

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Professor of Mathematics

Born Decorah, Iowa, June 24, 1880

Son of Andrew A and Kirsti (Hougen) Veblen

Degrees: A. B., University of Iowa, 1898
A. B., Harvard, 1900
Ph. D., University of Chicago, 1903

HONORS : D. Sc., Oxford, 1929
Hon. Ph. B., University of Oslo, 1929
Hon. Ph. D., Hamburg, 1933
Hon. D. Sc., University of Chicago, 1941

Career: Associate in mathematics, University of Chicago, 1903-05
Preceptor in mathematics, 1905-10, Princeton University
Professor of Mathematics, 1910-32, Princeton University
Professor Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, 1932-50
Professor emeritus since 1950

Activities: President International Congress Mathematicians
held at Harvard, 1950

Captain and Major, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army,
1917-19

Chairman physical sciences, National Research Council,
1923-34

Fellow American Academy Arts and Sciences, American
Physical Society, AAAS

Member National Academy Sciences, American Philosophical
Society, American Mathematical Society (Pres. 1923-24),
Mathematical Association of America

Honorary member London Mathematical Society, Circolo
Matematico di Palermo, Société Mathématique de
France (hon. mem. bureau)

Foreign corr., Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas,
Lima, Peru

Hon. fellow, Royal Soc., Edinburgh

Member Royal Irish Academy (Department of Science

→ Foreign member Royal Danish Academy of Sciences;
Polish Academy Sciences and Letters, Accademia dei Lincei;
Knight, 1st Class, Royal Order of St. Olav (Norway)

Army-Navy Certificate of Merit, 1948

Home, Princeton, New Jersey
Who's Who in America, Volume 27, 1952-1953

(NO DATE)

WIENER, NORBERT

BIRKHOFF, GEORGE D.

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Morse Interview 6/21/56, p. 4, 6, 7

1919-1937

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Foundations

*Flexner
Veblen*

The research fellowships in chemistry, physics and mathematics were supported by a gift of Rockefeller Foundation totalling \$2,075,000 from 1919-1937, another grant of \$1,361,344 by the Rockefellers from 1923-1937 for fellowships in the biological sciences (including psychology), Simon Flexner was still Chairman of the National Research Council Fellowship Board in the year 1936-37. (July 1 to June 30). Gilbert A Bliss, Professor of Mathematics at Chicago, Birkhoff, George D., of Harvard, and Veblen (described in the report as Professor of Mathematics, Institute of Public Relations, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey) research council

In 1937-38 a new/fellowship board was set up without the direct representation of the scientists and mathematicians who had theretofore served on the Board. The President or Chairman of the National Research Council itself acted as the Chairman. Simon Flexner, Veblen, Birkhoff and Bliss were no longer there. After the year 1937-38 a number of mathematicians which had run from about 5-8 or 9 per year

dropped to around 2 pretty consistently for several years,
and, presumably, continued during the war period at the
reduced volume.

Reports, National Research Bulletins, National Research Council

1922
WEYL, HERMANN

1923
Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Veblen's correspondence with Weyl began in 1922, and continued through the years, becoming particularly frequent during the period after Weyl returned to Kappenberg Switzerland in 1929, and then went to Göttingen.

The correspondence showed that Pine Hall was completed for occupancy late in 1929.

Veblen's Files

1923-1924
1929-1931
1936

MATHEMATICS

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (GENERAL)

FLEXNER, SIMON

✓ VEBLER, O.

Academic Activities

Foundations

Biographical

See correspondence between Oswald Veblen and Simon Flexner in the file, V-4. The year of Veblen's service in some administrative capacity in the National Research Council must have been 1923-24, because of the subjects upon which Flexner and Veblen correspond, and also Vernon Kellogg. The correspondence in 1929 and 1932-1931 appertains to the National Academy of Science.

File V-4

1923-1932

MATHEMATICS

Academic Activities

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen's early work to set up Research Fellowships in Mathematics, etc. all were for research in applied mathematics and as was practically all research in the United States of that day.

With Flexner came research in Pure Mathematics.

Veblen Interview, December 28, 1956, page 7

1923
10/24

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, SIMON

Veblen to Simon Flexner on fellowships in mathematics.

Filed in chronological file under 1923, 10/24.

V-4

1923

November

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

FLEXNER, A.

✓VEBLER, O.

Foundations

Biographical

The National Academy of Sciences was chartered by Congress and approved by President Lincoln in 18 1863. The Charter provides that the Academy shall investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art when called upon by any department of the government. The Academy has long acted as an official adviser to the government on a wide variety of questions. Founded as it was during the Civil War, it dealt actively with military and naval problems in its first years.

In April, 1916, when relations with Germany were already tense, but before the onset of World War I, President WILSON asked the Academy to organize the scientific resources of the country in the broadest and most effective manner possible to accomplish preparedness for defense. The Academy organized the National Research Council. After it was organized and started operating, the President on May 11, 1918, recognized its existence with an Executive Order which set forth its functions in organizing

research and securing cooperation of military and civilian agencies:

(1) To stimulate research in mathematical, physical and biological sciences and their application

(2) To survey the larger possibilities of science, formulate comprehensive projects of research, etc.

(3) To promote cooperation in research at home and abroad

(4) To serve as a means of bringing American and foreign investigators into active cooperation with scientific and technical services in the government departments.

(5) To direct the attention of scientific and technical investigators to the problems of the government

(6) To gather collate scientific and technical information at home and abroad. (Page 6)

The National Research Council differs from other similarly named organizations established in recent years in England, Canada, Australia, Japan, Italy, etc. These are all government supported, and to some extent, government controlled. The American National Research Council was partly supported during the war, but since has been supported entirely from other than governmental sources, and administered by its own representatively selected membership appointed by the President of the National Academy of Sciences. The Council maintains close cooperative relations with the government, scientific bureaus, etc.

The work is carried on by a small group of officers and an executive board with an interim committee. It is composed of 13 major divisions arranged in two groups:

- (1) 7 divisions of science and technology representing physics, mathematics and astronomy, engineering, chemistry and chemical technology, geology and geography, medical sciences, biology and agriculture and anthropology and psychology

(2) The other 6 divisions of general relations-- federal relations, foreign relations, states relations, educational relations, research extension and research information.

The Council issues reprints and circulars on the one hand, and bulletins on the other. The latter publication of general sources for scientific knowledge, reports on status of various fields of research, and special contributions with no other logical place of publication.

Financial support of the Council is assured of a gift of \$5,000,000 to the National Academy of Sciences from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, part of which was used for the erection of a building in Washington for the Council and the Academy, the balance for permanent endowment.

The Council's scientific projects are supported by special gifts obtained at various times from various sources. Thus, \$500,000 was given by the Rockefeller Foundation for

the support during 6 years of a group of fellowships in physics and chemistry; \$500,000 by the General Education Board and the Rockefeller Foundation for supporting 5 years research fellowships in the medical sciences; \$325,000 for 5 years from Rockefeller Foundation for research fellowships in the biological sciences; other gifts totalling \$1,000,000. for miscellaneous projects.

Simon Flexner was Chairman, 1923-24 of the Board Administering National Research Council Fellowships in Physics and Chemistry. Veblen was one of the 7 other Board members administering the fellowships in physics and chemistry, and at the same time during the year 1923-24, Chairman of one of the divisions of science and technology; namely, the Division of Physical Sciences. After 1923-24, the National Research Council Fellowship's Administrative Board for Physics and Chemistry became the Board for Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. Flexner retained his chairmanship for several years.

Veblen went on the Committee in the year 1923-4, and remained at least through 1926-7. Birkhoff came on the Board

and so did Gilbert A. Bliss and Karl T. Compton, then Professor of Physics at Princeton University came on 1924-5. These three remained on the year 1926-7. How much longer, I don't know because I didn't examine.

Flexner was Chairman of the Research Fellowship Board for the first time in the year 1920-21. He was listed as Chairman Director of Research Laboratories, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research up until the year 1925-6 when he was listed as Director, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

Veblen was listed as Professor of Mathematics at Princeton in 1925-6 1924-5 and 1925-6, and in 1926-7 was listed as the Henry B. Fine Professor of Mathematics, Princeton. Both Flexner and Veblen retained those titles and their membership through 1932-1933.

National Research Council, Organization of Members 1919-20
1926-7 Library.

1944

Feb. - May

MATHEMATICS

Academic Activities

ROCKEFELLER

Foundations

RESEARCH

Procedures

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Material copied from the V-4 File regarding the need to establish a mathematical institute--serious lack of proper training in this field.

Filed in Vertical File under "V" for Veblen.

V-4

1924

2/23

~~ACADEMIC PROCEDURES~~

RESEARCH

ROCKEFELLER

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEXNER, SIMON

Academic Procedures

Foundations

Biographical

Veblen to Simon Flexner on methods of supporting
financially research in mathematics.

Filed in Chronological file under 1924, 2/23.

V-4

1924

NOTES

6/12

MATHEMATICS

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Academic Activities

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen, June 12, 1924.

"I have your interesting letter of June 10 regarding the desirability of making some more satisfactory provision for the Department of Mathematical Research in this country. I shall take the matter up with Dr. Rose and my colleagues, and let you know if there is anything ~~waxman~~ which we are in a position to do in reference to it. With ~~gr~~ much appreciation of your extremely interesting letter, I am, Very sincerely yours,
Abraham Flexner."

V File, "Flexner Abraham"

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

COOLIDGE, PROF. J. L.

Veblen to Flexner, at General Education Board, 61 Broadway, New York City.

Veblen says Coolidge has written him that he would like to have Flexner and Veblen take lunch with him at the Harvard Club, 27 West 44th Street, New York City, some time convenient to both Veblen and Flexner. Coolidge wants to talk over with Flexner questions about the ~~Ma~~ American Mathematical Society and this is a subject which I have very much on my mind at present, says Veblen.

Flexner replied, March 17, and sets the date for March 26, and he is to be host. The next day, March 18, he has to write to Veblen putting off the date to March 25 or March 27, 28, or 29.

Finally, they met after some confusion on Friday at 12:30, apparently, ~~they did not~~ since there is no indication

they did not, and this was the date finally set by
Flexner in a letter of March 24, 1924.

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

RIEFLER, W.

STEWART, W.

WARREN

MITRANY, D.

FRANKFURTER, F.

BAMBERGER, L.

BAMBERGER, E.

✓ VEHLEN, O.

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICS

Academic Organization

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Corporation

Interview with Flexner 11/3/55

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PHYSICS

MATHEMATICS

SHENSTONE, ALLEN

✓ VEBLER, O.

EISENHART

Educational Institutions

Academic Activities

Biographical

Interview with Professor Allen Shenstone, May 23, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Shenstone Interviews.

Interview with Professor Shenstone, 5/23/56

1930

1/24
1/27

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD (GENERAL)

Foundations

✓ VEBLER, G.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen to Flexner, January 24, 1930.

"Here in Princeton the scientific fund which we owe largely to you and your colleagues on the General Education Board, is having an influence in the right direction and I think our new mathematical building which is going to be devoted entirely to research and advanced instruction will also help considerably. I think my mathematical institute which has not yet found favor may turn out to be one of the next steps. My Anyhow it seems to me to fit in with the concept of a seat of learning."

Flexner to Veblen, January 27, 1930.

"Thank you very much for your kind note. I agree with you absolutely."

Then he asks what would American scholars and scientists do if some fellow or some foundation set up a "sure enough" institution of learning? Is it necessary to carry the mill-stone of the college about the neck of the graduate school?

V-5 File

1930 - 1932

✓ VEBLER, O.

GENERAL

POLICIES

Biography

Academic Personnel

Administration

Early correspondence between Dr. Flexner and Prof. Veblen reveals the great importance of Veblen's role in the setting up of the Institute and Flexner's sense of luxury in being able to discuss, and apparently to reach conclusions harmoniously with Prof. Veblen on proposed policies and strategies. Referring to Flexner's early correspondence with Dean Eisenhart, Department of Mathematics, Princeton University, reveals that he was never as close to the Dean as to Veblen, and that since Veblen came from Eisenhart's Department to the Institute he was the pivot on which the happy relationship between the two institutions swung.

Flexner's first letter to Veblen was written on Jan. 21, 1930 when he notes that Veblen was quoted in the Times as having said that "America still lacks a genuine seat of learning and that American academic work is inferior in quality to the best abroad." Flexner agrees and asks Veblen for a copy of the speech. (A. Flexner to Prof. Veblen, Jan. 21, 1930. File IV-21, Vault)

2

Veblen replies regretting that his remarks were made extemporaneously and without notes, the occasion being a request by the National Research Fellowship. It was a speech about the research professorships then recently established and related indications of treating scientific research as an end rather than a by-product. He confesses to quoting an epigram of a young English mathematician: "the difference between Cambridge and Princeton is that Cambridge is a seat of learning whereas Princeton is an educational institution." Veblen is willing to substitute any other American institute for Princeton. He alludes to the scientific fund "which we owe largely to you and your colleagues on the General Education Board." Together with Princeton's new mathematics building "which is going to be devoted entirely to research and advanced instruction" as being in the line of the "mathematics institute" which he has ⁱⁿ mind. (Veblen to Flexner, Jan. 24, 1930. Ibid.)

Flexner then asks "What would American scholars and scientists do if some fellow or some foundation set up a 'sure enough' institute of learning? Is it a necessity to carry the millstone of a college about the neck of the graduate school?" (Flexner to Veblen, Jan. 27, 1930. Ibid.)

Note until June ^{intimation} was the first ^{intimation} ~~intimation~~ of the Institute made ^{public} ~~possible~~ apparently, for Veblen notes it and says wisely "I realize now what you ~~have thought about~~ were thinking about when you wrote to me last January." He expresses the wish that the Institute might locate itself in Princeton so that there might be mutual interchange of the facilities of the university and that they might be made available. (Veblen to Flexner, June 10, 1930. Ibid.)

June 7 in ledger (Newark) also NY Times

To this Flexner responds tardily because he had been away in Europe: "it seems incredible but the fact is that this whole development has taken place since the first of March. My letter in January was due to the fact that I was getting ready for publication of the Rhodes Lectures on universities." As always the two men exchange urbane greetings. (Flexner to Veblen, June 7, 1930. Ibid.)

There is a break in the correspondence here with Veblen endeavoring to renew it at the year's end. He writes on Dec. 23 that he hopes Princeton is still a possible site: "the communal back-ground for it would be good, and if you do not desire to build everything complete at first, the promises of a new group of scholars would make the gaps in your group less important. But, of course, what generally interests me is that it would strengthen our efforts to make this university, to some extent, a seat of learning." (Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 23, 1930. Ibid.)

Flexner went to Princeton in January; there is no record of what transpired. Subsequently Veblen evidently, at Flexner's request, gives the latter a long-hand written letter on his proposals which Flexner acknowledges and says he is taking to Canada along with others on the same subject to read and reflect upon with the greatest care. "I see, though I am sure less clearly than you do, the difficulties inherent in any form of management. We could in this country adopt either the German or the English system in its entirety. I wonder if we cannot evolve something new, namely, a board consisting of (1) a few men of affairs who would be interested in financing the institution, (2) a group of scholars holding important posts in other institutions, (3) a similar group of professors in the Institute itself. Would not three such groups check and stimulate one another?

qv:'s looked draft
See copy dated June(?) 1931 Veblen Biog. V-5

"I should propose to put the director on a par with the professors as to salary, social position, and everything else."

"AS I wish the institution always to be small, the influence of the academic groups should be decisive." (Italics added. Flexner to Veblen, June 25, 1931, Ibid.)

In the several months which follow there is scant correspondence remaining out of what must have been fairly frequent interchanges of ideas. In July they discuss academic calendar and Flexner finds it difficult to arrange a satisfactory calendar because of the difficult summers which cut short the fall semester, with the long spring period cut short by the Easter vacation and the onset of summer. (Flexner to Veblen, July 16, 1931. Ibid.)

On December 9, 1931 Flexner ^{saw} ~~submitted~~ ^{to Veblen} his confidential report of September 26th ~~which was~~ submitted to the Trustees at the meeting on October 13, 1931, and asks for Veblen's comments.

Veblen agrees with the memorandum but raises a danger signal. He does not believe that the desirability of going ahead in a particular field is dependent upon meeting "the right man". He says that there are sufficiently ~~many~~ good men so that a man of the right sort can be secured. "For example in mathematics, if you cannot secure the man whom you have picked out and whom I agree is the best first choice, there are a number of others who are surely as good and who may, in fact, be better." He thinks that Johns Hopkins might "have held out longer if departments had not so often been built around one man." Veblen also warns Flexner not to be "so afraid as you some times seem to be of 'the dead hand'. Your program is experimental only in its details. The general idea is perfectly conservative and is regarded as sound by every competent judge." (Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 15, 1931, Ibid.)

^{Veblen}
See Copy filed ~~Flexner~~ ^{Veblen} Box.

Flexner to Veblen - Dec. 16, 1931.

Flexner replies with a maximum of President Gilman that every generation needed a new start but that he did not take this too seriously. Then he adds "Whenever you know your California address, let me have it...You have been so kind and so helpful that - will you believe it - you even haunt my dreams, for the other evening, while I was probably sleeping soundly, I had a conference with you, though the next morning I was unable to recover any part of it."

Veblen to Flexner - Jan. 1, 1932

"...I listened to a paper by Birkhoff in New Orleans and am more than ever convinced that your choice is a good one. He evidently has a lot of genuine mathematics in him yet."

Flexner to Veblen - Jan. 4, 1932

"Thank you very much for yours of the 1st. Should anything occur to you in the course of your travels that has any bearing whatsoever upon our project, please let me have the advantage of it for I lean upon your judgment, experience, and sympathy.

"I am delighted that Birkhoff's paper was so excellent. I have not yet reached the point of a final choice and shall not until I have had another opportunity of speaking with you, which I shall seek when I reach the Coast.

"..."

No further correspondence until April when Veblen goes to Europe.

Veblen to Flexner - Apr. 24, 1932, from Friedlanderweg, Göttingen

Veblen wrote that Birkhoff had advised him that he had declined Flexner's offer, with Birkhoff's wife advising Veblen that Birkhoff was deeply disturbed over the decision.

He wrote also that he had seen Weyl who he thinks "would not be averse to the move but his wife is very well satisfied with her position here..." Furthermore, the Weyl's are not disturbed with the political situation even though Hitler is predicted the winner at the elections here that very day.

Apparently Flexner met Veblen and Weyl in Göttingen afterwards since there is a lack of correspondence until June 2nd when he informs Veblen from Hamburg that a member of his wife's family has died and his plans are disarranged. He informs Veblen that he is writing Professor Weyl "the details of the recommendation that I am prepared to make to the Board if he is willing and shall send you a copy. This will give him the time necessary for careful consideration and consultation with the Berlin authorities.

"As to you, my mind is clear. If Miss Jones and Professor Eisenhart interpose no obstacles which hinder you, I shall on hearing affirmatively from ^{you} ~~him~~ recommend your appointment on the following terms:..."

Institute "Salary \$15,000, - 5% to be contributed by you and an additional 5% by the Institute to a retiring allowance fund;

"Retirement at 65, unless extended by mutual consent, on pension of \$8,000;

"Pension of \$5,000 to your present wife, should she survive you;

"Sabbatical year on full salary every seven years;

"Your service to begin next fall, though the ~~Institute~~ Institute cannot expect to operate until the fall of 1933.

"All other details to be left in obedience, until I return to American and see what the financial situation is." (Yesterdays Frankfurter Zeitung contained an extract from a speech by Senator Reed that was very dark.)

"..."

Flexner to Veblen - June 4, 1932

"...I have a feeling that you ought to postpone writing to Eisenhart until I have myself seen him. I cannot tell you how anxious I am that every step I take shall be marked by the utmost courtesy and consideration for you and for those at Princeton and elsewhere who have been so largely interested in the Institute and who have helped me so freely and generously."

On June 6th Flexner quotes Veblen "Feuer und Flamme dafür" and notes that the information

is highly confidential and Einstein must straighten the things out with Milliken with whom he "has no definite understanding but who rather expects him to come again..."

Veblen has asked that the Institute take over the salary of Vanderslice, his assistant, (\$1,000). Flexner assures him that details like "secretary, books, publications, will be provided for..."

On June 18th, 1932 Veblen says "Your news from Berlin/~~W/L~~ is very exciting and you must feel that...you are returning with a good 'bag'." He reports Weyl's situation as apparently favorable.

On June 22nd Flexner cables Veblen "Arrived yesterday Saw Eisenhart today Approves enthusiastically Will cable you himself after communicating with ~~acting~~ acting President Duffield."

On June 28th Veblen writes Flexner "...The first problem of cooperation between the University and the new Institute that occurs to me is that of making it clear that membership in either one is no obstacle to getting a good job in the other. We should not let a situation arise in which a young man would hesitate to come to one of the Princeton institutions for fear of missing a better chance in the other later on..."

On June 30th Flexner to Veblen. Eisenhart and Duffield were most cordial "... they feel honored that we are ~~get~~ beginning with one of their men among others.

"..."

As to the financial situation "... We are in perfectly sound condition; but the general feeling in town is gloomy beyond anything I have ever known. Nobody seems to know what will happen,..." Citing the danger of going off the gold standard which appears passed he continues "...However, I wish to play safe and not at the outset to undertake a budget exceeding one-third of the income upon which it now seems that we may confidently count. This will enable us to take care of you, Einstein, and Weyl - should Weyl accept - with the necessary assistants, assistance, etc...

"Our contribution, in other words, will be made in two ways: (1) by the work of the staff and students; (2) by sending out younger men of superior training to take posts as they open up in other institutions..."

Veblen to Flexner from Berlin on July 7, 1932

Weyl is treating with the Ministerium "...I have managed so far to say nothing except to Weyl and Einstein. On our arrival here we found two letters from Mrs. Einstein and we spent yesterday evening with the Einsteins and Dr. Mayer. It was interesting to find that Einstein is strong for the All Souls idea. He is against luxury. Pressed for details, he said that the public rooms of the Atheneum in Pasadena are too luxurious but the dwelling rooms are not. I found the latter extremely comfortable, to say the least. The great question in the Einstein family now is what sort of a letter will come from Milliken ..."

He reports on 25 year old Dr. Kurt Gödel "...My suggestion would be to offer him a

lectureship for one year at \$3000 (salary of a Commonwealth Fellow) ... it might be well to get him in touch with American conditions before he has had time to grow into a position here. His value is well understood both in Germany and in Austria...and I should like to have Dr. Alfred Foster taken on as my assistant. He could be very useful in quite a different way from Vanderslice...I should favor offering him \$2000, which would be barely enough for him to get through the year with his wife and baby...has been a Rockefeller Fellow in Göttingen this year..."

Veblen to Flexner - July 8, 1932

"I am writing a note to Weyl to say that you expect to make no public announcement before Oct. 1st. That may help to keep things from getting out in Göttingen.

"...If you get three major appointments through this summer you have made a good start and can well afford to deliberate before going further."

"..."

Flexner to Veblen July 21, 1932

"..."

"I have no authority to take any steps whatsoever beyond those with which you are already familiar, namely, appointments of yourself, Professor Einstein, and Professor Weyl..."

Flexner then opposes a suggestion to employ Dr. Foster though he sympathizes with his position in the depression.

He considers the suggestion of Gödel--"...Mathematical logic is mentioned now for the first time. Is it or is it not a field which we should enter? That point requires to be decided first of all..." Referring to the information Veblen has given him he suggests that perhaps it is better for Gödel to complete "his Habilitation and first regular teaching..."

Veblen to Flexner - Aug. 12, 1932

He has been preparing for publication his lectures and comments that his Hamburg assistant will do the final work after which it will be sent to Neugebauer .

"..."

"One of the main things that I have learned in Germany is the value of the highly trained assistant that is the normal appendage of a professor. [having a graduate student/ ...is very different from having at our disposal a Ph.D."

"..."

He presses for Foster again.

Veblen to Flexner, Sept. 21, 1932

"Weyl met me in Zürich with the remark that it was practically sure that he was going to accept. But when I saw his wife a day or two later it did not seem nearly so sure. However, I refrained from any searching inquiry.

"The doings in Zürich were very interesting. I heard a good deal that bears on the personnel question and it all agrees pretty well with what I had heard before. But I don't think I had better attempt to write it out now."

Veblen got to New York on Oct. 2nd and Flexner misses an opportunity to see him but calls him to New York on Oct. 13th for a conference (Flexner to Veblen, Oct. 7, 1932).

Veblen to Flexner, Oct. 17, 1932

"This morning Eisenhart suggested on his own motion that some kind of a land trading arrangement would probably be desirable. He intends to talk about this in general terms with Duffield and some of the Trustees. He thought the Olden tract (the one near Veblen's house) would be excellent either for use or for trading purposes. The plot he had particularly in mind for the Institute is part of the golf links just below the Princeton Inn. I said I thought the part above it would be better."

Flexner to Veblen, Oct. 26, 1932.

"We have received a good many letters of the type sent you by Miss McKenney. I do not wish to burden you with answering inquiries of this kind. If they reach you, put them in an envelope and mail them to me or Mrs. Bailey. I feel very certain that persons who have not exhausted the opportunities of our graduate schools are not going to be the kind of persons you or Professor Einstein wish to select except in very unusual circumstances. The great thing is to remove from your shoulders all possible clerical and administrative work, though you may be absolutely sure that I shall do nothing involving you positively or negatively without your authorization."

Flexner to Veblen, Nov. 4, 1932 "...if we ever come to the question of setting up a School of Economics, we shall certainly look into the possibilities of theoretical and mathematical economics. I can say for your private information that I have the gravest doubt as to...the value of the National Bureau of Economic Research. From what I know of it, I certainly should not call it 'a first class institute of economics.'" (Please check this statement with his later enconia about Riefler and his connection with the National Bureau of Economic Research.)

Flexner to Veblen, Nov. 14, 1932

"In order that there may be no danger that you and I will get our wires crossed in writing Weyl, I wonder if you would mind sending me a copy of what you wrote him on the subject of the appointment offered. Don't do this if you have any hesitation whatsoever, and don't please misunderstand. I am simply anxious that you and I should talk the same language and mean the same things."

Veblen to Flexner, Nov. 16, 1932

"Here is a copy of my letter to Weyl which was obviously not intended for your eye

but I am glad to have you read it and keep it as I have another carbon. I added a few words by hand, of which I have no record, but which stated that I was more enthusiastic about the Institute now than I was last summer."

In the letter to Weyl, Nov. 11, 1932, Veblen informs Professor Weyl that Flexner is awaiting his decision and does not want to take any further steps in regard to personnel until he hears from you.

"His ideas about the mathematical group seem to have become more definite in this respect; that a sharp distinction will be made between the appointments as permanent members of the Institute and the others. There will be no such spectrum of associate professors, assistant professors, instructors etc., as there is in the usual American university. One will either be a full and permanent member or else on a definitely limited appointment. In an ordinary American university it is easy to use a person who does not live up to his early promises for teaching and administration, whereas in the Institute the scientific work is the only thing."

He says that apparently though financial conditions are bad generally the Institute seems sound and the psychological atmosphere is improving to the effect that ~~that~~ the idea of limiting the major appointments to three is now definitely discarded. "I feel that we can count on going ahead on something like the scale that you and I were talking about in the summer."

Veblen says that ~~ix~~ he is thinking of calling in people for one or two year appointments from American and European universities. "For example, I suggested as a possible way of approaching the problem of getting someone in modern algebra that we should invite Artin and Albert to come for a year at the same time, perhaps for next year. Flexner made no definite response of course, but didn't seem to think it an impossible idea. What do you think of it?"

Veblen was also authorized to inquire about having Gödel here for next year. This would simply be for one year on a very small salary.

Veblen has been at the Institute since the beginning of September and though he is giving his Seminar as usual he is at present correcting the proof sheets of a book by Neugebauer. There have been many applications for admission of students to the Institute. "To all of them who are not approximately at the Ph.D. stage, the answer is that they had better try to get into the Princeton or some other graduate school. The idea is quite definite at present that there are to be no degrees and that only students who are acceptable to the professors are to be admitted."

He discusses site but says that Fine Hall is very pleasant to him and he would like to stay there as long as possible. "Perhaps we can stay here permanently!"

"Flexner stays in New York and has been here only twice. I have been in New York about three times to see him. Between times everything is quiet and I find that thinking about the new plans has disturbed my scientific work very little. It is certainly no more than the equivalent of committees and department meetings that I have gotten out of."

Flexner to Veblen, Nov. 17, 1932.

"I had a mean feeling about asking you to let me see a copy of your letter to Weyl. There was of course the possibility that you might refer my request to the Association

of American University Professors as 'an infringement on academic freedom!' But I really had perfect confidence in your discretion and was absolutely devoid of curiosity...I have the feeling that we ought to talk the same language especially in dealing with so sensitive a person as Weyl. Your letter is admirable in every respect. I am by no means sure that I could have done as well if I had undertaken to write Weyl myself, and I think there is a great tactical advantage in having it come rather casually from you.

"...regarding the ^Urelations of the two groups, and I wrote Eisenhart a letter summing up the situation as it now looks to me, but my mind is quite open, and it may be that I shall see things differently in the course of time. Don't be impatient with the slowness with which I seem to move. I can decide things if I have to, but in this new venture and in dealing with subjects with which I am unfamiliar I am a slow learner."

"...and I shall spend the next few days writing a little prospectus which we can send out in response to various inquiries. I hope to have the advantage of your collaboration."

Flexner to Veblen, Nov. 25, 1932. There has been further correspondence with Weyl and Flexner himself has written to him sending a copy to Veblen.

"Your visit on Wednesday was a timely and helpful one, for that evening and walking yesterday in the park the feeling grew upon me more and more strongly that we have discussed the opening gambit sufficiently and that it is now time for us to make preparations for a genuine start next autumn, for, if we do not start next autumn, we shall lose another entire year. How then shall we start? After the Civil War there was for a decade interminable discussion about the resumption of specie payments. When John Sherman became Secretary of the Treasury and was asked what his policy would be, he said, 'The way to resume is to resume', and that he did on the first of January following.

"... "Now we have in you and Einstein two persons certain...You have, I suppose, already written Gödel, and you mentioned Whitney the other day.

"I enclose copies of correspondence which I have had with Richtmyer and Reed. From Tisdale I have as yet no response.

"Should Weyl accept, we shall treat him similarly. Pursuing this policy, the Institute will be a going concern next autumn, and you will have leisure and opportunity to do your own work and to stimulate and guide those with whom you surround yourself. It may well be that a concrete nucleus in operation will be more attractive to other mathematicians whom we may wish to secure than the nebulous Institute as it has had to be up to this time."

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 2, 1932.

"The other letter raises a question which you spoke of yesterday, but did not exhaust, I think. At present it seems to me that your idea of giving a few fellowships approximately equivalent to the National Research Fellowships is a good one. Do you propose to put something about that in your announcement? I should think that we would want a couple of years of experience before arriving at any very definite policy."

Veblen enclosed a proposed statement in which it was firmly said that "in mathematics it is intended to admit to the Institute only such ~~such~~ students who are already advanced in their work enough to have received the Ph.D. degree, or whose training is equivalent to that represented by the Ph.D., in a good university." It is further stated that only

students will be ~~accepted~~ admitted as are acceptable to the professors with whom they wish to work and that the students are expected to work entirely independently with occasional conferences and advice from the professor.

It is stated "Professor Veblen intends to conduct a Seminar in collaboration with certain of his associates in the Institute, which will meet weekly for the discussion of the problems in which they are interested. The usual procedure at a meeting of the Seminar is the presentation of some piece of mathematical work by one of the members of the Seminar and its discussion by others."

Institute students "will be admitted to lectures and Seminars" when they are acceptable to the professor in charge without the payment of fees. The arrangement is reciprocal so that it is to be expected that there will be a number of the members of the University attending the corresponding exercises of the Institute.

Free use of Fine Hall by the students is provided for.

Then Veblen suggests the enclosed statement be modified to include a specific statement of what his seminars will cover.

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 5, 1932. He mentions Flexner's informing him that Jessen has been awarded a fellowship.

He alludes to reporters from New York papers twice calling him that afternoon about Einstein and the American Counsel in Berlin. I had nothing to say and thought that comments from me would only complicate matters.

He also mentions that Prof. H. A. Simmons of Northwestern University and Whitney would be coming to Princeton and Veblen ~~asks~~ is not sure Whitney will do but wants a conference with him. ~~Flexner~~

Flexner responds on the 7th to ask Whitney to come to Princeton at the Institute's expense.

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 8, 1932. The son and daughter of Mrs. Marquand visited him on Dec. 7. Mrs. Marquand was too ill still to decide whether or not to sell the property. Veblen referred them to Mr. Maass and they are to write Flexner.

He asked them what they knew about Mrs. Pyne's place. They seemed to think that none of her heirs would want to keep it up and therefore it would likely be on the market but Veblen thinks both the Marquand and the Pyne places will be too expensive, more so than any of the others the Institute has so far considered.

Flexner to Veblen, Dec. 9, 1932. "I have given a good deal of thought to our conversations of last week." He then asks for a meeting with Veblen and the other mathematicians whom I may wish to see on the following Tuesday evening, so that I can have a talk with you and them on Dec. 14, Wednesday.

Flexner does not keep the appointment.

Flexner to Veblen, Dec. 13, 1932

"Unforeseen conditions interfered with my trip to Princeton today. As I thought

things over at intervals, I became more and more reluctant to show myself on the Princeton Campus before Eisenhart had threshed the matter out with Mr. Duffield, the mathematical group, and any other bodies concerned. Perhaps I am punctilious to the point of squeamishness, but just because our relations with Princeton will be so intimate, I wish to give no one the slightest ground for criticism. I am not reluctant to act - quite the contrary. I want to act, but I would not for the world have any one associated with Princeton feel that we had been inconsiderate or unmindful of the great kindness and courtesy which Princeton has shown ~~me~~ us."

