

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Historical Studies - Social Science Library

ITEMS REMOVED : MERRITT, BENJAMIN D. - 1940 - 1947

1) Announcement of the publication of Benjamin D. Merritt's Epigraphica Attica, accompanying letter of July 31, 1940 from Prof. Merritt to Director Aydelotte.

2) Review of Athenian Tribute Lists, from Antiquity, 1946. (Photocopy.)

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

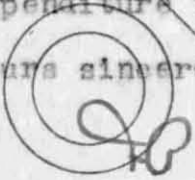
October 1, 1947

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Ben:

Oppenheimer feels that it is, strictly speaking, not correct for him to approve any items of expenditure until after October 16th. Meanwhile somebody has to do the approving and I am ready to authorize you to incur this expense of between \$200 and \$300 for squeezes which Mitsos has undertaken to obtain for you. I am sending a copy of this letter to Miss Trinterud and suggesting that she charge this expenditure to the contingent fund.

Yours sincerely,


Frank Aydelotte

✓
Copy to Dr. Oppenheimer
Miss Trinterud

Use Dr. A.
So ahead with
this!

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

September 17, 1947

Dear Robert:

Mitsos who was here last year has expressed his willingness to undertake to supply some missing items which Meritt very much wants for his collection of squeezes. The expense involved would be somewhere between \$200 and \$300. It is the kind of thing which I have always taken care of out of the contingent fund. If you approve, I will tell Meritt to go ahead and make suitable arrangements.

Yours sincerely,



Frank Aydelotte

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Copy to Professor Benjamin D. Meritt

May 6, 1947

Dear Ben:

Clement would like the Institute to buy him a new typewriter. Is that our responsibility or is that the responsibility of the classical publications which he edits?

I am a little troubled about your plan file. Did you get what you wanted? My understanding was that you wanted one which cost \$80 and that since that could not be obtained immediately you took as a temporary makeshift one costing \$325. Is that correct?

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey



CUNARD WHITE STAR LIMITED



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IN YOUR REPLY
KINDLY QUOTE

RTJ:TAC

Prof. Meritt

April 25, 1947

Mr. Gilmore Stott,
Assistant to Dr. Aydelotte
The Rhodes Scholarship Trust
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Mr. Stott:

I was delighted to learn from your letter of April 7th that Professor Benjamin J. Meritt has seen the light and decided to postpone his visit to the University of Glasgow until 1948.

As we anticipate that 1948 will present the same problems, as far as the availability of passenger accommodation is concerned, to that which we are encountering today, perhaps you would have Professor Meritt complete the attached application in order that he may be amongst the early registrants.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
CUNARD WHITE STAR LIMITED

Meritt

April 7, 1947

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I have your letter of April 1st and want to thank you for your extra efforts toward obtaining a passage for Professor Benjamin J. Meritt on one of your sailings in mid-June.

I have just been discussing with Mr. Meritt the many difficulties which are connected with obtaining such a passage at this late date and in view of these circumstances, he has decided to postpone the acceptance of his degree from the University of Glasgow until the summer of 1948.

In line with the information which you gave me in your letter, I have suggested to Mr. Meritt that he should at once apply for passage in the summer of that year and I know that he expects to stop in your office within the near future in order to do so.

Many thanks for your generous help.

Yours sincerely,

GS:kr
R. T. Johnson, Esq.
Cunard White Star, Ltd.
25 Broadway
New York 4, N. Y.

Gilmore Stott,
Assistant to Dr. Aydelotte



CUNARD WHITE STAR LIMITED



CUNARD LINE WHITE STAR LINE
DONALDSON ATLANTIC LINE LIMITED

IN YOUR REPLY
KINDLY QUOTE

RTJ:vab

25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 4, N. Y.

TELEPHONE
BOWLING GREEN 9-5300

April 1, 1947

Mr. Gilmore Stott
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Stott:

I have your letter of March 25th in which you apply for accommodation for passage for Professor Benjamin J. Meritt by one of our sailings in mid-June.

Sorry to say that our booking position is very difficult for all sailings up to and including the end of July and it is impossible this time for us to promise that the Professor will secure reservation by our Line.

We are filing his application and should cancellations permit, you will hear from us again.

Yours very truly,


CUNARD WHITE STAR LIMITED

March 25, 1947

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As I mentioned to you in our telephone conversation today, Professor Benjamin J. Meritt, who is a member of the Institute for Advanced Study, has been invited to receive a degree at the University of Glasgow on the 25th of June.

The problem, of course, is whether or not he can obtain passage so as to be able to be there. Mr. Meritt would prefer to arrive in England if possible by about the 15th so as to have a safe margin prior to the date of June 25th on which the degree will be conferred. However, he would be willing to arrive on any date which would allow as much as two or three days margin for him to make the trip to Glasgow. Mr. Meritt will be happy to go via any class passage available, but prefers an economical passage for example tourist, if that is possible.

As I mentioned to you over the telephone, Mr. Meritt is especially eager to go with his wife. If, however, it means the difference between being able to go or not being able to go, he would accept a single passage. Mr. Meritt is reluctant to suggest this alternative, but I understand he would accept it if that is necessary.

It is necessary for Mr. Meritt to return to this country early in July in order to carry on his studies here. I understand that the return passage would not be so difficult to obtain as the eastward passage. If it should work out that some type of eastward passage could be made available to Mr. Meritt, I know that he will wish

- 2 -

to make a definite arrangement regarding his return sailing so as not to be stranded on the other side. It has occurred to me that the return sailing of the Mauretania on the 1st of July would be ideal if this is possible.

It is very generous of you to do us the favor of looking out for Mr. Meritt and both he and Dr. Aydelotte are extremely appreciative of your efforts.

Yours sincerely,

GS:kr

R. T. Johnson, Esq.
Cunard White Star, Ltd.
25 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Gilmore Stott,
Assistant to Dr. Aydelotte

March 24, 1947

Dear Ben:

I return your Honorary Degree letter herewith and am asking Gil Stott to make some efforts with the Cunard White Star line to find places for you and Betty on the Queen Elizabeth on June 11th.

I enclose at the same time a letter I recently received from a British scholar who wants to know about late American books on the Homeric problem. I should be grateful if you would suggest some titles which I could send on to him. Please return his letter so that I can answer it.

Yours sincerely,

FA:kr

Frank Aydelotte

Mr. Benjamin J. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study

COPY

The University
Glasgow, W.2
14th March, 1947

Dr. B. J. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey, U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Meritt:

I am directed by the Senate of the University to invite you to receive at its hands the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. I have much pleasure in conveying this invitation and hope to hear that you will accept it.

It is hoped to hold an Honorary Graduation Ceremony on the afternoon of Wednesday, 25th June. Further information will be sent you later; in the meantime, it may be useful to say that for the occasion of the ceremony itself the University will provide each graduand with the accademic dress appropriate to his degree.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)
C. J. Fordyce
Clerk of Senate

CROSS REFERENCE

FILE: MERITT, Benjamin '40-'47

RE: SHEAR, Mrs. Leslie - Gift of paintings of Greek pottery to I.A.S.
under supervision of Prof. Meritt

LETTER DATED: FILE - Dec. '46 - Dec/ '48

SEE: INSTITUTE GENERAL - Shear Mrs. Leslie

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

December 17, 1946

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Thank you very much for the copies of Hesperia
and A.J.A. I shall see to it that copies of Hesperia
reach you regularly and we shall, of course, be glad to
have them for our file when you have finished reading them.

Sincerely yours,



B. D. Meritt

BDM:DD

December 14, 1946

Dear Ben:

I am sure that you can make better use of these publications than I can and I am, therefore, cheerfully passing them over to you. I still hope that you will send me copies of "Hesperia" as they appear. I always enjoy looking through them and I will then send them on to you to be preserved in the file.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

September 4, 1946

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Magnetawan
Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada

Dear Ben:

We were in desperate condition with this electronic computer as you will see when you arrive. I consulted Clement and he thought that one room could be spared temporarily, the one to the south. I know you will be crowded in the other one but you understand that it is only a question of a few months until the electronic computer building is finished. Then the whole group will move out of Fuld Hall and they will, incidentally, leave your room in much better condition than they found it.

Before calling on anybody else I gave up practically all the storage space under my office and we have filled every nook and corner of the building.

The contract for the removal of the houses from Mineville to Princeton has been signed. The contractor talks about sixty to ninety days but I have privately made up my mind not to expect them to be ready for habitation before Christmas. Meanwhile we shall have a desperate time housing our members and may have to put some beds in some of the smaller offices in Fuld Hall. The first term is going to be a crowded one in every sense of the word.

Yours sincerely,

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada
August 29, 1946

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I have learned with some dismay that a group of electronic experts has moved into half of the basement of our wing at the Institute. I am very sorry that they have done this and I hope that you will manage it so that this will be merely a temporary expedient. Without the storage space that this room provided we will be unable to work on our engravings in the room that is now left, as I understand it, for the Humanistic School, and I want to get the heavy material that must simply be stored back into the other half of the basement.

This is all the more important as I expect to have a very large increment that must be stored as soon as I return to Princeton.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

B. D. Meritt

BDM:DD

~~THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY~~
~~SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES~~
~~PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY~~

Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada
August 21, 1946

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

We expect to leave here on September 9 and reach Princeton sometime in the afternoon of September 11. I hope that you have had as good weather for your vacation in Connecticut as we have had here in Magnetawan. E. L. Woodward arrived safely a few days ago and is enjoying the brief respite before he gets down to work with us in Princeton.

I merely wanted to let you know what our plans are.

Sincerely yours,



B. D. Meritt

BDM:DD

EASTMAN HOUSE
18 NORHAM GARDENS, OXFORD

June 26, 1946

Dear Miss Richardson,

I have put rather a general address on the envelope, because I don't know who will be at the Institute or who may at the moment be away on vacation. But will you be good enough to tell Dr. Aydelotte that we have passage on the Queen Mary, sailing from Southampton on June 30, and that we expect to be back in Princeton shortly after July 4.

I should be grateful if you will also tell one or two other interested people, Clements, Pritchett, Miss Grace, - and anybody else you think ought to know.

