! He would  
have been over!

group of administrators who dominate our financial and other public institutions. In the course of time, there has developed a trustee tradition and a trustee mystique.

"The troubles at the University of California which in the beginning had rather complicated origins developed eventually into a conflict between the academic and the trustee mystique. In its latest phase, the trustees simply took the ground that the dismissals are 'a matter of discipline.'"

"The contrast of the miserable California episode with our proceedings the other day is very striking, and I think it shows that we have a very good Board of Trustees. Of course, it should be added that I have always found that our faculty is also fully conscious of the own prerogatives of the Trustees. It is to be hoped that this happy state of affairs can be perpetuated. Perhaps we can draw the conclusion that the plan provided for in our original set of by-laws does not need such change."

"Please forgive these rather ~~serious~~ solemn remarks, and convey my cordial greetings to Mrs. Strauss."

~~Handwritten scribbles and crossed-out text, possibly a signature or name, including the word 'To'.~~

Strauss to Veblen, January 10, 1951.

Expresses sincere appreciation for his gracious letter of the 4th. "Since I know the sentiments of personal friendship that prompted it, and which enabled you to see in my position only that which was there, namely, my concern for the welfare of the Institute."

Veblen's files