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 13, 1932, a formal acceptance of a Professorship in Mathematics on the terms laid down in Flexner's letter of Dec. 1st.

Veblen to Flexner about the letter of formal acceptance, Dec. 13. "It had not occurred to me that you would want one because I have never given one before. However, I did not find it a heavy undertaking.

"I looked up two papers by Mr. Bardeen. Without having studied them I judge from the type of problem attacked...that he would want one year more of graduate study before attaining the Ph.D. degree...

"Perhaps the best answer to make would be to encourage him to come to Princeton as a graduate student and candidate for the Ph.D. degree. The case seems to me very much like the case of Mr. Bleick. It might be a good plan to give a small amount of financial help, provided the student can not get this from the University...There are great advantages, however, in having a Ph.D. degree and a regular place in the academic hierarchy.

Flexner to Veblen, Dec. 14, 1932. "I have just had the enclosed letters from Weyl and Courant [they are not enclosed]. I am submitting my answers to you before forwarding them. Will you please read them carefully and make any suggestions that they seem to you to require?"

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 16, 1932. He has had this correspondence half an hour and is responding immediately so that there will be no delay. He suggests modification of the first sentence from their announcement so as to read as follows: "Instruction will be given either by individual contact with students, by courses, by seminars, by lectures or by other methods. Each professor will be free to follow the method which he prefers and to vary it from year to year." He is very diplomatic in making the suggestion.

"The general question which Weyl has raised has a bearing on the problem as to whom to admit ~~to~~ as students in the Institute. My own inclination is to admit competent men rather freely without any commitment as to whether they will work with a particular member of the staff. This would admit them to our group. At the least, they would be members of Weyl's and my audience. At the most, they would establish personal relations with one of us. I feel that we would find better material ~~to~~ for our more intimate work if we had a reservoir of this sort. It looks now as if there would be a large enough group of men wishing to come and sufficiently competent to constitute a satisfactory reservoir."

He comments on A. W. Raab who has newly taken his Ph.D. as a determined rather than a brilliant student. He feels he could not strongly recommend him for a National Research Fellowship or for a fellowship to the Institute. (He is quoting Bliss here.) Veblen suggests that he would admit him as a student to the Institute without tuition charges

but without a fellowship also.

He suggests offering Weyl to recommend an assistant whose function would be primarily to help him over language difficulties and also an assistant whom he regards as a very promising man in Algebra.

He says "I wonder whether it is wise to admit that he is making a great sacrifice. I think he will come actually because he expects the gains to out-weigh the losses."

At the end Veblen is very diplomatic saying that these suggestions represent a search for a change to be made in Flexner's letters but that the letters are really admirable as they stand.

Flexner to Veblen, Dec. 17, 1932.

He is on his way to Washington to make arrangements with the State Department about our foreign appointees. I have adopted the change suggested in our memorandum.

As to Professor Weyl's assistant, I am inclined to let the matter ride until we have a chance to talk with him.

"I rather fear that if we admit Dr. Raab, remitting tuition, we shall find ourselves establishing a precedent to the disadvantage of Princeton. My inclination is to leave it entirely to you and to your associates as to whether you wish to admit him or not, and then let him come on a regular basis, unless he is of such outstanding ability - which does not appear to be the case - as to make him worth our while to make every possible effort to secure him.

"I shall omit from the letter to Weyl the reference to sacrifice, though I do think that in leaving Göttingen he and his family are sacrificing a good deal. On the other hand, I hope it will turn out that they will be gaining more than they lose."

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 17, 1932 enclosing a letter from Dr. Whitney with Veblen's reply [not in the file].

"I was tempted at first to make some comment on what seems to me the anything but admirable behavior of the Harvard people. On second thought, however, I decided to make no comment of any sort."

Flexner to Veblen, Dec. 22, 1932.

"I feel great satisfaction in what we accomplished yesterday and genuine gratitude to you and to Dean Eisenhart. At the same time, nothing could exceed my desire that Professor Lefschetz should ~~also~~ derive as much satisfaction for the arrangements arrived at as the rest of us. So I want you to make clear to him - (show him this letter if you please):

"1.) That as between him and Alexander, I have no choice. Indeed, I could not have any, for I am too deeply ignorant of the whole subject to appreciate either man.

"2.) That the consideration which I had to bear in mind was the importance of getting together a group, all the members of which would not grow old at the same time.

As the matter now stands, you and Einstein are in the early 50's, Weyl in the middle 40's, Alexander in the early 40's - so that we have protected ourselves against any such fate as befell the deacon's one horse shay, which, as you remember, fell to pieces all at once without showing any signs of decay during one hundred years.

"3.) In order that Professor Lefschetz and Professor Alexander may appreciate fully the spirit in which I have acted, we have simply created for Professor Alexander at his own wish and insistence another 'Fine' professorship with the same remuneration and dignity.

"Please make Lefschetz, as well as the other members of the Princeton staff, understand that functionally the two groups belong to one another and that we shall all pull together in the same boat, with you as coxswain.

"Tell Lefschetz, please, that if I had had time, I should have had an interview with him in person but I was bound to get home by dinner time and just succeeded in so doing."

Veblen to Flexner, Dec. 24, 1932.

"I showed your letter to Lefschetz and I think he understands the whole situation very well. Like everyone else here, he feels that the solution worked out is a very good one. He is already quite active on the problem of the new arrangement in the Department."

File IV-21 See also V-5 for some of same material

VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

POLICIES

Administration

Veblen to Flexner:

"I hope that someone will set up a sure enough seat of learning. I insist on the word 'seat' rather than 'institution'. When it is done it will of course get the same mixed reception that all other academic enterprises receive. But I think we are now far enough along in civilization to be able to make it a success."

1930

NOTES

4/17

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY (FINE HALL)

Educational Institutions

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

Veblen to Einstein.

"We are going to have a mathematical building here which will be dedicated to the memory of Professor Fine, whom you doubtless remember from your visit in Princeton. In one of the rooms there is to be an inscription over the fireplace, and we have thought that a remark which I heard you make when you were here in Princeton would be suitable. The remark is as follows:

Raffiniert ist der Herr Gott aber boshaft ist er nicht.

It was your reply when someone asked you if you thought that Miller's results would be verified. I've always supposed that the remark was an original epigram made on the spur of the moment, but there is a bear possibility that it was a quotation. Would you mind telling me if this is the case? Also, I hope

you will not object to our using this 'child of your wit' which we have probably forgotten long ago." Veblen sends greetings to Mrs. Einstein.

Einstein to Veblen, April 30, 1930.

In German, this is Mrs. Stern's rough translation: I remember the one-time remark which I made, and the occasion on which I made it. I have no objection to your using the expression in the manner suggested, and regard it, indeed, as an indication of your friendly consideration.

I might suggest to you, however, that this expression might seem in the circumstances to the reader who might not understand the context appear as light and frivolous. One can speak such thoughts in a conversational manner, but nature conceals her secrets in the sublimity of her law, not through cunning."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1931-1932

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOAI

HARVARD

MORSE, HARSTON

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

KINUTER, A.

DICKSON

BIRKHOFF

WEYL, HERMANN

Interview with Professor Morse, May 25, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Morse Interviews.

Interview with Morse, 5/25/56

1931

June ?

POLICIES

Administration

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Copy of

Draft from Veblen's files.

Brooklin,
Hancock Co.,
Maine

Dear Dr. Flexner:-

As I said when you requested me to write you something about the plans for your new Institute, I can do little but register what must seem like fulsome approval of your plans. The essential point is that the Institute is to be devoted in a single-minded way to scholarship. If you can resist all temptations to do the other good things that might be attempted, your adventure will be a success.

It is the multiplicity of its purposes that makes an American University such an unhappy place for a scholar. Instead of being a haven within which one can seek to develop his ideas in the company of other

like-minded people, it is a kind of a market place where all kinds of enterprises are exploited and where the particular enterprise of scholarship is generally on the defensive. Even after reading your book I doubt whether you realize how much of an American Professors energy is used up in explaining and defending the obvious to a lot of people whose ideas he should never be obliged to consider.

A good deal of the trouble is due, I think, to our form of organization, which puts the legal power in the hands of Trustees and the actual power in those of a President and his administrative staff and the professional Alumni. I used to think that the legal forms of organization made little difference. But since my experience at Oxford I am convinced that the locus of the ultimate legal power is very important. In an Oxford College all powers and property rights are rested in the Fellows. As a result the President (or Warden, or what not), the undergraduates, the outside world, the ambitious and pushing people of all sorts, are concerned about the point of view of the dons. Here, on the other hand all these people tend to ignore views of the professors on academic questions (they may be interested in their opinion about Russia!) but are acutely sensitive to those of the trustees and the prominent alumni. As a result the scholarly group almost always feels itself as an insecure and distracted minority.

It will be said of course that the faculty should not be burdened with the financial and administrative problems. But in practice the details are handled by administrative officers just as in any American university. The difference is that administration look up to, instead of down on, the dons. In fact, the financial management of an Oxford college generally is scouder than that of an American one, for the dons are personally and continuously concerned about the security of the College resources whereas a board of trustees is only sentimentally and sporadically attentive.

So I think that one of the surest ways to guarantee the success and permanence of your institute would/^{be} provide that it be ruled by the scholars who are its members. Faculty government is very conservative. Each suggested change runs into interminable discussion, delay, whittling down, and compromise. But in the meantime most of the faculty go on with their work, without the fear that some outsider will ^{upset} everything for them ^{overnight}. Conservatism in a university is, I think desirable in and of itself. Even if you do not have faculty control I hope you will guard against the kind of organization which will permit the next director to say, "Let us take stock--evaluate--light of experience" and then proceed with the usual "reorganizations" and vulgarizations.

Of course, this may be hard to bring about....

I think that salaries should be much higher than the present scale. The highest that I have heard proposed was \$20,000 plus a house. This was refused by the physicist to whom it was offered.

Retiring allowances should be more liberal. To lose one half or two thirds of ones salary at the age of 68 or 70 must be a severe blow to a man who has been receiving but little more than he needs to live on. (Shall he exile himself to California or can he find a sufficiently small house or apartment and hang on where he is?)

I favor a departmental organization. Each department should be large enough to perpetuate a tradition. The decline of Johns Hopkins was due in part to the fact that most of its departments were one-man shows. In a mathematics department I would suggest having at least three members of the permanent staff in each of three age groups, 0-35, 35-45, 45-00. A laboratory department would presumably be smaller. Also one dealing with a less composite subject.

I do not favor a big central library; rather a group of collections of such books as are required by the various departments and individuals. A unified library is a troublesome monster.

I favor definitely "chairs" to each of which a fixed salary is attached. While these are considerable advantages in its flexibility, the usual method of paying each man what he can squeeze out of the authorities is an *ungainly* and undignified one.

I should like it if the buildings of the Institute could be in a modern architectural style. But the Institute itself must be for the most part an imitation of the Universities of Europe and the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. So it is not illogical to use their architecture also as a starting point.

I like the amenities of an Oxford College, particularly the high table. I don't see why it could not be imitated. Even under American conditions I believe there would be a large enough nucleus of bachelors who would prefer to eat there regularly and the married men would come once or twice a week if the meals were good and sufficiently cheap (why not 2 or 3 free meals a week?)

Much could be said for making the nucleus of the Institute an imitation of an Oxford College. If so, college to take as a pattern would be All Souls. It would be primarily a residence for the faculty. If

students are admitted they should come in gradually and as "Junior Members" (the Oxford term). There should also be a sufficient number of College houses and apartments for married members. But the use of all these facilities should be voluntary. It would not be a violation of this provision to let the rooms be free to members of the faculty and assigned in order of seniority, although this would make sure of this being used.

Number of students admitted. My experience is that it is desirable to have a large audience (20-50) in a lecture, but a small number (3 or 4) of students whose reading or research one supervises. Perhaps the best method would be leave attendance at lectures open to as many as each professor was willing to admit and restrict the number of Junior Members of the Institute.

The location of your Institute should be such that your group of scholars should be one of several cultural groups. It should never be too large. Otherwise scope would be given for (Organization" and the failures we know so well. If money for too large an Institute should be available, let there be 2, 3, ...institutes, all separate! But if there is just an Institute for Advanced Study isolated in a community devoted chiefly to business it will be in danger of not being able to maintain itself.

So I come back to the suggestion that Princeton is in "the vicinity of Newark," a suggestion which is by no means disinterested. For it would be a great advantage to me and others of my sort to be near to the group of men that I expect you to gather together.

I seem to be very verbose, but it is a fascinating subject.

Fellows or Associates of N. R. F.

- (1) The A. should be a dignified position with large salary.
- (2) Salary paid entirely by N. R. F. for period of appointment, the A. to continue as a Prof. in Univ. +
- (3) The contrib. of the Univ. to consist in assuming responsibility for future of the A. The Trustees of the Univ. to consist in assuming responsibility for future of U S. The Trustees of Fund to recognize that the Univ. is likely to have other unpredicted expenses in connection with the enterprise.
- (4) The A. to be provided with funds for an assistant and for material equipment. The latter is liable to be a large amount in case of laboratory sciences.
- (5) The A. to be allowed to give advanced lectures or seminars.

1931

6/25

POLICIES

VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Administration

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen, June 25, 1931, commenting on Veblen's answer to questionnaire regarding policies of IAS. (Filed with Veblen's memo.)

Filed in Chronological File under 1931, 6/25.

V-5

1931

7/12
7/19

POLICING

Administration

GENERAL

Educational Institutions

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, C.

Biographical

FLECKER, A.

Originals Veblen to Flecker on proposal for Board of Trustees; faculty government, terms, faculty numbers, etc. Go further than copies in Veblen files. Veblen favored pattern of All Souls (7/19). If I. A. S. to be large, better to make several smaller institutions.

Filed in Vertical File under 7// "v" for Veblen.

F. A., 1/8/57

1931

12/9

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

POLICIES

Administration

Flexner to Veblen:

"Let me thank you most heartily for your great kindness to me yesterday. I had meant to bring with me a confidential report submitted to the Trustees at their last meeting. I wonder if you could find time to glance through it and make any suggestions that occur to you. You can write on the margin or the back or dictate or treat it in any way that is easiest for you before returning it to me."

File V-5

1952-33

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOAI

EISENHART

Biographical

ALEXANDER

✓ VELEN, O.

VON NEUMANN

Interview with J. W. Alexander, March 12, 1957.

(No notes made of this interview).

1932-1939

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

GENERAL

GENERAL /

PLEXNER, A.

EINSTEIN, A.

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Relations WOAII

Public Relations

Academic Organization

Biographical

For notes taken on material in the Princeton Alumni Weekly
see Vertical File under "P" for Princeton University.

173a
BIRKENOFF, GEORGE D.

BIOGRAPHICAL

DODDS, HAROLD

✓ VEBLER, O.

ALEXANDER

VON NEUMANN

Mrs. Birkhoff on George D. Birkhoff's acceptance and reversal.

See statement it took Veblen's raid to bring Dodds to his senses.

Interview with Marston Morse, 6/2/56

1932

/VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Appraisal by Morse, p. 2-3

Interview Morse 6/21/56

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (SITE)

Facilities

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

MAASS, E. H.

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Maass, February 20, 1932.

"I have yours of the nineteenth with a copy of your letter from Mr. Edgar Bamberger. I wonder whether Mr. Bamberger is really familiar with the real estate about Princeton, inasmuch as I found in motoring about with Professor Veblen that Princeton University had here and there acquired tracts which now still look like open country. In the absence of the real estate agent, the ideal arrangement might be to get Professor Veblen to go with us, but Professor Veblen is now on the way from the Pacific Coast to Princeton, though I think it likely that he will be in Princeton on that day. As I have taken him into my confidence in reference to many things, I would suggest that, if he is in Princeton on the 28th, we ask him to go with us. His discretion is absolutely to be trusted.

"In any event, Mr. Leidesdorf and I will, unless you hear from Mr. Leidesdorf to the contrary, be at the Princeton Inn early Sunday morning, February 28."

IV-12

1932

5/3
5/7
5/23

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flexner to Veblen, May 3, 1932.

He arrived in France after a warm and smooth voyage and found a letter from Veblen. He shall not expect to see Veblen until after several days he goes to Göttingen. "I'll let you know when to look for me. We can, I am sure, ~~ak~~ have our talk at Göttingen, without troubling you to meet me elsewhere; but I appreciate your willingness to take the trouble.

"Remember me warmly to Mrs. Veblen..."

Flexner to Veblen, May 7, 1932.

He says he is going to London May 9, and to Germany about two weeks later. He sends his address in London.

Flexner to Veblen, May 23, 1932.

He has received a letter from Weyl telling him that Weyl's father has died, and this throws Flexner's plans out since Weyl will not be there when he gets to Göttingen. He says he has several alternative plans for seeing both ~~Kik~~ Veblen and Weyl in Göttingen.

File V-5

1932
VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

Flexner to Veblen?

"I was very deeply distressed this morning to receive from Professor Weyl a letter telling me of the sudden death of his Father. I had planned to leave London the day after to-morrow going Paris, thence to Göttingen. Professor Weyl tells me that he will be in Göttingen at the end of the present week or next week. I have several courses between which I can choose. I am going to Paris where I shall be a week. I could come from there to Göttingen arriving towards the end of next week; or if you think it wiser I can go to Vienna for a few days, thence to Berlin for a week, thence to Göttingen. I want, however, particularly to be in Göttingen while you are still there. Will you wire me to the Guaranty Trust Company, Paris, advising me which course to pursue?"

File V-5

1932

6/2
6/5

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner's tender of appointment to Veblen, and Veblen's
answer.

Filed in Vertical File under "V" for Veblen.

MXR V-5

VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

WEYL, HERMANN

Flexner to Veblen:

"I reached Berlin last night and spoke with my wife over the telephone. I also found another cable here. The news from America is not good; so that I do not know just what my future movements will be.

"This morning I called at the Kultusministerium in order to meet my old friends there, and saw Professor Windelband and Professor von Rottenburg. As a result I have written a letter to Professor Weyl, copy of which I enclose. I hope that you will understand that I mentioned him simply because I could not possibly see these men and refrain from answering their questions in a candid and a straightforward manner.

"I neglected, in writing you regarding terms and conditions to say that there will be no difficulty about the assistance etc. that you would need. I have the feeling that you ought to postpone writing to Eisenhart until I have myself seen him. I cannot tell you how anxious I am that every step I take shall be marked by the utmost courtesy and consideration for you and for those at Princeton and elsewhere who have been so largely interested in the Institute and who have helped me so freely and generously."

Flexner to Weyl:

"On reaching Hamburg, I received a cable containing very distressing news about a member of my wife's family. As my wife is in Vienna, I therefore came here immediately so as to be in easy reach of her if matters became more serious. I cannot at the moment therefore say what my future course will be.

"This morning I called on my old friend Professor Windelband at the Kultusministerium, and he quite naturally asked me what I was doing in respect to the Institute. Our relations have been so intimate and confidential that it seemed necessary for me to say that among other places I had visited Göttingen and that I had talked with you, for Prof. Windelband already knew that I am interested in a school of mathematics. I told him, however, that we have come to no conclusion and that you would take no steps without conference with him and the other proper authorities in the Kultusministerium. I hope that you will understand that I had to be candid with Prof. Windelband on the basis of our long and intimate friendship. However, you are in no way involved for I told him that you had said you would do nothing and come to no conclusion until you had consulted freely with the Kultusministerium.

"Even if you should decide with the approval of the authorities here to come to America, work would not be possible before the autumn 1933. If you should decide in the affirmative, and if your wife should wish to come with you to America during the coming winter, while you are at Swarthmore College, in order to have time and opportunity to decide on questions of living arrangements, I am sure that the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study would be happy to pay your wife's travelling expenses.

"After you have spoken with Prof. Windelband and others, I will if you so desire write you a letter setting forth the terms and conditions which we discussed the other day. Meanwhile I have spoken very freely with Prof. Veblen, who has been in my confidence from the beginning, and you can speak with him as freely as you choose; in order that he may thoroughly understand I am sending him a copy of this letter.

"Whatever happens, I am delighted to have made your acquaintance and I am most hopeful that some arrangement can be made."

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

VEBLER, O.

WEYL, HERMANN

Flexner to Veblen, June 4, 1932

With his letter of June 4, 1932, he encloses carbon copy which he wrote that date to Weyl, informing Weyl that on June 4, Flexner had called on his old friend, Professor Windelband at the Kultusministerium, and he quite naturally asked me what I was doing in respect to the Institute. "Our relations have been so intimate and confidential that it seemed necessary for me to say that among other places I had visited Göttingen and that I had talked with you, for Prof. Windelband already knew that I am interested in a school of mathematics. I told him, however, that we had come to no conclusion and that you would take no steps without conference with him and the other proper authorities in the Kultusministerium. I ~~amxxx~~ hope that you will understand that I had to be candid with Prof. Windelband on the basis of our long and intimate friendship. However, you are in no way involved for I told him that you had said

you would do nothing and come to no conclusion until you had consulted freely with the Kultusministerium."

Then he goes on to say that work in America would not be possible for Weyl until the autumn of 1933, even if he should decide to come, which he has not yet done. If Weyl's wife wishes to come to America during the coming winter, while Weyl is at Swarthmore in order to have time and opportunity to decide on questions of living arrangements, Flexner thinks the Trustees of the Institute would be happy to pay her travelling expenses.

He then says that, "After you have spoken with Prof. Windelband and others, I will if you so desire write you a letter setting forth the terms and conditions which we discussed the other day. Meanwhile I have spoken very freely with Prof. Veblen, who has been in my confidence from the beginning, and you can speak with him as freely as you choose; in order that he may thoroughly understand I am sending him a copy of this letter.

"Whatever happens, I am delighted to have made your acquaintance and I am most hopeful that some arrangement can be made."

In his letter of June 4 to Veblen, Flexner assures him that "There will be no difficulty about the assistance, and so forth, that you ~~would~~ would need."

File V-5

1932

6/5

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen to Flexner--original letter with his and Weyl's
plan for the School of Mathematics.

Filed under "V" in the Vertical File.

A, 10/18/56, Misc. Docs.

1934

6/5

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

On June 5 Veblen to Flexner.

Raised question of immediate plans for insurance to provide for his retirement benefits of \$8,000.

IV-21 or V-5

1932

6/14

✓ VEBIEN, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

Mrs. Bailey to Bamberger informing him of a letter to Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld informing them of a letter dated June 3 from Flexner in which he says he had a very satisfactory time in Göttingen. Weyl is interested. He also had several long talks with Veblen. "Wherever I have gone, I have been told that he is the ablest of our American mathematicians, and the man on whose judgment I can most fully rely. I therefore asked him whether in the event that the Princeton authorities were entirely willing he would come into our group. He thought that the Princeton authorities would feel it a great distinction for him to do so and that they would interpose no difficulty whatsoever, and as for himself, he looked upon it as the greatest opportunity of his life..."

D, Bamberger, Louis, 1930-1936

6/15
6/18

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

See correspondence in V-5 file regarding misunderstanding as to amount of Veblen's retirement pay at 65. Flexner offered \$8,000, remembered \$7,500 and Veblen holds him to \$8,000.

Filed in V-5 file, this correspondence.

V-5

1932

6/15

POLICIES

Administration

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

BUDGET

Finance

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen, June 15, 1932.

He asks Veblen to be absolutely candid with him on the subject of the \$7500 versus \$8000 \$8,000. He acknowledges with enthusiasm an evidence of interest "the sketch which you sent me in your letter of June the 5th." That letter is not in either V-5 or in File IV-21, from which the main body of this correspondence is taken. He reserves discussion of details until later, except that he agrees to pay Vanderslice \$1,000, and he assures Veblen that he can "be perfectly certain that I will put your case to Eisenhart with all possible persuasiveness, and I have no doubt that he will agree that it is right for you to accept." He has taken his wife to Gaston after receiving news of the death of her uncle, and is, himself, proceeding to New York, hoping to go to Canada

later after getting his wife's affairs in order.

"I look forward with the keenest interest and the utmost confidence to our association. Perhaps at Zurich, you will get suggestions or see people who we may want as our scheme develops."

File V-5

1932

6/15
6/18

✓ VEBLER, OWSALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

6 Flexner (Paris) to Veblen (Göttingen):

"The illness in my wife's family has terminated fatally. I had therefore to leave Berlin and go to her at Vienna. Her physician, Professor Eiselsberg, insisted that she go to Gastein; I stayed with her a week, took her to Gastein and then myself, in consequence, am forced to return to America to-morrow on the Bremen; so I cannot see you and Professor Weyl again at this time.

"I have your two notes of June the 5th, and June the 12th. Please thank your wife for her excellent copy. I find on comparing it with the letter I wrote in Berlin to America, that in writing to America, I placed the pension at 7500 dollars. I am quite willing to abide by the letter which I wrote to you if the difference is of any importance to you, though it would be simpler for me to make the pension one half the full salary. I am sorry that I made this error, but writing without a secretary and relying on my memory at a time of considerable worry must be my excuse. However, be absolutely candid with me on the subject.

"I am immediately interested in the sketch which you sent me in your letter of June the 5th. At the moment I will not try to discuss all the details because certain questions arise in my mind regarding some items in reference to which I want to talk with you. You may however be perfectly certain that I will put your case to Eisenhart with all possible persuasiveness and I have no doubt that he will agree that it is right for you to accept. I can arrange also that the Institute take over the salary of Vanderslice (1000 dollars). The other details, we can agree upon in the autumn when we meet, for I shall try to go to Canada as soon as I set in order my wife's affairs in New York. You may be assured, however, that details like secretary, books, publication, will be provided for, as well as anything else that is needed in order to make the Institute as good as it can possibly be made.

"I wish however to guard against attempting everything at once; though neither of us is young, time for reflection and growth is necessary and there is much that we can learn from the experience of the Rockefeller Institute from which we can freely draw. They have had a good deal of experience in some of the matters you mention, which will save us from making mistakes at the outset.

"I have had in writing a favorable and enthusiastic response from Berlin, but it must be kept absolutely confidential until proper explanations have been made to the Berliner Academy and to Millikan. I hope therefore that you will protect this information completely. I look forward with the keenest interest and the utmost confidence to our association. Perhaps at Zurich, you will get suggestions or see people whom we may want as our scheme develops."

Veblen to Flexner:

"We are very sorry that your trip was interrupted so tragically and can only hope that

Mrs. Flexner will recover her usual health as soon as possible . Your news from Berlin is very exciting, and you must feel that, in spite of your personal misfortune, you are returning with a good 'bag'. I have had no chance to speak with Weyl since he received your last letter--or rather we were both too much interested in a mathematical argument when we went this morning to talk about anything else. But all the signs are favorable.

"To your questions about the difference between a \$7500 and a \$8000 pension, which you ask me to answer with absolute candor, I can only reply that it is of practical importance. The pension is so near to the amount that ^{we} actually need to live on in Princeton, in a simple way that plus or minus \$500 is likely to be felt when the time comes. I don't in the least make it a condition of my acceptance of the position, but I am trying to give a straight forward answer to your question. It did not occur to me on reading your letter from Hamburg that there was anything abnormal about \$8000 because both my wife and I remembered that as the amount which you had mentioned in talking with us about the pension.

"I agree with you about the danger of attempting too much at once. Also it is quite likely that I shall want to change some of my suggestions after further travel and thought this summer.

"A few days ago I had a long talk about Algebraists with Miss Noether. She regards Albert as the best man in America in this field, after Wedderburn and Dickson. She has the same opinion as Weyl about Artin and Deuring. Also (going outside of the algebraic field) she shares my suspicions that Gödel, the young man in Vienna who has upset Hilberts program in mathematical logic, is the best of the young Germans. I hope to get better acquainted with him week after next."

1932

6/18

POLICIES

Administration
~~Academic Personnel~~

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

Budget

Finance

~~VEBLER, G.~~

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner, June 18, 1932.

There has been a slight error on Flexner's part. In his letter of June 2 when Flexner definitely says his mind was clear about asking Veblen to come to the Institute, he offered \$8,000 on retirement at 65, unless extended by mutual consent. At the same time since this letter was handwritten, he asked for Veblen to send it back or send him a copy of it. Veblen's wife hand-copied the letter, and when Flexner got it back, he raised the question as to whether or not he had said \$7500 or \$8,000 on retirement, and asked whether it made much difference to Veblen. Veblen responded that it did, indeed make a difference to him, and that he understood so clearly that it was to be \$8,000 that he trusted Flexner would see it his way. "I don't in the least make it a condition of my acceptance

of
the position, but I am trying to give a straightforward
answer to your question. It did not occur to me on reading
your letter from Hamburg that there was anything abnormal
about \$8,000 because both my wife and I remembered that as
the amount which you had always mentioned in talking Max
with us about the pension.

He informs Flexner that he had a long talk with
Miss Hoether about algebraists, and she considers Albert as
the best man in this field after Wedderburn and KLEIN
NIXON Dickson. "She has the same opinion as Weyl about
Artin and Bauring. Also, (going outside of the algebraic
field) she shares my suspicion that Gödel, the young man in
Vienna who has upset Hilbert's program in mathematical logic
is the best of the young Germans. I hope to get better
acquainted with him week after next."

V-5 File

1938

6/30

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

FLEXNER, A.

VEBLER, O.

Relations WPAI

Facilities

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen.

Risenhart has offered space in Fine Hall for mathematicians
and Flexner.

V-5

1932

6/30

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

BUDGET

Finance

Flexner to Veblen:

"...Beyond that I think we should play a waiting game. I discussed the whole situation with my brother last night. He thinks that my ~~g~~attitude is sound and wise. In your further thought bear in mind that this is primarily a research institution, and a teaching institution only in so far as a few disciples are assembled by each important worker. Anyone who desires contact with a larger group can get it, so Eisenhart assures me, with the Princeton graduate group. We need at the top in each subject a few men of proved eminence. The number of men whom we will wish to keep permanently will, as at the Rockefeller Institute, be relatively small. Therefore the second string of men ought to be young and not so highly salaried that it is impossible for them to accept offers from other institutions. We can of course always keep anyone we want by raising his salary and improving his situation, but to do this we must preserve the possibility of promotion; and this can hardly be done if there is a second group as highly salaried as you proposed in your memorandum."

File V-5

1932

7/1

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

RIGN Relations WOAI

VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Veblen refused to accept salary from Princeton after July 1, 1932, and returned payments made thereafter. Original appointment I. A. S. as of September 1, 1932, backdated subsequently to August 1, 1932. (Minutes October 10, 1932) (R. O. to Leidesdorf 3/27/50)

D. File, Veblen)

D File, Veblen

1932

7/7

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

EINSTEIN, A.

GÜDEL

Veblen

~~Flexner~~ in Germany to Flexner, July 7, 1932.

"Your telegram saying that the question of my appointment was settled reached me in Vienna. Some days later there came a very pleasant letter from Eisenhart. And I am now quite comfortably thinking of myself as a part of the new Institute.

"From Weyl I hear that he is coming to Berlin next Monday (11th) for an interview with the Ministerium. He says he has also spoken with some of his colleagues in Göttingen (which he had to do, I think). I have managed so far to say nothing except to Weyl and Einstein. On our arrival here we found two letters from Mrs. Einstein and we spent yesterday evening with the Einsteins and Dr. Mayer. It was interesting to find that Einstein is strong for the All Souls idea. He is against luxury. Pressed for details, he said that the public rooms of

the Atheneum in Pasadena are too luxurious but the dwelling rooms are not. I found the latter extremely comfortable, to say the least. The great question in the Einstein family now is what sort of a letter will come from Millikan...

"In Vienna I confirmed all the favorable accounts of Dr. Kurt Gödel that I have been hearing. He is 25 years old and has made the most important discovery ~~in~~ of recent years in mathematical logic. What I wanted to check up was his grasp of mathematics in general, and I found this extremely good. He is well mannered and cultivated. My suggestion would be to offer him a lectureship for one year at \$3,000 (salary of a Commonwealth Fellow). From his point of view this would probably come best a year from now as his 'Habilitation' and first regular teaching are scheduled for next year. But from our point of view it might be well to get him in touch with American conditions before he has had time to grow into a position here. His value is well understood both in Germany and in Austria.

"Also I was much impressed with the fact that Menger, with whom Gödel studied, is himself only 30. He has done a lot in a few years."

He then goes on to tell Dr. Flexner that he has decided he wants to take on Dr. Alfred Foster as his assistant. He could be very useful in general in a different way from Vanderslice. He thinks that Foster may make another connection which would be good for him. He has been a Rockefeller Fellow in Göttingen this year. Veblen was his professor when he took his doctorate at Princeton.

VEBLIN, OSWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

GENERAL

Corporation

Flexner to Veblen:

"Thank you for yours of June 28. I note the paragraph which you quote, in your letter to Eisenhart. Inasmuch as there is no urgency, the question which you raise is one that can be deferred until we have abundant opportunity to talk it over among ourselves and the Princeton people. In general, starting upon a new enterprise, I have the feeling that all we can do at the outset is to define clearly our goal. Other questions, such as those you touch upon, need not be settled in advance. We can consider concrete instances, as they arise, and thus perhaps in course of time discover the best way of dealing with them.

"In answer to your question as to the date of announcement I should say that we shall have to sidestep a definite statement until the autumn. I have found that I can satisfy people's curiosity by saying that we are giving favorable consideration to the vicinity of Princeton. No one has pushed me beyond that point. Eisenhart and I have agreed that we will issue a statement as close to October 1 as is feasible."

File V-5

1932

7/14

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

~~VEBLER, O.~~

AYDELOTTE, F.