Sincerely yours,

B. D. Meritt

April 28, 1946

Professor B.D. Meritt
18 Norham Gardens
Oxford, England

Dear Ben:

Warmest thanks for your note which reached me this afternoon on my first real day in the office, so that as a welcome it is extremely timely. We had a somewhat slow trip back last week. We were due to leave on Monday and to reach New York on Tuesday. Instead we were held up one day at Geneva, two nights in Ireland, and one day in Newfoundland, finally reaching New York late Friday afternoon.

I find everything in good shape here at the Institute and am now settling down to work on the problems which have been left for me to solve. Wallace has just been in to see me and expresses himself as delighted with the facilities he finds in his department. He has incidentally just been offered a professorship in University College, Toronto, and will be there next year. In addition, they have a new baby in their family, so that life for him is very exciting. He could find no place for his wife in Princeton, and she has been staying with an aunt in Hartford.

I am extremely glad that you got word about that suitcase of mine. I meant to write to you at the same time I wrote to Bagley but literally did not have a moment to do it. Loud will be coming home next week. It is obviously more convenient to have him bring it.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:nh

EASTMAN HOUSE
18 NORHAM GARDENS, OXFORD

Jan. 28, 1946

Dear Dr. Aydolotte:

Yesterday I met in the Ashmolean
Dr. Claude F. A. Schaeffer who conducted the
excavations of Ras-Shamra before the war
and is a great student of Anatolian
archaeology. He is now, I think, the
Director of the Musée de St. Germain.

I told him I came from the
Institute in Princeton, and he
immediately asked about Netty
Goldman. He knew of the Institute,
apparently, because she is there, and I
must tell you that he said her

excavations at Tarsus were the best organized and most scientifically carried out of any he knew in the Near East. He is just publishing a book with the Institute here through the Ashmolean in which he takes Miss Goldswain's results from Tarsus as the guide and control for his whole chronological and stratigraphic scheme. He is impatient for further results from Tarsus, and begs that their publication may be on no account delayed.

I know you will be interested in this unsolicited testimonial to the value of her work.

Sincerely,
Ben

Summary of Professor Meritt's Activities in connection with the war effort

About May the first of 1942 Professor Meritt began to work continuously with the Office of Strategic Services in Washington, taking leave of absence from the Institute so that he might do this, and taking a position in the Foreign Nationalities Branch of Colonel Donovan's organization as chief of the Chancery Division. This work grew out of preliminary volunteer service with the Office of Strategic Services which Professor Meritt had begun in Princeton at the close of 1941. The Foreign Nationalities Branch was organized for the purpose of studying the foreign national groups in the United States with respect to their political aspirations, their possible community of interest, their differences, and the effect of all these upon the war effort of the United Nations.

In Washington Professor Meritt was active in following the political aspirations of about thirty-six foreign national groups within the United States. One of his assignments was to supply a complete coverage of the foreign language press from the point of view of political intelligence. This he did in cooperation with a number of volunteer workers in academic institutions throughout the United States. But this was only one of a number of activities of the Washington office. A great deal of the work was of a confidential nature and from July the first of 1942 until recently when the Office of Strategic Services was disbanded, the Foreign Nationalities Branch operated under the direction of the joint Chiefs of Staff. As the counterpart of the Chancery Division a Field Study Division was developed. For a time Professor Meritt worked in close liaison with the Field Study Division. Later he was given the duties of Associate Director, and eventually had charge of the activities of both the Chancery Division and the Field Study Division.

This activity in connection with the war effort necessitated Professor Meritt's living in Washington, where he had to be in constant touch with the Department of State, the Department of Justice, the Army, the Navy, the Office of War Information, and other agencies interested in foreign nationalities, like the Board of Economic Warfare, the Treasury Department, and the Maritime Commission.

Professor Meritt continued with the Office of Strategic Services until the middle of August, 1943, when Governor Lehman, the active director of the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations, had need of his services in an emergency capacity, namely, to establish as soon as possible an outpost in the

- 2 -

Middle East. Realizing the importance of the proposed plan as outlined by Governor Lehman, Professor Meritt resigned from the Office of Strategic Services and obtained leave of absence from the Institute for Advanced Study until the end of the calendar year, in order to perform his new duties. He was engaged to go to Cairo as a representative of the State Department and took the oath of office on September 6th.

A period of preparation followed in which Professor Meritt conferred repeatedly with Mr. Philip C. Jessup, Director of the Personnel Section of OFRRO, and with Governor Lehman on problems connected with the mission. He received the necessary inoculations, and went through the formalities of obtaining a passport, and collecting equipment for the journey. Everything pointed toward success in carrying out the assigned task. However, the matter of obtaining air transportation caused delay, and meanwhile bureaucratic dispute arose among various governmental agencies, of which OFRRO was one, which resulted in reorganization by Executive Order on September 25th. Professor Meritt's understanding with Governor Lehman in August 1943, when he had asked for leave of absence from the Institute until the end of the calendar year, had been that the mission would be accomplished in three months' time, but since then much time had elapsed, and in the reorganization of September 25th Governor Lehman had been removed from the directorship of OFRRO and had been given the responsibility for creating the machinery for UNRRA. Professor Meritt found himself no longer a member of the State Department but a public servant in the Executive Office of the President, and OFRRO and the other agencies which had entered into the dispute which brought about the reorganization were coordinated in a new board, the Office of Foreign Economic Administration. Professor Meritt felt then that he ought not to go to Cairo, as had been planned, unless matters clarified themselves rapidly, but Governor Lehman urged him to carry on in the hope that he might get off to Cairo. Governor Lehman felt that he would need a first-hand account from one of his own people in Cairo of what was going on in the Middle East at the time when he was creating UNRRA. However, when Professor Meritt had requested further leave of absence from the Institute, he had set October 10th as the time limit on his departure for the Middle East, the latest date in his estimation on which he might leave for Cairo, accomplish his mission, and return by the end of 1943. On October 4th he was finally summoned to the airport to be "processed." There he was told that he might get off by October 18th, though the Priorities Board and the Army Transport could not, of course, guarantee this. On October 5th he reported these facts to OFRRO and submitted his resignation,

Meritt

C O P Y

TEACHERS INSURANCE & ANNUITY
ASSOCIATION
of America

522 Fifth Avenue, New York 18, N. Y.

November 30, 1944

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Doctor Aydelotte:

Replying to your letter of November 27, you no doubt now have my letter of November 24 which answered your question concerning the annuity contract held by Professor von Neumann.

As to retirement annuity contract No. A4469 held by Professor B. D. Meritt, the present monthly premium of \$125 may be paid through June 1, 1952 and then must be reduced to \$16 a month starting July 1, 1952 to provide just \$655 a month, regular settlement, at age 65.

X

Sincerely yours,

Signed: R. L. MATTOCKS

Associate Actuary

RLM:RJ

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BENJAMIN D. MERITT

Athens and the Delian League, in The Greek Political Experience
(Studies in honor of W. K. Prentice) pp. 50-60; Princeton:
Princeton University Press, 1941.

American excavations in the Athenian Agora, nineteenth report:
Greek inscriptions, *Hesperia* X, pp. 38-64, 1941.

Notes on Attic Decrees, *Hesperia* X, 1941, pp. 301-337.

New fragments of the tribute lists, *American Journal of Philology*
LXII, 1941, pp. 1-15.

Review of Epigraphica, *Revista Italiana di Epigrafia*, I; *American*
Journal of Philology, 1941, p. 513.

American excavations in the Athenian Agora, twenty-second report:
Greek inscriptions, *Hesperia* XI, 1942, pp. 275-303.

The early Athenian tribute lists, *Classical Philology* XXXVIII, 1943,
pp. 223-239.

American excavations in the Athenian Agora, twenty-fourth report:
Greek inscriptions, *Hesperia* XIII, 1944, pp. 210-266.

Editor, *American Journal of Philology*
Editor, *Hesperia*

Scheduled for publication in 1945: Athenian Decrees of the Fifth
Century in one volume.

Sept. 19, '45

99 BATTLE ROAD
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Dear Miss Miller:

As I discussed the question of roomers with Mr. Merritt before he left - because of a suggestion put forward by someone else - I thought it might be well to reply to your letter myself and tell you what the situation is. From my talk with Mr. Merritt I do not feel that Mrs. Bill and I ought to take any one in here without his specific request. This is, of course, both for his protection and for ours. We are responsible for his place while he is away and naturally will feel more secure if the responsibility is undivided. We are very sorry not to be more helpful when living quarters are so difficult to find.

With all best wishes,

Edward C. Bill

September 21, 1945

Dear Ben:

Would you have any objection to allowing the Bills to rent a room to a member of the Institute if this were a person we could all vouch for 100%? Living conditions in Princeton are more congested this year than ever before, which is saying a good deal. We have some fine people here at the Institute who simply cannot find a place to live. I am particularly interested in Miss Berta Segall of the Humanistic School who so far has found nothing but a kitchen, which must be a terrible place. If you would be willing to allow the Bills to rent her a room, it would be a great favor to a very deserving person.

I am afraid you went out into the hurricane after all. I hope the voyage was not too rough and that you are now recovering in Oxford.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor B. D. Meritt
Eastman House
18 Norham Gardens
Oxford

FA:KK

Waterford, Connecticut
September 3, 1945

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Ben:

Ed Earle telephoned me this morning to say that you and he had discovered strings tied to trees in your backyard which suggest an amateurish attempt to lay out a continuation of Battle Road. It may have been after you left in the spring that Maxwell offered us a greater part of the land which he owns (leaving only adequate grounds surrounding his own house) for \$100,000. Our Trustees thought this too much and authorized me to offer him \$65,000. I gather that Maxwell is now trying to put pressure on us to raise this amount. I think, myself, our offer was a little small and should have preferred to make it \$75,000 or \$80,000.

