

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

APRIL 20, 1945

The annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation of the Institute for Advanced Study, was held at Fuld Hall, Princeton, New Jersey on Friday, April 20, 1945 at 2:00 P. M.

PRESENT: Messrs. Aydelotte, Fulton, Hardin, Leidesdorf, Maass, Moe, Schaap, Veblen and Weed.

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Messrs. Bamberger, Douglas, Flexner, Rosenwald and Wolman.

Mr. Maass presided.

As Chairman of the Committee on Nominations, Mr. Moe presented the following report:

The Committee on Nominations recommends that Mr. Lessing J. Rosenwald be reelected as Trustee of the Institute for a five year term expiring in 1950. When consulted about his renomination to the Board, Mr. Rosenwald expressed great interest in the Institute and the belief that his commitments would enable him to take a more active part on the Board. If this should prove not to be the case, however, he was prepared to submit his resignation as a Trustee of the Institute.

The Committee recommends that Dr. Abraham Flexner not be reelected to the Board of Trustees. The reasons for this recommendation appear in the following correspondence of April 16 and 17, 1945 between Mr. Moe and Dr. Flexner which was read to the Trustees.

April 16, 1945

"Dear Dr. Flexner:

"It is my turn this year to be chairman of the nominating committee of the Institute for Advanced Study. The committee had a meeting last Friday and, continuing a line of thinking that has been under discussion during the years I have served on the committee, it was decided that the nominating committee had a duty to make a start by its recommendations toward reducing the average age of the Board of Trustees. It was felt that for continuity of policy and for understanding of the future of the Institute in the light of knowledge of its founders' purposes, comparatively young men now should be added to the Board, who by association, in and out of meetings, with those who have the vision of the founders will catch that vision and carry it on. I trust that you will agree with that position. I remember discussing much the same thing with Senator Guggenheim a few years before his death and that he took steps to add younger Trustees to the Board of Trustees of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

"It is in this spirit and with this purpose that the nominating committee decided not to renominate you to the Board but rather to nominate a younger man for the ensuing five-year term. We trust that you will both understand and approve of this action. We want you to know in advance what our recommendation is to be; for the man who was the Institute's organizing Director has most special claims to our courtesy and consideration.

"With the respect I have always had for you since I, as a very young foundation officer, met a great one.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY ALLEN MOE"

April 17, 1945

"Dear Mr. Moe:

"I am greatly relieved to receive this morning your letter of April 16th. I think the position which your committee has taken in considering the question of my renomination is perfectly sound. I understand and I approve.

"If in the future I can be of any service to you or to the Trustees, do not hesitate to consult me, but I do not wish any responsibility for the future of the Institute; and I do appreciate the respect which I have received.

"With all good wishes for the Institute and the Trustees, I am

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER"

The Committee places the names of Wilmarth S. Lewis and Lewis L. Strauss in nomination for the vacancies on the Board of Trustees.

Wilmarth S. Lewis was born in California in 1895. He was educated at Yale University where he was associated with the Yale University Press and later became Research Associate. He is a Fellow of the Yale Corporation, Chairman of the Yale Library Associates and of the Librarians Council of the Library of Congress. He is the author of various books and articles on the 18th Century and Editor of the Yale Edition of Horace Walpole's Correspondence.

During the past two years he has held the post of Archivist of the Office of Strategic Services in Washington. Mr. Lewis is very active in affairs at Yale and has been responsible for many of the forward looking developments in the University. He is a man of great imagination with a liberal point of view and has had wide experience as trustee of various schools.

Lewis L. Strauss was born in West Virginia in 1896. He was first associated with Kuhn, Loeb and Company in 1919 and became a partner of that firm in 1929. He is interested in relief activities and was secretary to Herbert Hoover from 1917 to 1919. He is President of Congregational Emanu El in New York City, a Trustee of the Hampton Institute and a director of various American business corporations. He has been decorated by the governments of Belgium, Finland, Italy, Poland, Rumania and Czechoslovakia and holds the rank of Captain in the U. S. Navy. He was responsible for developing the Army-Navy "E" program and has received the Legion of Merit.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that Messrs. Lessing J. Rosenwald, Wilmarth S. Lewis and Lewis L. Strauss be elected Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study to serve for a term of five years expiring in 1950. The Secretary was authorized to cast one ballot for each nominee and this being done, they were declared duly elected.

In view of the important responsibilities carried by the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study, Mr. Veblen moved that in the future the Committee on Nominations be required to prepare a written report, which shall include a short biography of

each candidate proposed for Trustee, to be sent to all the Trustees by mail not less than two weeks before the meeting of the Board at which action is to be taken. After discussion, in which it was not thought necessary to incorporate this provision in the By-Laws, the motion, seconded by Dr. Fulton, was unanimously passed and it was so ordered.

The President made no report.

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

Jane S. Richardson

Assistant Secretary