Aydelotte wired Flexner July 14, 1932, "Through accidentally meeting Veblen and Weyl here, learned following developments which seems advisable. Report to you. Weyl consulted Ministry Monday without clear result. He can go no further without formal offer. Apparently he needs offer by cable immediately if he is to settle matter this summer otherwise decision impossible until after November since he must consult Göttingen scientific faculty. Ministry prepared grant two years leave. Weyl thinks you want permanent appointment or three years minimum. If Weyl comes permanently prefers begin April next. If only temporarily he thinks it fairer to Institute begin following autumn. Have naturally said nothing to commit you in any way only advising Weyl communicate with you directly. Send this cablegram on possible chance you might want Weyl's decision promptly. Letter follows...Aydelotte"

The letter confirmed and elaborated. Weyl, Veblen and Aydelotte dined with the Einsteins. They were all enthusiastic about the Institute.

Einstein intimated he wants Mayer to have an independent appointment, not as his assistant.

Aydelotte more impressed as time goes on with wisdom Flexner's choice of Veblen.

A, Flexner Correspondence, 1925-1933 (10/17/56) returned

1932

7/26

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

AYDELOTTE, F.

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Bamberger, ~~xxx~~ July 26, 1932.

Since writing Mrs. Fuld yesterday, he has had a very interesting letter from Aydelotte. Quite accidentally Aydelotte, Veblen and Weyl met in Berlin. This is an abstract from Aydelotte's letter:

"Weyl, Veblen, and I dined on Monday night with the Einsteins. I was much impressed with the enthusiasm which Einstein and indeed all three expressed for the new Institute. Their feeling seems to be that of the whole German learned world. I have seen Veblen several times, and the more I see of him, the more I am impressed with the wisdom of your choice both as to his ability and as to his personality."

D File, Bamberger, Louis, 1930-1936

1932

8/25

POLICIES

Administration

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

BUDGET

Finance

✓VEBLEN

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen, August 25, 1932.

"We had a charming visit here in the woods from Courant ten days ago. He spent two days with us and entered thoroughly into the simple outdoor life which we lead up here. He sawed logs, swam, and fished - the last-mentioned for the very first time in his life. His colleagues at Göttingen had written and telegraphed him about Weyl, and Weyl had told him that he would make no final decision until Courant returned. Nothing could have exceeded Courant's kindness and consideration."

File V-5

1932

10/10

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Veblen, October 10, 1932.

"I am forwarding to Mr. Maass, Chairman of the
Committee on Site, your letter of October 8."

File V-5

1932

10/10

NOMINATIONS

Academic Personnel

BENEFITS

SALARY

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

Biography

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

MAYER, WALTHER

VANDERSLICE, J. L.

Appointments, salaries, retirement benefits, etc. approved

Vol. 1, No. 8, pp. 4-6

1939 1938

10/11 21/22

GENERAL

Cooperation

PRINCETON

Relations WPAI

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

Flexner ^{in Virginia} to Aydelotte, November 20, 1939.

Flexner sends to Aydelotte the original New York Times story dated October 11, 1932, of the formal announcement of the opening of the Institute, the appointment of Einstein, Veblen, and Mayer, the cooperative arrangement with Princeton University and carrying photographs of Flexner, Einstein, and Fine Mathematical Hall.

Filed under Public Relations. To be returned to Aydelotte's Institute File in his Transfer Case.

There is also a copy of a New York Times editorial presumably of the same date which begins: "At last the dream of Dr. Abraham Flexner has

come true." And quotes from page 217 of the book on Universities American, German. Among other things the editorial says, "President Lowell, in discussing the founding of Johns Hopkins, said that President Gilman would have done better to confer no degrees, if the main object was to develop original thinkers, 'men expected to contribute deeply to knowledge, who cannot be very numerous in any generation.' It is understood to be the purpose of the Institute not to confer degrees--habitually at any rate--but simply to give opportunity to the most promising and earnest advanced students, under the ablest scholars and scientists to push beyond the present limits of human knowledge...Princeton must be especially pleased to have near its own democratic doors, a place where, as President Wilson once said in describing the perfect place of learning, 'calm science may sit ascetic, not knowing if the world passed, if only the truth came in answer to her prayer.'

"The Institute will not carry in its title the memory of its founders, but they are to be congratulated upon seizing such an opportunity to establish and perpetuate such a Fellowship of Scholars."

A File, IAS, (T)

1932

10/22

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓
VEBLEN, O.

Flexner to Veblen, October 22, 1932.

He acknowledges his pension application, and has seen the Secretary of the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association, and Mrs. Bailey has filled out two blanks which had to be filled out before the application could be accepted: (1) Total monthly premium (\$125.00), (2) When the first annuity payment to be made to Veblen, the first day of the month following Veblen's 65th birthday, with the understanding that the date of the first annuity payment could be changed with the consent of both Veblen and the Institute. This is in accordance with the resolution passed by the Board at its meeting on October 10, 1932.

File V-5

1932

10/26

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flexner to Veblen, October 26, 1932.

"I am returning herewith Professor Wilson's letter. I do not feel that I am sufficiently well oriented myself to make any move in the field of economics. Of the men whom Wilson mentions I know Hotelling personally, but I think we shall first have to find a leader before we choose subordinates. At any rate I shall want at least another year before taking any action in reference to economics. I see no reason why you should not yourself write Wilson to this effect."

File V-5

1932

10/28

WEED, LEWIS H.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

BIESTEKIN, A.

✓ VEULEN, O.

A letter of fulsome from Weed to Flexner, October 28, 1932.

"You have achieved a perfect balance between the
custanding world figure and the best of the American school;
it is the most desirable combination that we could have
for the inauguration of a great undertaking in Mathematics.
Comment here in Baltimore is widespread, and universal
approval and commendation are heard on every side. I am
more proud than ever to be connected with the new Institute
even in a thoroughly minor capacity. Again many congratulations."

D File, Weed, Lewis H., 1930-1940

18/31

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flexner to Bamberger, October 29, 1932.

Bamberger has raised the question as to the eligibility of the widows of either Einstein or Veblen to receive a pension should the annuitant pre-decease her. Flexner's interpretation of the wording is that it is clearly implied.

Bamberger says on October 31, 1932, "It does not appear clear to me that pensions cease in such circumstances...if it ever was left to a jury for decision, the Institute would get off second best."

D, Bamberger, Louis, 1930-1936

1932

11/12
11/26

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WCAI

MATHEMATICS

Academic Activities

EISENHART

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

See Flexner to Eisenhart, November 12 and Eisenhart to Flexner regarding asking Princeton mathematicians to I. A. S. Flexner offers to hold back on Princeton faculty. Eisenhart says that would prejudice Princeton in recruiting in future. He is taking matter up with Curriculum Committee--Board of Trustees--Princeton.

II-17

1932

11/12

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

LEFSCHETZ

PUBLICATIONS (GENERAL)

Publications

Lefschetz has suggested that the Institute assume some responsibility for the publication of the Annals, and Flexner, Veblen, and Lefschetz have discussed it. Veblen writes to Flexner, November 12, 1932, to confirm Flexner's offer of a contribution of \$2,000 a year, provided the cover of the Annals of Mathematics be amended to show that it is published by both Princeton and the Institute. This ~~is~~ takes the place of support which the Annals has theretofore received from the Mathematical Association of America, and from the Rockefeller Foundation. The Annals have been supported by various institutions, including insurance companies and businesses, but the depression has left it rather

poor. Princeton contributes \$1200 a year in cash, and relief of one of the professors from one course of instruction in order to give him time for his work on the Annals. This was approximately $1/3$ of a professor's teaching load.

Veblen says that if the Institute does give this contribution, "So far as I can fore-see these results, the sustaining membership in the Mathematical Society and the support of the Annals will be all that we need to ~~xxxx~~ [do] in the way of helping mathematical periodicals. As Weyl and I indicated last summer, however, it is not impossible that we may wish to do something about mathematical books."

V-5 File

1932

11/12

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOI

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLIN, O.

EISENHART

Flexner to Eisenhart, November 12, 1932.

"More and more a few points stand out clearly, not because of any possible difference of opinion between you and Veblen and me, but because we are setting precedence and establishing relations which we hope will prove sound after all three of us are dead and gone...Our chances for perfect harmony, understanding and cooperation are best if each of us goes his own way."

II-17

1932

11/12

1947

11/6

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

PRINCETON

Relations WOAI

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner, November 12, 1932.

A confirmation of conversation between Lefschetz, Veblen and Flexner on sustaining membership for the Institute in the American Mathematical Society with a view to contributing to the expense of its publications. Dues for memberships are \$100 to \$500 a year. Veblen understands the outcome of the conversation with Lefschetz to have been a commitment subject to Trustees' approval, presumably, of \$200 a year by the Institute to the Annals of Mathematics. In view of this, it was understood that the Annals in its cover would recognize the fact that the Mathematical Society and the Institute were the joint auspices under which the Annals were published.

Oppenheimer to Lefschetz, November 6, 1947.

The Institute adds \$1,000 to its annual subvention starting in the academic year 1948-49.
D File, Annals of Mathematics.

1934

December

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOI

LEFSCORTE

Biographical

ALEXANDER

HISSEHART

✓ VEBLEN, O.

FLENNER, A.

? See Veblen to Adelaide December 11, 1934 explaining how Alexander was appointed by Institute and how salaries of Alexander and van Neumann were decided. See Veblen to Adelaide November 10, 1934 on qualities of Alexander and Morse.

1932

~~IV~~ VII

12/1

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen, December 1, 1932.

The Board has acted and Flexner restates formally the terms on which Veblen was chosen professor mathematics; namely, \$15,000 a year, contribution by the Institute and Veblen of 5 per cent each monthly for the TIAA, retirement at 65 or older by mutual consent on an allowance of \$8,000 per annum part of which will be paid by the TIAA and the rest to be made up by the Institute with \$5,000 pension to Elizabeth Veblen should she survive him and during her widowhood. "To the foregoing terms adopted by the Board I may add that I am now negotiating with the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association to the end that insofar as your retiring allowance and your wife's pension depend upon the Board, they will be covered by insurance at the expense of the Institute."

1932

12/1

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

BENEFITS

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen, December 1, 1932.

"I am writing you now as I should have written you immediately after the Board meeting, but inasmuch as I know you and I understood each other and as the minutes of the Board set forth the arrangements between us, no harm has been done by the delay. I can now state formally the terms upon which you were chosen Professor of Mathematics, namely:

"That your appointment begin September 1, 1932;

"That your salary be fixed at \$15,000 a year, of which you were to contribute 5% monthly to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America, the Institute contributing an equal sum;

"That, unless the term of appointment is prolonged by mutual consent, you retire at the age of 65 on an allowance of \$8,000 per annum, part of which will be paid by the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America, the rest to be made up by the Institute;

"That, if your wife, Elizabeth M. D. Richardson Veblen, survive, you, she will receive during her widowhood a pension of \$5,000 a year.

"To the foregoing terms adopted by the Board I may add that I am now negotiating with the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association to the end that, in so far as your retiring allowance and your wife's pension depend upon the Board, they will be covered by insurance at the expense of the Institute."

D, Veblen, Oswald

1932
1933

12/2
February

GENERAL

Public Relations

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WPAI

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

See Veblen to Flexner, IV-21, December 2, 1932; also
Veblen to Flexner, IV-21, December 16, 1932 with draft for
Bulletin #2 and Bulletin #2, pp. 4-6. Differ. But Veblen
won on reference to stipends, thereby favoring Princeton
students?

Bulletin #2, IV-21

1932

12/2

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

LECTURES

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEYSER, A.

Relations WPAI

Academic Procedures

Academic Organization

Biographical

Princeton graduate students and faculty were free to attend lectures and seminars when acceptable to I. A. S. professor without payment of fees, but no one was "registered" in I. A. S. but those acceptable to and accepted by professors of I. A. S.

IV-21

1932

12/2

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen to Flexner, December 2, 1932.

Flexner's idea of giving a few fellowships approximately equivalent to W. R. C. Fellowships is a good one. Do you intend to put something about that in the Bulletin? I should think we would want a couple of years of experience before arriving at any definite policy.

IV-21

1932

12/7

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

EINSTEIN, A.

Flexner to Veblen.

Authorizes Veblen to ask Whitney to visit him at Princeton at Institute expense.

"The tornado about Einstein was terribly funny for everybody except for Mrs. Bailey who was kept at the telephone from 9 a. m. until almost midnight. I, myself, talked to nobody. There was terrific chagrin here among sensible people. Stimpson must have been peppered with telegrams, for I have heard of many, and by no means all. However, 'All's well that ends well.'"

V-5

1932

12/16

MEMBERS

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

✓VEBLEN, O.

WEYL, HERMANN

PLEKHNER, A.

Academic Personnel

Academic Organization

Biographical

Question as to whether members should be admitted only to
work with designated professor, or generally.

IV-21

1932

12/19

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WDAI

TUITION

Academic Procedures

RAAB

✓ VEBLER

FLEXNER

Flexner fears remitting tuition for Dr. Raab will react
to disadvantage of Princeton University.

IV-21

1933-35

POLICIES

Administration

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

FRANKFURTER, F.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

WEYL, H.

RIEFLER, W.

VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

STEWART, W.

TRUSTEES

The Corporation

See Vertical File, Frankfurter-2, for correspondence of Frankfurter as active Trustee, and reasons for termination of his services by Board, etc.

Frankfurter II.

MEMBERS

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

✓ VEBLEW, O.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Academic Personnel

Academic Organization

Biographical

Discussed top limit of age of members. When I asked him what became of Aydelotte's pending suggestion that classification of fellows be created, presumably for older men who had retired from their own institutions and who had come to the Institute for periods of work on advantages greater than those adhering to the usual membership and less favorable than those inhering in an appointment to the professorate. He said he knew nothing about that, but alluded to a rule particularly observed in the School of Historical Studies that no man would be asked to come as a member who did not have a place to go when he left the Institute. As we discussed it, he said the

rule might be now phrased in another way--that no man who would be invited to the Institute was did not otherwise have a permanent post unless it was with the full understanding that his term with the Institute had a definite duration and that he should not look to the Institute for further employment tenure.

In this connection Veblen's present attitude again came up for discussion. He said that he thought Veblen was much more relaxed and much more confident about the soundness of the methods of approach in the School of Historical Studies and I asked him whether it could not be said that perhaps he was less aggressive on behalf of the mathematicians whereupon he smiled and said he thought that that might be a way of expressing it.

Interview with Robert Oppenheimer, July 1, 1957

1933

Jan.

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

FACULTY

Academic Personnel

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

WEYL, H.

FLEXNER, A.

VON NEUMANN, J.

ALEXANDER, J.

Excerpts from Mrs. Veblen's diary, 1933.

Jan. 1. "Oswald telegraphed to William Flexner that he could see him any day this next week. William wants to discuss plans for next year."

Jan. 3. "Mr. Flexner telephoned that Weyl had accepted by cable on New Year's Day and then had sent another cable cancelling his acceptance--so now it is definitely decided at least that he won't come--after six months of shilly shallying. The problem now is who to get in his place...Oswald spoke with Alexander and Eisenhart about the Weyl affair--both Alexander and Oswald are for Johnny. Oswald spoke to Flexner on the telephone this evening. Oswald saw Mr. von Neumann and discussed the Institute affairs...Oswald

talked to Mr. Flexner on the telephone at 11--strong for Johnny--Mr. Flexner says he will come to Princeton on Friday (meeting of Ford Institute on Monday next week, I think)."

Jan. 5. "Mr. Flexner telephoned to OV but spoke to me as Oswald was on the campus. Weyl had now decided he wants to come. I hoped it would be the von Neumanns as that would be far more to my taste...William Flexner...came to lunch--having come to Princeton to see Oswald and Lefshetz. After tea went to see the von Neumanns--I was in a bad temper all day--the excitement about Weyl I seemed to find too exhausting."

Jan. 6. "Mr. A. Flexner came for lunch and we had awful chops. He decided to take on Mr. Weyl and so sent a cable to that effect during the afternoon. Oswald had a cable from Weyl, in the morning wanting him to get in touch with Flexner. They had intended to take on von Neumann also but perhaps that won't come out just yet."

Jan. 7. "Oswald cabled to Weyl this morning. No further excitement so far as we have heard from this source."

Jan. 10. "Oswald saw in the New York Times that Weyl and Alexander had been appointed to the Institute but nothing said about Johnie. Later had letter from Flexner saying as Eisenhart had been so ~~magnanimous~~ magnanimous he was going to be likewise and was not going to take Johnie away, and so forth. Oswald was very mad."

Jan. 12. "Oswald had a cable from Mr. Weyl asking to be released from his promise to come to Princeton. Oswald telephoned Mr. Flexner, who had also had a cable from Mr. Weyl saying that he really couldn't leave Germany. Oswald and Alexander both urged Flexner

to take on von Neumann and this was arranged. Mrs. von Neumann came in the evening and said she was thrilled. They go to New Haven tomorrow to see the Stones and Mr. von Neumann is going to see Mr. Flexner in New York on the way. Meeting of Board of Trustees. Lefschetz was made Fine Professor."

(Beginning with Jan. 10 Veblen starts sitting for a portrait to Mr. Chadick.)

Jan. 14. "We were going to the Eisenhart's as they were having a dinner for Gwethalyn Jones. There other guests were Lefschetz's, Robinsons, Ladenbergs and Mr. Root. Quite an interesting dinner party. I found that we have lost favor with Miss Jones. Had a delightful talk with the Ladenbergs."

Jan. 15. "We had tea in Oswald's room in Fine Hall with Miss Jones and Dean Eisenhart. Then Miss Jones and her niece, Nora McCurdy, came for supper. Got Betty to help. Asked also Taylors and Woodnor, and the von Neumanns came later. Went off quite decently."

Jan. 16. "Oswald and I took Miss Jones to Princeton Junction. The temperature still not so cordial as before but no one would have remarked it but myself. Much more warmth with the Eisenharts."

In the back of the diary where the cash accounts are kept were the expenses which Mrs. Veblen made for tea in Fine Hall for the mathematics people.

1933 Diary of Mrs. Oswald Veblen loaned by her husband for immediate return.

1933

1/23

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

MORSE, MARSTON

GRANTS IN AID

Academic Personnel

HARVARD

Relations W.O.A.I.

Veblen to Morse (Harvard)

"I have talked with Dr. Flexner about Currier and find that in order to obtain consideration for him, it will be necessary to have definite assurance that there will be a place at Harvard for him to return to. This is being done in all analogous cases and there seems to be no reason for making an exception of Currier.

"It looks now as though we should have a very good group of younger men next year. In the course of the negotiations that have taken place, we have arrived at much more definite ideas as to how to handle matters. I hope very much that we can establish good working relations with Harvard as we seem to be doing with everyone else."

File IV-21

1933

1/26

HARVARD

Relations W.O.A.I.

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓VEHLEN, O.

ASSISTANTS

Academic Personnel

See PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Letter from Veblen to Flexner dated 1/26/33 on Morse (harvard) and junior appointments.

File IV-21

POLICIES

Administration

✓ VEHLEN, O.

Biographical

FELLOWS

Academic Personnel

GRANT IN AID

Veblen to Flexner (NYC):

"...

"The following scheme has occurred to me as being perhaps a desirable one for bringing to the Institute a continuous supply of junior members. Several of the colleges in Cambridge (England) have research fellowships which pay their incumbents 300 pounds a year together with residence quarters and dinners. These appointments last for something like three years, one of which may be spent away from Cambridge at the will of the incumbent. It appears that a grant of approximately \$1000 would be enough to enable the holder of one of these fellowships to spend a year in the Institute. I gather from conversations with two of these men who are now in the United States (one at Princeton and the other at M.I.T. working with Herbert Weiner) that there would be a good deal of interest in such a plan. Possibly we might use a part of the \$5000 which I understand is to be available this spring in this way.

..."

File IV-21

1933

4/5

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

BLEICK

GRANT-IN-AID

Finance

Flexner to Veblen (Princ. Univ.):

"I am wondering precisely what qualifications lead you to think that Bleick deserves a grant in aid of \$1,000. Can you send me a line of explanation? There is nothing we can do as to further grants in aid until the Board meets on April 24.

"The question of admitting students is, I think, a simple one. There is a certain amount of money available for grants in aid. This the mathematical group will administer, and I shall simply exercise a formal oversight, as I think I am in duty bound to do. Beyond this you can admit anyone who seems to you thoroughly worth while at his own expense, if such people there be..."

File IV-21

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

BLEICK

WILDER

BERNAYS

GRANTS-IN-AID

Finance

Veblen to Flexner (NYC):

"...

"I have just heard from Professor Wilder that his leave of absence has been granted by the University of Michigan and that he is ready to accept the grant in aid offered him in my letter of January 7th. I enclose herewith a copy of my letter of January 7th and also a copy of a statement about his salary contained in a letter from him to me dated December 28th. In reply to his last letter I have asked him to send me up to date information on this point.

"I am not sure whether it is better for you to correspond directly with Wilder or with the Chairman of his Department, Professor J. W. Glover.

"I agree perfectly with what you say about the admission of students to the Institute and it is on exactly that basis that I recommend that Mr. Bleick be admitted. Whether Mr. Bleick should receive any sort of a stipend is a question which ought to wait until we have had a chance to discuss the question further. I think he should receive one if one is available and if we stick to the program which we discussed a couple of months ago. I think there is no particular hurry about that question but I believe it would be advisable to admit him as a student without much delay.

"In yesterday's mail there was a long letter from Weyl and a short but significant one from Bernays of Göttingen which I should like to discuss with you when I see you."

Flexner to Veblen (Princ. Univ.):

...

"I am very happy indeed that my letter clears up the question about admitting students, -- or workers, as I prefer to call them.

"I hope that the weather is good tomorrow so that we can make the trip to Princeton. If it is bad we shall call it off.

"I wonder just what Weyl and Bernays wrote you.

"My mail abounds in complimentary notes about the little bulletin. Without intending to do so, I have evidently done something unusual, - namely, mentioning the professors without a long rigmarole about their previous posts and performances. It will appear from my correspondence that it pays not to advertise, contrary to usual academic practice."

File IV-21

1933

5/2

FOUNDERS
COMMITTEES
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
FLEXNER, ABRAHAM
✓VIRLIER, OSWALD

Corporation

Facilities
Biographical

Dr. Flexner to Mr. Knass:

"I lunched with Mr. Benberger and Mrs. Fuld at Orange yesterday. Mr. Benberger submitted to me your letter of April 27 regarding the committees. His preference is as follows:

Executive Committee

Dr. Aydelotte, Chairman
Mr. Leidesdorf
Mr. Sabin
Mr. Straus
Mr. Frankfurter

Finance Committee

Mr. Harwin, Chairman
Mr. Leidesdorf

Finance Committee (Cont'd.)

Dr. Wood
Mr. Louis Bamberger
Mr. Edgar Bamberger

"Saturday afternoon, Professor Veblen and I drove out to the Hale farm, and walked back to Fine Hall at a good pace. The results showed that it is impossible to estimate distances and time by motoring, as you will see from the following figures:

Hale farm to Olden farm -----	13 minutes
Olden farm to Marquand residence was	6 minutes
Marquand residence to 28 Nassau St.	
(where we shall have our office)----	28 minutes
Office to Fine Hall-----	1 minute
Total-----	58 minutes

"On the basis of the preceding, it seems to Professor Veblen and to Mr. Bamberger that if we should purchase the Hale farm now, all our future developments would be determined by the fact that we owned a piece of real estate fifty-two minutes, walking distance, away from Fine Hall. My inclination is to proceed precisely the other way around; namely, to work out the Institute program, plan and procedure, and to buy real estate hereafter on the basis thereof. In fact, I got a newsgiant on the subject in walking around Princeton this week-end. Whether it will bear criticism and longer consideration I do not know, but in my opinion we ought to have a year, or perhaps two years, of experiment before taking any steps in the matter of site. Then the Institute will determine the site, instead of the site determining the Institute."

Source: IAS Trustees, Hoess, H.H.

1933

5/4

WEYL, H.

Biographical

NEUGEBAUER, O.

FARKAS

PONTRAJAGIN

LEFSCHETZ

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen to Flexner (NYC):

"I return herewith the letter from Weyl and the correspondence with Dr. Bleick. I have kept the copy of your letter to Dr. Zangger but I will return it if you wish. I should think this letter would put Weyl at his ease as far as it is possible to do so. His fear that he would have to take over the

Directorship of the Institute at Göttingen is probably well founded for Bohr's information that Courant has been 'given a leave of absence' seems to be quite definite. I have suggested Courant's name in a couple of places where they need a man to build up a mathematics department. He would be ideal for such an undertaking.

"I think it very likely that Neugebauer will also be dismissed because he is well known as a radical in politics. I believe it is quite true that he occupies a unique position as an historian of mathematics.

"I am going to talk with Taylor of our Chemistry Department about Farkas. I seem to remember that the chemists think very highly of him. I suppose you noticed in the morning paper that Haber himself has resigned.

"I can't help returning to the point that if the funds could be made available, now would be a golden opportunity for starting some of the other departments. But this idea is so obvious that you have doubtless already considered it from all points of view.

"Mrs. Bailey's account of the grants in aid in her letter of May 3rd agrees entirely with my notes on the subject except that there should also be set aside \$1200 for travelling and extra expenses in the case of Pontrjagin. You will recollect that we agreed with Lefschetz that a total of \$3000 should be available for this case and we decided to make the stipend small in order to have a good large reserve on account of the peculiarities in his situation. Contrary to what I wrote in one of my letters last week, this means that we have not disposed of \$500 out of our additional \$5000."

File IV-21

1933

5/5
5/6

FOREIGNERS

Academic Personnel

GENERAL

Foundations

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

V to F

...

"We also discussed the general question about what could be done to help some of the dispossessed. Taylor thinks as do practically all of the people whom I have consulted, that it would do more harm than good to make any sort of formal protest. On the other hand, we agreed that some kind of a committee to raise funds for the purpose of enabling some of them to live and continue their scholarly work in the countries adjacent to Germany or elsewhere might be feasible. The existence of such a committee would in itself be an eloquent protest. I suppose that the actual funds would mostly come from the wealthy Jews but it might be helpful to have a number of scientific men on such a committee. I think there would be no difficulty in finding several such people in this neighborhood.

"Taylor himself is sailing for England in about two weeks and expects to make a visit to Bonhoeffer in Germany. He would be glad to serve as a sort of liaison officer

for such a committee if it is desired. If you thought it desirable, we could doubtless get him to make a visit to Göttingen.

"Taylor ~~knows~~ says that there already is a committee of this sort in Chicago of which President Hutchins is the Chairman. He suggests that Raymond Fosdick might be a suitable man to head a corresponding committee in New York.

"I have written to Julian Coolidge at Harvard to see how he would react to the idea of such a committee. You may recall that he and I collaborated in raising the endowment fund for the Mathematical Society."

Flexner to Veblen:

"...I continue to believe that the honors go to the musicians and the ~~British authors~~ rather than to the American scientists. But I also admit that I may be mistaken. Whether a committee could, under existing circumstances, raise any considerable sum of money I confess I do not know.

"Recurring to Silverman's telegram, I think you can say: first, the number of those who have lost their posts in Germany is so great that under conditions existing in America there is no human possibility of taking care of them; second, that the mathematical group of the Institute is settled for next year and there is nothing that the Institute can do that will be of any moment." *Way?*

File IV-21

1933

579

FOREIGN

Academic Personnel

GENERAL

Foundations

VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen to Flexner (NYC):

...

"I tried to reach you by telephone yesterday afternoon after I left Mr. Fosdick but it was too late. He seemed to approve of our plan and wishes to talk it over with Mason. I think at the very least, we will have accomplished something by bringing our point of view more clearly to the attention of the Rockefeller group. I should like, if possible, to get something started within a few days so that I can get off to Maine and my spinners.

...

[RS] "If Fosdick won't do it, how about Vincent? Have you any other suggestions. It is essential to find someone of this type to take charge if the whole idea is not going to fail."

File IV-21

1933

5/10

FOREIGN

Academic Personnel

GENERAL

Foundations

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner (Simon) (Rockefeller Foundation, NYC)

"Since our conversation in Washington about the problem as to what can be done to help the Jews and Liberals who are driven out of their positions in Germany, I have talked with a few of my colleagues here and some others. The idea which seems to receive most favor is that of having a committee for the natural sciences which should be composed in a large part of what the Germans would call Aryan scientists, together with a few men of affairs who would know how to raise funds. The idea would be to distribute the German scientists who are helped in various countries in such a way as not to cause an undue concentration anywhere but so as to allow them to continue their scientific work. The scientific membership of the committee could be selected in such a way that the committee would possess first hand knowledge of the individuals who are to be helped.

"No formal protest of any sort would be made but the existence of the committee and the nature of its membership would, I think, in the course of a year or two, have a good deal of practical value as a protest.

"I went to see your brother about this matter day before yesterday and he sent me to Mr. Fosdick whom I asked whether he would be willing to serve as chairman of the

committee. He brought forward the difficulty which I had of course expected that he was so closely connected with the Rockefeller organizations and said that he would like to talk the matter over with Max Mason. Mason telephoned to me yesterday morning about the general question without saying anything about Foedick. I put the question to him rather strongly by saying that I did not know where else to go in order to find the necessary leadership for such a committee. Mason promised to call me up later in the day but no message has yet come from him. I hope to hear from him today but I thought I would like to get this letter off to you so that you will be prepared in case I try to consult you about the matter tomorrow or the next day.

"I am hoping to leave for Maine some time next week but would like to see if someone capable of carrying out some sort of a relief undertaking for the German scientists can not be enlisted before I go. Do you suppose that Vincent might do it?"

1935

5/10

FOREIGN

Academic Personnel

GENERAL

Foundations

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLAXNER, A.

Veblen to Flaxner (NYC):

...

"I heard from Mason to the effect that Fordisk will not act on our committee and the idea now is to see whether Vincent will do so. Mason has offered to telephone to him on the subject. Taylor and I and perhaps one or two others are coming in Friday morning for an engagement with Mason at 10:30. If you are not too busy, I at least, would like to look you up during the day. I should like to get this matter under way and into the hands of someone else as soon as possible. The people here with whom I have spoken, (Taylor, Conklin, Missahart, Alexander, Capps) all feel that the plan for the committee is a good one and only requires leadership from what might be called the New York end.

"One point about which I should like to speak with you is the question whether

we should send messages to Weyl in the keeping of Taylor when he goes to Germany.

...

"vincent declines. Cappe is writing to John Finley."

File IV-21

1933

5/11

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Facilities

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

Flexner to Veblen (Princ. Univ.):

...

"I should think Finley an excellent choice for the committee you have in mind, but the matter is not one which I myself can pursue.

"Mrs. Bailey is planning to move the office to Princeton May 18. Thereafter, our address will be 20 Nassau Street.

"I know of no particular message which we can send to Weyl at this time. Perhaps you have something in mind which does not occur to me."

File IV-21

1933

5/22

FOREIGN

Academic Personnel

✓ VEHLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

DUGGAN, STEPHEN

GENERAL

Foundations

Veblen to Flexner (NYC):

...

"It looks now as if the relief work for the Jews and Liberals who are dis-
possessed in Germany would be handled through the office of the International Institute
for Education. At least that is what Dr. Duggan seems to think and my colleagues here
think it is probably best not to interfere with that arrangement."

...

File IV-21

VEHLEN, O.

Biographical

See FOREIGN - Academic Personnel
Letter from Flexner to Wiener (M.I.T.)

File IV-21

1933

7/10
7/18

WEYL, H.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

Veblen to Flexner saying that as of that morning a cable had been sent him from Weyl "Situation so threatening that I should accept visiting professorship Madrid December to April with regular leave from Göttingen if possible..." Veblen recommended that even if it were only a grant-in-aid he would be so valuable that the Institute should again make him an offer.

Veblen to Flexner, 7/18/33. Weyl accepted an invitation to lecture in Swarthmore ~~March 27~~ Oct. 27, Nov. 10, 17, 23, 1933. The government granted him leave for this purpose.

File IV-19

1933

NOTES

7/14

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

FLEXNER, A.

BAMBERGER

Flexner to Veblen.

" I am greatly moved by your letter and by Weyl's. On the strength of them both, I have written Mr. Bamberger, because I do not like, in view of past circumstances to take action without his knowledge, and indeed I have no legal authority to do so. Should he concur, I feel sure that the Executive Committee will ratify the action. I will communicate with Weyl and with you by wire as soon as I have a reply. I am sending you a copy of my letter to Mr. Bamberger."

Flexner to Bamberger July¹⁴~~13~~, 1933.

"For a good many months past, Professor Veblen and I have been in communication about Professor Weyl, and Professor Veblen has had several letters from him. In addition, I wrote his

physician in Zürich, Professor Zangger, and...it is quite obvious to me now that Weyl's hesitation was due to the fact that he was in ill health last winter, and that his final declination was really creditable to him rather than otherwise, for, as he was not well at the time, he was afraid that he would not do justice to the opportunities of the Institute. Since then both his physicians assure me that his health is perfect, and certainly his letter s to both Veblen and myself have been in the highest degree satisfactory and dignified." He then says that Veblen has told him that Weyl has been offered a position at Madrid, and that if there is not likely to be an opening with us in Princeton, he is disposed to accept it on account of current conditions in Germany. Mrs. Weyl ~~says~~ agrees in a postscript.