For our own protection, I think we ought to take steps immediately to get this road and the unnamed street behind your house formally erased from the Township map. I gather that the inquiries conducted by you and Earle make it certain that we shall have the support of all our neighbors in this attempt. If Mr. Bunn is in Princeton I wish you would have a word with him as to the formal steps which are necessary. I will then proceed to carry them out as soon as I return to Princeton.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Miss Miller by way of instructing her to provide you with any legal assistance that may be needed before my return. I think Miss Miller had better not act except under instructions from you.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Copy to Miss Miller
Professor Earle
Professor Veblen

August 3, 1945

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada

Dear Ben:

Heartiest congratulations on your Honorary
Membership in The Society for the Promotion of
Hellenic Studies. This is another fine preparation
for your year in England. I hope that by this time
you have my airgraph from Oxford and are making some
progress in regard to securing passage.

Yours sincerely,

FA:jsr

July 30, 1945

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada

Dear Professor Meritt:

Thank you for your letter of July 27th informing Dr. Aydelotte that you have just been made an Honorary Member of The Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies. Dr. Aydelotte will be very happy to have this news when he returns from England about August 2nd.

I hope you are having a good summer.

Sincerely yours,

Jane S. Richardson
Secretary to Dr. Aydelotte

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

*Reply to
BDM*

Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada
July 27, 1945

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter which I received yesterday from the Secretary of the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies. I am sending this copy because I know you will be interested.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

B. D. Meritt

BDM:DD

Enc:

Copy for Dr. Aydelotte

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF HELLENIC STUDIES

50 Bedford Square

London, W.C. 1

6th July 1945

Professor B. D. Meritt,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton,
N.J., U.S.A.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that at a special meeting of the Council of this Society, it was decided to offer you its Honorary Membership in recognition of the services you have rendered to the cause of archaeological study during your long and distinguished career.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

June 13, 1945

My dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I have shown my letter to you of June eighth to Professors Goldman, Lowe and Panofsky, and they all without exception approve the recommendations that I made in it, namely, the granting of a stipend of \$1,000 as a fellowship to Lt. William P. Wallace and the extending of the privileges of membership to Father Loughran for the summer.

I think there is no need to write to Father Loughran, but I attach here a suggested letter to Lt. Wallace.

Yours sincerely,



B. D. Meritt

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

BDM:KK

May 9, 1945

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Ben:

This is to repeat my authorization to you to employ an assistant next year at a salary not to exceed \$2,000 to work on your Athenian telephone directory.

At the same time I hope that we can put through the arrangement for the secretaryship of the department which we discussed.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jsr

Copy for Miss Miller

March 29, 1945

Dear Ben:

I should be grateful if you would take up with the Township authorities the matter of eliminating from the maps of the Institute property the road which was proposed from Mercer Street, parallel with the line of our land and Mr. Maxwell's and connecting with the proposed extension of Battle Road.

These proposed roads have never been dedicated. They were marked out by Mr. Olden on his maps of the property, I believe, at the time when he had in mind some kind of real estate development for the Olden Farm. That plan was wholly abandoned when the Olden Farm was sold to the Institute.

These roads do not fit in with the plan which we have formed for the development of the Institute property and the Institute has no intention of ever building or dedicating them. They should therefore be erased from all the records.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor B. D. Meritt,
Institute for Advanced Study

FA:KK

March 16, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR PROFESSOR MERITT:

I enclose a letter from Professor Coulburn and some correspondence to Cochrane of Toronto which I should be grateful if you would glance at from the point of view of the School of Humanistic Studies.

Raubitschek has read Cochrane's book and is preparing a summary of it which I will hand to you as soon as I receive it.

Frank Aydelotte

Professor B. D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study

FA:KK

CROSS REFERENCE

Meritt, B. D. Eastman Professor
Publicity on January 19, 1945

SEE: Rhodes Scholar file under Eastman Professorship

December 28, 1944

Dear Ben:

On behalf of the Trustees and Faculty of the Institute, I send you warmest thanks for your generous gift of this additional collection of books for the Institute library. I only hope that other members of the Faculty may be moved to follow your generous example.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor B. D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study

FA:KK

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

December 26, 1944

Dr. Frank Aydelotte, Director
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Following the gift of my professional library to the Institute in February of 1942, I have accumulated certain other books which, in my opinion, the Institute ought to have, and I beg now to give them to the Library. You will find a list of books on the attached sheet and I hope that you will be glad to have them.

Very sincerely yours,



B. D. Meritt

BDM:DD
Enc:

B. D. Meritt
Gifts to Institute Library
in 1944

Cherniss, Harold; Aristotles Criticism of Plato	\$5.00
Youtie, Herbert C.; Papyri and ostraca from Karanis	4.00
Suelzer, Mary J.; Clausulae in Cassiodorus	.75
Ringwood, Irene C.; Agonistic features of local Greek festivals	.75
West and Johnson; Currency in Roman and Byzantine Egypt	3.00
Harsh, Philip W.; Handbook of classical drama	4.00
Papyri from Tebtunis, ed. Edgerton	5.00
Pindari Epinicia, ed. Alexander Turyn	5.00
Ferguson-Nock; The Attic Orgeones and The Cult of Heroes (Harvard Theological Review)	.75
Histories ed. by T. R. Mills (Thucydides)	.75
Secretaries of the Athenian Boule	.50
Hesperia for 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$5.00	20.00
American Journal of Philology for 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$5.00	20.00
American Journal of Archaeology for 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$6.00	24.00
Classical Philology for 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$4.00	12.00
Classical Weekly for 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$2.00	6.00
Journal of Hellenic Studies, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$5.00	20.00
Journal of Roman Studies 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 at \$5.00	20.00

Total

\$151.50

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

You might like to see
Meiggs' letters, so I attach a
copy. It need not be returned.

Friendly,

Ben

John Under
Hirst

December 6, 1944

Dear Ben:

It gives me pleasure to inform you that the Board of Trustees at its meeting on December fifth approved my recommendation that you be granted leave of absence on half salary for the academic year 1945-56 for the purpose of undertaking the duties of Eastman Professor at the University of Oxford. The Institute will continue its payments on your annuity contract at the usual rate.

It is further understood that if conditions should be such as to make it impossible for you to spend the next academic year at Oxford, I should request that the period of your leave should be postponed until such time as it is feasible for you to go.

I am very glad to convey to you the congratulations of the Trustees on this appointment which is an honor to the Institute as well as to you.

Yours very sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor B. D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study

FA:KK

Balliol College
Oxford
December 3 (1944)

Dear Meritt

I am most grateful to you for continuing to send me offprints of your many articles. Hesperia has just arrived to recall me to saner days and I have thoroughly enjoyed it. I remain increasingly in your debt but I hope you will realise that your lectures and discussions in Oxford helped me immensely and did improve my mental equipment and my lectures and teaching. Quite honestly I needed your kind of stimulus to get down to serious work on inscriptions, and the spoken word is a most valuable supplement to your books on which much of my lecturing is based.

My return has so far been an invisible export only, but I have at last in page proof for the next number of the J.H.S. a few pages (too compressed) on Athenian inscriptions in the fifties. If offprints in these days of paper shortage can be obtained you should have a copy early in the New Year. Otherwise I shall send a proof. It was unfortunately impossible with my present commitments to tidy the poor thing up satisfactorily. I know you will disagree (probably rightly) with some of my points, but I hope that you will find a gleaning here and there.

We have all been put to strange uses in this war. I find myself Chief Labour Officer in Home Timber Production, fixing wages, examining drains, building up a Women's Corps, allocating Italian prisoners. As war jobs go, it is perhaps more constructive than most, certainly it is very interesting. I have also been committed to an unofficial full scale history of the job which is quite fascinating and useful practise. I am meeting all Thucydides' difficulties with contemporary evidence.

However, if all goes well and if there is to be a semi-normal October term in 1945 I should escape not later than July. I shall have with me a wife, two daughters, and a very exciting five years plan for my own work. Incidentally I returned to civilization to hear Adcock's paper on Thucydides 1, and partnered Wade-Gery in his attack. One of my first objectives as soon as Gomme's Thucydides is out is to write out my own views on the strange silences in Book 1. I rather shudder at the German theses that I shall have to read. Those that I have read to date influence me very little indeed.

I hope that you flourish and that we shall meet again in the not too distant future in Oxford or Athens. This is primarily however to thank you very sincerely for your continuing generosity.

A very good Christmas to you and a much better 1945.

Yours

Russell Meiggs



TEACHERS INSURANCE & ANNUITY
ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

522 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

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November 30, 1944

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Doctor Aydelotte:

Replying to your letter of November 27, you no doubt now have my letter of November 24 which answered your question concerning the annuity contract held by Professor von Neumann.

As to retirement annuity contract No. A4469 held by Professor B. D. Meritt, the present monthly premium of \$125 may be paid through June 1, 1952 and then must be reduced to \$16 a month starting July 1, 1952 to provide just \$655 a month, regular settlement, at age 65.

Sincerely yours,

Associate Actuary

RLM:RJ

CROSS REFERENCE

FILE: IAS, Von Neumann, John

SEE: IAS, Meritt, Benjamin D.

SUBJECT: Correspondence between R. L. Mattocks of the
TIAA and Frank Aydelotte re annuities for
Professors von Neumann and Meritt, November 24, 1944
and November 27, 1944

Waterford, Conn.
23 August 1944

Dear Ben:

I enclose copy of a letter which I wrote you August 13th and sent to Magnetawan. I am afraid that you left before it arrived and that it has not been forwarded. I should be grateful if you would let me know as soon as convenient about when we ought to pay this contribution to Raubitschek's book. I am most eager to make it possible for Forsyth to spend another year at the Institute, provided the other members of the School of Humanistic Studies agree. What is your own opinion?

The war is ending and I am eager that the Institute should be at the head of the procession in returning to peace just as we were in going to war.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

May 8, 1944

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Ben:

If you are willing to serve, I should like you to be Chairman of the Committee on Wood and with your approval I shall appoint also Veblen and Alexander.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

FA:jsr

Professor Meritt has been chosen as voluntary consultant on Eastern Mediterranean affairs for the Office of the Coordinator of Information, operating under Colonel Donovan. He is in charge of a general control board set up in Princeton to study the political movements in Southeastern Europe and the repercussions of those movements on minority groups of citizens from that part of the world who are now in the United States. Professor Meritt is giving his particular attention to the Greek phase of the question, and Professor Panofsky is helping with the Italian phase.

Professor Richard Stillwell, who is a reserve officer in the artillery, is giving a course in gunnery at Princeton University.

This material has to do with
Mr. Meritt's government work.

Meritt

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

CONFIDENTIAL

October 15, 1943

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

As you know, I resigned my position as Chief of the Mediterranean Office of OFRRO on October 5th, and returned to Princeton. It seems to me appropriate that I should give you some account of my activity, or lack of activity, during the time when I expected almost momentarily to be on the way to Cairo.

About the middle of August Mr. Philip C. Jessup, the Director of the Personnel Section of OFRRO, called me on the telephone and said that Governor Lehman had need of my services in an emergency capacity, in order to establish as soon as possible an outpost in the Middle East. I arranged a conference with Jessup, and then together we conferred with the Governor. It seemed possible that I might accomplish the mission in about three months, though Governor Lehman was inclined to believe that this would be a minimum requirement in time. You will recall, however, that with your consent I agreed to go and do the work outlined, provided I would not have to stay away beyond the end of this calendar year. I should like to explain briefly the nature of my duties and prospects, as I understood them at the time of these conferences in the latter part of August.

Reports coming back to Washington from the Middle East showed that the purposes and functions of OFRRO were very poorly understood in that part of the world, and that most of the organization for relief, including even the American agencies, was being carried out through the administrative direction of MERRA. It began to look as if the British, who were to have military control in the Balkan area, would also find themselves in complete control of relief operations, and that we should be able to work only through them. It was to be my duty to establish our own mission in Cairo; to make acquaintance with, and come to terms with the corresponding British organizations; to rally the voluntary American

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agencies around our office rather than around MERRA; and then to persuade the Civil Affairs Administration of the British Army to deal directly with OFRRO in matters of American relief work, rather than intermediately through MERRA. I talked the problems over very much in detail with Jessup and with Governor Lehman, and I thought I would have success in going to Cairo and undertaking this task. I knew a good many of our own people in Cairo. I knew some of the British, and I felt that I had a sympathetic approach to their problems, as well as a good understanding of our own interests in the matter. At any rate, in the latter part of August I was looking forward to the mission with some enthusiasm.

There followed a period of preparation, when I received the necessary inoculations and went through the formalities of obtaining a passport and collecting equipment for the journey. I was to travel by airplane, and application for air transport was made as soon as my passport was issued. This was on September 16th. I was told that I might get away on September 20th, and on September 18th I was called down to Washington and told that I would have at least two hours notice before presenting myself for departure. This waiting on two-hour notice lasted from September 18th to October 5th, and the final reason for my resignation at that time was the discovery that there was every prospect that the period of waiting would continue at least for another two weeks. I will mention this again later, but the loss of one month, out of the available three, seemed to make the long journey hardly worth while. I might have undertaken it in any event had I been equally sure of success, but there were certain events which took place in Washington during the period of waiting which made me doubt whether I could successfully negotiate with our British friends. I wish to refer briefly to the initial bureaucratic hierarchy and to the subsequent reorganization.

About half way through the period of inoculations I discovered that my activities in the Middle East were to be circumscribed to the extent that every decision of importance would have to be referred to our new Minister to that general part of the world, Mr. James Landis. I made it a point to have an interview with Landis before he left the United States. I was very favorably impressed by him, and I thought he and I would have no difficulty in getting on together. Inasmuch as he was to represent our economic interests in the Middle East, it did seem to me that the importance of my own mission was much less than I had thought it at first, but, nevertheless, I planned to go through with it.

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According to State Department procedure, I was to report back regularly, having previously submitted my reports to Landis for approval, using the time-honored formula "Landis and Meritt for Lehman," and submitting the reports through the regular channels of the State Department. OFRRO, the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations, was then part of the Department of State, and Mr. Lehman was its active director. There had been a good deal of bureaucratic dispute between the BEW (which later was merged into the OEW, the Office of Economic Warfare), the Lend-Lease and the Treasury, and OFRRO, though it was recognized that the relief work, which was the primary responsibility of OFRRO, was to be under the general jurisdiction of the Department of State. Governor Lehman for a long time had been fighting an up-hill fight against the other agencies, which resided in the Office for Emergency Management and belonged to the executive family of the President. OFRRO was in the State Department, though the money which maintained it came from the President's Emergency Fund. The OFEC was a coordinating committee designed to reconcile these bureaucratic differences and to maintain the authority of the Department of State. This was the Office of Foreign Economic Coordination, set up under the chairmanship of the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson. The meetings were held normally once a week, and included representatives of Lend-Lease, OEW, Treasury, OFRRO, and the Army Services, who came in through the Civil Affairs Administration of the Army. This group was closely associated with the Military Government Division in the Provost Marshal General's office, though not identical with it. My old friend, Col. James Shoemaker, sat in as the Army representative, and it was from him that I learned most about the affairs of the Committee.

In spite of the coordinating committee the bureaucratic struggle continued, because the committee was not content merely to coordinate. It made plans also to operate, and the conflict of jurisdiction between OFRRO, OEW, and Lend-Lease continued. I was warned privately that I would find the OEW man in Cairo reasonable, and that I would find the Lend-Lease man very temperamental and somewhat domineering. I was not particularly disturbed at this prospect, for it seemed to me that the principal burden of conference with these men in Cairo would fall on Landis. Landis, too, would have to take over the diplomatic approach with the high-ranking British officials, including Mr. Casey, who has the additional prestige of being a member of the British War Cabinet. This high diplomatic level included ATB, Administration of Territories - Balkans, and the procurement work of MESC, the Middle East Supply Center. I gathered that the operations of these agencies were largely military and, of

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course, OFRRO was to be concerned primarily with relief when the military got ready to turn things over. ATB, furthermore, was almost exclusively British. We had a Lieutenant Colonel, I believe, who sat in on its meetings as an observer but who took no part in its debates. However, I anticipated no great difficulty in Cairo because I was confident that Landis and I would pursue a common policy, and I felt sure of being able to talk convincingly to a group of realistic Englishmen. It was only with the organization in Washington that I had any very serious doubts.

I was engaged to go to Cairo as a representative of the State Department. So I took the oath of office on September 6th, signed the register, and placed myself at their disposal. I was assigned to foreign duty. When I discussed the terms of my letter of appointment I asked that a provision be inserted stating that my appointment would be terminated at the end of this calendar year, and that I would then be given passage back to the United States. The Administrative Staff of OFRRO, with whom I discussed this, claimed that such a procedure would be so revolutionary from the point of view of the Department of State that it would require most of the autumn to explain the reason for it and that I could hardly expect to make the trip at all. I agreed, therefore, to accept in lieu of this a personal letter from Governor Lehman, stating that it was his understanding, as well as mine, that I should go out only for three months, and that the Department of State would bring me back at the end of the year. I wanted to be sure about this, so I asked my friend John Erhardt, Chief of the Foreign Personnel Division of the Department of State, whether I was on safe ground. Erhardt told me that the Comptroller General was forbidden by law to authorize the expenditure of any money for travel home of a foreign officer before a lapse of two years. I could come home if I could find passage, but I should have to pay my own way, and even if the State Department paid it for me I would subsequently receive a bill from the Comptroller General with the request that I make a refund of the amount paid to the United States Government. After some maneuvering we managed that I should be taken off the foreign service list and assigned to domestic duty in Washington. I could still perform my functions as head of the mission in Cairo by being sent out on a special trip with expenses paid out of Washington money, and so it was arranged.

I was never really clear about the chain of authority as between Landis, the OFEC, the OFRRO and me. Certainly OFEC controlled OFRRO, but I was to take my orders in the field from Governor Lehman, who apparently would have cleared them with OFEC. Landis, so far as I could tell, was not responsible to OFEC for he was a minister plenipotentiary

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responsible to Mr. Hull by virtue of that fact, and responsible to the President by virtue of his appointment. Landis seemed to be a kind of spiral nebula, who could operate with great vigor in the field and who had no very close organic connection with the complex administrative set-up in Washington.

Then came the reorganization of September 25th, the full account of which was carried in the morning papers on Sunday, September 26th. All the agencies represented in OFEC, including OFEC itself, were coordinated in a new board OFEA, the Office of Foreign Economic Administration. This was to do away with bureaucratic disputes between OEW, Lend-Lease and OFRRO. It was to abolish the operational procedure of OFEC, and it was to avoid duplication of effort. I must say that all three purposes seemed to me at the time very worthy, and everyone spoke well of the new administrator, Mr. Leo Crowley. At the time when I read of the reorganization in the paper I was expecting at almost any hour to have my orders to fly to Egypt. Governor Lehman had been taken completely out of the picture. He was made Special Aide to the President, in charge of developing plans for UNRRA, United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

My anxiety at going so far from home under these circumstances was very considerable. The man for whom I came to Washington to do a specific job had been removed from all direct contact with OFRRO. I discovered that by the terms of the Executive Order I was no longer a member of the State Department but a public servant in the Executive Office of the President. I had a new administrative superior, Mr. Leo Crowley, whom I had never seen and who had never seen me, and I had only a personal letter from Governor Lehman saying that I could get back from Cairo at the end of the year. At once I called Governor Lehman on the telephone and told him I thought I ought to resign, pending Mr. Crowley's confirmation of all our arrangements. This might mean giving up my travel priority, and the Governor was very unwilling to have me sacrifice this opportunity to reach Cairo soon. He felt that he would need a first-hand account from one of his own people in Cairo of what was going on in the Middle East at the time when he was creating the UNRRA. The first formal session of delegates to UNRRA had been called for November 11th. President Roosevelt was to make a speech and all delegates were to sign the covenant. Then they would retire, possibly to Hot Springs, and spend a month or two perfecting their organization. It was freely stated in the papers that Lehman would be the director of the new UNRRA, and within his old group of OFRRO personnel in Washington it was predicted that he would take OFRRO out of OFEA and put as much of it as he wanted in as the U.S.A.

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contingent of UNRRA.