He goes on to say that in Veblen's mind if we could add Weyl to the mathematical group, it would be the most distinguished and able group of mathematicians in the world. Veblen is strongly of the opinion that we should do this, and Flexner agrees with him after long reflection. I should

not feel obligated to make Weyl the proposition I made him a year ago, for conditions have changed, and the offer contained a great many extras which I should now drop. I should simply offer him the salary which Veblen received and the pension arrangements with the Teachers Annuity Association. I believe on these terms he will come and be happy. If you and Mrs. Fuld are willing, you may telegraph me at Burke Falls. He tells Bamberger he is sending a copy of this letter to Veblen, and shall not act affirmatively until all of us agree. Weyl's appointment would begin October 1, 1934.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1933

7/22

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

EMIGREES

Academic Personnel

Veblen (Hancock County, Maine) to Flexner:

"Meantime a letter from Weyl written in Zurich on the 8th has arrived and I am enclosing it, though I am not convinced that it is the one referred to in his cable to you. However it throws a good deal of light on his situation and the feeling he has of uncertainty regarding his prospects. The remark (sheet 2) that you would hardly be human if you didn't feel it necessary, after his behavior last winter, to make your decision depend on the personal impression which he makes--is rather touching!"

File IV-19

1933

7/24

FOUNDERS

The Corporation

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flexner (Ontario, Canada) to Veblen (Hancock County, Maine):

"I have just had a telegram from Mr. Rosberger showing that he hesitates about Weyl, fearing, I think, that he may be an unstable factor or in poor health. Inasmuch as I have no legal right to act, I believe it is wisest to defer action until I can bring together the Executive Committee on my return to New York about the middle of September and explain to them the entire situation. "

File IV-19

*Flexner to Veblen, July 25, 1933.

Aydelotte has just come over to pay us a brief visit, and he thinks I did right in not pressing the matter of Professor Weyl by mail on Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld. He will call a meeting of the Executive Committee just as soon as he goes back to New York.

Flexner says that he has cabled Weyl that the Executive Committee will meet in the middle of September.

EXF V File, Flexner, Abraham

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

FLEXNER, A.

BAMBERGER

EINSTEIN, A.

Flexner to Veblen.

This morning I received from ^Laydenburg a telegram from London which reads: "Very urgent. Official invitation that German professors be expedited as they may not be allowed to leave."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1933 (Mistyped 1922)

NOTES

8/2

✓ VEBLIN, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

FLEXNER, A.

BAMBERGER

Flexner to Veblen.

He has written two notes July 29 to Flexner which are not in file.

He has asked Aydelotte to visit Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld and talk over a number of matters, incidentally the Weyl matter. I hope and believe that the thing can be ironed out so that Weyl can bring his wife and children with him. If Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld were young, the incident would give me concern. As it is, I do not feel that there is anything for us to worry about, so far as the future of the Institute is concerned. With a Board constituted as our is, the academic point of view will prevail in academic matters."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1933

8/19

SMIGREB

Academic Personnel

COURANT, RICHARD

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, C.

Veblen (Hancock County, Maine) to Flexner: Excerpt

"About Courant I feel that I ought to suggest that every precaution should be taken to make it clear that the engagement is for one year only. While it is very desirable that he should be helped now he is not at all the type we want permanently--and evidence has been accumulating that he will be much harder to place elsewhere than I had thought. This in spite of my conviction that there are several places where he would be very useful."

File IV-19

1933

NOTES

8/21

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

WEYL, HERMANN

FLEXNER, A.

BAMBERGER

EINSTEIN, A.

Flexner to Veblen, August 21, 1933.

He is hopeful that we shall make the permanent appointment for Weyl and a year's invitation to Courant (Richard), though I do hope that Courant will be reinstated in Göttingen.

Veblen has been in correspondence with Lowan in regard to the full-time work expected of Einstein, apparently. Flexner agrees with Veblen that we don't want to establish too many precedents. "I think there are one or two things that we will have to insist upon, and full time during the abbreviated year is one of them, that ought to apply not only

to workers, but to members of the Faculty. Of course, I do not mean that you or Alexander or Einstein should not during the term attend scientific meetings or make scientific addresses, but I do mean that the taking on of additional chairs and professorships, as Einstein has done, does not seem to me to harmonize with the spirit of our undertaking. However, this is a matter which I shall take up with Einstein in the course of the year. I beg you not to mention it to anyone."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1933

Aug. 30 - Sept. 1

WEYL, H.

Biographical

COURANT

VEBLEN, O.

Veblen to Flexner. Two formal letters containing the same information, one sent to Magnetawan, the other to the Institute, recommending Weyl and Courant for appointment. The argument he makes for Weyl is that he is a great mathematician whose work is noted among mathematicians as well, ^{and} admired and respected by himself as a mathematician. Rich in ideas and very original and also in a field which would not overlap too much that of any other professor of mathematics in the Institute. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ He also says that Weyl's "oscillations" of last winter have not influenced the feelings of mathematicians. The implication is that they understand how severe was his trial.

He is much more qualified in his approval for a year's appointment for Courant. He does not approve for the Institute the type of institution which Courant instituted in Göttingen. He thinks that the Institute might well offer Courant the position because of the brutal assaults being made upon scholarship in Germany.

File IV-19

1933

NOTES

8/30

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

~~VEBLEN, C.~~

EINSTEIN

MAYER

Flemer to Veblen, August 30, 1933.

Postscript to ^{of} letter. "I should like to have an informal meeting ~~with~~ the members of the staff of the School of Mathematics ~~on~~ October 3, at 10:30 a. m. at Fine Hall in your room. Will you undertake to call the members together? I am afraid that Einstein and Mayer will not return until a few days later, but that will not matter."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1933

9/8

EMIGREES

Academic Personnel

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

AYDELOTTE, F.

✓VEBLEN, O.

POLICIES

Administration

Flexner to Veblen letter concerning permanent offer to Weyl; that he will become an American citizen and that he will not accept multiple professorships in other institutions. File IV-19.

See: EMIGREES - Academic Personnel

1933

NOTES

9/8

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

✓ VEBLER, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Flexner to Veblen, September 8, 1933.

The Executive Committee met yesterday, and authorized Flexner to make an offer to Weyl which he considers more attractive than the former one. He cautions Veblen to silence except for Eisenhart, "for if it should leak out in Germany that Weyl is bringing his wife and children to this country to stay, they might all be held in Germany." His appointment at the Institute will, if he accepts, start January 1, 1934. He asks Veblen to write, saying that the matter is being kept secret in America. Flexner expresses the hope that Weyl, like von Neumann, will become a citizen. He depends on Veblen to tell Weyl that he is on full time at the Institute, "that is, he will not accept multiple-professorships the way Einstein has been led to do, though, of course, he enjoys academic freedom in respect to lectures, papers, etc."

The letter contains further data about Courant. The Rockefeller Institute would appropriate \$3,000 to meet an appropriation of an equal amount from the Institute for Courant. The plan which Flexner and Veblen have evidently worked out is that Courant would come to the Institute for the first half year, and be lent without expense either to Cambridge or Yale for the second half year.

Flexner to Veblen, September 9, 1933.

Informs of cable from Weyl. Warmest thanks for your confidence. Hope for long and happy collaboration.

At the same time Weyl ~~again~~ writes Veblen that Courant has accepted a three-year appointment at Cambridge.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1933

9/9
9/11
9/14

PERSONNEL

Academic Personnel

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, C.

FLEXNER, A.

POLICIES

Administration

Veblen (Maine) to Flexner: Excerpt

"My expectation is that Weyl will take his position very seriously as a full-time job. In fact the trouble last winter was, in part, that he was taking it too seriously. Just the same, I shall write to him along the lines that you suggest. In fact, I had just finished such a letter to him when I received your telegram. But I must rewrite it."

Veblen (Maine) to Flexner: Excerpts

"From our point of view the chief difficulty in Neugebauer's case would be that he is Editor-in-Chief of the Zentralblatt für Mathematik, published by Springer, which has continued without interruption. I had thought that if the Z. should be stopped we in this country ought to take it and Neugebauer over. But it would be very expensive (I don't believe the Rockefeller foundation would cooperate, but you would know how to find

out), and I am not ready to recommend using the Institute money for the purpose. On the other hand, it would be a pity to take N. away from this job. Perhaps the best solution would be that hinted at, I think, in one of the letters from Harald Bohr--to move N. to Copenhagen."

"I think the meeting on Oct. 2 should be confined to yourself and those of the professors in the Institute who are in Princeton. The hours and rooms will have to be talked over with Eisenhart before then. But I suppose this meeting is the real 'opening' of the Institute, or are you having other ceremonies?"

Flexner (New York) to Veblen (Maine): Excerpt

"I shall follow your suggestion and limit the conference on October 2 to you and your immediate associates. This will be the only meeting we shall have for our opening - or closing - ceremonies."

MORSE, MARSTON

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

✓ VEBLIN, O.

WEYL, H.

Morse nearly didn't come--Flexner and Veblen were
just begining to disagree with each other. Intrigue.

Interview with Morse, 6/21/56

3/27
4/12

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

Flexner to Veblen, March 27, 1934.

"I continue from time to time to turn over in mind the question of site to which you have repeatedly alluded." He asks for a memorandum in black and white what for. Owning real estate may be more of an encumbrance than a help. He welcomes reduction of the ideas to writing.

Veblen to Flexner, April 12, 1934.

He puts it down in writing:

(1) "I hope that the Institute will ^{be} permanently a seat of learning (italics mine)."

He quotes Mr. M. H. A. Newman of Johns' College, Cambridge in a statement years ago about his own university: "It has been in existence as a seat of learning for a very long time. There have been periods in which learning has not occupied its seat, but the seat has always been there, and learning is generally returned in the course of time."

Veblen pleads for a permanent and visible locus as important to the perpetuation of the purposes of the Institute in the long future.

(2) We are all agreed it is very desirable to work in close cooperation with the University. Well, we are also agreed that the Institute should maintain its independence. He fears a confusion of the Institute with the general conflicting purposes and interests in a university, and he thinks that the preservation of the independence of the Institute with the aid of site and building is important.

of the Institute
(3) He thinks that the plant/should be near that of the University.

This is to ~~maintain~~ promote the good relationship between the two institutions.

(4) It is entirely probably that Princeton will become the site of a group of cultural institutions, such as Oxford is a group of colleges. It will be a decided advantage to be at the center of this group rather than on the periphery.

(5) The considerations stated above lead to the conclusion that the Institute should have if possible a large plot of land. It would be a mistake to get too small a piece. You hardly could get too large a piece. All universities, including all the Oxford colleges, have made the mistake of getting too small plots.

(6) It is up to any institution which settles in a place like Princeton to contribute to the amenities of the place. A large enough plot of land could aid in the accomplishment of this by keeping away "objectionable intruders."

(7) All of the considerations hold good, no matter what

subjects the Institute is going to develop, or how it's going to develop them. However, he raises the question, what shall be the first building the Institute should erect or move into in case there's a suitable building already on the site. He thinks the Institute should have sooner or later a residential center analogous to an Oxford College without the monastic background. He thinks the first step probably ought to be something analogous to the Athenaeum at Pasadena, Harnack House in Berlin, the Rhodes House in Oxford, including a residence for the Director, something in the way of club rooms or meeting place for members of the Institute, and, if possible, a certain additional amount of residential accommodation. It should be a recognized social nucleus for the Institute.

(8) The actual working quarters of the different schools might, in some cases, be located right on the University campus, in contiguity to the appropriate department of the University, and that in other cases, it would be possible to have working quarters on the Institute's own territory. "But this matter I regard as not affecting the question of site very seriously, because the site should be adequate to take care of completely the Institute's enterprises in case

circumstances/^{at} some time in the future should make it desirable to do so."

(9) About Fine Hall. It is now full; therefore, any substantial increase in the School of Mathematics, or the these facilities for theoretical physics, would tend to overcrowd it. The situation with regard to offices in Fine Hall: there are nine offices with fireplaces and fifteen without. The permanent members of the two staffs all have separate offices. In addition to this, the instructors in the University, assistants in the Institute, and a certain number of National Research Fellows have offices which are shared with two or three persons. It is desirable that our assistants have ~~zhakxxxxxxaffzreax~~ individual offices for their own work.

to make an

(10) It will be feasible/~~za~~ addition to the quarters in Fine Hall either by building an addition to Palmer Laboratory ~~or to xk~~ Pine Hall on the lower side of the hill, or by taking over the University Infirmary and replacing it by a new hospital in a more suitable location. He favors the last proposal, since the infirmary would lend itself to the purposes well. He suggests it might be possible to purchase

the land and building now used for the ~~staff~~ infirmary, or at least lease them for a long term.

(11) He mentions a problem which he says we have not had to face this year, but we might have to deal with it at any moment's notice; serious illness on the part of one or more workers at the Institute. He suggests this would be a problem for the administration of the Institute. If the Ex Institute~~s~~ participates in the replacement of the old infirmary, it should be a simple matter to arrange that members of the Institute had the right to admission to the new hospital on similar terms.

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

1934

4/6

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ VEBLER, MRS. O.

Biographical

Mrs. Veblen (Elizabeth M.D.) to Flexner:

Mrs. Veblen thinks their "dishwashing lady" should be covered by insurance because according to N. J. Law, IAS is responsible in case of accident for any of its employees. Help on campus (Princeton) are covered by group insurance--she is not in their employment, but paid for by the Institute.

File IV-19

1934
1935

4/12
3/19

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

✓ VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Relations WQAI

Academic Organization

Facilities

Biographical

Originals Veblen to Flexner on School of Mathematics and Pine Hall. Very important. Independence of I. A. S. stressed. Did he believe that scholarship of I. A. S. adversely influenced by graduate school atmosphere?

Also Veblen's recommendation for building first common building like ~~Kyrenium~~ Athenium at Pasadena with schools on campus near University. Buildings appropriate.

Letters filed in Vertical File under "V" for Veblen.

F. A., 1/8/50

1934

4/13

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓VEBLEN, OSWAID

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Veblen (Fine Hall, Princeton):

"Thank you for your wise, thoughtful, and very clear letter of April 12th." I have read it only once, but I can see that it will give the Committee on Buildings and Grounds something very substantial to meditate upon. I have the feeling that what might have looked like dilatory procedure has really allowed our minds to work subconsciously on what will become in the course of time a question of overwhelming importance. I shall bring this letter to the attention of the Committee at the earliest possible opportunity."

*Not in file.

File IV-19

1934

5/5
10/19
10/24
10/30

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organisation

MORSE, MARSTON

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, OSWALD

Veblen to Morse, May, 1934.

Refers to a conversation initiated about a year and a half before. The conversation was evidently renewed by Morse in a letter from Oxford received by Veblen. He has shown this letter to Flexner, and Flexner pleased suggests that Morse and Veblen get together in the near future, to discuss the matter. Flexner must have authority from the Executive Committee or the Trustees of the Institute, but in addition, "He would not wish you to break off your Harvard connection abruptly in any way that might embarrass Harvard's arrangements for next year--a position which I am sure you would yourself endorse. (My own experience, however, is that when such a change is in prospect, it is best to make it without delay.)"

Flexner wants to talk it out in personal conference. Also he would "not like to have you go through a period of pulling and hauling."

Morse to Graustein, October 19, 1934.

As the Chief of the Division of Mathematics at Harvard, saying that he has received an offer from the Institute and wishes to take it.

Morse to Maxner, October 24, 1934.

Harvard has responded with an offer of a generous increase in salary and a decrease in teaching hours, and Birkhoff has also asked Morse if he wants anything else, and has promised to go to President Conant and try to obtain any additional commitments that Morse might desire. Morse has replied that, "if my choice should ultimately be Harvard, I would not wish any more concessions, that I would not regard it as fair to the remaining members of the Division, and that in any case I would not be content unless I remained a homogeneous part of the group of men with whom I was associated. It was my task, then, to decide between the working conditions in the two institutions as they would exist for me.

"Before I make the final decision I would appreciate a written statement from you confirming our conversation as to salary, the provision for a retiring allowance, and the retiring age. With such a letter at my disposal I can come to a speedy and, I hope, proper conclusion.

Flexner to Morse, October 30, 1934.

He confirms the appointment; has told the School of Mathematics Faculty members confidentially that Morse is coming, and has promised to make no announcement at the Institute until authorized by Morse to do so.

D File, Morse, Marston, 1933-1945

1934

NOTES

6/10

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

MORSE

FLEXNER

✓
VEBLEN

Flexner in New York writes to Veblen in Brecklin, Hancock County, Maine, and says that he has interviewed Morse who is very anxious to come to the Institute. In view of the fact that Birkhoff is now not in the country, Flexner says that it would not be courteous or fair for Professor Morse to make any change during the coming year. "I asked him to make up his mind clearly and irrevocably as to what he wished to do, and promised that I would recommend his election as full professor, if, after talking with Birkhoff and Conant he decided in the affirmative. "He has found the work at Harvard extremely wearing and complex, and, therefore, longs for the simplicity which he will find in our group, which fortunately does not have to concern itself with many of the activities which a university cannot easily avoid."

He says Morse's present salary is \$8,000. He told Morse

that as soon as this financial situation is cleared up he wants to put all professorial salaries at \$15,000. "That in any event, his salary would from the outset be considerably higher than he is now getting." Morse made inquiry about minor positions, but Flexner told him there was nothing but personal assistance with which every professor is provided. We have no intermediate grades of appointments.

Flexner says Morse also asked him as to whether he contemplated a differential in the matter of professorial salaries, "to which I replied that inasmuch as I, myself, could not possibly know the relative values of different individuals... I was disinclined to depart from the simple scheme with which we had begun. In other words, if a person is good enough to join the group and deal with students of maturity and achievement, then he is entitled to a full salary whether some differential inability or productiveness existed or not. On the other hand, I said that until a monetary situation was perfectly stable I wish to play safe. As to the soundness of this I am more convinced since spending two days in Washington, during which I had several confidential talks with persons connected with the Federal Reserve Board. They believe that

the danger of inflation has passed. If so, we are all right in our present basis. If not, then, of course, we will have to readjust." He is going to see Morse in the early autumn. He is on his way to Europe now; that is, Flexner is. "I hope that nothing will interfere with adding him to our group without any ill feeling whatsoever on the part of the Harvard people--on the contrary, I want their cooperation and sympathy if I can possibly obtain them."

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

1934

8/11

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

NORSE, HARSTON

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, C.

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen (Hancock County, Maine) to Flexner:

Norse visited Veblen and they talked on IAS affairs at great length. Norse very much disposed to come to IAS and is planning to talk with Birkhoff, Granstein (Chairman, Dept. Math.) and Creant shortly. "He will dwell, he says, rather on the advantages of the Institute than on the drawbacks of Harvard, but when they get him what he has been definitely offered he will be only be able to say that it is a professorship at a salary not yet specified and that he will be entitled to an assistant." Veblen feels that present salary inequalities will provide arguments and persuasions which Birkhoff and others will bring to bear on him, and suggests letting Norse know exactly what offer will be. His present salary at Harvard is \$8,000--other emoluments bring it to \$10,000. Veblen is sure Harvard will go to at least \$10,000 in basic salary. He hopes all professors in School of Math. will have same basic salary soon.

File IV-19

1934

8/30

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

TRUSTEES

The Corporation

MORSE, MARSTON

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

VEBLEN, O.

Re: Flexner (Paris) to Veblen (Maine) concerning invitation to Morse and discussion of IAS salary scales. File IV-19

1934

NOTES

8/30

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

MORSE

Biographical

FLEXNER

✓ VEBLER

Flexner to Veblen. He has just had a note from Veblen, indicating that the Morse matter is being proceeded with, and he has cabled urging that neither Morse nor Veblen do anything about it until Flexner returns from Europe. "This does not mean in the least that I am any less anxious to add Morse to the group as you and your associates desire than I was when I went away, but I think it best that he should not speak with Birkhoff, Graustein, and Conant until: (1) I have been officially authorized to make a definite offer, (2) I can be sure that an invitation to come to us will not cripple Conant at the very outset of his career."

He recalls the analogy in his handling of Veblen's own

appointment; that is, a making clear what he wanted to Veblen in Göttingen, but in failure to move until he had discussed it with Eisenhart. He does not think that Conant will act selfishly in respect to any person "whom we may wish to approach."

"I agree with you entirely that when and if he is invited to join the mathematical group, a definite offer should be made to him, and, of course, it should be financially as well as otherwise more advantageous than his present position. On the ~~max~~ other hand, I am not persuaded that every person who is called professor must necessarily receive the same remuneration. There are certain distinctions in age, experience, eminence and future promise which may be fairly taken into account. Universities, as a rule, take these factors into account by giving new appointees inferior badges, calling them associate professors, etc. I should prefer, I think, certainly for an experimental period, the simpler organization which we now have. It might prove to be advisable to change the title of 'professor' to that of 'member of the Institute' as is done in various institutions more or less resembling our own. My general feeling remains what it was, though of course I am prepared to carry out the

instructions of the Board, until ordered by the Board to do otherwise; namely, that our salary scales should be distinctly higher than that which prevails elsewhere, that there should be no 'pulling and hauling', that the short year and the elimination of examinations and other routine in the rigid adherence to high standards of admission with such informal contact between workers and staff as existed last year should continue until it is obvious, first, to the staff, and next, to the Board some change should be made. But I suspect that the Board will wish to continue its present policy of watchful waiting for a while longer in order to see whether our extraordinarily happy experience last year really lay in the nature of the organization of the Institute or was a mere accident. I think the former."

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

1934

2/10

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOAI

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

MORSE, MARSTON

Biographical

ALEXANDER

✓VEBLEN, O.

Re: Veblen to Flexner letter concerning invitation to Morse (should make definite offer as soon as possible); comparison of Alexander's (IAS) and Lefschetz's (PU) salaries. File IV-19.

See: SALARIES - Academic Personnel

1934

9/14

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

MORSE

Biographical

FLEXNER

✓ VEBLER

Flexner has just returned from Europe, and has found a letter from Veblen predicting an equally happy next year. He comments on the letter which raises several points which he will not discuss now, but two he will, which concern two individuals two different problems, one general, and the other particular. One is the salary problem. He outlines his thinking on this. He says he is committed hand and foot to the principle that academic salaries should be increased; they should be high and dignified for professors. He has been calling for this for the past 25 years, and only now has he got an opportunity to put it into effect. "I cannot say, though that every person in the professorial group shall be

on the same salary basis at the start. Age, experience, eminence and fertility are all factors that ought to be taken into consideration, and no one ought to be given a maximum salary to make it impossible for a man to receive a call from another institution unless we have absolutely decided that we want him for good and for all. This distinction is by no means original with me. I imagine it exists in Princeton, and I know that it exists in other places. On the other hand, when we do invite a man, it ought to be, first, on the formal recommendation to the group, and, second, after the matter has been laid before the Board, the authority and interest of which I greatly desire to strengthen. (italics mine) At the moment, therefore my hands are tied, since though you and Alexander have talked to me about Morse, no one else has, and the matter has not even been mentioned to the Board. I do not possess the authority 'to bring the matter to a conclusion as soon as possible.' I find Faculty somewhat inconsistent in matters of this sort. In one moment they resent the unilateral action of the President, and in another, they want him to cut off and ignore the usual constituted authorities. I do not want myself to do either."

He goes on to say that other considerations he feels that he may not even have the power to talk to Veblen ~~about~~ about, much less write. "I have no desire, as I think you well know, to keep matters from you, but our position here is such that we have to be extremely tactful, and I am most anxious to cement the Princeton combination. This does not mean that we ~~perhaps~~ have to adhere to the Princeton scale, but it may mean that we ~~have~~ have to proceed with caution. I have in mind a particular incident, which, during the summer, gave me a distinct shock."

He continues saying that he wants the Institute to be an example and a stimulus to higher education, and the two things that are of most importance in achieving it are: (1) salary, (2) working conditions and freedom. But we have been running only one year, and Rome was not built in a day. Perhaps I am unduly cautious, "but certainly in the present state of the world's finances, a little extra caution is better than a little extra haste."

"I am gratified ^{with} what you report to me about Birkhoff, especially as his visit to you, and the promised visits of his

son, show that relations between the two groups are kindly and cordial."

He continues saying that he will want to talk to Kyrse, and, perhaps, get Simon's judgment on the situation. "For you must bear in mind that this is an entirely new job of mine, but I cannot hope to hold it for many years, and that I am awfully anxious, even at the expense of somewhat slower progress, to make no blunder that may embarrass my successor. I ought to add that I am ~~so~~ terribly anxious as soon as financial conditions warrant, to make a start in the way of a nucleus in one or two other fields, because I have the feeling that that is the kind of thing which I am equipped to do--much better, perhaps, than anything else connected with the conduct of an institution in America.

"It seems a little funny that you should be in a hurry, while I, nearing the end of my tether, should be the cautious one; but I do not believe that in the long run we will lose if we use a method of procedure that is in the highest degree dignified and considerate, while at the same time, holding ourselves to our ideals...

"I had a very successful summer as far as the Institute is concerned, and feel quite clear that I know what to do when the time for action comes. After finishing with Institute affairs, I got four weeks of the most perfect rest imaginable in Gastein..."

V File, Fleener, Abraham

1934

9/14

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WCAI

MORSE, MARSTON

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Re: Flexner to Veblen letter concerning professorial salaries and adherence to
Princeton U. scale; inviting Morse. File IV-19.

See: SALARIES - Academic Personnel

1934

9/17



STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

TRUSTEES

Corporation

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Veblen.

"I think it not a bad thing that there is a surplus in the two funds appropriated for grants, and I hope that the mathematics group will make no further appropriations unless somebody eminently worthwhile turns up. The moral effect made on a board by a small surplus is out of all proportion to the amount involved. It does really show that the group has been guided by the single purpose of finding competent persons."

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

IV - 19

1934

12/12

WEED, LOUIS H.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen (Fine Hall, Princeton) to Flexner (Princeton):

Flexner placed 5 people connected with IAS Math. group in positions where they could be useful. Veblen feels action justified--"Every one of us feels it to be a part of his problem to help these men and women to find jobs when they are ready for them."--has no influence on their scientific work, but Dr. Weed has misgivings.

File IV-19

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEXNER, A.

FRANKFURTER, F.

MOETHEL, MISS

Academic Personnel

Biographical

Veblen has been urging that a mathematician at Bryn Mawr who has not permanent tenure there has been lecturing at the Institute and he wants aid or an appointment given her. Another arrangement has been worked out with the intervention Dr. Billikopf of Philadelphia, probably involving foundation funds. Flexner writes Feb. 27, 1935, that the matter as far as he is concerned is closed. See note filed under Emigres on that date on the general position of the Institute.

Veblen comes back, says that the professors at the Institute have agreed to set aside \$1500 to be used as a grant-in-aid for the year 1935-36 in case other means of support should fail, that this has been done in recognition of the fact that she has been conducting a seminar at the Institute without compensation and she is one of the ablest mathematicians from Germany.

The postscript of this letter is significant. "It may be that it would be desirable to discuss some scheme by which we would share with Bryn Mawr in the support of Miss Moether and thereby insure the continuance of the present arrangement under which she makes a real contribution to the work of the Institute. Perhaps it would be desirable for me to come in and discuss^{with} with you a little more in detail." To come in meant to go from Fine Hall to 20 Nassau St.

1935

1/18

VEEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

FRANKFURTER

Photostat of original letter which is attached to
this memo and filed in Chronological file under 1935, 1/18,
is in the Frankfurter papers #2.

Frankfurter papers, File #2

1935

Jan. 26

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

FACULTY PARTICIPATION

VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Facilities

Academic Personnel

~~Administrative Personnel~~

Biographical

They have had another discussion on buying property and building of buildings and with Mr. Haase.

Flexner worries about Veblen's statements that he finds himself waking up at night and thinking about the building problem. He thinks that as Fine Hall was built he Veblen was not too well. *remembers*

"I have had a lot of experience in administrative work and I made it long ago an inflexible rule not to spend much time on small things." He may have done some small things wrongly but they did not get in the way of the big things.

"Don't look on this as a lay sermon. I value you perhaps more highly than you have ever been valued in your life. You are the real founder of the School of Mathematics. Since I interested you and Einstein, you and those whom you have associated with you, have done everything as nearly as possible in the way you wish. You have chosen your associates; you have chosen your students, you have chosen your own methods of working. My part in

making the School of Mathematics what it is has been almost negligible. What the future will bring forth whether in respect to my successor or your successor, nobody knows."

File IV-19

1935

1/31

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

✓VEBLEN, CONWALD

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen (Pine Hall, Princeton) to Flexner:

"... We would not help things much in Pine Hall by reducing our numbers. The only thing that would help would be to reduce the quality. If Bires, Walsh, Siegel, Ward, Kariski, ... were replaced by men of less consequence the congestion would be much less serious.

"What I was so awkwardly trying to urge the other day was, in general terms, merely that our problem is one of dynamics rather than of statics and that therefore the element of time is highly important.

"Even though I read most of the above to you over the telephone, I will send it so that I can say how much I appreciate the kindly and considerate way in which you handle all these questions."

File IV-19

1935

3/2

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

/VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

FRANKFURTER, F.

MEOTHER, MISS

Flexner to Veblen. He suggests Veblen write to Mrs. Manning of Bryn Mawr^{WR} and suggests she write the Rockefeller Foundation. He also placidly agrees with the solution Veblen has suggested about Miss Neother and says that if this fails "we can put our heads together as to the next best step."

But the argument has worried him and he decides to put his feelings down on paper with regard to Veblen's activities and faculty participation in general. "Let me say a few things on which I have reflected a good deal since our conversation the other day in respect to additional facilities." He thinks this is a matter to interest the Institute and its Trustees from the standpoint of the institution as a whole. He thinks that Veblen should be looking at it, not as a member of the mathematical group "for your influence within the Board will in the long run depend upon your capacity to view the Institute as

a developing concern which ~~in~~ in the near future will take up economics and humanistic studies. This is an important point because, on it, I think, depends the extent to what is erroneously called 'faculty government' is likely to be inaugurated." He goes on to say that faculty government exists nowhere, not in Germany, subject to control by education ministries, nor in Oxford where the fellows deliberate. A university is an autonomous affair depending for its real program upon a personality." He cites examples.

"Against the judgment of pretty nearly everyone whom I have consulted I am trying the experiment of conducting the Institute with a Board made up of laymen, outside scientists and scholars, and faculty members. How far faculty membership will be influential and how far it will extend in America are going to depend upon the ability of those chosen to forget the particular faculty of which they are members and to live with the Institute as a whole.

"Frankfurter gave that movement a distinct setback though whenever anyone has spoken/ to me about him as a 'professor' I have always pointed out that it is unfair to saddle his conduct upon the 'professors' as a whole."

He then asks Veblen whether or not he is prepared to take his time from mathematics to consider the important problem of recruiting for the School of Humanistic Studies and Economics and Politics. "We have in this country a definite tradition of lay management. I think this has not worked perfectly."

"This brings me to the subject of building. I do not know what the Board thinks but I have had experience enough to make a pretty good guess. There are psychological

practical, and prudential reasons why the Institute should in the near future possess a building of its own. For the immediate present we can improvise."

Riefler is willing to take a room adjoining administrative office at 20 Nassau St. As far as mathematics is concerned he turns back to his letter of Jan. 26.

"...there was a question among some of the Trustees whether the combination in Fine Hall would work. I thought it would work and it has worked and nobody now has any doubts on the subject. The only questions I have discussed with you and Eisenhart is the possibility of a small wing or utilizing the basement of Fine Hall, the latter now having been ruled out as impractical." He thinks that an additional building on the Princeton campus would be rejected by ~~the~~ both Boards of Trustees but Veblen is free to try it out by testing the sentiment of the Building Committee of the Board itself. "For nothing that I say in this letter has anything more than my personal views with which I am acquainting you in order that you may think the thing over and thereafter advocate on your own responsibility any course that you think wise. Do not lose sight of the fact that the more money at this stage that we put into buildings, the less income there is available for men.

"Do you recall saying that 'If we had pursued anyother course than that which we had pursued, the Institute would have been a 'flop', this I do not see.--...I am much more afraid of 'flopping' through bigness than through smallness. I agree with Justice Brandi6e that size in itself is bad, and nowhere is it worse than in Institutions of learning and research."

"...I am writing you as a Trustee, not as a professor in mathematics, and I should not even write if I were not anxious that in the long run there should be more professors

on the Board but that must necessarily depend on winning confidence--a task to which I have devoted myself with all the ingenuity that I possess ever since I first met Mr. Bamberger. I have always been candid with him, as I have with the Board, but I realize that every Board must be educated by experience to trust those upon whom responsibility mainly falls."

File IV-19

1935

3/19

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

MEMBERS

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Facilities

Relations WCAI

Academic Organization

Academic Personnel

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner.

At Flexner's invitation Veblen has re-read his letter of April 12, 1934 on space. Makes the following points:

(1) During the present year there has not been any over crowding visible to him in the library in Fine Hall. It may be because workers come and find no space and take their work home.

(2) During the present year Dirac has had an office of his own, but when Vignar went away Dirac moved into his office.

Other members the equivalent of Institute staff, Siegel, le Maire, have been using Gillespie's office when he is not there. The elder workers have been given the privilege of the professor's room, and it has been used rather regularly by Walsh and Tariski, occasionally by Moore and Ward, and very rarely by Douglas and Eckert--all Institute members and all men of academic standing outside.

The younger members equivalent to instructors in the University are pretty crowded. The only full-time University instructor at Fine on Princeton faculty, Dr. Wilks, has an office to himself.

(3) There were four assistants assigned to the room next to Thanner to Veblen. Lefschetz thinking it was too crowded shifted one to another room, leaving three. Veblen formerly had a separate room for his assistant.

(4) The five professors in the Institute and the associate, Dr. Sayer, all have offices. The rooms assigned to

Alexander, Einstein and ^{Veblen} ~~Planner~~ are extremely good.

(5) Summary. We feel our present quarters in Fine Hall to be inadequate not so much because of the number of workers enrolled in the Institute as because of their high quality.