These were plans and promises, but of course no assurance could be given on paper as to precisely what would happen. Leo Crowley seemed disposed to leave OFRRO very much alone, but one could never tell and, of course, there could be no guarantee that the Council of UNRRA would elect Lehman its director. There was the further complication of hostility from Congress that plans for UNRRA had been made without consulting them, and the consequent uncertainty of whether they would give UNRRA any money when the first United States budget for that purpose should be proposed.

My judgment at the time was that I ought not to go to Cairo unless matters clarified themselves very rapidly, but I agreed to carry on, largely because Governor Lehman thought that I might be of some help to him. There was still no indication of when I could leave. You will remember, Dr. Aydelotte, that we agreed to put a time limit on how long I should wait, and I set October 10th at the outside, and so informed the personnel staff at OFRRO. On October 4th I was summoned to the airport to be "processed." Having filled out the necessary forms, which included my name, my age and my place of birth and place of residence, forms which have been filled out now by me in almost every public building in Washington, I was told by the young lady in charge that I might get off by October 18th, though the Priorities Board and the Army Transport could not, of course, guarantee this. On October 5th I reported these facts to OFRRO and submitted my resignation.

Clearly, it would have been too late for me to become familiar with the situation in Egypt in time to give any satisfactory reports to Governor Lehman in time for his UNRRA conferences. It seemed to me that the original reason for my going to Cairo had been completely eliminated. I was without any of the assurances given to me about time of travel. It was taking more than a month, possibly even six weeks, with the help of all the pressure we could get in Washington, to get me away on the journey east. I could find no assurance that on January 1st it would take any less time to arrange the journey home. I had come to Washington with a certain enthusiasm for doing a job for an administrative superior for whom I had high admiration. I found that my superior had been dismissed, that my job had been changed, and that without conference with the new executive I was about to be put on an airplane for a journey of six thousand miles. The people who stayed behind in OFRRO could follow developments from day to day and protect their interests. I felt that it would be impossible for me to have the same facility for protecting mine. The people at home urged upon

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me that with the new organization I would have an even more important job in explaining everything to the British and in getting from them the invitation we wished to take our full share in relief work in the Balkans. It seemed to me that until things settled down my position as a bargaining agent was almost untenable.

I tried to envisage my arrival in Cairo, and to think what I would do. I would report, of course, to the American Legation, and after a proper interval ask our Minister to introduce me to the Director of MERRA, the Middle East Refugee Relief Administration. The Director of this Administration, Mr. Matthews, is a very forceful man who has got the relief agencies in the Middle East very well organized under a Special Committee of which he is chairman. I would pay him my respects on the occasion of our first interview, and tell him of the great interest of the American people in the problems of relief in the Middle East. I could even explain, with the permission of our Minister in Cairo, that our President and our Secretary of State were on record as professing a very real interest on the part of the United States in the political and economic problems of that area. I could refer to the presence of our new Minister, Mr. Landis, as evidence of this national interest. But my own point of view would be that of a relief administrator, and I could emphasize to Mr. Matthews the long-standing philanthropic and humanitarian interest of the United States, particularly in the Balkans. I would tell him that I came as a representative of OFRRO, to set up an OFRRO mission in Cairo so that we could take our full share of the burdens of the problem of relief; that we hoped the Civil Affairs Administration of the British Army would be willing to allow us to come in on an equal footing with MERRA in the organization and carrying out of relief projects.

At this point Mr. Matthews would probably interrupt to say that he was delighted, but had he not read in the papers a short time ago that OFRRO had been dissolved? I would say, "Yes, it has been dissolved," but that Governor Lehman was still very much interested and we planned to carry on anyway. Mr. Matthews would again express interest and say that he thought Governor Lehman had been removed as Director of OFRRO and that he had no further administrative connection with it. I would say that this was quite true, that OFRRO was part of the new organization of OFEA, under the direction of Mr. Crowley. Mr. Matthews would say to me that he supposed I came then as a representative of Mr. Crowley, not of Governor Lehman. I would say that administratively that was true. He would ask what I thought of

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Mr. Crowley, and I would have to say that I had never met him. He would ask what Mr. Crowley thought of me, and how he happened to choose me to come out as head of his mission, and I would have to say that Mr. Crowley had never seen me, that he did not know me, and if I were honest about it I would have to say that Mr. Crowley probably did not even know that I was in Cairo. About this time Mr. Matthews might politely suggest that I ought to go back to Washington and find out just what I did want to do before suggesting to him that he disrupt an organization to which he had given much time and thought, which had been long established, and which had very close connection with the operational branches of the British Army. I might counter, of course, by saying that it did not matter much about Mr. Crowley because in November we would have the UNRRA, which would be a very powerful international organization, and that Mr. Lehman, with whom I made my original arrangements, would be the director of it. Mr. Matthews might say that he had heard of UNRRA and had in fact read in the papers the charter, but that he found no assurance anywhere that Mr. Lehman would be the director. Could I give him that assurance? I would be compelled to say that unfortunately I could not.

Thinking over the possible course of such a conversation with Mr. Matthews, and the very awkward and embarrassing aspects of it, I could not help thinking how much more difficult it would be to try to make my point with the British Civil Affairs Administration, which already had close and very satisfactory relations with Mr. Matthews. In short, there seemed no proper course for me to follow but to express my regret to friends in Washington that I could be of no further service to them, and to resign.

Please let me express to you again, and to the Trustees, my thanks for giving me leave to do what I could in this one field of post-war planning. I am sorry, of course, that it did not work out as we had anticipated, but I am glad to be back at my work in the Institute.

Very sincerely yours,



COPY

for Dr. Aydelotte

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of Foreign Relief and
Rehabilitation Operations

Washington, D.C.

25

September 1, 1943

Dear Mr. Meritt:

In accordance with our conversation, I am writing you this letter to express my understanding that in accepting an appointment as Chief of the Mediterranean Office in the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations of the Department of State, you do so subject to the understanding that you will not be expected to remain at your post or to continue in this work after the close of the calendar year. Allowing for the time necessary for inoculations and traveling, etc., this would give you about three months at your post. At the expiration of that time, you may be sure that we will do what we can to facilitate arrangements for your return to this country.

While regretting your inability to accept an indefinite assignment with us, I appreciate your willingness to accept this emergency task during the time available to you.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Herbert H. Lehman

Herbert H. Lehman,
Director

Mr. Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO THE
DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

TELEPHONE RECTOR 2-1700

IN REPLY REFER TO NO.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
THIRD NAVAL DISTRICT
50 CHURCH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

B. Meritt

1 July, 1943.

Doctor Frank Aydelotte,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Doctor Aydelotte:

We wish to express our appreciation for the material that you and the members of the Institute have so willingly turned over to the Navy. We feel that this information is of value and we appreciate the time and effort that the various men have given in helping our officers.

The generous offer made by your associates that they will continue in their efforts has been noted and we are grateful for this offer.

Very truly yours

C. R. Haffenden
C. R. Haffenden,
Commander, USNR.

May 25, 1943

Dear Mr. Hemelt:

I have your inquiry of May 24th concerning Professor B. D. Meritt of the Institute for Advanced Study. I can recommend Professor Meritt in the strongest terms in respect to all the particulars about which you inquire.

Professor Meritt is a man of high ability and is certainly one of the leading scholars in his field in the entire world. He is, in addition, a man of fine character, absolute integrity, and unquestioned loyalty to the United States and to the war effort. He has taken a leading part in such activities as Greek Relief and has for nearly a year been doing important work for the OSS, reading Greek newspapers and supervising the reading of newspapers in other languages of the Eastern Mediterranean. His reputation is the highest and I am sure that the Department of State will find him worthy of the fullest trust and responsibility.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Mr. G. V. Hemelt
Post Office Box 401
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
FA/MCE

OFFICE OF SPECIAL AGENT
POST OFFICE BOX 401
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

May 24 1943


My dear Sir:

Mr. B. D. Meritt, applicant for confidential position with the Department of State, indicates association with the Institute for Advanced Study and has furnished your name as a reference.

The courtesy will be appreciated if you will advise regarding the employment of Mr. Meritt and furnish such information which you have regarding him. Particular comment would be appreciated as to his character, integrity, loyalty and general reputation.

A return envelop, requiring no postage, is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully,


G.V. Hemelt
SPECIAL AGENT.

Dr. Frank Aydelotte, Director,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

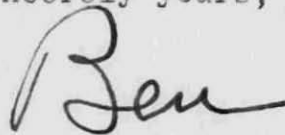
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 8, 1943

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

The fuel oil situation this morning continues to show the same development. 570 gallons have been consumed during the past week. This leaves a modest margin below our estimated 600 gallons.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben".

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 1, 1943

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

The oil situation at the end of our third week of experiment is as follows. We have an additional 1000 gallons of no. 5. During the week of January 25 to February 1 we consumed approximately 540 gallons. The oil on hand as of February 1 comes to approximately 8200 gallons, and for three weeks we have been using oil at an average rate of 600 gallons a week.

With present economies we can continue at this rate for twelve weeks and still have a reserve of 1000 gallons.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
630 FULDA AVENUE
PRINCETON, N.J.
~~NEW YORK, N.Y.~~

January 25, 1943

President Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

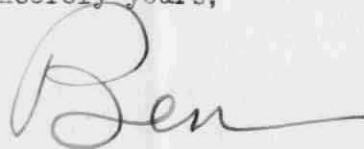
Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

We were speaking this morning about the question of heat in Fuld Hall. I have just received from Wes the figures for the consumption of oil in the past week. We used 620 gallons. Last week we used 640 gallons. So in a period of two weeks, we have consumed a total of 1260 gallons.

This gives an approximate scale of 2600 or 2700 gallons a month, indicating that at the present rate our oil supply will be exhausted toward the end of April.

Under these circumstances it would seem to me desirable not to increase the temperature of our rooms, but rather to keep to the present schedule. Even if we obtain more oil next month, it may be necessary to hold it for emergencies as a reserve supply after April 21. At worst we may have to reconsider our position as of March 1, with a view to making some further reduction.

Very sincerely yours,



January 12, 1943

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

We had a meeting of the faculty yesterday afternoon to discuss the problem of oil. Fortunately, Wes had a new shipment of No. 4, which he mixed in with the No. 5 already on hand. This gives us a total of almost 9,000 gallons and we believe it possible to get through the year with this amount provided we make a few sacrifices.