(6) Lefschetz intimated strongly the early part of the year that Veblen talk to Eisenhart about space which he did. His ideas which Veblen concurs with he summarizes as follows:

(A) If possible we should have something in the way of an additional building on the campus close to Fine Hall.

(B) This building should ultimately be adequate for the personnel of the School of Mathematics of the Institute so far as office space is concerned. It would not be necessary to do this in the immediate future, however, nor build adequate space all at one time. (Here did he discuss chemistry and biology? Not apparent except that he was apparently saving Planner from a blow). Also "it was Eisenhart's and my understanding that

members of the Institute will continue to use rooms in Pine Hall, and that certain members of the University might well use rooms in the new construction." The Department of Mathematics should ultimately have available for itself as much room as there is in the whole of Pine Hall.

(6) A small number of seminar and lecture rooms should be provided.

(8) Common use of library, common room and professor's room should continue.

(7) Veblen says that in planning provision of facilities development in theoretical physics should be contemplated.

(8) He is not submitting an actual estimate of space or of size.

PA 1/8/57, Filed in V Vertical.

1935

NOTES

4/2

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

FLENNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

EISENHART

Veblen to Flexner.

He reports that Eisenhart has checked up with Winteringer again about the property across the street from Palmer Laboratory. The club is in difficulties, the University holds a mortgage on the property, and there is some likelihood that the property could be secured. Though he didn't check again, Eisenhart believes that the mortgage is \$30,000.

Veblen urges giving the property immediate and favorable consideration. Acquiring it will allow us to study the ultimate solution of the housing problem for the mathematical group in an unhurried fashion. "Unless something is done, I feel that we are going to have very

considerable difficulties next fall."

Eisenhart has suggested that another club property just down hill from the one above considered might be considered, but they are not in difficulties, and it might be harder to get it.

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

PLEXNER, A.

MAASS, HERBERT H.

BAMBERGER

Veblen to Flexner.

He has just returned from Europe, and went to Princeton. He was informed by Mr. Thomas that the lots between Olden Farm and the golf course were going to be sold at foreclosure. He was fearful that if they fell into other hands, it might be difficult to get them. Flexner referred him to Maass, took the matter up with Bamberger, and Bamberger very promptly put of the money to secure them. As for the rest, Mr. Thomas told me this morning he had options on almost everything that we wanted, only one or two little pieces being left out still. "I have had a talk with President Dodds who told me that the Committee on Buildings and Grounds was very favorable to cooperation with us, and had left it to a committee composed of

himself, Mr. Wintringer, and some other person whose name I forgot. There was neither time, nor, ^{was there} I believe, need to call the committee inasmuch as there was general agreement on the Olden Farm and the property connecting it with the golf course. The options all run until late next fall. If the worst comes to worse, and we decide to build elsewhere than on the golf course, we should easily dispose of the lots which Mr. Thomas is going to secure for us."

V File, "Flexner, Abraham"

1935

10/11

GENERAL

Foundations

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WQAI

VEBLER, O.

Biographical

SZABE, OTTO HANNA

Veblen to Miss White, Executive Secretary Institute of International Education, Inc., New York City, informing her that Princeton University and the Institute would like to invite Professor Szabe to spend a week in Princeton as their guest. Hosts furnish living expenses and stipend to be taken care of otherwise. Lectures to be his choice.

File IV-8

1935

NOTES

10/28

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flexner to Veblen. They have had a conversation on additional land. Flexner lays down his position again:

(1) Every dollar invested in real estate diminishes income, and thus hampers what we can do in respect to men and facilities. It is men and facilities that make institutions of learning, not acreages or frontage. Same is true of building.

(2) Our next moves must be in the very nature of things in the direction of strengthening the two new schools. I do not wish to do this at the expense of mathematics, and yet unnecessary investment in real estate may threaten it.

(3) You are rightly insistent on the importance of additional space for the mathematicians, but we are unlikely to invest in additional space for the mathematicians if we are simultaneously confronted with the need of gradual

1939

for
expansion of the two new schools and a considerable additional
investment in real estate.

(4) Someday or other, we shall want to consider our
relationship to the Princeton Library which is, again, from
my point of view, more important than additional acres.

"I have absolutely no desire to speak with finality as to
the order in which these various questions shall be met. In
fact, the primary responsibility for decisions must be taken
by the Committee on Buildings and Grounds. Having stated my
own views, I shall carry out loyally any decision arrived at
by the Board."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

10/28
10/29

FOUNDERS

Corporation

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

MAASS, HERBERT H.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, C.

FLENNER, A.

Fleener to Hamburger, October 28, 1935.

He has talked with both Maass and Veblen, and is glad the Institute has acquired a site. It would be prudent to keep the matter quiet. "Though I do not wish to criticize either Mr. Maass or Professor Veblen, I think there is some danger that they will both be too enthusiastic about the acquisition of additional land. My own inclination is to go very slowly..." in the interest of not impairing our ability to obtain men of the highest rank.

He recounts a conversation which Morgenthau had with him at the Inn yesterday noting that the Institute had taken

Riefler, "the best man we had in Washington."

Bamberger to Flexner, October 29.

"Your letter of October 28 was quite impressive, as it expressed the thought that possibly some of our co-workers in the management of the Institute were inclined to rush along with more haste than wisdom. Mrs. Fuld has repeatedly commented on a policy of acquiring so much land for an institution that proclaimed not size but highest standards. This also has been my feeling.

"After our present commitments are completed, our resources will not permit of further expansion at the present time. So far everything has developed beyond our fondest expectations, thanks to you. Nor have I any misgivings about the future."

D. Bamberger, Louis, 1930-1936

³
1935

12/11

GENERAL (PURPOSE)

Corporation

DEGREES

Academic Procedures

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

~~VEBLER~~, O.

TAUS, A.

GIVENS, W.

Digest of Flexner's letter, ^{to Veblen} of December 11, 1935 relating to a discussion which Hirschert, Veblen, and Flexner had on the question of admission to the Institute of other than post-doctoral members.

Filed in Chronological File under 12/11/35.

File IV-20

12/11

1935
DEGREES

Academic Procedures

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WPAI

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

EISENHART

They have had a conference: Eisenhart, Veblen, and Flexner, and Flexner has gone over again the four bulletins which have already been published.

He quotes from Bulletin No. 2, page 1, and says that in subsequent bulletins the following specific statement is made:

"In some fields universities provide admirable opportunities for work beyond the Ph. D. degree, but with the exception of medicine and certain other branches, the country has not hitherto possessed an institution in which young men and women could continue their independent training beyond this stage, and in which research could be carried on with adequate

support without pressure of numbers or rousting, and unhurried by the need of obtaining practical results."

He said the reference to medicine embraced the Rockefeller Institute, "and to some extent similar facilities are available in a few medical schools." Dean Eisenhart's suggestion questions that in the future the Institute should enroll only post-doctoral students, therefore, harmonizes with the statements which have been printed, although a few exceptions, not on reflection worthwhile, have previously been made.

Flexner was opposed to the multiplication of rules and regulations. He thinks that the question of importance attached to degree is one which cannot be answered in such a way as to make sure that one is doing in every individual case the wisest possible thing. He cites Johns Hopkins as holding to the rule that admission is restricted to holders of the A. B. Degree, though there were worthy persons equally fit to enter the school who had not yet obtained the degree. In the same way the Rockefeller Institute has followed the practice of admitting only persons who have obtained the B. S. Degree

although it is an arbitrary decision, and there may be some individuals who could qualify for admission, and would be just as good as some who are admitted with restrictions pursuant to the restriction. "The same reasons lead me to believe that on the whole and in the long run we should insist that persons who have not obtained the Ph. D. Degree should obtain it at one of the many graduate schools in this country before being registered as a member of the Institute."

~~_____~~

IV - 20

1935

12/18

GENERAL (PURPOSE)

Corporation

DEGREES

Academic Procedures

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLÉN, O.

TAUB, A.

GIVENS, W.

RIDENOUR

BLICK, W.

Relations WOI

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Flexner to Veblen in regard to giving Ridenour a full-time post

as instructor.

Filed under 1935, 12/18, Chronological file

File IV-20

1935

¹⁹
12/18 and
12/23

GENERAL (PURPOSE)

Corporation

DEGREES

Academic Procedures

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

TAUB, A.

GIVENS, W.

RIDENOUR

BLISICK, W.

HIRSCHFELDER, DR. J. L.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WCAI

Letters from Veblen to Flexner and Flexner to Veblen

Source: IV-20

Filed in Chronological file, 1935, 12/18

1935

12/27

GENERAL (PURPOSE)

Corporation

DEGREES

Academic Procedures

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

TAUB, A.

Givens, W.

RIDENOUR

BLEICK, W.

HIRSCHFELDER, DR. J. L.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOAI

Veblen to Flexner

"I appreciate your remarks about the part-time arrangement, and although my experience does not agree with that which you cite, I hope that you will find me accepting the decision in the same loyal spirit in which it is taken. Indeed, I did not suggest the meeting of the mathematical group at which your letter of December 11 was discussed, but merely circulated your letter for the information of my colleagues."

1936-39

~~FACULTY PARTICIPATION~~ IN ADMINISTRATION

POLICY

FIEXNER, A.

✓VEBLEN, O.

RIEFLER, W.

MORSE, M.

GOLDMAN, H.

EINSTEIN, A.

EARLE, E. M.

Academic Personnel

Administration

Biographical

Excerpts from File V-1, IAS Faculty Minutes 1933-1950

See FACULTY PARTICIPATION - Academic Personnel Vertical File "P"

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen's file, V-2, contains originals signed letters as follows:
March 14, 1936, Veblen and Riefler to Flexner; Oct. 5, 1936, Veblen and Riefler to Flexner; *Nov. 15 1939 Veblen, Quidman + Morse to Flexner*

Also there are the two copies cited in the history of statements or memorandum submitted by Flexner to the Faculty meeting (see Veblen's history) and another, although these are not signed, and might have been his file (see File V-2) and also in the same file an apparent draft of a memorandum from Flexner to Morse dated March 15, 1939 answering the Faculty letter of March 15. At the head of this are marked the words, "Not sent" and "Keep in file" signed "AF". The presence in Veblen's file of the signed letters from the Faculty to Flexner sheds some light perhaps upon Flexner's charge in his interview that the files were "gone through" after he left in Oct. of 1939.

File V-2

1936-1944

DIRECTOR

FACULTY

TRUSTEES

BENEFITS

ECONOMICS

AYDELOTTE, F.

FLEXNER, A.

KINSTEIN

✓ VEBLER, G.

MAAS, H. H.

Administration

Academic Personnel

Corporation

Academic Personnel

Academic Activities

Biographical

Interview with Dr. Aydelotte, October 16, 1956, 10:30 a. m.

Filed in Vertical File under Aydelotte Interviews.

1936

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

GIVENS

TAUB

SEE Aydelotte's report to Board on School of Mathematics on Veblen's work with Givens and Taub for realization of what Flexner did to Veblen when he removed Givens and Taub from Institute assistants and members. Also see Veblen to Aydelotte August 26, 1941 filed Vertical under "M".

Vertical File "M" is the source for this note.

1936

2/13

GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS

Facilities

AYDELOTTE, FRANK

Biographical

✓VEBLER, OSWALD

Veblen to Aydelotte:

"...I have walked over the new property of the Institute several times since there has been a hard crust on top of the snow. This enables one to explore the woods down near the brook much better than one will be able to after the ground gets soft again. I wish that it would be possible for you to take this walk with us while the conditions underfoot are still favorable."

Source: A File IAS (home)

1936

3/6
3/14
10/9
11/2

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FLEENER, A.

Biographical

REIFLER, W.

✓ VEBLER, C.

Correspondence ~~has~~ between Fleener and Faculty on degree of
Faculty participation in administration.

Filed in Vertical File under P, Participation in Administration.

V-2 File

1936

3/6

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, C.

Flexner to Veblen, Arizona Biltmore, Phoenix, asking the Faculty again to consider the question which he raised at Faculty meeting on February 10, 1936, to consider the policy of the retirement of the present Director and the appointment of a successor and to suggest names of an associate director who might succeed. He promises to transmit in resume to the Trustees at the April, 1936, meeting ^{his} recommendations the Faculty might have.

He lists his reasons for wanting Faculty consideration at this time. He asks that these reasons and the policy behind them be laid before the Faculty. "So that I could present to the Board both sides of the question. I believe that in this way, the Professors will have a larger share in determining the policy than they are likely to have if the

General

whole question is dismissed until I myself retire."

As to the characteristics of a successful Director, he frankly describes his own.

"In choosing a person, if the Board decides to take such action, we should, I think, seek not a distinguished specialist, but rather a person of my own type; namely, one who has varied interests and sympathies, a large acquaintance with men and institutions in this country and in Europe and profound respect for scholars and their own individual ways of solving their own problems. This sort of choice seems to me important at this state, while the Institute is gradually expanding. A decade hence, some other type may be more useful; but while I shall present my views to the Board, with whom the ultimate responsibility lies and in my judgment should lie, I shall not, of course, insist upon it."

The postscript asks that the entire letter be read to the Faculty.

File V-1

1936

3/14

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FLENNER, A.

Biographical

RIEFLER, W.

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Letter from Riefler and Veblen to Fleener 3/14/36 in regard to
an unde-study and successor to ~~Maxim~~ Fleener.

Filed in Chronological File under 1936, 3/14.

B File, Faculty Meetings

1936

5
1/1

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Telegram from Flexner to Veblen and Mrs. Veblen.

Best wishes for a delightful voyage and a happy summer. We have had a wonderful year, and Anne and I appreciate deeply how greatly you have both contributed to its success.

File IV-20

1936

8/13

RIEFLER, WINFIELD W.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

VEBLEN, O.

Flexner to Riefler at Cape Cod where Riefler is rebuilding a cottage, August 13, 1936.

"The expert who really ought to survey your summer's work is Veblen. He is a regular shark when it comes to suggesting improvement so I would advise Dorothy to get a shotgun and stand guard at the front entrance if Veblen approaches, for if any man alive can make her dissatisfied with what you have done, it is he."

D File, Riefler, Winfield W., 1934-1939

1936

8/13

FELNER, ABRAHAM

Biographical

VEBLER, OSWALD

RIEFLER, WINFIELD

Felner to Riefler:

"The expert who really ought to survey your summer's work is Veblen. He is a regular shark when it comes to suggesting improvement so I would advise Dorothy to get a shotgun and stand guard at the front entrance if Veblen approaches, for if any man alive can make her dissatisfied with what you have done, it is he. On the other hand, I should like to point out some of my own qualifications as a visitor. Anything suits me as long as there is a good-looking wife or two around. I don't even mind secretaries if they measure up."

F122 S-1

1936

10.9

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

RIEFLER, W.

✓VEBLER, O.

Letter from Riefler and Veblen to Flexner, October 9, 1936, in regard to a successor and understudy for Flexner.

Filed in Chronological File under 1936, 10/9;

B File, Faculty Meetings

1936

10/13

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

GENERAL (ADMISSION FEES)

Finance

HARDIN, JOHN R.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.
Page 11.

Hardin raised the question of the tuition fee and pointed out how small was the income derived. Veblen explained that the Institute was following not only the practice of Princeton University but the custom in the great English universities which is to regard men with Ph. D. degrees and academic employment as "distinguished visitors" whose presence is beneficial to the Institute. The Director commented that the collection of the fees was a small matter, but the admission of members on a quality basis, and the question of congestion in Fine Hall, and the preservation of the time of the staff for their own studies were the important considerations. Trustees' Minutes, October 13, 1936

10/26

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓ VEBLEN; OSWALD

Biographical

Memorandum for Messrs. Aydelotte and Maass:

1. Prof. Russell wants to see Flemer to discuss questions on the ground.
 2. "I talked with Mr. Paris, explaining that with regard to the land the present policy is first, to conserve what facilities it contains and to try to use these in such a way that the Institute would at least not lose money on it; and second, to make a very modest beginning in the direction of improving the land by reforestation, etc. I also suggested that we should be glad to make an arrangement by which Mr. Paris would continue to cultivate the fields which he already has under cultivation, and perhaps extend his operations to other fields. He pointed out that it is not reasonable to expect a return from fields which have been lying waste, until some time and money have been spent upon them..."
 3. "With regard to the utilization of the Olden Manor, my wife and I got some very helpful advice from President Aydelotte, as a result of which we probably shall not initiate any general discussion of the question, but make a few inquiries and see whether it is possible to make a beginning in a small way which would not commit the Institute too far in any direction."
/s/ O.V.
- Source: A File IAS (home)

1936

10/31

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

FLEXNER, A.

✓ VEBLER, O.

Facilities

Relations WPAI

Biographical

By date of the letter to Veblen, Flexner is able to say plans for adding capacity to Fine Hall are at an end.

Flexner had investigated availability of Gateway Club but has dropped it. Mortgage exceeds value; University has a use for it.

Veblen receives information with sense of shock, and informed Flexner he was consulting his colleagues.

IV-20

1936

11/5

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

Academic Organization

ARCHEOLOGY

Academic Activities

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

GOLDMAN, HETTY

Veblen to Bailey.

Questions that in correcting the minutes whether Hetty Goldman was appointed professor. Thinks she was not.

IV-20

1936

11/7

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

Academic Organization

ARCHAEOLOGY

Academic Activities

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEENER, A.

GOLDMAN, BETTY

Fleener to Veblen.

The proposals to the Board written out and in Mrs. Bailey's hands. He repeats them as they appear in the minutes. Capps was appointed visiting professor and Goldman as professor with an honorarium of \$200 a month, only because further funds were not available in the budget, and ~~ask~~ she was eminently qualified for the appointment to professor.

File IV-20

1936

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

✓VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

HARDY, G. H.

11/7

Academic Organization

Relations WCAI

Facilities

Biographical

Letter from Flexner to Veblen acknowledging his letter of
November 7, filed under Chronological file, November 7, 1936.

IV-20

1936

11/11

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Veblen to Flexner.

Evidently the schools gave Flexner some kind of celebration, or a faculty meeting or something of the sort in between these two dates, November 7 and November 11, because it evokes from Flexner an admission that he thought he had out-foxed them, but he woke up the next morning with the knowledge that he had not.

"I should be very distressed if I thought that you could possibly misunderstand the letter which I sent you because last night's incident was much more characteristic than anything else that has happened. No matter whether you and I differ on a matter of detail, I do not for a moment lose sight of the fact that you are the maker of the School of Mathematics and without that school, fashioned as you have fashioned it, the other schools would lack an ideal towards which they can strive. On the other hand, let me ask you this: I am not of the common type of college

or university president. Tell me quite candidly always what is in your mind. If it involves far-reaching plans, do as I suggested in my recent letter. Put them on paper, and give me a chance to think of them, for I am living in a very high atmosphere for me, and I need time to think propositions over, for, until our endowment is complete, the financial side of every move needs to be carefully considered. I don't want ever to get into the position of institutions which are blocked by the lack of a few thousand dollars. I can readily understand that in the past it may have been necessary for you to feel your way carefully and that, if you had said everything that was in your mind, you might have accomplished far less than you have, but you need not employ such caution with me. You can be perfectly frank without fear that even an ambitious plan will weaken my confidence in the ultimate wisdom of your judgment. I want also, if I can, to reassure you about the University. No one but myself knows the kind of helpful cooperation which we have received, in most instances without the expenditure of a cent, from the Princeton authorities. Hardly a day passes that they do not do something for us that we simply could not do for ourselves, and they do it modestly, unostentatiously, and without asking or expecting any return. I should like, therefore, to get our relations with the University on such a matter of fact basis that the question of relationship is non-existent, and that is what I had in mind

when I deprecated a formal discussion by any group or all the groups as to the question of the relationship between the Institute and the University. Of course, as we grow, problems will arise, and we shall have to talk them over, but such problems as have arisen up to now have always been capable of settlement in an informal fashion, and that seems to me to be under the circumstances and for the time being ideal...

"So please consider this letter in the spirit of its content as a supplement to the more reasoned and formal letter which I sent you on Monday, and do not for a moment forget that, as long as I live, I shall never forget or fail to recognize the outstanding importance of your contribution towards making the Institute in point of standard and personnel in mathematics and in other subjects what it is today and what I hope it may continue to be indefinitely.

"With all good wishes and very deep appreciation!"

1936

NOTES

12/4

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOAI

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Veblen's letter explaining why he doesn't want to make an issue about parking space for automobiles of Institute people outside Fine Hall. He has spoken to Professor Smythe about it, and Smythe has said that all permanent members of the Institute should have the privilege of parking outside Fine Hall. He goes on to say that he thinks walking wouldn't hurt a lot of the Institute people, and, furthermore, that no matter what the little difficulties are attending the Institute's occupation of quarters in Fine Hall, "I should simply subordinate myself to them, in view of the fact that the use of Fine Hall, has given us the use of the library, the library and janitor service, telephone service, and luxurious quarters, and what is more important than all these put together, the easy opportunity for conference, cooperation and contact with other men interested in mathematics and mathematical physics. We must make a choice--to continue our cooperation with Princeton, ignoring everything that is

not of prime importance, or to set up shop alone. In the former case, we can hope to develop a great institution; in the latter event, we shall have a small one, and the first subject to suffer would be mathematics."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1936

12/4

POLICY

Administration

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

MEMBERS

✓VEBLIN, O.

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner, December 4, 1936.

He transmits "the little speed" which he had promised him. It deals with the relationship of the permanent professors at the Institute and the short-term (usually one year) members, and closes, "It would be hard to exaggerate the importance of the stream flowing through it to the Institute itself. If this stream should dry up, there would be danger that the 'academic heaven' would approach the state of Nirvana."

He goes on to say that the funds which the Institute devotes to the stipends for temporary ^{members} are matched and probably exceeded in amount by the contributions from outside sources. (See Interview #10 with Veblen)

The founders and Trustees of the Institute, therefore, have a right to feel that their generous support of scholarship is receiving recognition

not merely in the form of words of praise and gratitude, but also in the more concrete form of pecuniary support and ready cooperation."

File IV-20

1936

12/14

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

A letter from Veblen to Mr. Maass with blue-prints of a tentative plan for the reconditioning of Olden Manor. According to these plans, the most economical Veblen could concoct, the exterior would be left unaltered, and the good features of the interior would be undisturbed. "The structural changes would probably cost less than \$2000." Also heating, plumbing, electric wiring, redecorating, etc., making an estimated budget of \$10,000.

"The chief weakness of the plan proposed is that it does not provide servants' quarters. This is not a very serious difficulty if the house is utilized as I suggest below. But if it were to be used as a home for the Director, a servants' wing or servants' quarters in another building would probably have to be added...

Modification of the second and third floors would make nine bedrooms and four baths between the two floors.

"On the ground floor the room marked 'Library' (the present dining room) is to be improved by tearing out the present badly designed closets and staircase. The fine old fireplace in the room marked 'Dining room' would be restored. A servant's bedroom and

bath would be introduced at the expense of the present unduly large kitchen...

"...The ground floor is admirably suited for social gatherings...A place for social gatherings of the ~~xx~~ temporary members of the Institute and their wives is a very real need at the present time...Mrs. Flexner and ~~s~~the wives of the Professors have done a great deal to meet this situation, and I am sure would be greatly helped by the facilities which the Olden house would provide.

...

"Room on the second and third floors could be rented to members of the Institute... One or two could be reserved for visitors who come to the Institute on scientific or other business for short period."

Source: A File IAS (home)

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

PLEXNER, A.

VEBLEN, O.

RIEFLER, W.

MERRITT

Facilities

Biographical

No! purchased already

Veblen has evidently taken up the question of ^{improving} buying Olden Manor and Olden Farm, and Flexner is against it, because with filing interest rates there is doubt there will be money next year for Dirac or a Greek scholar whom Meritt would like to bring over for his Agera work. Such, being the case, the Olden Farm, the Olden Manor and landscaping were out of the question. It is a long letter. He says that housing for the Faculty and the closing of the golf course transaction are the big things to be concentrated upon. Let's get them finished so that Riefler and his associates may at once be ~~able~~ to get homes for themselves and quit thinking and speculating on the subject, for it really does not interest them. He suggests renting additional

space in 20 Nassau Street, and thus, "Get our minds so full of the purpose for which we exist, that we will all become relatively indifferent to buildings and grounds."

"It is, I think, quite clear that these things dwelled ~~(+)~~ much less largely in your mind than they do in mine or Riefler's or Meritt's, for we are strangers to them, but I fear them as I fear the plague for these young men bursting with ideas and alive to opportunities who find themselves distracted by things in which they are not interested, though insofar as the housing is concerned, they have got to take a minimum amount of their time to settle their problems in a brief period once and for all as you settled yours many years ago."

He sends copies to Riefler and Meritt. He worries about getting committed on the real estate thing. ~~"If we start on 69 Alexander Street,~~ We have already spent on Alexander Street three times the amount expected. ~~if we start on~~ Battle Road, landscaping, and Olden Farm, then we may have to cut the mathematics budget seriously."

~~V File, Flexner, Abraham~~ IV-20

1937

5/19

PROFESSORS (VISITING)

Academic Personnel

MEMBERS

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Veblen suggests that distinguished visitors be listed as members rather than as visiting professors.

Flexner agrees. May 31. Let each school do as it wishes.

IV-20

1937

NOTES

May 31 - June 23

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

BOHR, HEILS

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

THERE IS correspondence bet between the two, and concern the amount of the stipend offered to Bohr. Flexner criticizes Veblen for offering Bohr \$6,000 for one semester, and says it should be \$1,000 a month. Veblen replies that it was Flexner, himself, who set the amount, and Flexner, after reviewing the conversation, gracefully bows and says that this is true. Then he suggests that Veblen in writing his personal letter to Bohr explain that it is the practice of the regular members of the staff who are, likewise, well paid, to do no work outside the Institute.

~~V. Veblen, Flexner, Abraham~~

IV - 4

1937

July 3
July 9

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

BOHR, NEILS

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

RIEFLER, W.

DIRAC

Veblen replies to Flexner's capitulation on the subject of Bohr's stipend, and asks whether anything has been done about Dirac.

Veblen to Flexner, July 3, 1937.

Dirac has been waiting to go to Russia, but Veblen doubts he should go to Russia considering the circumstances there. Dirac and Bohr are great friends, and it would be fine to have them both at Princeton at the same time. Then he asks a question. Last night he saw in the paper Morgenthau has

asked Riefler to take charge of the gold buying of the government. Does that mean that Riefler would have to be in Washington, or will it be merely incidental to his other activities?

Flexner to Veblen, July 9, 1937.

I have done nothing about Dirac, nor am I until there is an increase in funds. Even so, Riefler has first call on the next million or two.

Treasury
"The newspaper account you refer to is totally wrong. Morgenthal^{er} pleased with Riefler's account of the situation abroad, offered him a handsome honorarium and an official part-time connection with the University; he promptly declined both on the ground that, (1) he was on a full-time salary (not counting strictly high-grade educational or scientific work out of term), and (2) a Treasury post would put him in politics in appearance, if not in fact. When he reported the interview to me, I wrote Morgenthau^{er} reiterating his (Riefler's) and our position. ~~He~~ In reply, M. said *advisedly* that he wished there were more such. I added that anyone in

the Institute was free to say what he thought, but that no
one would be responsible even in appearance for ~~his~~
'politics'.

~~V File, Flexner, Abraham~~ IV - 20

1937

8/19

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organisation

FOUNDERS

Corporation

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

TAUB, ABRAHAM

Flexner to Mr. Ramberger, August 19, 1937.

Sends a letter from the President of the University of Washington (State of Washington) showing how the influence of the Institute has been extended over a wide territory from Princeton to the Pacific Coast. "Last year the President of the University of Washington came to us in order to find a young instructor. The mathematicians recommended a young Jewish scholar, Dr. Abraham Taub, who went out not only to teach mathematics but to see what he could accomplish in stirring up an interest in modern mathematics in that section. Towards the end of the first year he had succeeded in so interesting his colleagues that Professor Veblen was invited

to come out this summer [1937] to give a course of lectures...
Now as the end of Veblen's work approaches, the President of
the University writes to ask if we cannot continue this sort
of cooperation, the results of which will be in time that the
University of Washington will possess not a branch of the
Institute but its own independent and thoroughly modern school
of mathematics operated by its own funds. You may be sure that
the example set by the University of Washington is not
altogether a novelty."

D. Bamberger, Louis, 1937-1944

1937

10/11

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organisation

GENERAL

Corporation

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

See page 2 of Source below for the effect of Veblen's
teaching at the University of Washington.

Trustees' Minutes, 10/11/37, p. 2

1937

11/19

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations W. O. A. I.

✓VEBLEN, O.

Meeting at dinner of Liaison Committee I. A. S. and Princeton University set for 19th November at dinner. Again Veblen visits Aydelotte before hand.

(Letters Aydelotte to Veblen 9/30/37 and Aydelotte to Flexner 9/30/37

A. File I. A. S. (home)

1938

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

facilities

SHENSTONE, ALLEN

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Veblen interested his friend Architect Roy Baughan (now in New Hope) in planning Fuld Hall. But in I. A. S. internal squabble Baughan was eliminated. His plans good. Shenstone doesn't like result.

Interview with Allen Shenstone, May 23, 1956

1938

1/24

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

VEBLEN, OSWALD
EINSTEIN, ALBERT
FLEXNER, ABRAHAM
VON NEUMANN, JOHN
WEYL, HERTHANN
MORSE, MARSTON

Academic Organization
Biographical

Flexner speaks of how the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research and the Rockefeller Foundation and the General Education Board combined their efforts in the reorganization of medical education at Johns Hopkins Medical School. "President Gilman's task therefore was the choice of his leader and adviser and having chosen him President Gilman kept his hands off...

"We have in this incident which I was fortunate enough to witness...the key to what has happened in the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. After two years, during which I consulted leading mathematicians in this country and Europe, I selected Professor Veblen to play the part which Dr. Welch had played in Baltimore. It was Professor Veblen aided to no slight extent by his colleague at Princeton, Dean Eisenhart, who selected the others. I had never heard of any one of them except Professor Einstein, who as a matter of fact preceded Professor Veblen, though he was not active until after Professor Veblen's appointment. In quick succession the Board appointed on my recommendation Professor

Alexander, Professor von Neumann, Professor Weyl, and Professor Morse, but as a matter of fact my recommendation was nothing but a repetition of the recommendation of Professor Veblen and his associates in the Institute and in Princeton University..."

1936

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1/27

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

academic organization

BUDGET

Finance

G'DEL, KURT

Biographic-1

FLENNER, A.

✓ VEBLIN, C.

Veblen to Fleener.

He regrets the awkward contents of Fleener's letter of January 26, and will take it up with his mathematical colleagues soon. He expresses himself as understanding the treatment of stipends which lapse.

V File, Fleener, Abraham

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

PANOFSKY, ERWIN

GENERAL

Administration

Flexner to Veblen:

In reference to the plans to the new Institute Flexner writes "If sixteen professors are each to have a 'crack' at the plans of the four architects the probabilities are that the plans will not be agreed on until doomsday."

"There is another point which I think ought to be cleared up in the interest of good administration. Professor Panofsky called me up last evening to say that you had called on him and made a suggestion involving a total re-arrangement of the plans for building his house. This procedure seems to me to be very bad administrative technique. Matters of this kind should be cleared over my desk or that of Mr. Maass. If the several members of the Building Committee are free to approach any of the architects or the professors building houses, without my knowledge, we shall get into inextricable confusion. I have no love for formalities, but I do have a strong feeling that the way to avoid trouble and to save time is to have a simple procedure rather than the complex one involved in

a suggestion from you to Professor Panofsky, from Professor Panofsky to me, and perhaps from me to Mr. Maass. What I did in the Panofsky case was done on the authority and with the knowledge of Mr. Maass after a protest from neighbors whose good will it is important for us to keep. The solution arrived at was not mine or that of Mr. Maass, but a solution agreed on by Mr. Comstock, Professor Panofsky's architect, Mr. Sincerbeaux, and the neighbors most deeply concerned. I told Professor Panofsky last night ~~that~~ that under no circumstances would I reopen the question. ^{MS}

1938
FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

4/5
4/6
Biographical

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

PANOFSKY, ERWIN

GENERAL

Administrative

Veblen to Flexner:

Veblen says that the Panofsky incident did not happen as Flexner stated. Veblen and his wife called on the Panofsky's and "they brought the conversation ~~around~~ around to their building enterprise and told us about the relocation of their house and the reasons for it. I remarked that I thought there might have been another way of meeting the problem which would have been less expensive to the Institute, and explained the simple geometrical point which is involved. After that I dismissed the question from my mind, but Panofsky tells me that he thought it over and came to the conclusion that he ~~wought~~ thought to make it clear that he would not object to this alternative solution, which he thought might have been overlooked in the previous consideration of the subject. So he telephoned directly to you, without consulting me."

Flexner replies on 4/6/38 that the Panofsky incident "is not worth considering except as showing how important it is not to stir these people up after a decision has

been deliberately reached." He says that the architects should have borne in mind the importance of keeping a strip of lawn continuous with that of the adjacent houses and that "if Panofsky's plans were now changed and lots 1 and 2 merged it would simply mean that whoever builds on Lot 3 would look into their back yards."

1938

5/9

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

TRUSTEES (BUILDING COMMITTEE)

Corporation

✓ VEBLER, O.

Veblen to Aydelotte, May 9, 1938.

Dr. Flexner told Veblen the day before that he had decided not to register any definite opinion about the architect "although he was clear that Larson was the best choice. He thought that you and I could deal with the matter in a tactful way, and that there would be no harm if delay should result from our deliberations. Apparently he is ~~maxing~~ no longer wanting to push the thing through to completion by some definite date." Veblen then continues to discuss ways and means of cutting down the cost of the building as proposed by Larson discussing Herzfeld's suggestions along this line. It is clear that Larson is also Herzfeld's ^{choice}, succeeded next by York and Sawyer.