The sacrifices that we plan are to cut off the heat from the large rooms in the two wings and from the corridors and public rooms and unused offices of the main building. In this way a basic temperature of 45 degrees can be maintained and rooms that are occupied can be kept up to 62 degrees. We are operating on this schedule now and will make a check at the end of the first and second weeks to make sure that we remain within safe limits.

Everybody showed a fine spirit of cooperation and willingness to sacrifice, and I think we were all relieved that the situation was not so desperate as we had feared it might be. An announcement will be made to the members of the Institute and of the League this afternoon. I want you to know particularly that Mr. Loveday seemed quite satisfied with this solution of our problem.

With best wishes for warmer weather in Florida and for your continued enjoyment, I am

Ever sincerely,

Ben Meritt

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Highland Park Florida Club
Lake Wales, Florida

BM/MCE

Mr. Meritt:

For your information. Please
return for our files.

M. C. E.

Dear Miss Eichelsoer

Thank you very much.

B. D. M.

December 15, 1942

Dear Poole:

I am delighted to hear from Meritt that it is probably going to be feasible to transfer his work from Washington back to the Institute at Princeton. I hasten to say to you that the Institute will, of course, be glad to sanction the conduct of this work in Professor Meritt's offices in Fuld Hall without any expense to the O.S.S. so far as concerns rent, filing space, and incidental facilities.

Professor Meritt will, however, need a secretary and I am sorry to say that it would be impossible for us in our budget to provide him with a suitable person. We shall have to call on the O.S.S. to pay the salary of a secretary and to pay for any supplies and equipment which would fall outside of the normal Institute budget. I trust there will be no difficulty in defraying such expenses through the current budget of the O.S.S.

It will be a great convenience to us to have Professor Meritt back here and you may be sure we shall be glad to cooperate with the O.S.S. in every feasible way to enable him to do his work successfully from this center. I hope his being here will involve occasional visits from you.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Mr. DeWitt C. Poole
Director of Foreign Nationalities Branch
Office of Strategic Services
25th and E Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
FA/MCE

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 11, 1942

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

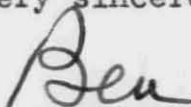
Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I have been making further arrangements here in Washington for the transfer of my work to Princeton. The administrative officers are glad to know, of course, that there will be no expense to the Office of Strategic Services for office space and certain other facilities. I have pointed out to them, however, that some supplies will be essential and that I shall have to have a secretary to handle the files and the correspondence. In looking over our equipment last Monday, I found that for the time being at least there is enough filing space, and I find that there is a typewriter which we can use to good purpose without inconvenience to anyone at the Institute.

I think it would be a move much appreciated by the officers here if you will be good enough to write a letter to Mr. DeWitt C. Poole, Director of the Foreign Nationalities Branch, Office of Strategic Services, 25th and E Streets, North West, Washington, D. C., to tell him that as Director of the Institute you are glad to put suitable space in Fuld Hall (namely my quarters in the West Wing) at my disposal for carrying on my work with the Office of Strategic Services, that you can supply filing space and a typewriter and certain incidental facilities, but that you will not be able to supply through the Institute the services of a secretary or currently needed expendable supplies.

As soon as Mr. Poole has your letter, we will take up the question of making definite arrangements for my appointment.

Very sincerely yours,


B. D. Meritt

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

November 1, 1942

My dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I have had in mind for some time to give you a statement relating to the expenses of my life in Washington.

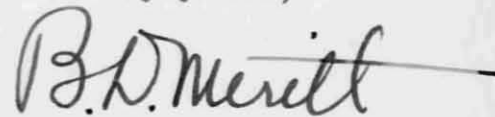
I receive a gross total of \$542.80 each month from the Government. For the year 1942 I shall have received thus in eight and a half months the sum of \$4,613.80. This raises my income tax for 1942 from an estimated \$3,147.00 to an estimated \$4,953.75, being an increase accrued in eight and a half months of an average of \$212.56 per month.

Consequently, I list the expenses per month of my sojourn in Washington as follows:

Increased income tax	\$ 212.56
Rent	250.00
Family travel	25.00
Necessary entertainment in connection with official duties	50.00
Duplication in upkeep	20.00
Personal expenses in Washington	50.00
Cost of moving, divided to a monthly ratio	<u>25.00</u>
Total monthly increase in expenses	\$ 632.50

I have put down what experience has shown to be the minimum expense, and there are no doubt other items which I have not thought of that belong in this tabulation. I think it is a reasonable estimate for me to say my work in Washington costs me approximately \$100.00 more per month than I receive in additional pay from the Government, and I wish to communicate this fact to you for your information.

Very sincerely yours,



Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall
Princeton

September 11, 1942

Dear Mr. Meritt:

I talked with Dr. Aydelotte over the telephone last evening and he asked me to tell you that he did not think there could possibly be any objection to your renting your house on the basis which you mentioned. He said that the fact that two couples lived in the house would not make it a two-family house. He saw no reason why you should not rent it in that way if you can.

He asked me to say that he was terribly sorry to have missed you again and that he would look forward to seeing you on our opening day.

With warmest good wishes to all of the Meritts, I am

Yours sincerely,

MARIE C. EICHELSER

Prof. Benjamin D. Meritt
7101 Western Avenue
Washington, D. C.

September 10, 1942

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Mr. Meritt has been here for a few days. He has asked me to get your opinion on the following matter: He is trying to rent his house here, but finds that there is little demand for houses the size of his. Two or three of the renting agencies have mentioned to him the possibility of putting two Navy couples in it. Mr. Meritt wonders whether any questions or objections would be raised if he did this, in view of the clause in his agreement with the Institute that all houses in that neighborhood were to be one-family houses. Mr. Meritt would be making his financial arrangements with one man who would assume responsibility for the house, and that man would in turn make the necessary arrangements with the second man who came in on the rental proposition. Mr. Meritt felt, however, that he should not go ahead with such an arrangement without first knowing your opinion as to whether any objection could be raised to such an arrangement. He would appreciate it if you would send me word on this soon.

All is well here. Things are very quiet in our office.

Yours sincerely,

MCE

September 3, 1942

Dear Ben:

Miss Cutter showed me your letter of September 1st and if I am here on the 8th or 9th and there are enough of the humanistic group here I will try to arrange a meeting. I am doubtful, however, on both scores. I think a number of people are away and it is just possible that I may be able to squeeze out two weeks holiday myself before term opens. If I can do it I think I ought to, since I have lately felt a little weary.

I enclose a notice which is being sent to members of the faculty and if you are able to show up here on the 21st we may be able to hold our humanists' meeting then, or we might hold it in connection with one of our monthly luncheons, which I hope you will be able to attend.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
1830 Plymouth Street
Washington, D. C.

FA/MCE

NIGHT MESSAGE

Aug. 10, 1942

B.D. Meritt
1830 Plymouth St.
Washington, D.C.

Terrribly sorry meeting Wednesday impossible

Shall try your next trip.

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Thanks very much
wed support Ball
in your next trip
1830 Plymouth Street
Washington, D. C.
August 7, 1942

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

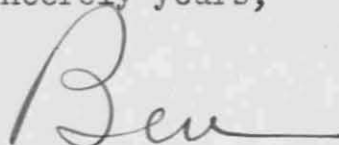
Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I shall be very glad to join in a meeting of the Humanities Faculty and it is very good of you to ask when next I have some assurance of getting away from Washington.

My present plan is to come to Princeton on Wednesday, August 12. Normally, I should reach Princeton about one o'clock in the afternoon and I could be at your disposal at any time after that. If need be, I could stay over into Thursday morning, but if we do have our meeting on Wednesday, I shall probably plan to return to Washington that evening.

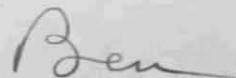
With best greetings and with many thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,



B. D. Meritt

later : I have just
learned that I must be
back in Washington by
noon on Thursday



3 August 1942

Dear Ben:

Many thanks for your letter about Clement and Edson. When your plans for return to Princeton are definite, please let me know. I think we ought to have a meeting of the Humanities School to discuss some of these problems, and it may be possible to arrange it while you are here.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor B. D. Meritt
1830 Plymouth Street
Washington, D. C.

July 20, 1942

Dear Ben:

The Board of Trustees at their last meeting heard with great satisfaction of your generous gift of your working library to the Institute and directed me to express to you their most grateful thanks for this action, which they value as one means of insuring the continuity of your work. I need not say how wholeheartedly I add my own personal thanks to those of the Trustees.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

February 3, 1942

Dear Ben:

I have your letter of February 2nd and on behalf of the Institute wish to thank you most warmly for your generous gift of your working library to the Institute. I am sure the Trustees will share my appreciation when they are informed of this gift, and we shall, of course, carry out your wishes as to insurance, cataloguing, and care of the books, all of which is immensely simplified by treating them as a single, undivided collection.

With renewed appreciation of your generosity, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
School of Humanistic Studies
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 2, 1942

Dr. Frank Aydelotte, Director
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Miss Miller has brought up with me the question of insurance on the books in my study. I should like to have all the books which I use included in the general policy written for the Institute, and in order to make this perfectly feasible, I beg to say now that I wish to give my own working library to the Institute.

Mrs. Broneer has made an evaluation of this library to the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000). It is so intimately a part of the library which has been purchased for me that the two groups of books must be considered as a unit which should not be divided. Please accept this letter, therefore, as my assurance that I do herewith give my part of the collection to the Institute for Advanced Study as part of its permanent possessions.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'B. D. Meritt', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

B. D. Meritt

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Ben

January 18, 1942

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

We have now had the experience of one week with our new schedule for the use of fuel oil. During the past seven days we have used 640 gallons.

Inasmuch as this rate of consumption falls within the range of 2500-2700 gallons that we determined last week to be a safe maximum, it seems to me there is no need at present to make any further change in our heating plans.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

December 2, 1941

Dear Bent:

I am delighted with the arrangements which you are making for tomorrow and am extremely sorry that I cannot myself be present. I have a meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia and could not possibly get back in time. I hope you will give your chairmen my good wishes and say how sorry I am to miss the opportunity of meeting them.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

November 28, 1941

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Thank you for your letter explaining about the use of the public rooms at the Institute by the Committee to Defend America. I have worded my invitation to the chairmen of New Jersey chapters so that they will come to the Institute for discussion only in my study, but so that they may later accept tea as guests of the Institute in their several capacities as private individuals when our discussion has been finished.

Thank you very much for your generous offer of Olden Manor. I believe there is too much uncertainty about how many will come to make possible any very precise planning in advance, and I would rather not impose this uncertainty on you and Mrs. Aydelotte. I feel quite sure we will manage satisfactorily and have a very good meeting.

Very sincerely yours,



Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

November 26, 1941.

Dear Ben:

I have consulted the members of the Standing Committee concerning your suggestion that the Common Room of the Institute should be used for a meeting of the heads of the New Jersey branches of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies and have discussed it also with such other members of the faculty as I could get hold of yesterday and today. The matter seemed to me to have a good deal of importance because, as I said to you, it brings up the whole question of the use of the Institute for meetings of propagandist organizations.

While all, or certainly most, of the members of the faculty are thoroughly in sympathy with the purpose of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies, it is extremely likely that our permission might be asked in the future for the use of the Common Room for propagandist organizations concerning which faculty opinion might be divided.

I find that the weight of faculty opinion, as I interpret it, is that it would be unwise to use the public rooms of the Institute for a meeting of what is distinctly a propagandist organization. Members of the faculty feel furthermore that it is fortunate that the question has come up in relation to an organization with which we are all in agreement, since this will make refusal easier if we should have

a request from a group of which most of us disapproved.

The Institute differs from a college or university in that we have no undergraduate body to which we are bound to present both sides of controversial issues. Instead our faculty and members constitute a small group of people who are experts on a wide variety of subjects. These men will have strong opinions on many controversial questions and will and should individually occupy positions of leadership and influence wide sections of public opinion. Just because of this fact the use of the public facilities of the Institute for a propogandist purpose is likaly to have more significance, and it is for this reason all the more important that we should avoid giving the public any impression that the Institute as a body is committed to any particular point of view on a controversial question.

This is my interpretation of the prevailing opinion in the faculty, and for that reason I suggest that it would be better not to hold your meeting next week in the Common Room of the Institute, but to arrange to have it instead at your house or at any other convenient place.

The whole question is one which we should discuss in principle at our next faculty meeting, but meanwhile I feel that we have no choice but to defer to the opinion of the faculty which I have expressed. May I express again my satisfaction that the question has come up about a movement with which we feel such complete sympathy and such admiration for your own public-spirited work.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FRANK AYDELOTTE

*noted
B. A. M.*

September 4, 1941

Dear Ben:

I am sorry to hear this news about your heart and hope that the diagnosis is favorable. You were certainly wise to take every precaution. Don't worry about Hausknecht. I will take care of him, with the aid of other people here, if he comes down before you return.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Prof. Benjamin D. Meritt
Church Home and Infirmary
North Broadway
Baltimore, Maryland

FA:MR

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

August 25, 1941

Dear Dr. Agdelotee,

There has been some abnormality this summer about the action of my heart - I am told it is not serious - and I have decided to go down to Baltimore before term opens to have a thorough examination. So I shall enter the Church Home on Aug. 31, and I suppose I shall have to stay until they get through with whatever they plan to do.

It occurs to me that this may delay my getting to Princeton to see Haucknecht as early as I had hoped, but I shall of course come home as soon as I can. In the

meanwhile, would you be willing to
make no engagement for me until
I have some assurance of being
there? I shall appreciate this very
much, and I am very sorry for the
inconvenience.

We are all looking forward
to coming home now at the end of
summer anyway, and I trust that
my detour by way of Baltimore
will not involve any long delay.

Sincerely yours,

Ben

June 5, 1941

Memorandum for Professor Meritt:

Granville-Barker told me yesterday that A. B. Wace, who is now at the American School in Athens, would like to come to the United States next year if he could find some suitable post for lecturing or teaching. Do you know about him? Is he a first-rate man? Have you any advice as to where he might look? Granville-Barker was inclined to advise Wace to get in touch with the University of Michigan.

The British are willing to have university men who are not engaged in important war work come to the United States just now because the universities are necessarily given up to war work rather than scholarship. Should we urge them to try something for Wade-Gery?

April 23, 1941

Dear Ben:

Thank you very much for your admirable account of the work you are doing at the Institute and its general significance for classical studies. I knew a great deal of this in a vague and general way, but it is an enormous advantage to me to have it in the precise and definite terms which you use.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Prof. Benjamin D. Meritt
Fuld Hall
Princeton, N. J.

December 3, 1940

Dear Ben:

Many thanks for the book. I have had time only to leaf through it, but I find that it gives just the account of your work which I have long been wishing you would do. I shall read it with the keenest interest.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Fuld Hall
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

Meritt

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

October 15, 1940

Dear Aydelotte,

From time to time I have seen Wes working on doors and book shelves and doing odd jobs about the Institute. I know that he is sometimes hampered by a lack of proper tools and I question whether the Institute ought not to invest a small sum in getting such things as a set of chisels, and a fine tooth saw, and one or two other items which I daresay Wes would name.

This idea occurred to me when I saw Wes working in Miss Goldman's office on Saturday afternoon and I decided to send you a memorandum on the chance that you might think it worth some consideration by the Standing Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Ben

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall
Princeton

Meritt

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

October 15, 1940

Dear Aydelotte,

You will recall that I made application to the American Philosophical Society for a sum of money to be used in the chemical treatment of my collection of squeezes. The Society has approved my application and has voted a grant of \$500.

As you suggested last spring I asked that the payments be made to the Institute and Dr. Conklin informs me that the payments will be made quarterly beginning January first.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall
Princeton

August 7, 1940

Dear Ben:

Heartiest congratulations! I am delighted at this well-deserved honor which has come to you, and particularly pleased with the gracious way in which it was announced. I return Tod's letter herewith, but have taken the liberty of making a copy of it, which, with your permission, I should like to show to Dr. Flexner and Mr. Bamberger.

I was delighted to see also the clipping from the Harvard University Press, announcing Epigraphica Attica, and to have the photostat copies of the reviews of The Athenian Tribute Lists, for which I do not think I have ever sent you my thanks. This material is extremely useful to me in talking to people about the Institute, and your ears probably burn when I am talking about your work.

You will be glad to know that the economic and financial section of the League of Nations is about to leave Geneva for Princeton. We hope soon for similar news concerning the sections on health and opium control, and Arthur Sweetser of the Secretariat is considering very seriously the purchase of a house on Newlin Road. These groups from the League will make extremely able and interesting addition to the personal and scholarly resources of Princeton. The economics section will be of greatest importance to the Institute, and Stewart and Riefler hope to squeeze as many of the economics group as possible into Fuld Hall.

I saw Miss Cutter a day or two ago, and she reports that you are having a very good summer in Magnetawan.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Magnetawan, via Burks Falls
Ontario, Canada

FA/MCE

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
PRINCETON, N. J.



Magnetawan
via Burks Falls, Ont.
August 1, 1940.

Dear Sydney, ^{Lotte,}

On July 13 I was elected Corresponding
Fellow of the British Academy, which was itself
a source of great satisfaction to me. But I
have been particularly pleased by the letter I
enclose which came from Tod of Oriel College.

I want you to see this letter, though
I beg of you to return it to me so that I
may keep it. Quite apart from mention of the
Academy, it seems to me an extraordinarily
good letter and of much interest in the light
of the present state of Europe.

Sincerely yours,
Ben

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
PRINCETON, N. J.



Magnetawan
via Burks Falls, Ont.
July 31, 1940.

Dear Aydelotte,

I enclose a clipping from
the autumn announcement of the
Harvard University Press which
describes one of the volumes I am
working on this summer.

Sincerely,

Ben

Meritt

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 24, 1940

Dear Aydelotte,

I am delighted to have your letter of July 19 and to know that the status of Professor Broneer and of Mrs. Broneer has been settled for the coming year. I am glad too that you are willing to let Wes try his hand at making the case for squeezes in my laboratory.

There has been a temporary disappointment about Robert Wade-Gery. He had the bad luck to contract measles in Oxford and was not able to come with the group which landed last week in Montreal and which was met by your son Bill and Mr. Nason. I am carrying on in the expectation that Robert may come over to Canada this summer quite on his own. If he does this, I have made all arrangements to meet him and I have the necessary documents so that I can secure him a visa in very short order. Under these circumstances Betty and I would bring Robert to Princeton with us when we come down early in September.

Your letter gives me great hope that Wade-Gery himself may come over. I can hardly tell you the pleasure and satisfaction that it would give to me personally in the pursuit of my studies to be able now with Wade-Gery to finish the second volume of the Tribute Lists. Before he can get leave from New College and a visitor's visa to the United States I believe he should have a definite offer from you to become a member of the Institute so that he may show it to the consul in London. Probably he can bring no money with him but I have no doubt he could manage passage. If we do not object to his giving a lecture or two during the year I think he might manage his stay, with some economies, on \$3,000. I recommend very strongly that you send him a cablegram, if you feel that you can do so, offering him membership in the Institute with this stipend for the coming year.

I do not know the extent of Wade-Gery's participation in Home Defense. If he is not needed in England, it would be splendid for him and his family to be with us in Princeton. If he feels that he is useful at home I have no doubt that he will stay and do his duty as he sees it, but I should like in any case to give him the chance

-2-

to come over so that we may finish our job. I shall not write to Wade-Gery myself until I hear again from you. I may be wrong about it but I have a feeling that the offer to him and the invitation should be signed by you as Director, and I believe too that it would have greater weight with Wade-Gery.

In spite of the war and some rather serious concentration on the manifold diversions of a vacation, I have succeeded in getting some things done here that I wanted to finish before the end of summer. I have read proof on my Epigraphica Attica and made a complete revision of the manuscript of the book which Pritchett and I will publish this fall. Miss Cutter's presence during the past week has eased the burden tremendously and I am more than ever glad that we could arrange to have her here even for two weeks.