V-6

1938

5/9
5/10
5/11

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

MAASS, H. H.

HARDIN, J. R.

Hardin to Maass May 9, 1938. Hardin returns proposed insurance contracts for retirement Veblen pension wife. Non-committally as usual type of contract, Home Life ~~xxx~~ of course.

Maass to Hardin, May 10, 1938. Interested in Home Life particularly but not agent who proposed plans. Asks Hardin's views.

Hardin to Maass, May 11, 1938. Hadn't listened to Maass as he presented ~~xx~~ it to Hardin in meeting of the Finance Committee and did not give ~~xx~~ his personal attention to the proposals; therefore will express no opinion but Mutual Benefit does not write this kind of policy customarily; therefore, he is disinterested.

J. R. H. Correspondence

1938

5/9
5/11

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

INVESTMENTS

Finance

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

KAASS, HERBERT H.

HARDIN, JOHN R.

Hardin to Kaass, May 9, 1938.

Returns three insurance proposals handed him which emanated from the home office of the Home Life Insurance Company. "represent customary types of contracts, and the results indicated approximate the probably offering which might be expected from other companies. The Home Life enjoys, and I believe deservedly, a very high reputation."

Hardin to Kaass, May 11, 1938.

I am afraid that I am not in a position to express an opinion as to whether it would be wise for the Institute to take out insurance to meet the Veblen situation. I did not pay particular attention to what you said to me at the Finance Committee meeting, and I did not look at the contracts very carefully. "So far as an insurance company is concerned, if the insurance be taken, you can, so far as I am concerned, give it to the agent you have already consulted. While this Company sometimes writes such policies, it is not a type of business we seek."

JRH Correspondence from January, 1937 to December, 1939

1938

5/26
5/28

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

✓VEBLER, OSWALD
AYDELOTTE, FRANK
FOUNDERS

Facilities
Biographical

Corporation

Aydelette to Mr. H.H. Haass:

"...I am sending...on to Veblen together with a copy of this letter to say that in my opinion the Crum and Ferguson drawings are good,...but that nevertheless I still hold the opinion that Larson has shown a better grasp of our problem than anyone else.

"The reason I make this suggestion is that///I spent a night with Mr. Basberger and Mrs. Fuld recently and in the course of our conversation Mr. Basberger stated that all the plans and estimates he had heard of went far beyond the figure which he originally had in mind. I asked him what his figure was and he said \$300,000, including the \$50,000 which he had already given for preliminary architectural study. He would really like us to build a building for \$250,000, retain \$40,000 for furnishings which, with the \$10,000 spent on these four architects already would make a total of \$300,000. I think Mrs. Fuld is less concerned about economy, but she is extremely anxious that no decision should be reached which would trouble Mr. Basberger.

"My own thought is that we should proceed immediately to cut down our plans to fit this estimate. I would accomplish this by having the architect make a plan which we consider adequate for the Institute eventually...the only thing I can think of is to lessen somewhat the size of the central building...leaving off the wings entirely."

Aydelette to Maass:

"...Veblen would put the needs of the School of Economics and the administrative offices second, accommodations for temporary members third, and the needs of the School of Mathematics last." He put the humanities group first.

"The social life of the Institute...might be housed temporarily in Olden Manor..."

"This makes it seem at least possible to erect a building within the limit of \$250,000, which, with Olden Manor and 69 Alexander Street, would take care of everything, except Mathematics, and I myself am inclined to think that it might even be possible to arrange quarters for two or three mathematics professors in addition..."

Source: A File IAS (home)

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

FOUNDERS

GIFTS

GENERAL

BOHR, NIELS

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Facilities

Corporation

Finance

Public Relations

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen.

See Chronological File or Subject File under any of the above references for a memorandum regarding procuring a new building for the Institute.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1938

7/7

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

HARDIN

Hardin to Maass.

Analysis of Harris' insurance plans for Veblen and Mrs. Veblen's pensions. Cold and opposed--presents simple plan actuarial analysis of plans.

Hardin Miscellaneous

1938

7/7

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

MAAES, H. H.

Biographical

HARDIN, J. E.

VEBLER, O.

See source for elaborate Home Life Insurance Company plan worked out for Veblen's and Mrs. Veblen's retirement benefits and comments by Hardin.

JRH, Miscellaneous Papers, Filed in JRH 1940-45

1938

7/22

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

AYDELOTTE, P.

Biographical

/VEBLEN, O.

Memo

Letter from Aydelotte to Maass and Leidesdorf regarding estimates of Larson and Sawyer for the new building.

Filed in Chronological File under 1938, 7/22.

A IAS (T)

1938

7/22

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

FLEKNER, A.

✓ VEBLIN, O.

Aydelotte to Flekner, July 22, 1938.

The Building Committee has met that day in New York, and discussed carefully qualifications of York and Sawyer and of Larson, architects. Aydelotte favored Larson and arranged it so that Larson could see Haass and Ledeborff the next week so that he can inform them what he can do with the money which is available. "It is my present intention not to attend this conference since I want Mr. Haass to become enamored of Larson on his own account."

Haass suggested that Veblen come from Maine to attend the meeting of July the following week and he is going to come. He makes no comment on the Stewart matter in that letter.
D File, Aydelotte, Frank, 1930-1945

1938

VEBLER

7/38

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

FOUNDERS

GIFTS

GENERAL

BOHP, WILLS

✓ VEBLER, G.

~~FLEXNER, A.~~

Facilities

Corporation

Finance

Public Relations

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner, July 22, 1938.

We first heard from Mease a statement of the amount available for the building; namely, \$300,000. They reviewed some of the plans which were unsatisfactory. Requirements will have to be reduced.

He has seen Mr. Galpin of the G. E. S. Educational Foundation, and was pleased to find they are interested in

having Rosenfeld come to Princeton along with Bohr. So on Galpin's suggestion, Veblen is writing Bohr that Rosenfeld should apply for one of the G. E. S. advanced fellowships.

With respect to the reduction in requirements, "I hope, however, that we will not be forced to make any which really affect the character of the Institute. I believe I am inclined to attach more importance to the effect of physical environment than you are, and I really think that in this particular instance there is much to be said for my point of view."

V File, Fleener, Abraham

1938

7/26

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

FOUNDERS

Corporation

GIFTS

Finance

GENERAL

Public Relations

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Veblen, July 26, 1938.

Flexner sympathizes with Veblen's susceptibility to the effect of physical environment. He points out, however, that the history of science is on his part rather than on Veblen's. Few men have had even decent surroundings. In Fine Hall, Weyl is happier in a smaller room than yours, and Johnny is productive in a room smaller than Weyl's. The number of rooms is more important than their size; also having a room of one's own is more important than size for most people. Finally, don't forget that what you put in space

you may loose from capital, and, therefore, from
mathematical stipends. If the choice is between buildings
and persons, and the decision is in favor of buildings,
stipends will inevitably be cut. Shrinkage of income may
bring this about anyway.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1930

9/13

FURNISH

Corporation

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

ATKOLTER, F.

Biographical

FISHER, A.

RUSSELL, WILSON, O.

Pleaser to Aydelette , September 13, 1930.

"I had, as I wrote you, a very interesting and satisfactory visit with Mr. Bomberger and Mrs. Paid. They too are now back at South Orange, and I talked with Mr. Bomberger shortly after my return Sunday."

He has earlier expressed worry that Veblen is sitting too much with Larson in the period of the developing plans for the Institute. He thinks that Veblen wants too large offices and too uniform offices, and he cautions on it several times, notably in this letter.

D. File, Aydelette, Frank, 1930-1945

1938

9/21

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

FLEISHER, ABRAHAM

Biographical

✓VEHLEN, OSWALD

Fleisher to ^Manss:

"I have yours of September 20 in reference to the pension of Professor Veblen. If we are to set aside from our annual income the sum of \$10,000 the Institute's activities will have to be curtailed, and I ^{do} add that some other director will have to curtail them.

"...I am heartily tired of these trivialities."

Source: IAS Trustees - Manss, Herbert H.

1938

DATE 9/24

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

✓ VEBLER, O.

Veblen to Aydelotte, September 24, 1938.

"Thanks for the copy of your letter to Haass about the Maxwell property. I called up Dr. Flexner and got his point of view, which I suppose you have had in full by this time. He thinks it is out of the question to get this land at present, and thinks that we shall have another chance in the future. You know of course that I agree with you on the subject, but I have been made conscious by other financial decisions that there is very little chance of doing anything at the present time.

"I presume that there will be a meeting of our committee very shortly now, and hope that I shall have a chance to chat with you about all these affairs on that occasion.

"We arrived here the day before yesterday..."

Mrs. Stern's note: Considering how careful Flexner was to hide the news of Stewart's coming appointment and how carefully he avoided Veblen on this question of the Maxwell land, it is interesting that Aydelotte and Veblen correspond about it.

IAS
A File, /Transfer

1938

NOTES

10/8x 10/7

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner is sending to Veblen a copy of Larson's floor plans of the proposed first building to be erected on Olden Farm. He asks Veblen and his colleagues to scrutinize the drawings carefully and meet the architect who will be at Princeton Inn on certain dates, and will confer with anyone who has suggestions that he wishes to make. He suggests an appointment to be made with Larson through Miss Bichelsler.

"After Mr. Larson has received criticism and suggestions from you and the other members of the Institute faculty, he will do what, in his judgment, is desirable in the way of meeting them. The contract for the building will be then immediately thereafter, and no structural changes will be made during the course of construction."

V file, Flexner, Abraham

1938

10/9

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

STEWART, W. W.

WARREN

FLEXNER, A.

See Veblen's remarks welcoming Stewart - Warren to Faculty at Board meeting. Gives color to theory his and Flexner's differences arose in January, 1939, in a fight over something else and Veblen used discontent of Earle with the new appointments.

Trustees' Minutes, 10/9/38

1930

1930

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

STEWART, WALTER

WISNER, EARLE

HISLOR, W. W.

DOUG, R.

VEBLIN, T.

Academic Organization
Relations U.S.A.I.
Biographical

Report (Director) and recommendation for appoiate of Stewart and Hislor

Tr. No. - 19/10/30 - pp. 4/13

1938

10/14
10/22
11/23
11/25

SCHOOLS OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER

Friendly correspondence regarding stipends for members.
Fubini arrangement to get emigre in. Flexner (11/25) says he
shall ask Leidesdorf to waive requirement that unspent money
be returned to Treasurer. Suggests as to Birkhoff and
Smith Veblen is inviting them--should say stipends will be
paid $\$$ if money is available. Board will act in January--
won't know before.

IV-20

1938

11/17

GENERAL

Public Relations

FISHER, A.

Biographical

HINCH, E. A.

ALEXANDER

✓ VEBLER, C.

Telegram to the President of the United States.

"Speaking in behalf of the Faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study we are authorized to endorse fully your condemnation of racial and religious intolerance in Germany and elsewhere to express the hope that the United States may become an active factor in the solution of this desperate and urgent problem."

B - "p"

11/19

1938
FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

Biographical

FLEXNER, WILLIAM

VEBLEN, OSWALD

AYDELOTTE, FRANK

Veblen to Aydelotte, November 19, 1938.

"A couple of weeks ago I spoke with Mr. Hoo about the possibility of a Guggenheim Fellowship for William Flexner, who is now an Assistant Professor at Cornell...Young Flexner never got a National Research Fellowship because his father was Chairman of the Board which awarded these fellowships. At present his uncle will not allow funds of the Institute to be used for a stipend for him here in Princeton. On the other hand he is developing scientifically in a way which would justify his being given the sort of encouragement which normally comes to a young scientist at his stage of development. His work is just at a point where he would profit very greatly by a year at such a place as our Institute. I wonder whether you could, without embarrassment to yourself, give me some idea as to whether there is any probability of his getting a Guggenheimward."

V-3

1938

11/25

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

DIRECTOR

FLEXNER, A.

✓VEBLEN, O.

Academic Personnel

Administration

Biographical

Flexner to Veblen.

Mathematics faculty will have to make up their minds on
inviting members. Do they want to spend stipend on Douglas
who is fine mathematician but has had breakdown?

IV-30

1938

11/26

VEBLEN, OSWALD

Biographical

Veblen wires Hardy of Trinity College, Cambridge: "L'Americain Courant and I have resigned was the communication." (*from Rentfree Blatt*)

File IV-20

1938

~~NOTES~~

12/9
12/12

HOUSING

Facilities

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WPAI

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Veblen to Flexner, December 9, 1938.

He doesn't doubt that Flexner is right as a matter of policy in opening Institute lots to outsiders, but he believes it should be discussed by the Buildings and Grounds Committee. He suggests that lots on Battle Road are worth between \$5000 and \$10,000 each, and asks whether or not there should be a difference between ~~what~~ what outsiders and Institute people pay, and if so, what it should be.

Flexner to Veblen, December 12, 1938.

He agrees with bringing it up for discussion at the Committee.

~~V. File, Flexner, Abraham~~ IV-20

1938

12/19

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

Foundations

GENERAL (ZENTRALBLATT)

Publications

WEAVER, WARREN

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

PLENNER, A.

Letter from Weaver to Pleenner, December 19, 1938, regarding above. Also correspondence relating to Courant and Sengebauer in file.

Letter of Dec. 19 filed in Chronological file under 1938, ~~EXX~~
~~EX/19X~~ 12/19.

D. Warren Weaver

1939
EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

AYDELOTTE, F.

✓VEBLEN, O.

BAILEY, E.

See interview with Mrs. Esther Bailey 10/31/55

1939

1/11

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, WILLIAM

Veblen to Flexner (Veblen in Florida).

Sends copy of a letter from William Flexner to him regarding relating year off from Cornell to be at Institute. Veblen says he will be back in Princeton January 20 and wants to discuss with Flexner. Mathematics faculty all for it. But Veblen implies there is a personal angle which Flexner may be interested in. Cause of dispute?

IV-20

NOMINATIONS (p. 7)

Academic Personnel

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION (pp. 4-13)

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY (p. 6,7)

Relations WOAI

FLEXNER, A. (pp. 4-10)

Biographical

✓ VEBIEN, O. (p. 10)

WEED (p. 10, 11)

CARRELL (p. 11)

SABIN (p. 11)

RIEFLER, W. W. (p. 12)

Flexner on autonomous schools. Protests against idea
it is disorder. Comments on Faculty government.

Trustees' Minutes, 1/23/39

1939

1/30

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner coldly tells Veblen mathematics faculty should settle one thing: How to keep relations with Fine Hall mathematicians. There is no possibility of library at Fuld Hall at present--problem then of utilizing library of Fine Hall. Suggests he (Flexner) will consult with Veblen and someone else not mentioned when mathematics faculty has decided.

1939

NOTES

1/30

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOA

FLANNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flanner to Veblen, January 30, 1939.

He suggests that the mathematical group should meet to discuss the way in which it can keep up its active relationships with the Princeton mathematical group after Fuld Hall is ready for occupation. He suggests that they bring their conclusions to him for discussion.

He gives two warnings:

(1) We will not be financially in a position next year to provide Fuld Hall library facilities, perhaps not even library facilities of a meagre sort; hence we must utilize the library at Fine Hall.

(2) Furthermore, the functional unity of both groups should be preserved. After Veblen's group consults with him about a solution to these two problems, Flexner would arrange a conference with Dean Eisenhart, and the implication is that they will participate.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1939

1/31

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Corrects Minutes 1/23/39 to show emphasis on autonomy
of 3 schools which Mrs. Bailey didn't have.

IV-20

1939

NOTES

2/9

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organisation

GENERAL

Publications

HEUGENBAUER, OTTO/

Biographical

FLEISHER, A.

✓ VEBLER, O.

Veblen to Fleisher.

He recites some of Heugenauber's history. He founded the Zentralblatt für Mathematik in Göttingen in 1931 as a professor of mathematics, and from the beginning the Zentralblatt has been published by Julius Springer of Berlin, one of a number published by Julius Springer in various fields of science. "From the beginning, it has served a useful purpose in bringing together in convenient form the suitable criticism all the published mathematical work of the world." It has a distinguished part of editors, a large number of collaborators and reviewers, most of them are, of themselves mathematicians of some distinction. After the

Nazis came into power in Germany, Neugebauer was perhaps the leading historian in mathematics, moved to Copenhagen and continued to edit the Zentralblatt. The Springer Publishing House in Berlin was subjected to pressure by the Nazis. Springer dropped the distinguished Italian mathematician, Levi-Civita, from the list of associate editors without consulting Neugebauer, and replied to Neugebauer's question about it that it was the consequence of anti-semitic decrees in Italy. Springer added that Neugebauer must give him before the first of December a formal engagement that no article by a German author would be reviewed by an emigré. Neugebauer resigned as of December 1, and was followed by a number of the associate editors. A large number of the collaborators has resigned. Springer has replaced Neugebauer by an obscure mathematician named Ulrich.

Veblen resigned from the Board, brought the situation to the attention of Mr. Koppel of Carnegie, Mr. Weaver of the Rockefeller Foundation. Both were interested in Neugebauer as well as in the problem of the Zentralblatt. Neugebauer has been appointed to a Chair in the History of Mathematics at Brown University where it is hoped that he will be able to

continue his researches in this field under favorable auspices. Carnegie Corporation has authorized its president, "to commit the corporation to a grant of not more than \$66,000 to permit the establishment in this country of an international journal of mathematics on the presentation of a satisfactory plan of operation." Veblen says that \$6,000 is to be used in establishing Hoengebauer at Brown, and the remaining \$60,000 for the new journal. Hoengebauer will collaborate in setting up the new journal, but will not necessarily be its permanent editor.

Veblen told Keppell that the grant for the new journal should be available on a diminishing scale during the first ten years of the journal's existence. Keppell replied that the corporation did not want to prescribe the manner in which the money should be used, but Vanevor Bush, President of Carnegie Institution, is interested in the project and competent to understand the details.

The American Mathematical Society appointed a committee consisting of professors C. H. Adams, Chairman, G. F. Birkhoff,

A. V. Coble, T. C. Fry, H. Morse, and C. T. Whyburn to study the problem in detail, and if they found it desirable to take the necessary steps toward founding a new journal.

Further details in the letter on the estimated cost of publication of the journal, which Veblen estimates will be between \$15,000 and \$20,000 a year. For this, there will be available \$60,000 from the Carnegie Corporation which can legitimately be used up over a period of 10 years. He thinks it would be good to get an equal subvention from the Rockefeller Foundation. Also, there would be income from subscriptions, and some form of subvention from the American Mathematical Society (\$1,000 a year has been proposed, but Veblen thinks \$2,000 a year is more like it), a subvention from the Mathematical Association of America (an organization on the collegiate rather than the university level), and subventions from other mathematical and scientific societies in various parts of the world, and from financial and philanthropic foundations.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1939

~~1939~~

2/10
2/14

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Flexner writes two rather sharp letters to Veblen, indicating that the School of Mathematics is seeking to corral more space in the new building than it has the right to.

~~V FILE, Flexner, Abraham~~

IV-20

1939

2/10
2/13
2/14

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (FULD HALL)

Facilities

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

Flexner to Veblen. Regarding plans for space assignment in Fuld Hall. Ironically suggests that School of Historical Studies and School of Economics and Politics will likewise have distinguished visitors.

See other letters.

IV-20

1939

4/1

FACULTY PARTICIPATION

Academic Personnel

POLICY

Administration

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

~~VEBLEN, O.~~

RIEFLER, W.

MORSE, M.

GOLDMAN, H.

EINSTEIN, A.

EARLE, E. M.

Letter from Prof. Morse to Prof. Meritt - File V-2

See FACULTY PARTICIPATION - Academic Personnel

1939

4/10

DIRECTOR

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, G.

STEWART, W. W.

FLENNER, A.

Date of third Faculty dinner presumably social given by
Einstein with purpose Fleener must go.

Stewart Interview, February 6, 1956, p. 2

1939

5/27
5/31

TRUSTEES (COMMITTEES)

Corporation

PLANNER, A.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

RIEFLER, W.

MAASS, HERBERT H.

Flexner to Maass, May 27, 1931.

He is submitting a slate of committees to Mr. Maass. He suggests a supplanting of Veblen on the Committee on Buildings and Grounds by Riefiler, not because Veblen has not been useful, but because he takes so much time to do it, and Riefiler gets done what Veblen does in about one-tenth of the time.

Maass to Flexner, May 31, 1939 .

He is reluctant to concede the point. If, however, Flexner thinks that Veblen is taking too much time, he would have no objection to

supplanting him with Riefler.

As to other committee nominations suggested by Flexner, he doubts the wisdom of Mr. Hardin's appointment as a member of the Budget Committee (Flexner suggested him as Chairman of the Finance Committee). For Flexner's suggestion of Riefler as Chairman of the Committee of Nominations, Maass substitutes Aydelotte.

Maass questions the advisability of Stewart as Chairman of the Executive Committee on the ground that he is a Faculty member.

D File, Herbert H. Maass, 1939-1946

1939

6/18

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

HARLS, S. H.

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

✓ VEHLIN, G.

HILFMAN, W.

STEWART, W.W.

Marie's letter to Haas and Leidesdorf on administrative matters in which faculty is interested; choice of new Director, new appointments, Faculty, Trustee representatives and comments thereon, budget.

Vertical File, Marie-1

1939

6/18

FACULTY PARTICIPATION

POLICY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FLEXNER, A.

✓VEBLEN, O.

RIEFLER, W.

MORSE, M.

GOLIMAN, H.

EINSTEIN, A.

EARLE, E. M.

MAASS, H.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Academic Personnel

Administration

Corporation

Biographical

A letter from EME with administrative suggestions for IAS

See FACULTY PARTICIPATION - Academic Personnel

1939

7/17
7/23

FACULTY

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

VEBLER, G.

Copies of letters from Veblen to Aydelette, July 17, and
July 23, 1939:

(July 17): "I have just received a letter from Berle,
dated the 13th saying that he had written to you to urge that
there should be no hesitation in taking the necessary steps
to make a change in the directorship of the Institute this summer.
I should like to add my voice to his.

"A further delay would probably not harm me personally
more than it would most other members of the faculty, but I
fear that it would do the Institute as a whole very considerable
harm. To allow the present tense and uncertain situation to

continue is likely to have a bad effect on morale, to divide the faculty into factions, and to cause personal differences which may be hard to heal. All of these dangers will be accentuated by the circumstances of our being brought close together for the first time in the new building. They would be avoided if a new direction were chosen ^{this summer.} [there is crossed out material here--the rest follows lacking some of the original sense]. adjust ourselves to the new administration with a minimum of doubt and disturbance.

"It is possible that the present director could successfully stand on his legal right to serve out the year for which he has been formally elected. This however is no reason why the Trustees should not (1) meet to choose their part of a joint committee, (2) call a meeting of the Faculty to choose its representatives on their committee, (3) receive the report of the joint committee and elect the new director before Oct. 1st. The latter, if he could not take formal charge before the following June would have many useful things to do.

"This letter is not too confidential. You are perfectly free to show it to any of the Trustees or the Founders if you wish."

(July 23, 1939): "To confirm what I said on the telephone in answer to your inquiry this afternoon, I should be very glad to come to New York for a conference on the I. A. S. directorship at any time, and to stay for several days if necessary. I hope that the result of such a conference will be an early meeting of the Trustees at which they would appoint 2 or 3 members of a committee to recommend a new director and call a meeting of the Faculty to choose 2 or 3 other members of this committee. This procedure is in accordance with the by-laws which provide for a committee without specifying its membership. The director is elected yearly and the appointment of ^a the committee is justified, even if the present director has not yet resigned, by the general expectation that he will soon retire. If, as I thought you said, Flexner had (has?) indicated to you (or to any one else) an intention of retiring at an early date there is all the more reason for prompt action.

"In any case, there is no reason why the Trustees should not meet when the Institute is not formally in session, and I should think that it is their duty to meet as soon as a

reasonable number of them are convinced that there is important business to attend to. An informal conference should have the effect of convincing them of this.

"As to a meeting of the Faculty, most members are within easy reach, and two who have gone abroad have left proxies (with Einstein I believe) in view of the possibility of a summer meeting. I think a representative meeting could be had on relatively short notice.

"With regard to this committee I, of course, cannot predict how long its deliberations would last, but if it is in existence before Oct. let ~~everything work out~~ the next academic year will be much more profitable than it would otherwise be. If the committee's report were ready and acted on by the Trustees by that date everything would be much better both because of the reasons given in my last letter (which are powerful ones in view of the recent [?] behavior of the present director) and because of important decisions which have to be made in connection with the new building."

1939

7/17

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen to Aydelotte, July 17.

"I have just received a letter from Earle dated the 13th saying that he had written to you to urge that there should be no hesitation in taking the necessary steps to make a change in the Directorship of the Institute this summer. I should like to add my voice to his.

"A further delay would probably not harm me personally more than it would most of the other members of the Faculty, but I fear that it would do the Institute as a whole very considerable harm. To allow the present tense and uncertain situation to continue is likely to have a bad effect on morale, to divide the Faculty into factions, and to cause personal differences which may be hard to heal. All of these dangers will be

accentuated by the circumstance of our being brought close together for the first first time in the new building. They would be avoided if a new Director were chosen this summer.

"...(lost words) adjust ourselves to the new administration with a minimum of doubt and disturbance.

"It is possible that the present Director could successfully stand on his legal side to serve out the year for which he has been formally elected. This, however, is no reason why the Trustees should not: (1) Meet to choose their part of a joint committee, (2) Call a meeting of the Faculty to choose its representatives on this committee, (3) To see the report of the joint committee and elect the new Director before October 1. The latter if he could not take formal charge before the following June would have many useful things to do. This letter is ~~not~~ not too confidential. You are perfectly free to show it to any of the Trustees or the founders if you wish."

This copy is extracted from a very much amended longhand draft. Part of the material which is crossed out expresses a concern in Veblen's mind about the reaction of Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld to the pleas for

delay which are sure to be made. In this light he suggests that in such a case the new Director could be chosen this summer and could understudy during the following year. This, however, was eliminated apparently, although it might have been a part of the current letter.

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Re Veblen from Brooklin, Hancock County, Maine, to Aydelotte.

They have had a telephone conversation, and he writes to confirm their understanding. He expresses himself willing to come to New York for a conference on the Directorship at any time to stay for several days if necessary. "I hope that the result of such a conference will be an early meeting of the Trustees at which they would appoint two or three members of a committee to recommend a new Director and call a meeting of the Faculty to choose two or three other members of this committee. This procedure is in accordance with the by-laws which provide for a committee without specifying its membership. The Director is elected yearly, and the appointment of a committee justified even if the present Director has not yet resigned, by the general expectation that he will soon retire. If, as I thought you said, Flexner had indicated to you (or to anyone else) an

better both because of the ~~powerful~~ powerful ones in view of the behavior of the present ~~powerful~~

1939

7/26

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

FLEXNER, A.

Aydelotte to Veblen, July 26, 1939.

Veblen is at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island,

"I have your letter and telegram (not in the file) and want to talk to you on the telephone on Saturday concerning plans for a meeting. I hope to have some word by then as to what time will be convenient for other people concerned. I think it possible that New York on Monday or Tuesday will be best. If convenient for you we should love to have you come straight from Providence to our house and we could then go over to New York together. I can send to meet you at the 30th Street Station whenever you arrive..." Aydelotte gives Veblen most elaborate instructions for reaching him on private telephones, etc.

A IAS (T)

August - October

FOUNDERS

Corporation

STEWART, WALTER W.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

AYDELOTTE, F.

ZAMBERGER, E.

✓ VEBLIN, O.

RIEFLER, W.

HOUGHTON

WEED

ROCKEFELLER

Foundations

Handwritten notes in Stewart's file during period of August to October, 1939, and concerning Flexner's retirement.

Filed in Chronological File under 1939, August ¹⁷⁻²⁵ ~~October~~.

S File, General, 1939-1942

1939

8/9

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

EARLE, E. M.

Veblen to Earle saying he had suggested "a few words from Einstein might help" in getting Flexner out. This brings into question Earle's threat to Maass ~~ka~~ that Einstein will resign if Flexner doesn't go.

Earle papers, vertical

1939

NOTES

8/12

~~8/18~~

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Flexner to Veblen, August 12, 1939.

✓Dear Professor Veblen: I take this means to inform you that I shall, at the end of the meeting of the Board to be held October 9, ask to be relieved of my duties as Director of the Institute, effective as of that date.

I neednot say that if, pending the selection of a successor, there is anything I can do for the Institute, I shall be glad to comply with the wishes of the Trustees.

It is the desire of Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld that no publicity be given at this time to my imminent retirement.

For your cooperation in the upbuilding of the Institute, you have my heartiest thanks and deepest appreciation.

Sincerely yours, Abraham Flexner.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1939

NOTES

8/18

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Veblen to Flexner, August 18, 1939.

Dear Dr. Flexner: I have your letter of the 12th signifying your intention of retiring from the directorship of our Institute. It is easy to imagine some of the conflicting emotions which must accompany so important a decision, but I hope that the deepest of these is a sense of satisfaction at the extent to which the Institute is an image of your original plan. It seems to me that there are very good reasons for expecting it to hold true to those original purposes and for a long time to come.

With cordial wishes for your continued health and happiness, Yours sincerely, Veblen.

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1939

10/16
to
11/16

DIRECTOR

Administration

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

✓ VEBLEN, O.

October 16, Flexner to Dr. and Mrs. Frank Aydelotte, a telegram, "Heartiest congratulations and best wishes. I am extremely happy. 'May the Lord bless you and guide you, and may he let the light of his countenance shine upon you and give you success.'"

October 18, Aydelotte to Dr. and Mrs. Abraham Flexner, a telegram, "Deeply appreciate your warm-hearted telegram. Delighted with report of Dr. Flexner's release. Look forward with humility and enthusiasm the ^{to} task of carrying out his great dream on foundations he has laid. Marie joins in such love to you both. Frank."

October 17, 1939, Flexner to Aydelotte, "I have been overwhelmed with letters and telephone calls, the former of which I will show you

when you are here. //Everybody concurs with Rodde that no better selection could have been made. You and Marie cannot imagine how happy I am that such is the universal verdict." He is disposing of light correspondence so that Aydelotte would not be bothered with it. "A few little questions about the building have arisen. If they are trivial I take care of them; if anything of moment is involved I shall, of course, leave it to you.

"I had yesterday a long talk with Veblen--brought about quite incidentally--about the dinners and about his advice to Earle not to lunch with me. He had not a word to say in self-defence. He said things, however, not one of which is true. I do not believe that he is wilfully dishonest, but he is a queer duck with what Stewart calls 'a twisted mind,' and I am determined that you shall not be embarrassed by him as I have been embarrassed during the last six months. The way in which ever member of the faculty spoke to Mr. Houghton and the letters and messages I am receiving from them show conclusively, as you will see, that Veblen is absolutely self-deceived. He had, I suspect, not a motive but an ambition, which, fortunately, the Trustees have disappointed. Give my love to Marie and believe me, Ever affectionately, Abraham Flexner. P. S. I am sorry to find that Veblen has talked to you over the telephone about several trivial things, all of which could wait, and

1939

16/17

DIRECTOR

Administration

TRUSTEES

Corporation

BOUGHTON

Biographical

VEBLIN

AYDELOTTE

Flexner to Aydelotte.

Implies that Veblen had not a motive but an ambition to succeed Flexner.

He had a long talk with Veblen in which Veblen said things which were not true. He is not dishonest, Flexner thinks, but has "a twisted mind."

Flexner determined that Aydelotte shall not be embarrassed by Veblen as Flexner has been.

A, Flexner

1939

NOTES

11/13

PLEXNER, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Flexner acknowledges flowers tardily to Mrs. Veblen.

"I hope that we shall be coming back to Princeton from time to time, and that the friendships which we have formed here will not die away. With all good wishes to you and your husband. Flexner."

V File, Flexner, Abraham

1939

11/22

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

FLEXNER, A.

Aydelotte to Veblen, enclosing a draft of the resolutions ~~and~~
"written as if they had, by agreement, been adopted both by the Board and
by the Faculty. I should be grateful if you would revise them in every
way possible way that may occur to you, and let me have the results of
your efforts Friday morning before the Executive Committee meets at noon.
Show them, of course, to anyone who might (?) for suggestions."

1939

11/27

AYDELOTTE F.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

FLEXNER, A.

BAILEY, MRS.

Bailey to Aydelotte.

Professor Veblen has just telephoned asking me to send you the enclosed eight copies of the resolutions concerning Dr. Flexner's retirement which were drawn up by the committee. These resolutions have been agreed to by all members of the Faculty who are now in Princeton. See copy of the resolution attached to the carbon.

V-6

1939

11/27 27

FACULTY

Academic Personnel

TRUSTEES

Corporation

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Letter from Blake to Aydelotte, Nov. 27, 1939 enclosing 6 copies of the resolutions concerning Dr. Flexner's retirement which were drawn up by the committee.

Filed in Chronological File under 1939, 11/27.

A File IAS (T)

1939

12/28

DIRECTOR

Administration

TRUSTEES

Corporation

AYDELOTTE, P.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, C.

Aydelotte to Veblen.

Has report for trustees meeting written but believes it would save time for him not to read it but to present points needing action. Proposes cutting various standing committees to report to Board directly in morning. Asks Veblen's advice.

V-6

GENERAL

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

POLICIES

✓ VEBLER, O.

Pages 389-90.

L. Rosenberg

Academic Personnel

Relations W&A

Administration

Biographical

1940

FLEXNER, A.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

See interview with Flexner, Oct. 31, 1955

Scrutiny of chapters 27 and 28 in I Remember reveals Flexner as constructively omitting reference to Veblen in the basic account of the formation of IAS. He mentions many but alludes to Veblen only three times: (1) p.370. He sat in Veblen's chair at the Institute's School of Mathematics in Fine Hall at a meeting of the mathematics members of the Faculty. (2) p.385. About Weyl:

"From Berlin I went to Göttingen where I saw Professor Weyl and invited him to accept a professorship. He ~~stated~~ hesitated to leave his native land-- a hesitation with which I completely sympathized, though later he joined us, as did also Veblen, who suggested Alexander, of the Princeton group, Von Neumann, a Hungarian teaching in the University of Berlin, and Morse of Harvard."

(3) p.390. Apropos to the taking of so many emigres forced to depart Germany he says that ~~many~~ if vacancies occur henceforth they ought to be filled with young Americans. "I was thoroughly conscious of the danger which I was running and I remember quite distinctly a chance meeting with Professor Veblen in Göttingen when we discussed the Institute. I asked him if he would be interested in being associated with it..."

Granting that the Veblen file was at the Institute when he wrote I Remember he could hardly have failed to remember how closely he had worked with Veblen since about June of 1932. Correspondence reveals that it was no "chance" meeting in Göttingen.

"I Remember" Chapters 27 & 28

1940

1/1

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

TRUSTEES

Corporation

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen (Island Inn, Florida) to Aydelotte, January 1, 1940.

He approves procedures Aydelotte has sent him outlining next Trustees meeting. He thinks that it would be better and more useful if all the meeting of the Trustees were held in Princeton, "both because of the physical presence as some of the problems and because of the possibility of informal discussion with the various people involved. Is there any need for a written director's report more than once a year?"

"The main detail that I am anxious about is, as you know, the appropriation for stipends in Math. For the present year this has been reduced from \$30,000 to \$17,500. It is terribly important for the work in this field to restore this appropriation as soon as sound financial policy will permit. It is also very important to make at least a partial appropriation for 1940-41 at this meeting. From the present stage in the

academic year onward it gets more and more difficult to make the sort of appointments which we most desire."

A File, IAS (T)

1940

3/23

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

Foundations

THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Academic Activities

✓ VEBLER, O.

BIOGRAPHICAL

AYDELOTTE, P.

Veblen to Aydelotte on Atomic fission and theoretical physics program.

Filed in Chronological file under 1940, 3/23.

V-3

1940

4/10

ROCKEFELLER

Foundations

EMIGRES

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

STEWART, W. W.

BOHR, NEILS

BOHR, HARALD

PAULI, WOLFGANG

Veblen to Flexner, April 10, 1940.

Stewart has told the Rockefeller Foundation that the Institute is interested in the fate of the two Bohrs. Stewart thought it was essential that any communication should come directly from the Director.

The Rockefeller Foundation has in April, 1937, declined a request from Dr. Flexner that they should provide funds for calling Neils Bohr and Dirac to Princeton. The fact that they declined in 1937 may mean an acceptance now.

Perhaps it would be wise to anticipate the taking by Nazi Germany of all its small neighbors; therefore, why not take steps to move Pauli, at least temporarily, away from Zürich.

Stewart thinks it is well to tak the whole idea over with Mr. Fosdick, making use of letters written to Aydelotte by Aydelotte and von Neumann together on the latter subject.

File V-3

1940

4/10

PAULI

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

Veblen to Aydelotte, April 10, 1940.

"I showed Professor Stewart my letter to you dated March 15 and the letter signed jointly by von Neumann and myself dated March 23. I raised the question whether he did not think it was reasonable to anticipate the possibility that Germany would take possession of its other small neighbors,- in particular, why should we not take steps to move Pauli, at least temporarily, away from Zürich, since he would play an important role in any program for theoretical physics? Stewart thought that this was a sensible idea. He suggested that it would be well to talk the whole question over with Mr. Podick, making use of these two letters which show that we have been thinking for some time about the problems involved."

V-3

1940

5/3

TRUSTEES

Corperation

NOMINATIONS

Academic Personnel

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

FOUNDERS

Corperation

RIEFLER, W. W.

Biographical

STEWART, W. W.

✓VEBLEN, O.

Aydelotte to Bamberger and to Flexner suggesting Bamberger, Noe, Douglas & Rosenwald, reserving nomination of Schaap till later. To Flexner suggesting that 3 faculty members who will probably resign 5/22/40 should remain on committees of Trustees. Not sent. Handwritten notes in file indicate Bamberger objected to resignation of 3 at once--suggested Board keep Stewart. Notes indicate Veblen under pressure Aydelotte to resign and "wavering."

A, 10/18/56, Misc. #2

1940

5/3

TRUSTEES

Corperation

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

STEWART, W. W.

RIEFLER, W.

VEBLER, O.

Aydelotte to Flexner, May 3, 1940.

Ask Flexner for suggestions which Aydelotte should make to Mr. Houghton for the Institute committees for 1940-1941.

"As you know, Mr. Stewart and Mr. Riefler intend to resign from the Board of Trustees at the meeting on May 13, and it is just possible that Mr. Veblen will do the same, though he has not as yet signified to me that intention."

He suggests that even if they all resign, Riefler should be kept on the Finance Committee, Stewart on the Committee on Nominations, and Veblen on the Committee on Buildings and Grounds, since they will be very useful, and have worked with the members of

the Board very well.

No answer in the file from Flesner on this.

D File, Flesner, Abraham

1940

5/5
5/8

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen to Aydelotte, May 5, 1940.

He alludes to an article in the New York Times about the "uranium affair." When Veblen was in Washington he learned that although this was a military secret the question is being investigated by a committee under direct orders of the President. "This should make it sure that the experimental physicists will get the financial support that they need. But why should we not use it as an argument in favor of the project in theoretical physics which we discussed with Mr. Weaver? We can presumably do nothing further about Niels Bohr for the present-- unless you should write him a letter confirming the offer if he decides to come after some weeks or months--but I am sure Pauli of Zürich would come at once if he were given the chance.

"Do you suppose that Mr. Bamberger would respond to the argument that a group of Class I theoretical physicists in the Institute might

cooperate in an invaluable way with the experimenters in university laboratories and government proving grounds?

"I venture to intrude this question among the many others that I know you have on hand because relevant events both here and abroad are moving rapidly."

Aydelotte to Veblen, May 8, 1940.

He has observed the article and had a "very useful conversation with Bush of the Carnegie Institute" on the same subject which he will report to Veblen. "I do not think we ought to ask Mr. Bamberger for any more money, but I have thought of one or two more possibilities."

A File, Institute for Advanced Study Transfer

5/28

1940
VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

STRAUSS, LEWIS L.

AYDELOTTE, F.

COURANT

See correspondence between Veblen and Strauss on the relief and in migration of the Bohrs, Jakob Nielsen, and so on. Brings together Veblen and Strauss. Courant is working on these projects also. Veblen encloses to Aydelotte a letter dated May 26, 1940, from Courant to Strauss of Kuhn Lobe and Company, which is in the file. Veblen commends writing to Aydelotte to Mr. Strauss, saying that the Institute would be very glad to extend an invitation to Jakob Nielsen in case necessary funds were available. "In the conversation with Courant and myself, Mr. Strauss expressed great interest in the Institute, and I invited him to come and visit it."

V-3

1940

7/5

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Aydelotte to Veblen. A letter to Veblen in Maine on a letterhead "The Institute for Advanced Study, Founded by Lewis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld, Princeton, New Jersey." Veblen is in Maine. Letter indicates that the Aydelottes will settle in Olden Manor by the 20th of July.

V-6

1940

7/29
7/31

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WPAI

✓VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Veblen to Aydelotte, July 29, 1940.

Fuld? Cites an article in New York Times TO THE Effect that the League of Nations' Technical section is coming to Princeton, and the expectation is it will be housed in Fine Hall. Veblen writes in alarm saying that this will destroy the atmosphere which those who provided the funds for the building and those who have worked there so long have tried to create.

Aydelotte to Veblen, July 31. Agrees it would be a great mistake to send the economics group of the League of Nations to Fine Hall, "and I hope you will stand firmly by that position in speaking to Eisenhart or anyone in authority." He says it is his judgment that the economics sections should be housed in the Institute, and the public health section at the Rockefeller Institute and the Opium Control possibly at

69 Alexander Street, calling on the University for library facilities
and other things of that kind which they can furnish.

D File, Oswald Veblen

8/18

1940

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Aydelotte to Veblen, August 18.

Einstein has apparently written recommending inviting Bertrand Russell to the Institute. Aydelotte refers the letter from Einstein to Veblen for his ~~xxxxxx~~ "confidential opinion" on whether or not Bertrand Russell would "fit into the group at the Institute."

This file ~~is~~ has many letters indicating that Aydelotte consulted Veblen before doing anything very much at all in numerous small ways.

V-6

1940

9/24

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

Aydelotte informs Veblen, September 24, 1940, that he is about to make a permanent book for the minutes of meetings of the faculty, and he should like the record to go back to the very beginnings of the Institute. "Would you be willing, when time serves, to consult any notes that you have and prepare for me the best minutes you can of those early meetings, including names of those present, any discussion, and actions taken? In any case where your own memory may fail you, perhaps you can get information from other individuals who were present."

D File, Veblen, Oswald

1940

10/14

STIPENDS

Academic Personnel

FLEXNER, ABRAHAM

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, OSWALD

Flexner says Veblen originated idea of stipends and deserves great credit.

Tr. Min. - 10/14/40 - p. 5

1941

7/28

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

COMPTON, KARL

~~Ask~~ Aydelotte to Veblen, July 28.

ENLIXE Karl Compton some time back told Aydelotte of a plan for an institute of mathematics at Princeton which Veblen had worked out some time before there was any idea for an Institute for Advanced Study. "I gather from what Compton said that the Institute in its present form is practically a realization of that plan. Have you any memorandum about it which you could send me or which Miss Blake could find at Princeton?"

V-6

1941

7/28

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

COMPTON, KARL

Aydelotte to Veblen, July 28, 1941. "I had a talk with Karl Compton some time back and he told me of a plan for an institute of mathematics at Princeton which you had worked out some time before there was any idea of an Institute for Advanced Study. I gathered from what Compton said that the Institute in its present form is practically a realization of that plan. Have you any memorandum about it which you could send me or which Miss Blake could find in Princeton? I shall be in Princeton Saturday morning and if you could send a telegram to Miss Blake before then, perhaps she could hand it to me."

Aydelotte says he would like very much to use anything Veblen has on the history of the idea of the school of mathematics. He addresses Veblen at Brooklin, Maine.

D File, Oswald Veblen

1941

7/30
8/26
9/3

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen to Aydelotte with material on School of Mathematics
for Aydelotte report to the Board of Trustees.

Filed in Vertical File under "M" for School of Mathematics.

F. A. papers, 1/8/57

1941

9/12

PUBLIC RELATIONS GENERAL

Public Relations

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen to Aydelotte on use of Board room for League of Nations' Economic Section, cultivation of Institute land, etc., and his book on spinners.

Filed in Vertical under "V" for Veblen.

F. A., 1/6/57

9/19

EISENHART

Relations W&A

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Aydelotte to Veblen, "Eisenhart called me this morning to ask whether ^{we} you would be willing to give up the rooms we have in Fine Hall which they need for some urgent purpose connected with defense, and take instead three rooms on the ground floor (106, 107, and 108). I consulted the only men available (Weyl, Morse, and von Neumann), and they have agreed that we have no choice but to fall in with Eisenhart's proposal, though the rooms offered are less desirable. I did say to Eisenhart that I hoped the matter could be reconsidered when the war was over.

Veblen is in Chicago.

D File, Oswald Veblen

1941

10/24

POLICIES

Administration

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Veblen to Aydelette commenting on report A making. (Not for Bulletin or Board. query where?) Veblen insists applied mathematics a side issue to Institute mathematicians "extra-curricular"--pure research in mathematics and mathematical physics--concerned with the long-term problems of scholarship rather than with day to day problems of application.

V-3

1943

1/11

GEST ORIENTAL LIBRARY

Facilities

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

BAMBERGER, EDGAR

Veblen opposed Moe's amendments to proposed report January 27, 1942 of Trustee committee for study of Library which favors current budget and expresses belief that Gest Oriental Library may well afford the Institute one of its greatest opportunities. Preliminary work on report filed with Board, January 25, 1943.

Vault Files, Gest Oriental Library, Gest Library Committee

1943

7/21

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Bamberger

Veblen to ~~Ageloe~~ suggesting correction of Minutes of June 8, 1943, to cite \$4,000 as a minimum and to provide that if a professor's appointment began on September 1 his retirement should likewise begin on a September 1 instead of July 1. Undignified to make a couple of month's salary and contribution at professor's expense.

A, 10/18/56, Benefits *File #59*

1943

9/24

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS

Corporation

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

VEBLEN

MORSE

LOWE

HERZFELD

Agenda for meeting 9/24/43 to reconsider action on listed professors' retirement. Einstein because Flexner "never wrote him an appointment letter; Veblen apparently because his service ante-dated Einstein's; Morse because of family situation.

Lim tation put on acceptance of another appointment by Lowe and Herzfeld as long as receiving special research funds voted by Executive Committee. (Herzfeld \$2500 per annum for 3 years; Lowe \$4500 per annum for 3 years and ditto for Einstein and Veblen account extension of active service.

A, 10/18/56, Benefits

12/14

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

HERZFELD, E. E.

LOVE, S. A.

Executive Committee decided that Einstein and Veblen need not retire at 65. The former's retirement date should be settled between him and Trustees; Veblen might stay in active service until he is 70.

Minutes Executive Committee, p.1, 12/14/43

1/25

1944

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

BENEFITS

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

VEBLEN, C.

"In the cases of Einstein and Veblen, funds are being provided by an anonymous donor to meet the difference between the pensions promised them and their ~~regular~~ salary." (p.2)

1944

1/26
2/22

BENEFITS

Academic personnel

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Aydelotte to Veblen, January 26. The Board on January 25 ~~xxxxxx~~ approved the Executive Committee's action of December 14 concerning the conditions of Veblen's retirement. Those conditions are stated in Aydelotte's letter to Veblen of December 16, and an anonymous gift has been promised the Institute to make up the difference between your salary and the pension so that it will not be a drain on the Institute budget.

Veblen to Aydelotte, February 22, asking Aydelotte to give his appreciation to the anonymous donor. "As I said to you the other day, this arrangement with regard to my retirement and that of Einstein is particularly gratifying in that it makes a substantial part of the salaries which we have been receiving available for other Institute purposes. ~~xx~~ I am sure ~~that~~ you will not ^{mi} understand me if I take the liberty of saying that I think the two purposes which should have priority are: (1) That of fulfilling the commitments that were made ^{of} many years ago to three of the mathematical professors, and (2) That it

providing for suitable successors to Einstein and myself. I recognize, of course that both of these purposes have to be considered in their relation to a balanced budget.

D File, Veblen, Oswald.

1944

2/22

COMMITTEES (EXECUTIVE)

Corporation

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

EINSTEIN, A.

Veblen to Aydelotte, February 22, 1944.

Acknowledges Aydelotte's letter of December 16, and another January 26, 1944, indicating Trustee approval of the amended benefit status of Einstein and Veblen. "As I said to you the other day, this arrangement with regard to my retirement and that of Einstein is particularly gratifying in that it makes a substantial part of the salaries which we have been receiving available for other Institute purposes. I am sure you will not misunderstand me if I take the liberty of saying that I think the two purposes which should have priority are (1) that of fulfilling the commitments that were made many years ago to three of the mathematical professors, and (2) that of providing for suitable successors to Einstein and myself. I recognize of course that both of these purposes have to be considered in their relation to a balanced budget."

V-6

1944

4/4

BENEFITS

✓ VELEN, OSWALD
EINSTEIN, ALBERT
FLEXNER, ABRAHAM
WEYL, HERMANN

Academic Personnel
Biographical

Part of letter from Flexner to Weyl:

"I should feel less pessimistic about the Institute if the two mathematicians who have reached or are soon to reach retirement age had shown themselves less selfish. Of course, you are all ten years older than you were at the beginning, but if men act selfishly in respect to retirement, especially those who at 65 are assured of a pension of \$8,000 a year, (which is not really a pension but a salary,) younger men cannot be appointed. Had these two men retired, some younger men could have been appointed to 'carry on the tradition', but no younger men have been brought into the Institute and younger men of high scholarship, like de Tolnay, remain where they were.

"At the Rockefeller Institute the age of retirement had been fixed at 70, but, when the war broke out and there was danger that income would decrease, the age of retirement was fixed at 65. The Rockefeller Institute is as active as it ever was, and young men and women are still to be found among the workers, while the regular staff, consisting largely of men beyond the military age, have all stuck to their jobs and have not gone

into amateur work for which they had no particular fitness.

"We must make a fight in the academic world because after the war we shall have not only to be adequate to the needs of our own young men but to be in position to train the persons whose duty it will be to revive learning in the old world. If any university head is thinking mainly of that, I do not know who he is."

W File AF

1944

5/2

5/9

FOUNDERS

Corporation

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

Aydelotte to Maass, May 2, 1944.

He wants Maass' advice on another possible claim on the part of the Institute as against the executors of Bamberger's estate.

When the Committee on Pensions voted to prolong Veblen's and Einstein's term of service for five years beyond 65 in the case of Veblen and until mutually satisfactory arrangements were made for retirement in the case of Einstein, Mr. Bamberger undertook to contribute personally the amount needed for these two men over and above their regular contemplated pensions.

Aydelotte suggested to Bamberger that he need only hold himself responsible for five years in the case of each man.

Their pensions are \$8,000, so that the addition would be \$7,000 per year for each man for a period of five years, or \$70,000 in all. Aydelotte left the method of payment open to Bamberger's matter of convenience, but suggested to Leidesdorf that he try to arrange payment in a lump sum, but that was, he thinks, some time in February (1944), and he doesn't believe Leidesdorf ever had a chance to talk with Mr. Bamberger about the matter.

Mr. Bamberger's intention was to put it down as an anonymous gift. It was, however, known to both Leidesdorf and Maass, and was referred to by Mr. Aydelotte in Mr. Bamberger's presence at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 25, 1944.

Maass to Aydelotte, May 9, 1944.

Says that Mr. Hardin has approved the various claims for filing with the executors. They will be recognized.

D, RE Bamberger, Louis - Estate of

1944

5/16
5/18

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

~~VEBLEN, O.~~

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

CORRESPONDENCE Farrier & Aydelotte regarding continued payment
by Einstein and Veblen of 5 per cent during extension of their
active service. Aydelotte rules yes.

A, 10/18/56 Benefits

1944

10/9

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

GENERAL (FELLOWS)

HOLLWAIN

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

✓ VEULEN, G.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Aydelotte to Hoo, October 9, 1944.

He has sent his proposed report for the next Board meeting for Hoo's consideration. My reference on page number 11 to the fact that all our problems have not yet been solved refers to this. We shall need in the future to get people like Hollwain here who are past the age of sixty-five. We shall occasionally want to keep people like Einstein and Veblen who have been members of our Faculty and who have also passed that age. The solution, in my opinion, is to establish a new category of Fellows of the Institute who can be men of any age, elected for any period of time from one year on and who can have any stipend within our

means or no stipend as the case may be. They would be a little like Guggenheim Fellows. I would put Einstein in this category and Heilwain and de Tolnay, fixing the term for each. I am sure we would have many others and indeed it might come to be a more distinguished group than the Faculty. If the Trustees wanted to make me a Fellow, I should be only too delighted. Do you think I ought to insert an exposition of that idea into this report?

"Does the reference to you in connection with the organization of the Guggenheim Foundation in any way impair your neutrality as a Trustee of the Institute? I hope you will not think so but if you do I will cut it out. It seems to me we are here dealing with facts and not formalities."

Neither point was ultimately carried in the report of the Director to the Trustees at the next meeting, December 5, 1944.

A File, Henry Allen Noe

1944

11/8

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

Copy of Veblen's report of Faculty meeting.

Filed in Chronological file under 1944, 11/8.

A - Report of Director, October, 1944 (Attie)

1944

11/20

DIRECTOR

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

At a meeting of the faculty, November 20, 1944: Present, Alexander, Earle, Einstein, Goldman, Lowe, Meritt, Morse, Penofsky, Riefler, Stewart, Veblen, Warren, and Weyl. Absent: Dr. Aydelotte, Mitran, von Neumann. Dr. Aydelotte's absence was excused on the ground of possible embarrassment. Veblen chaired the meeting, and the secretary presented "Memorandum adopted by the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study" which he said he had written pursuant to the directions of the faculty meeting November 6. Had made himself available to all members of the faculty who had wished to make suggestions since that time. The memorandum is the same as appears in the Board minutes of January 19, 1945, pages 14 and 15, and relates to the faculty's request that Dr. Aydelotte be permitted to serve beyond the age of 65.

Dr. Einstein stated he thought professors ought to be retired at 65, but a separate rule ought to apply to the director, namely a higher age, and suggested the memorandum contain a recommendation to this effect. Weyl agreed with him.

Einstein also said that the faculty ought always to give a majority vote after being consulted by the trustees before the appointment either of a professor or a director. "He thought that the faculty were better qualified to judge about such appointments, and that a recommendation should be made to the trustees to change the constitution or rules of procedure so as to make this faculty participation effective."

Professor Warren stated that he believed that there should be no difference between the provisions governing the retirement of professors and the director. The directors should not have an option beyond the age of 65 unless the professors do.

Earle said that there should be retirement at 65 for both director and faculty, but he urged that since there was no retirement age provided in a rule for the director, and since they had made two exceptions to the application of the 65 year rule for the faculty

(both at Mr. Bamberger's request [page 2]) he would prefer to leave the retirement rules to be settled later and not bring the formulation of a rule in handling the present question of Aydelotte's continuing in office.

Professor Stewart recommended amending the memorandum to provide that the age of 65 ought to apply to both director and faculty. There was no second. Professor Stewart maintained he did not believe that retirements should be settled on a personal basis.

Earle favored the adoption of the memorandum and said that the continuation of the present director "does not involve any personal basis."

Veblen agreed with Einstein that more authority ought to be conceded to the faculty, but favored conveying the memorandum to the trustees as an expression of confidence in Aydelotte. He reminded the faculty that the legal situation required election of the director each year.

Horse favored the adoption of the memorandum.

Von Neumann (absent: by letter) agreed with the views expressed in the memorandum.

Einstein returned to the charge that an age should be recommended by the faculty, possibly age 70, for retirement of directors. Warren favored such an action to be embodied in the memorandum "for he thought it would then make a negative vote fall on the question of principle rather than on the question of person. He observed that the memorandum was easy to vote for, but hard to vote against without danger of misinterpretation" (page 5).

Professor Kiefler favored a lower retirement age for the director than for the faculty, or alternatively no retirement age for anybody in which case the question of status for those faculty members already retired ought to be reopened. Warren said that he was ready to support consideration of reinstatement of members already retired.

Professor Goldman commenting on the general lack of agreement about rules of retirement brought the question down to the proposed memorandum and suggested leaving the larger problems until later.

The memorandum was then voted upon, Stewart and Warren not voting as a matter of principle.

Riefler asked the director to appoint a committee of faculty to consider conditions of ^{K&S}tenure in relation to the welfare of the Institute. Seconded by Stewart. Penofsky moved and Alexander seconded that the motion of Riefler be amended by including appointments and tenure. That was lost; whereupon Riefler's original motion carried by 10 to 1.

Source File V-1

1944

11/24

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

TRUSTEES

Corporation

HAAS, H. H.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, P.

VEBLEN

VEBLEN, O.

Haas to Aydelotte, confirming understanding Aydelotte and
Veblen will be at Haas his office November 28 to meet
Committee on Policy (Trustees'). Committee will go into session
with Aydelotte first, and then decide whether they want to
Ha confer with Veblen.

4, 10/18/56, File 69

1944

NOTES

12/4

MEMBERS

Academic Personnel

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Aydelotte to Veblen, December 4, 1944.

the

Gives an number of members in successive bulletins for
the last 12 years as follows:

1933-4	23
1935	35
1936	45
1937	50
1938	40
1939	46
1940	46
1941	52
1942	53
1943	28
1944	19
1945	25

(The last year is used)

Aydelotte explains this does not include assistants,
including which would have increased the number from 6 to 10
in some years.

V File, "Committee on Policy"

12/11

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organisation

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

EISENHART

Veblen to Aydelotte, December 11, 1944.

Veblen explains how the salaries of Alexander and von Neumann were determined when they were appointed. He tells Aydelotte that the Institute was willing to take either Lefschetz or Alexander and left the decision up to Eisenhart as to who should occupy the Fine Chair of Mathematics at the University. Dr. Flexner felt that when Lefschetz was chosen for the Fine Chair and received the Fine salary, Flexner did not believe that Alexander should receive more than that; therefore, he received the same amount. Weyl was still hesitating about taking a position. Von Neumann was appointed a little later, and Flexner thought "with justice" that he could not be placed in a higher bracket than Alexander and therefore there was the same understanding about his

appointment as about Alexander's.

"So far as I can recall, nothing was put into writing in either case. The assurances which Dr. Flexner gave to me and to both Alexander and von Neumann were discussed by us frequently at that time and were regarded by us as completely binding."

1944

12/17
12/23
12/31
1/10
1/20
1/26
5/11

1945

POLICIES

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION
(COMMITTEE ON POLICY)

Academic Personnel

COMMITTEES (POLICY)

NOMINATIONS

DIRECTOR

Administration

EARLE, E. M.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

For notes on the Faculty Committee on Trustees for the
above dates see Chronological file under 1944, 12/17 or any
one of the first 5 headings.

Earle Files, Faculty Committee on Policy, 1944-1945

193-2

JEWETT FELLOWSHIPS

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

FRANK B. JEWETT, FRANK B.

✓ VEULEN, C.

Foundations

Academic Organization

Biographical

A pamphlet, "The Frank B. Jewett Fellowships in the Physical Sciences" filed in Vertical File under "F".

Three Jewett Fellowships at I. A. S. 1948-9: Karplus, Glus, and Thomas.

B, Jewett, Fellowships

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

✓ VEBLER, OSWALD

Biographical

Veblen presented a letter to Gov. Edge suggesting that the State purchase the Field of the Battle of Princeton and develop it into a State Park. It was felt that it would be valuable for the Institute to have this property as it bordered their property and would prevent development for real estate. It was voted that a committee negotiate with Mr. Robert Maxwell for the purchase of the land.

1945

NOTES

1/22

DIRECTOR

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

HABLE, H. H.

Biographical

MERRITT

✓ VEBLIN

AYDELOTTE, P

Marie to Veblen, transmitting a six-page memorandum, presumably addressed to the Trustees on behalf of the Faculty, asking that Aydelotte's term not be terminated after his 67th birthday in October of 1947. He has undertaken this job because Merritt has lost his mother and is out of town. He sends the memorandum to Veblen for corrections and smoothing out, as he is leaving town.

What appears to be the final version of the memorandum is dated January 26, 1945, and although there has been no indication ~~now~~ in the Minutes that it was presented to the Trustees, it undoubtedly was transmitted, and shows for the

first time the Faculty position as opposed to the position ultimately adopted by the Board of Trustees.

Following is a brief of the points made.

It recites the appeal of the Faculty adopted November 6, 1944, and submitted to the Board of Trustees, asking that the 65 year old age of retirement rule applied to Faculty should not be applied to the present Director. The members of the Faculty, "have now been informed that at its next meeting the Board of Trustees intends to act upon a proposal of its Committee on Policy, and that Dr. Aydelette will be retired on his 67th birthday, October 16, 1947."

If the 65-year rule had been applied to Dr. Aydelette, he would have terminated his directorship in June, 1946. The procedure contemplated by the Board of Trustees would give him only an additional ~~seventeen~~ academic year. "This, in the opinion of the Faculty, would not be sufficient to safeguard what they consider the welfare of the Institute."

Pointing out that there has not heretofore been a fixed

age of retirement for the Director and officers of the Institute, they also say that there is no universally established procedure as regards the retirement of Presidents and officers of other research institutions or of our great universities. They question the advisability of establishing and enforcing a rule on retirement at the present time; although it certainly is within the province of the Board of Trustees to prescribe an age of retirement for the future officers and directors.

Conceding that the Trustees have the right and responsibility in this matter, the Faculty feel that they are vitally concerned, and "in a position to judge those matters which directly affect its scholarly activities. On the basis of this experience, they are convinced that a change in administration at the time proposed would have an adverse, and possibly disrupting, influence in the life of the Institute."

Not only has the Faculty great affection for Dr. Aydelotte, this was not their principal reason for the resolution ~~for~~ of November 6, 1944, but they assert that the affairs of the Institute "are now being conducted in a manner that corresponds

to the wishes of its founders and to its very raison d'être.
"Dr. Aydelette understands the specific character of that
'advanced' and therefore unregimented research which the
Institute is supposed to promote; he has established a
policy of frank equity which has enabled the members of the
Institute, both as individuals and as a body, to pursue their
work with a feeling of responsibility and, consequently, with
maximum effectiveness. Without being presumptuous, the
Faculty feel entitled to say that the scholarly achievements
of the Institute under Dr. Aydelette's administration have
been substantial."

They go on to say that the next few years will be more
critical to the Institute than to other institutions of
higher learning in America. The Institute is still young, and
will have to face post-war problems as a young institution.
It needs a proper body of precedents and procedures. Vacancies
caused by the retirement of Faculty members will have to be
filled. The financial situation of the Institute offers the
first opportunity for expansion since the establishment of
the School of Humanistic Studies and the School of Economics
and Politics in 1935. "These inter-related problems cannot be

solved without a continuity of policy." Conceding that eventually the appointment of a new Director will have to be faced, they urge that Aydelotte should be given a chance "to consolidate his work during the next crucial years." Not only do we feel that we owe this to him, who up to now has had his hands full with keeping the vessel afloat under adverse conditions, but we do believe at this juncture no other course can give a comparable assurance of success.

"If this statement has a tone of urgency, it is because the Faculty are jealous that the ideals for which the Institute was established, and to which its members are committed, be kept alive. The Faculty believe that Dr. Aydelotte's proven and competent leadership is needed to perpetuate the achievements of the past five years; to solidify the cooperation among the Director, the Faculty, and the Board of Trustees; and by establishing sound practice, to make the organization of this little republic of scholars as stable, yet flexible as it ought to be. We, therefore, respectfully but very urgently request that the Board of Trustees extend Dr. Aydelotte's term of office on for a period of time long sufficient to accomplish this end, and to assure

continuity of administration and policy during the critical phase upon which we now enter. We are confident that only the most imperative reasons--some of which is apparent--would lead the Board of Trustees to overrule the considered opinion of the Faculty.

"The Faculty could adduce further reasons for the retention of ~~him~~ the present Director. They have not done so because they have named a Committee on Policy, which is authorized at any time to meet with the Board as a whole, or with any of its members, and to set forth the Faculty's views on this vital matter."

January 26, 1945, See Faculty message to Trustees on proposed 1947 retirement of Apdeltote.

Veblen's File, "Committee on Policy

Also have files?
Herit?

1945

1/31

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION (COMMITTEES)

Academic Personnel

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

The Director in answer to a request from the Faculty, Dated November 24, 1944, appointed the following standing committees: Standing Committee, von Neumann, Riefner, Lowe; Library Committee, Weyl, Warren Goldman; Librarian, Weyl; Secretary of the Faculty, Meritt.

D, Minutes Faculty, 1939-1947

1945

2/7

VEBLER, O.

Biographical

SIEGEL

PAULI

WEYL

MOE, HENRY

Moe to Aydelotte.

"Dr. Veblen yesterday told me that Dr. Weyl's statements about
Doctors Siegel and Pauli were of such elegance that I ought to see them.
If it be proper, would you please, at your convenience, send them to me."

D File, Henry Allen Moe

The file other wise consists of year-by-year accounts of the stipends and stipendiatees of the School of Mathematics, and, obviously, Veblen's plading the memorandum in this file was a little bit of calculated prejudice.

At the time of the memorandum, Pauli was 44 years old, Oppenheimer, 40. The final comparisons, and this memorandum does not attempt to recap the specific qualifications of each man in theoretical physics, is that "Pauli's command of the mathematical apparatus was, is, and will probably always be far the greater. Regarding qualitative insight, O. since he reached his full stature, comes closer to P. In inspiring other physicists, they are on the same level, perhaps O. even a little above P. as far as their influence on experimentalists on the spot is concerned. But certainly O. has made no contributions to physics of such fundamental nature as Pauli's exclusion principle and analysis of the electronic spin. Physicists outside our own circle agree with this opinion, or express themselves even more strongly to the effect that Oppenheimer is one in a series of younger physicists of nearly equal rank--the names of Gamow, V-7, School of Mathematics, Miscellaneous (Memo. continued)

Bethe, Wigner and Heitler are mentioned--but that they are all several degrees lower than Pauli in originality, depth and lasting influence."

The memorandum here quotes from Professor Rabi:

"Pauli is more suitable because of his great powers of critical evaluation of a problem and his fundamental point of view.

'As a close neighbor of the Institute for Advanced Study I can ~~say~~ say with the greatest sincerity that I would regard the appointment of Pauli to the chair of theoretical physics in the Institute as a tremendous help to myself and to the whole community of physicists in the metropolitan region. He would be a great integrating influence and by his presence and example greatly raise the intellectual level of theoretical physics in this community. Oppenheimer, although he would be a great addition to the community, is not sufficiently above the others to have the same effect. Pauli for many years has been the conscience and the criterion of truth for a large part of the community of theoretical physicists.'

In the ultimate conclusions, a letter from Dirac in
Cambridge sums it up with, "Pauli has the stronger claims."