With best greetings I am,

Sincerely yours,

Ben

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

July 19, 1940

Dear Bent:

Many thanks for your two letters of July 1 and July 16. I appreciate very warmly your willingness to let Wes try his hand at the alterations in your laboratory, and I think this is far and away the best plan. I am sure that if we do more of these things for ourselves we shall be able to save a considerable sum of money.

I have already sent word to Professor Broneer that there is no question about his being admitted next year as a member of the Institute, and if you need Mrs. Broneer for the library work we ought by all means to do that. Professor Broneer has already told us that his wife would be ready to do that service so you may already consider that matter as settled.

I hope everything goes well with Robert Wade-Gery. If he is in the party which reached Montreal today, I think that all arrangements will be completed for a corporate affidavit for their admission to the United States. I shall know more about this in a few days' time since my son, Bill, and my successor, John Nason, are in Montreal at this moment meeting the party.

I share your concern about Wade-Gery himself, and if there are any possibilities of getting him and his wife to come to Princeton, I shall make every conceivable effort to finance him. Don't mention the sum of \$6,000 since it might not be possible for us to provide that amount, but if you want to cable him an assurance of some sum on which he could live, I shall be glad to stand behind it.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Benjamin D. Meritt
Nagetawan
via Durks Falls
Ontario, Canada

FA:ESB

COPY

Oriel College
Oxford

16th July, 1940

My dear Meritt:

May I welcome you wholeheartedly and delightedly into the Fellowship of the British Academy? Few things have ever given me - indeed, I can imagine but few things which could give me - greater pleasure than this recognition of your character and of your eminence in the field of scholarship. I rejoice too at the forging of this further link in the strong chain of sympathy and co-operation which unites the studies and the students of our two lands.

I trust that all goes well with you and yours, though you too, I doubt not, have your share in the sorrow and distress which weighs upon the world in these days and not alone upon the nations which are avowedly belligerent. This interruption of contact and communication, though not of friendship and affection, with continental scholars is hard to bear: I should love to have a handshake with Klaffenbach, and my heart is sore at the thought of Hondius, left without the support and sympathy of his wife to confront the present situation and the future prospects of his country. But the night, though long and dark, will not be endless; in the mercy of God the dawn must break - somehow, sometime.

With affectionate greetings to you both, in which my wife joins me, I am

Ever yours,

(Signed) Marcus N. Tod

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 16, 1940

Dear Aydelotte,

Miss Cutter has brought me your memorandum of July 11 about the expense of alterations in my laboratory. I think the best thing to do, so far as my part of the general program is concerned, is to postpone any further study of the problem until autumn.

Wes Dauncey is a very competent cabinet maker and I have in mind now that my case for squeezes could be manufactured by him as well as by a Princeton carpenter. The expense of it, if managed in this way, would be merely the cost of materials.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall
Princeton, N. J.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 16, 1940

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

I should have answered long ago your letter of July 5 and now that Miss Cutter is here I have no excuse whatever for putting it off any longer. I want to thank you for taking care of the tax bill on the house.

I have just sent a note to Dr. Aydelotte suggesting that the carpentry for the squeeze file might be left to Wes in the autumn. That would save some money and I feel sure that Wes could do it well. I am glad that you reminded me about the procedure for getting Broneer admitted next year as a member of the Institute. I do very much want to have him with us and I hope that we can find him convenient space in which to work. I have talked informally with Broneer about this matter of a room. He understands that it would be only by great good luck that the same room would be again at his disposal and I have told him that no decision can be made until we get down to business in the fall. Will you please, therefore, enter my application to the Director that Professor Broneer be made a member of the Institute for the year 1940/41.

I have high hope that Mrs. Broneer will be willing to continue her work in the library of the Humanistic School. There is indeed much work to do and I have been thoroughly satisfied with the way she has carried on this last spring.

Your affidavit arrived in good time yesterday and I am much indebted to you for sending it. I shall probably have to present this and a similar document that I have from the bank when I try to get Robert's permission to enter the United States. I have just received a telegram that he may reach Toronto Friday so the papers have come to me in good time.

We were delighted with the photographs which you sent. I wish we had some here to show you a glimpse of the lake but I have taken no pictures at all this summer. It looks very much as it always does except that we do miss you and the Flexners next door very much indeed. Betty joins me in warmest regards to you.

Very sincerely yours,

Ben

July 12, 1940

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that
Dr. Benjamin D. Meritt holds a permanent
professorship in the Institute for Advanced
Study, located at Princeton, New Jersey, at
a salary of Fifteen thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)
a year.

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 12th day of July, 1940

Notary Public of the
State of New Jersey

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

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MRS ESTHER S BAILEY=

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY A=

PLEASE MAIL ME NOTARIZED AFFIDAVIT MY ANNUAL SALRY=

BEN.

July 5, 1940

Dear Ben:

I received your letter of June 27 and immediately sent to the Treasurer your tax bill for attention.

How wonderful of you to take Robert Wade-Gery into your household! And now comes your letter to Dr. Aydelotte about Mr. Wade-Gery, which I shall bring to Dr. Aydelotte's attention when he returns to Princeton next week.

It was nice to hear from you and to have word about the lake. A year ago today I was driving towards Magnetawan, and it seems but yesterday even though so many dreadful things have happened in this one year. Please say "Hello" to all my friends and to my favorite haunts and don't forget a nice pat for Bingo from me.

We had one telegram that Mr. and Mrs. Flexner had arrived safely and I have good news of Jean and Eleanor. I can imagine that they are all thinking longingly of Ingleside.

Now I must get down to Institute business. Professor Broneer spoke to me the other day about renewing his membership in the Institute for next year. He does not require any money but he would be happy if he could have some space in your wing, realizing that Professor Panofsky's room would probably not be available. I told Professor Broneer that the normal procedure would be for you to make application for him which would be considered by the professors and the Director. Upon reporting the conversation to Dr. Aydelotte he told me to say to Professor Broneer that he would be very welcome in the Institute for next year. Professor Broneer is naturally delighted, but I think you will wish to regularize his application for renewal of membership in the School of Humanistic Studies.

I asked Professor Broneer if Mrs. Broneer would be willing to help out in the library if the School of Humanistic Studies needed her, and he said that she would certainly be very happy to do so. I remembered that you had once said to me that there was still much work for her to do.

One warm afternoon Miss Eichelser and I had iced tea at 99 Battle Road, and I am sending you two pictures taken among the iris blooms and three other snapshots that you and Elizabeth may be glad to have.

It is still lovely in Princeton, and the only thing to bother us is what is happening in England and Europe, and indeed one can't think of anything else, but one would go mad to dwell on it and thus play Hitler's game, so I for one am working over twelve hours a day and trying to be constructive in whatever way I can in these dark times.

There are few departures from the Institute as yet. Your wing is filled with energetic workers also, and I had the pleasure of having tea with them yesterday afternoon.

With kindest regards to you and Elizabeth,

Sincerely,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Mr. Benjamin D. Meritt
Magnetawan
via Burks Falls
Ontario, Canada

ESB

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
PRINCETON, N. J.



Magnetawan
via Burks Falls
Ontario, Canada
July 1, 1940.

Dear Aydelotte,

I have had two cablegrams from Wade-Grey, who, as you know, is Wykeham Professor of Greek History at New College. His boy Robert (age 12) will arrive in Toronto in July, and Betty and I are going to have him with us when we come back to Princeton. We are glad to be of some service to them in this emergency.

But I am concerned too about Wade-Grey himself. He is too well on in years for active fighting, and I wish we could persuade him (and Mrs. Wade-Grey) to come to Princeton too for at least a year. I write to you to ask if this may not be possible, even at the expense of running over the budget a little bit. An invitation from us

for a year's temporary appointment might save one of the ablest ancient historians in Europe, and Wade-Gery and I would have a lot to do, for we must still write the second volume of our Tribute Lists. Incidentally, Mr. Keppel was very good to us about Wade-Gery on the first volume, and gave us six thousand dollars for his year's salary.

The amount of money is not new so important, though I should like to do as dignified a thing as possible. In an extremity we might find room for the family of three in our home and so save them rental. Of course, Wade-Gery might feel himself duty-bound not to leave Oxford, but if he is not needed there, I do wish we could get him away for this coming year. Whatever the danger it seems to me it will not be so great the year after.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ben

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
PRINCETON, N. J.



June 27, 1940

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

I enclose my tax bill for the third and fourth quarters of 1940, for I know it has been your custom to send it on to the Treasurer for payment through the Institute.

We just try to forget what goes on in Europe, but it can't be done.

Everything now comes so close home.

Next year we shall have young Robert Wade-Grey with us. His father and mother will of course stay and fight.

You are much missed here. The Flexner cottage seems sad with no one there. Betty joins me in best greetings, as ever, to you.

Sincerely,
Ben

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

April 25, 1940

Dear Aydelotte,

I send you here the copy which I promised of the review of The Athenian Tribute Lists. It comes from the journal Antiquity for 1940 and was written by Professor A. M. Woodward who was for years director of the British School of Archaeology in Athens and is now professor of archaeology at the University of Sheffield. I think one might gather from his last paragraph that he considers it fortunate that our foundations in this country are willing to give facilities that make such a publication possible.

Sincerely yours,



B. D. Meritt

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Fuld Hall
Princeton

February 9, 1940

Dear Professor Meritt:

Dr. Aydelotte has asked me to tell you that a dark room has been laid out thoroughly with plumbing connections under your office in the basement. It is a room sufficiently large to take care of all the work of the Institute, and especially that of Professor Panofsky.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. SARTLEY

Professor B. D. Meritt

Fuld Hall

ESB

January 27, 1940

Dear Meritt:

I am delighted to have the opportunity of looking over your article and Pritchett's in Hesperia. The deficiencies in my Greek prevent me from following your article in detail, but the two articles give me a vivid idea of the interesting and difficult nature of the problems with which you are dealing. It is a fascinating study, and I congratulate you on the immense amount of material you have and the success with which you are handling it.

I am placing this number of Hesperia in my front office as a kind of Exhibit A of the working you are doing.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

FA/MCE