V-7, School of Mathematics, Miscellaneous

Date presented to Math Soc:
approximate Dirac " " 2/2/45

1945

4/20

TRUSTEES (BIOGRAPHICAL)

Corporation

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Veblen moved that in view of importance of Institute nominations for Trustees be accompanied in future by brief biographical notes. Board adopted.

Minutes of the Corporation, 4/20/45

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

Biographical

VEBLEN, OSWALD

Upon reaching the age of 65 Professors Einstein and Veblen are to be designated as Emeritus, and shall continue to receive full salary until the age of 70, as a special gift from Mr. Bamberger. They shall continue to fulfill duties as if on the active list.

Tr. Min. 4/20/45 - p. 1

1945

5/22

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

POLICIES

Administration

TRUSTEES (BOARD)

Corporation

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

MAASS, HERBERT H.

BIOGRAPHICAL

VINER, J.

WEED

VEBLER, O.

Meeting of the Faculty, the Director, and Professors Maass and Weed with the Board of Trustees in regard to new appointments.

Filed in Chronological File under 5/22/45

Minutes Faculty Meeting, May 22, 1945, File V-1

1945

VINER

BINSTEIN, A.

VEBLEN, O.

May-June

Biographical

See pp. 5-6, Interview with Veblen February 8, 1956,
for reference to above headings.

Interview filed in Vertical file under Veblen interviews.

Veblen Interview 2/8/56

1946

6/22

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Relations W.O.A.I.

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

Biographical

VEBLER, OSWALD

Letter from Veblen to Aydelotte:

"Dear Frank:

"Whatever one may think about his new venture of Einstein's, it seems to me that it would be inadvisable to say anything to him which could be interpreted as a reproof. Technically of course he is in the wrong. In a deeper sense, however, it is the Trustees and first Director of the Institute who are in the wrong. Einstein should have been made a member of the Board of Trustees in the very beginning, and his advice should have been sought on every important question of policy, not only informally but in such a way that it would be clear to the public that he was assuming responsibility. He should have been identified in the minds of the public, and particularly in the minds of that part of the public to which the new appeal is being sent, not only as a participant in the execution of the plan of the Institute, but as one of the primary sponsors of our program. It is going to look very queer in the future that he should not have assumed this sort of responsibility.

"It is rather late in the day to do anything about it now. But if my advice were heeded he would be appointed to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting and he would shortly thereafter appear as one of the principal officers of the Board. Some such action as this might indeed mitigate some of the harm which Mr. Haass anticipates.

"P.S. Einstein has never said a word to me about his lack of influence in the councils of the Institute, but Miss Blake has kindly unearthed the following quotation from Infeld's autobiography, Quest, pp. 302, 303, 304:

"I hoped to obtain a fellowship from the institute for the next year."^{***} I knew that Einstein would do whatever he could, but I also understood that the chances of his being able to help me were very small. Strange as it seems, Einstein's support often means much less than that of many incomparably less famous professors. In Princeton his influence was amazingly small. He told me:

"My fame begins outside Princeton. My word counts for little in Fine Hall."

"Tell me, Miss Dukas, is there any announcement of an institute meeting?"

"He discovered that the meeting was two weeks away. He slowly read the announcement:

"There is an item on fellowships. No! It cannot be difficult to secure another fellowship for you. You ought not to worry at all."

* * *

"Two weeks passed, and in our talks we did not mention the subject again. It was not until the day before the meeting that I reminded Einstein, for fear that he might have forgotten it altogether. But it was unnecessary. He had kept the date well in mind and said to me: "Don't worry. I won't forget to go, and I am sure you will get the fellowship -- I will fight like a lion for you."

"The meeting was scheduled for the next morning. I was working quietly at my desk when at twelve o'clock the telephone rang. I thought:

"It must be Einstein. How considerate of him not to leave me in suspense."

"I heard his voice on the telephone:

"I don't want you to be depressed, although the news sounds bad. You did not get a fellowship for next year. I have some ideas about what to do, and you don't need to worry. We shall talk it over this afternoon. But I want you to feel sure that we shall find some way out.""

1946

ELECTRONIC COMPUTER PROJECT

BICKLOW

GOLDSTEIN

✓ VEBLER, C.

VON NEUMANN

WEINSTEIN

Academic Activities

Biographical

Pp. 5-6

Horse Interview, 6/22/56

3/29

SALARIES
COMMITTEE
SCHAAP
✓ VEHLEN
MORSE

Academic Personnel

Biographical

Prof. Stewart wrote a letter on increased cost of living and necessary adjustment of salaries in the lower brackets. Prof. Morse said the Standing Committee did not wish to make any recommendation in the absence of Adelaide.

The Sch. of Eco. recommended that Dr. Hans Svarowski's salary be increased from \$3000 to \$3500. The Faculty Standing Com. approved this for reference to Trustees.

A Committee of Mr. Schaap, Professors Veblen and Morse was appointed by Mr. Morse to investigate the general salary question and to report at next meeting of Board.

Exec. Com. Mtg. 3/29/46 ²⁻³ pp. 3-4

1946

4/12

DIRECTOR
OPPENHEIMER

Administration
Biographical

BROOK

✓ VEBLER

STRAUSS, L. L.

Veblen 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 us 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 maximum~~ 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. Haass, 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

8/22

TRUSTEES

Corporation

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

Biographical

INFELD, LEOPOLD

✓ VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE

Veblen to Aydelotte on failure of Planner to make Einstein a trustee--(check carefully with actual record of incident cited--Einstein could have had members and assistants given if School of Mathematics had taken care of it properly. Quest p. 302-4. Dishonest of Veblen)

(Above information from V-3 File)

(The following information is taken from Mathematics Faculty Minutes of the dates indicated).

April 20, 1936 Mathematics Faculty. Infeld-5300 one term,
\$600 year.

October 22, 1936. Infeld among those discussed for stipend.
Action 7 mathematicians, 1 physicist or biologist; Pauling,
Cal. Tech. (V)

February 25, 1937 School of Mathematics Minutes. Infeld
placed on contingent basis and following a long list of
approved first choices \$30,000. (Explanation of Veblen's
dichotomy?--check through minutes).

December 12, 1936. School of Mathematics Faculty
reserved action Infeld 1937-38 while MAX reserve set aside for
Dixon \$3,000 Pauling refused after meeting.

October 2, 1937 School of Mathematics stipendiatees 1937-38 not
including Infeld. Had he gone to McGill?

Infeld member 1934-38. Who paid for last year?
Sources given in text.

1946

8/22

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY (GENERAL)

Relations WOI

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Veblen to Aydelotte, August 22, 1946 regarding the lack of influence Einstein had had up to this date in the affairs of running the Institute. A postscript contains parts of an autobiography by Infeld telling how Einstein couldn't get him a fellowship to the Institute.

Filed in Chronological File under 1946, 8/22.

XXX V-5

V-5

1946

11/20 11/20
12/3

DIRECTOR

Administration

FULTON, JOHN

WEED, LEWIS H.

✓ VEBLEN, O.

BROWNE

Fulton to Veblen, November 20, 1946, regarding his suggestions for the new Director.

Fulton to Veblen, December 3, 1946. with an additional suggestion.

Letters filed in Chronological file under 1946, 11/20.

John Fulton's Files, I. A. S., 1942-4

1946

12/13

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN M.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Veblen to Fulton, December, 13, 1946.

Comments on Dunham whose name was raised by Fulton.
"I think he is a good man, but not quite of the caliber of the three who now seem to me to be the most promising candidates, - namely Bronk, Oppenheimer, and Pauling. I think that any one of these three would be a brilliant solution of our problem."

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

1947

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

DIRECTOR

Administration

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

STRAUSS, L. W.

MERRITT

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 Merritt.

Hebty Goldman interview, July 12, 1957

1947

January - October

SIEGEL, CARL L.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Aydelotte to Veblen, January 12, 1947.

(Veblen has given him an extract of a letter to read). "I think we can count on him. Without any authority, I took the liberty of telling Miss Miller to continue Siegel on full salary, until my return, and I expect to bring the matter up to the executive committee at its meeting in February."

Then he says, "Siegel is a funny person." He could get Miss Braun into the United States very easily by marrying her.

Aydelotte to Veblen, July 7, 1947.

Siegel is apparently having a pretty bad time.

Miss Braun's letter was not specific as to what the source of the trouble was.

October 6, 1947. Luella Trinterud to Siegel.

"I took up with Dr. Aydelotte the matter of your return to full salary as of September 21st, but he stated that the check you received for September at half rate was to cover that month and that you would return to full salary as of October 1st."

October 11, 1947, Aydelotte to Veblen.

He is disturbed about the question of Siegel's salary. "In the ordinary way of things when we gave Meritt leave of absence to go to Oxford and Panofsky leave to go to Harvard, we did it in each case on the basis of half salary."

To Siegel, however, it was not certain that he could go to Germany and we consequently gave him leave for ninety days on full salary. Then that leave on full salary was extended so that he had about half the year before the payments were reduced to the ordinary half-salary basis. "I am only too glad to do anything for Siegel that we fairly can but I must say that it seems to me that he has been rather more generously treated than other members of the Faculty already...If there are any elements in the problem to which I am not giving due weight, please let me know."

Aydelotte to Siegel, October 15, 1947.

He apologetically re-instates him to full salary basis as of July 1, 1947, and sends him the half pay for the three months in question.

There is no exchange from Veblen in the file at this place.

1947

1/27

WEYL, HERMANN
COURANT, RICHARD
✓VEBLIN, OSWALD

Biographical

Weyl to Prof. Richard Courant, New Rochelle, N.Y.:

"The same mail by which your letter of January 17 arrived brought me Smend's letter inviting me to rejoin the Göttingen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften (which now seems to go under the name of Akademie der Wissenschaften). Only today have I given the matter some thought. My first reaction was to let bygones be bygones. You are right that there are disquieting news about how things go in Germany politically, but I feel one cannot blame the Germans too much. They live under terrible stress, and in many respects our policies have contributed to rekindling a nationalistic spirit.

"But after revolving the matter in my mind I feel more hesitant. As far as I remember I have never resigned from the Göttingen Academy and I learned for the first time from Smend's letter that I am stricken from their list. What happened to you and Franck? Did you resign, or were you ousted, and if so at what time? They may of course have canceled the membership of all nationals of countries which were at war with Nazi Germany. We have no assurance that the men who instigated these discreditable actions are not members now, and I must confess I would feel not too happy to be associated with men like Haase in the same learned body. On the other hand I really do not wish that they now take

repressive actions against these men, of the same type as were used against us. So it seems that there are certain processes that are irreversible. Under no circumstances would I accept the invitation without learning first what brought about my dishonorable discharge.

"Veblen got a similar letter and inclined to accept, but after talking things over with me decided to postpone action until we had come to a conclusion.

"I am reminded of this line in Hofmannstal's 'Tor und Tod'
Aus Untreu macht kein guter Wille Treu ----

"Hoping to see you soon,"

W File Cou

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

FRANCK, JOS.

See Weyl's correspondence regarding invitation of Smend to rejoin Göttingen Academy. Wants to know why he was dropped from it. Who's doing whom a favor?

W - Fo

1957 1947

7/7

DIRECTOR

Administration

AYDELOTTE, P.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Aydelotte to Veblen. Marie wants to move out of Olden Manor by the middle of July, though he actually said to the Oppenheimers that we could not promise to get out until September. Nevertheless, we are going to move as soon as the house is properly painted.

V-3

1947

9/18

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

MERRITT, B.

Biographical

VEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Meritt claims Herzfeld's vacant office, traditionally humanistic space for Homer Thompson. Veblen insists that it should be assigned to Siegel and should become a part of the quarters dedicated to Mathematics.

Aydelotte recommends to Oppenheimer that a permanent decision should be postponed until the number of members of the Institute have decreased or until some additional small buildings for members have been erected. He suggests putting both Thompson and Siegel into these Herzfeld rooms.

A. File: J. Robert Oppenheimer

1947

9/22
10/6 8

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

Academic Organization

CHERNISS, H.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

MERRITT

Minutes, September 22, 1947.

Dr. Meritt presented the nomination of Harold Fredrik Cherniss for appointment to the Faculty. Oppenheimer strongly seconded it as supportive of unity between the various departments of the Institute. Meritt's letter with Cherniss' life and works is appended to these minutes.

Veblen caused the matter to be put over to the next meeting on the ground that the Faculty had better familiarize itself

with the amount of money which the Institute had, and it was decided to hold a meeting October 8, and that the standing committee should make a report on finance.

At the meeting of October 8, Oppenheimer presided, and moved (seconded by Professor Weyl) and the Faculty voted to recommend to the Board of Trustees that Cherniss be appointed professor in the School of Humanistic Studies.

In these meetings minutes which are a rough draft (there is no other copy, however, in the Director's file) the motion followed a long discussion, and it concerned the best use of the available funds.

Also in these minutes scratched out is a statement attributed to Oppenheimer that with the endorsement of Aydelotte, the chief function of the Institute was that of a school. For the sake of the record, Alexander pointed out that this was a complete reversal of the position taken by Dr. Flexner and of Alexander's appointment to the Faculty. Furthermore, it was a distinguishing feature of the Institute that it would engage in

research to which all scholastic considerations were to be strictly subordinated. Einstein joined Alexander in the attack.

D Faculty Minutes

1947

10/9

GENERAL

Facilities

GEST ORIENTAL LIBRARY

GENERAL

Publications

CARNEGIE

Foundations

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

SIXSEL

Biographical

Veblen

Letter from Aydelette to Oppenheimer, October 9, 1947, regarding
above listed items.

Filed in Chronological File under 1947, 10/9.

A File. IAS

1947

10/11

SALARIES (L OF A)

Academic Personnel

MERRITT

Biographical

SIEGEL

PANOFSKY

✓ VEBLER, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

Aydelotte to Veblen.

When Merritt went to Oxford and Panofsky to Harvard (1947-48) Institute gave them half their salaries.

When Siegel went to Germany, he had about 1/2 year on full salary (first 90 days during uncertainty whether he could go. Aydelotte feels that Siegel should be returned to full salary not before October 1, 1947, for he has been more generously dealt with than the others already. But Veblen

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

evidently changed Adolotte's mind, for Adolotte wrote Siegel October 15, 1947 that he had "reconsidered" and his full salary was to be paid July 1, 1947.

Executive Committee February 18, 1947 heard Director say if Siegel had not returned from Germany by April 4, 1947 he would be on half pay thereafter. (Hahn's earned sabbatical?)

1948

4/15

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

Veblen added to the report mention of the scientific work going on in physics during the past year. There has been a joint Princeton-Columbia-Institute weekly seminar which have been both extraordinarily popular and stimulating. The Director added that the stipend fund for physics would probably not have to be used for American physicists because of the many fellowships in physics being used next term at the Institute.

Trustees' Minutes, April 15, 1948

1949-1950

GENERAL (Kaplan, Welch Grape
Juice Company)

Foundations

KAPLAN, JACK M.

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Jack M. Kaplan wrote Oppenheimer asking for information on the Institute and an opportunity to be helpful (October 12, 1949). Does not believe in bricks and mortar, but wants to help deserving people.

His secretary visited the Institute first, and Kaplan, himself, in November, 1949. Thereafter, nothing was heard of him except that Oppenheimer suggested to Veblen he might write Kaplan to assist three very promising young mathematicians to spend a year at the Institute. Veblen also suggests that Kaplan might elevate the level of professorial salaries. The file contains no evidence that anything was done by Kaplan. Check on this.

D. Kaplan, J. M.

1949

4/15
10/21

FOUNDERS (MEMORIAL)

Corporation

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

The existing paths previously cut out by some of the faculty should be used.

Minutes of October 21, 1949 decision on Founders' Walk--
grass to edge of woods, trail through to Stony Brook, cable
suspension bridge crossing it and bronze placque.

D, Minutes (Drafts, etc.)

1949

5/20

GIFTS

Finance

✓ VEBLER, OSWALD

Biographical

Prof. Veblen wished to deed his home at 58 Battle Road to the Institute. "If the Trustees were willing to accept this gift, it was suggested that a supplementary annuity be given to Professor and Mrs. Veblen during their lives." The specified details were left to the Finance Committee to be reported to the Board.

Tr. Min. 5/20/49 p. 1

1949

5/23

COMMITTEES

Corporation

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Biographical

FULTON, JOHN F.

LEWIS, WILMARTH

✓ VELEN, O.

Oppenheimer to Fulton, Lewis, and Veblen, May 23, 1949.

Notifies them that on April 15, 1949, the Board voted to create an Academic Committee of the Trustees to be appointed by the Chair. The Chair has appointed to the Committee, Fulton, Lewis and Veblen. Strauss and Nease, members ex officio. N₂ chairman was named for the Committee which may elect its own.

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

10/27

TRUSTEES

Corporation

FULTON, JOHN

Biographical

LEWIS, WILMARTH

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Fulton to Lewis.

At the I. A. S. meeting last Friday, Veblen and I needed your moral support as only Oppenheimer and the business men of the Board showed up. "Your friend, Lewis Strauss, was there exuding Saccarine from every pore. I was polite to him, but I wanted to wring his neck; there was no reference to his recent public hearings."

Fulton, Wilmarth Lewis

1950

GIFTS

✓ VEBLER, O.

Finance

Biographical

Veblen gave his house to the Institute.

D, Veblen

1950

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organisation

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

PROFESSORS (EMERITI)

✓ VEULEN, O.

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

Last meeting School of Mathematics faculty attended by
a professor emeritus.

School of Mathematics Faculty Minutes

1950

W/7

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

WEYL, HERMANN

Biographical

~~VEBLER, O.~~

STEWART, W. W.

Oppenheimer to Leidesdorf, April 7, 1950, regarding retirement questions of Veblen and Stewart and annuity for Weyl.

Letter filed in Chronological file under 1950, 4/7.

D, Leidesdorf, 1946

1950

10/20

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

GENERAL (STATE)

VEBLER, O.

Facilities

Government Relations

Biographical

See pp. 4 and Appendix for report on negotiations with
the Governor's office on the cession of land and taxation.

Trustees' Minutes, 10/20/50

1950

11/14

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

HEINSTEIN

Biographical

VEBLEN

FAIS

MONTGOMERY, DEANE

SELBERG, ATLE

LERAY, JEAN

The Director reported with the retirement of Veblen and Heinstein, there would be four vacancies in the School of Mathematics' Faculty, 1951-1952. The School recommended the appointment as Professor of Montgomery, Fais and Selberg, effective July 1, 1951. School recommended a replacement of a senior member to the mathematical faculty appointment of Professor Jean LeraY of the Collège de France, but

preliminary discussions had brought out that Leray would not now consider a permanent appointment. Therefore a three-year appointment was recommended, for Leray, subject to Trustee approval of the grant-in-aid since this would be on the professorial level and a special budgetary item.

Faculty Minutes, 11/14/50

1951

NOTES

1/4

POLICIES

FLEXNER, A.

✓ VEBLEN, O.

STRAUSS, L. L.

Administration

Biographical

~~FLEXNER~~

Veblen to Strauss.

"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 tacitly, 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

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 ~~at~~ 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 ~~max~~ 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 much change.

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

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

1951

10/25

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Facilities

GENERAL (STATE OF NEW JERSEY)

Government Relations

COMMITTEES

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLER, G.

Biographical

The Board gave to the State of New Jersey, subject to recapture if the Battlefield State Park should be abandoned, an area marked 2 in a map.

Veblen, though an Honorary Trustee, was re-appointed Chairman of the Standing Committee on Buildings and Grounds, and all standing committees were re-appointed by the chair.

Special Meeting of the Members of the Corporation, 10/25/51

1951

10/25

TRUSTEES

Corporation

AYDELOTTE, F.

Biographical

DOUGLAS

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, O.

Douglas' resignation from the Trustees accepted.
Aydelotte and Veblen made Honorary Trustees.

Boschnwald, Lewis and Sprunes elected to fill out the
terms expiring in 1955. Schaap, Felton and Neel need
re-elected to fill out terms expiring in 1956.

New Trustees appointed: Mitchell, Greenbaum and Lambert.

It was agreed in the future to distribute factual
material on prospective trustees in advance of voting time.

Special Meeting of the Members of the Corporation, 10/25/51

NOTES

4/7

BROWDER, FELIX

Biographical

✓ VEBLER, 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."

~~Veblen's Files~~

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, LL.

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

1934

7/13

DIRECTOR

Corperation

MAASS, HERBERT H.

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN, O.

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 ~~assess~~ says he has written to 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

NAARS, HERBERT E.

✓ VEBLER, O.

FULTON

LEWIS, W.

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

Filed in Chronological file under 1954, 8/3.

Fulton File, Wilmerth Lewis

1955

GENERAL

FOREIGN

SITE (Buildings & Grounds)

FOUNDERS

GEST ORIENTAL LIBRARY

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

GENERAL

REPORTS

FLEXNER, A

STEIN

MAASS, HERBERT

VEBLEN, OSWALD

OPPENHEIMER, ROBERT

GOTTMANN, JEAN

LEIDENSOEF, SAMUEL, D

ELLIOT, T. S.

TOYNBEE, ARNOLD

LEVY, DAVID M

BIRKHOFF, D

EICKELSER

WEYL, HERNAN

Academic Personnel

Facilities

Corporation

Facilities

Relations W. O. AL. I.

Academic Organisation

Corporation

Biographical

(See FLEXNER, A., Biographical - Interview of 10/31)

1955

March - November

TRUSTEES

Corporation

FACULTY

Academic Personnel

SALARIES

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Note: There were no faculty meetings from March, 1955 to November, 1955. There was an increase in salary for all Institute professors to \$18,000 resulting from action by the Trustees on October 27, 1955. There is no allusion in the minutes to the faculty moving for this increase in salary.

Note: Veblen said at the Trustees' meeting of April 15, 1955 that at the time of the founding of the Institute the \$15,000 maximum faculty salary made it possible to attract

professors from any other institution, but that the increase of twenty percent reflected in today's salaries was not as large as the increase in full professors' salaries, generally. Dr. Oppenheimer stated that to his knowledge there had been only two formal declinations of appointment to the Faculty and that one of these was clearly not for financial reasons.

HOUSING

WEBLEN, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

4/29
5/6
Facilities

Biographical

Veblen (4/29) Aydelotte (5/6) to Morgan in regard to new housing project. Both deplore destruction of Minesville housing and obliteration of Cook Road. Both deplore quadrangular plan on grounds of view from family dwellings and attendant regimentation in common living and play/space; both dislike the architectural plan. Aydelotte believes it should be more in style of Fuld Hall. Veblen holds the modern house plan, in reality a return to 2 or 3 thousand years B. C., Abandoned for more aesthetic plans when it was possible within 20 years. It will be as ugly as Mid-Victorian is to us today.

A File, E. A. Lowe

1955

11/7
11/8

RIEPLER, W. W. (7, 8)

Biographical

FRANKFURTER, F. (6, 7, 8)

✓ VEBLEN, O. (7, 8, 9)

Interviews ~~kkx~~ with Professor Oswald Veblen, 11/7/55 and
11/8/55.

Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

1955

11/14

GOLDMAN, HETTY

Biographical

FLEXNER, A.

✓ VEBLER, C.

MOREY, C. R.

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Procedures

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

Academic Organization

Interview with Professor Hetty Goldman

See Vertical File - INTERVIEWS

1955

11/18

VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

Interview with O. Veblen 11/18/55

See TRUSTEES - Corporation

1955

11/21

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY (1, 2)

Relations WOI

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (3)

Facilities

GEST ORIENTAL LIBRARY (3)

✓ VEBLEN, O. (1, 2)

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A. (2)

BIRKHOFF (2)

FLEXNER, A. (1, 2, 3)

Interview with Oswald Veblen, 11/21/55. (One of 2 interviews of
this date)

Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

1955

11/21

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

FLEXNER, A.

VON NEUMANN, J.

✓ VEBLER, O.

ALEXANDER, J.

RIEFLER, W.

LEFSCHETZ

Academic Organization

Relations W.O.A.I.

Academic Personnel

Biographical

Interview with O. Veblen 11/21/55

See Vertical File - INTERVIEWS

1955

11/26

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

RIEFLER, W.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

PLENNER, A.

PANOPSKY, E.

Interview with Winfield W. Siefler, November 26, 1955.

Filed under 11/26/55

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Filed in Vertical File, Interviews

1955

12/1

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS (7)

Academic Organisation

APPOINTMENTS (1, 5)

Academic Personnel

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION (2, 3, 5, 9)

GENERAL (6, 7)

Administration

DIRECTOR (3, 6, 7)

FRANKFURTER (1, 8)

Biographical

RIEPLER (1, 3, 8)

STEWART (3)

EINSTEIN (, 5, 6)

PLEKNER, (5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

✓ VEBLEN (Interview)

Interview with Professor Veblen, 12/1/55.

Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

1955

12/1

~~VEBLEN, O.~~

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

DIRECTOR

Administration

Interview with Professor Veblen, 12/1/55.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Veblen, 12/1/55

1955

12/9

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

EARLE, E. M.

Biographical

FLEXNER A.

✓VEBIEN, O.

Interview with Mrs. Beatrice Earle, December 9, 1955.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Mrs. Beatrice Earle, 12/9/55.

1955

12/12

POLICIES

Administration

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

VEBLER, O.

Biographical

AYDELOTTE, F.

DOUGLAS, LEWIS

FLEXNER, A.

Interview with Professor Veblen, December 12, 1955.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Veblen, 12/12/55.

1955

12/13

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

EASLE, E. H.

Biographical

✓VEBLEN, O.

FIRNER, A.

SIEGEL, CARL L.

PAULI, W.

Interview with Professor Veblen, December 13, 1955.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Veblen, December 13, 1955.

1955

12/13

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

MORSE, M.

Biographical

JEWETT

✓VEBLEN, O.

EISENHART,

FLEXNER, A.

ELIOT, T. S.

Interview with Professor Morse, December 13, 1955.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Morse, December 13, 1955.

1955

12/13

GENERAL

Administration

GENERAL

Academic Organization

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER, R.

Notes of a conference with Robert Oppenheimer.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Conference with Robert Oppenheimer, 12/13/55

1956

1/13

GENERAL

Corperation

TRUSTEE

DIRECTOR

Agministration

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

STRAUSS, L. W.

AYDELOTTE, F.

FLEISHER, A.

Interview with Professor Veblen, January 13, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews.

Interview with Professor Veblen 1/13/56

1956

1/30

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Academic Organization

ROCKEFELLER

Foundations

TRUSTEES

Corporation

STEWART, W. W.

Biographical

RIEFLER, W.

VEBLER, 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

1/31

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

Organisation
Academic Research

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

STEWART, W. W.

Biographical

FLANNERY, A.

✓ FRIED, G.

STIMPSON, W.

DOUGLAS, LEWIS

OF HENNINGER, N.

MOE, HENRY ALLEN

ATKINSON, P.

Interview with Walter W. Stewart, January 31, 1956.

Filed in Chronological File under Stewart Interviews.

Interview with W. W. Stewart, 1/31/56

1956

2/8

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

BUDGET

Finance

✓VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

EISENHART

FLEXNER, A.

PANOFSKY

HERZFELD

Interview with Professor Oswald Veblen, February 8, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Interviews Veblen

Interview with Professor Oswald Veblen, 2/8/56.

1956

2/28

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOI

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

✓ VEBLER, O.

Biographical

FRANKFURTER, F.

FLEXNER, A.

FLEXNER, SIMON

WEED

CARREL

Interview with Professor Veblen, February 28, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

Interview with Veblen, 2/28/56

1956

2/29

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WPAI

SALARIES

Academic Personnel

✓ VEBLEN, O.

Biographical

LEPSCHETZ

EINSTEIN, A.

HISTORY OF INSTITUTE (GENERAL)

History of Institute

Interview with Professor Veblen, February 29, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under 1956, 2/29.

Interview with Veblen, 2/29/56

1956

3/23

TEACHING

Academic Procedures

FOUNDERS

Corporation

SITE (BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS)

Facilities

KENNEAN, GEORGE D.

Biographical

VINER, J.

✓ VEBLER, O.

PANOFSEY, ERWIN

MERITT, B. D.

The above are additional headings for the interview with President Harold W. Dodds, Princeton University, March 23, 1956. The interview is filed in the Vertical File under Dodds Interviews.

Interview with President Dodds, 3/23/56

1956

3/25

WEX WHEED, LOUIS

Biographical

FLAXNER, SIMON

✓ VEULEN, O.

PEARCE, LOUISE, DR.

Interview with^{Dr.} Louise Pearce, March 25, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Pearce Interviews.

Interview with Dr. Louise Pearce, March 25, 1956.

1956

3/26

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Relations WOAI

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

Academic Personnel

FOUNDERS

Corporation

DEGREES

Academic Procedures

EINSTEIN, A.

Biographical

EISENHART, LUTHER P.

✓ VEBLEY, O.

Interview with Luther P. Eisenhart, March 26, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Eisenhart Interviews.

Interview with Luther P. Eisenhart, 3/26/56

1956

4/15

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

Academic Organization

EICHELSER, MARIE G.

Biographical

FISHER, A.

AYDELOTTE, F.

✓ VEBLER, O.

Interview ~~FILE~~ by telephone with Marie G. Eichelsler
in New York, April 15, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Eichelsler Interviews.

Telephone Interview with Miss Eichelsler, 4/15/56

1956

5/31

BENEFITS

Academic Personnel

LOWE, E. A.

Biographical

EINSTEIN, A.

HERZFELD

✓VEBLEN, O.

Interview with Professor Lowe, May 31, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Lowe Interviews.

Interview with Lowe, 5/31/56

1956

6/6

GENERAL
ECONOMICS
PHILOSOPHY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
POLICIES
PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION
GODDARD
VINER, J.
FRANKS, A.
DUMPLER, W. W.
STEWART, WARREN
WARREN, ROBERT
✓ VEBLEN, O.
WINTHROP, ALBERT
HARLE, EDWARD H.
PROFESSORS

Academic Organization
Academic Activities

Relations WPAI
Administration
Academic Personnel
Foundations
Biographical

Academic Personnel

Interview with Jacob Viner, June 6, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Viner Interviews.

Interview with Viner, 6/6/56

6/15

GENERAL

ELECTRONIC COMPUTER PROJECT

FELLOWSHIPS

APPOINTMENTS

MEMBERS

PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION

MONTGOMERY, DEAN

✓ VEBLEN, O.

LEFSCHETZ

OPPENHEIMER

KENNAN

Academic Organization

Academic Activities

Academic Personnel

Biographical

Interview with Dean Montgomery, June 15, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Montgomery Interviews.

1956

5/7

DIRECTOR

Administration

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Corperation

FULTON, JOHN

Biographical

OPPENHEIMER, ROBERT

WEED, LEWIS H.

✓ VEBLER, O.

AYDELOTTE, F.

STRAUSS, LEWIS W.

VON NEUMANN, JOHN

KENWAN, GEORGE

EINSTEIN, ALBERT

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

Filed in Vertical file under Fulton Interviews.

1956

6/21

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY (8, 9, 10)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY (1)

MATHEMATICS (2, 7, 14)

E. C. P. (5, 6)

APPOINTMENTS (2, 3, 4, 5)

SALARIES (3)

FACULTY (10, 11)

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS (5, 9, 14, 15)

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES (14)

JOHNS HOPKINS (7, 8)

DIRECTOR (10, 11)

TRUSTEES (11)

RESEARCH (13)

MORSE (1, 5, 8, 10)

BIRKHOFF (1, 4)

WHITNEY (2)

STEWART (2, 3)

FLEXNER (3, 7, 8)

GODEL (3, 5)

MAYER, WALTHER (3)

SIEGEL (5)

BIGELOW (5, 6)

ELIOT, T. S. (7)

STRAUSS (10)

EARLE (10)

BOREL (15)

Relations WOAI

Academic Activities

Academic Personnel

Academic Organization

Educational Institutions

Administration

Corporation

Academic Procedures

Biographical

✓ VEBLEN (1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 13)

DODDS (2)

WARREN (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)

Interview with
Morse 6/21/56.

Filed in
Vertical File
under Morse
Interviews.

1956

7/9

GENERAL

Educational Institutions

MATHEMATICS

academic activities

POLITICAL

Administration

MEMBERS

Academic Personnel

HOUSING

Biographical

GRANTS

WIFE

KINSHIP

CHILD

CONNECTIONS

✓ VELEN, G.

Interview with Professor Haugebauer, July 9, 1956.
Filed in Vertical File under Haugebauer Interviews.

1956

7/12

DIRECTOR

Administration

POLICING

COMMITTEES

GIFTS

Finance

GENERAL (TAXES)

Government Relations

BY-LAWS

Corporation

TRUSTEES

FACULTY

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

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Interview with Mr. Stewart, September 25, 1956.
Filed in Vertical File under Stewart Interviews.

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Filed in Vertical File under Goldman Interviews.

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Interview with Abraham Flexner, October 24, 1956.
Filed in Vertical File under Flexner Interviews.

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Luncheon conversation with Veblen, 12/10/56.
Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

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Interview with Dr. Veblen, December 12, 1956.

Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

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Interview with Professor Veblen, February 22, 1957.

Filed in Vertical File under Veblen Interviews.

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✓VEBLEN, O.

Interview with George Boas, March 31, 1957.

Filed in Vertical File under Boas Interviews.

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After dinner conversation with Jean Gottman, April 17, 1957.

Filed in Vertical File under Gottman Interviews.

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Interview with Dean Eisenhart, May 15, 1957.

Filed in Vertical File under Eisenhart Interviews.

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Interview with Dean Eisenhart, May 22, 1957.

Filed in Vertical File under Eisenhart Interviews.

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Interview with Hetty Goldman, June 27, 1957.

Filed in Vertical File under Goldman Interviews.

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