

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

May 18, 1942

A regular meeting of the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study was held at Fuld Hall, Princeton, New Jersey, on Monday, May 18, 1942, at 1:30 P. M.

Present: Messrs. Aydelotte, Edgar S. Bamberger, Flexner, Hardin, Leidesdorf, Maass, Veblen, and Weed.

Absent and excused: Messrs. Louis Bamberger, Carrel, Douglas, Riefler, Rosenwald, Schaap, and Mrs. Fuld.

Mr. Hardin presided.

The minutes of the meeting held on January 26, 1942, having been distributed, their reading was dispensed with and they were approved.

Mr. Leidesdorf, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee could only roughly approximate the income for the next year, that as nearly as could be told at this time it would be about \$300,000 instead of \$330,000. The budget for the coming year, he said, had been prepared on the basis of an income of \$300,000, to which had been added the library appropriation of \$25,000. Again \$12,000 had been taken from the Pension Fund, reducing the balance of that Fund to \$8,000. Adding to these ~~sums~~ the gift towards housing the League of Nations, the point was eventually reached where the budget could be balanced. It now appears that expenditures for the present year will fall very closely within the budget, with no more than \$1000 or \$1500 over or under.

Mr. Aydelotte called attention to the statement of special funds, attached to the budget, which he thought would make clearer to the Trustees the amount of help being received from outside sources.

The Director moved that Professor Mitrany's leave of absence be continued for the next academic year without salary, and the motion, being seconded, was carried.

The Director then moved that he be authorized to renew for the next academic year the annual appointments of Professor W. A. Campbell, Dr. Kurt Weitzmann, and Dr. Hanns Swarzenski. The motion, being seconded, it was authorized that these recommendations be carried.

The Trustees discussed at some length the question of the Gest Oriental Library, the maintenance of which at the present time involves an expenditure of from \$6000 to \$7000 per year. The Rockefeller Foundation stipulated in making an appropriation for the purchase of the library that it should always be available to members of Princeton University as well as the Institute for Advanced Study. The library is housed at the present moment in the basement of 20 Nassau Street in quarters furnished by the University, while the Institute pays the salary of the curator and her assistant, the insurance, and other expenses of maintenance.

The Gest Collection is an extremely important one and at the present moment is not adequately used. It was acquired by the Institute with the thought that the Trustees would some day set up a School of Oriental Studies, and the question was raised whether steps should be taken in this direction or whether, in consultation with Princeton Uni-

versity and the Rockefeller Foundation, some disposition should be made of the library which should ensure its greater usefulness for scholarly purposes. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried that the Director be requested to study the whole question and report back to the Trustees.

The Chairman then called upon the Director for his report.

The Director discussed in some detail the impact of the war upon American education, the program of acceleration upon which the colleges and universities have embarked, the Navy V-1 plan and the corresponding Army plan of enlisting college students, and the financial problems which will result from loss of tuition fees when these men are called to active service. While prospects of enrollment are fair at the present moment, it seems probable that before the end of the next academic year the number of college students will be very greatly reduced. The financial strain upon the colleges and universities will be somewhat lessened by the fact that many members of their faculties will find openings in government research or other war activities. It is to be hoped that considerations of public policy will lead American colleges and universities to make larger use than they are at present making of foreign-born teachers for teaching posts, in order to save Americans for work for which only native-born citizens would be acceptable.

The war will materially lessen the number of members in residence at the Institute for the year 1942-1943. The shortage of mathematicians and physicists is acute, and many men who would otherwise wish to work at the Institute will be needed for research or for teaching.

Since our members pay no tuition fee the variation in our numbers will make no difference in our financial situation, but the expected reduction in income from invested funds has made it necessary to reduce expenditures about \$30,000 as compared with the present year.

The Trustees have a right to feel proud of the contribution which the Institute faculty is making toward the war effort. Eleven out of seventeen men are at this moment engaged in important war work. Riefler and Mitrany are in England. von Neumann is doing research under contract with the O.S.R.D. Veblen is consultant to the Ballistic Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Center, with the task of coordinating scientific research and maintaining liaison with other organizations. Morse is chairman of a committee which has the duty of mobilizing mathematicians for teaching and research. Meritt is head of a group reading Greek and other foreign language newspapers published in the United States for the Donovan Committee, in which task he has the assistance of Professor Panofsky for Italian papers. Stewart and Warren are advisers to the Treasury. Earle has been doing consultation work both for the Army and the Navy, though he is fortunately able to spend most of his time in Princeton. The Director has resigned the chairmanship of the New Jersey Enemy Alien Hearing Board and has become chairman of the Committee on Scientific Personnel of the O.S.R.D. All these services are rendered on a dollar-a-year basis, or, to use the more popular term, W.O.C. (without compensation), though it is possible that the Institute will receive directly some payments from the government on behalf of some of these services, which will be a slight relief to our budget.

It is a matter of pride and satisfaction that the members of the Institute faculty are able to render important service to the war effort, but at the same time it should be said that they all regard this work as an extra curricular activity. The members of the faculty are at the same time keeping their minds focused on what they consider to be the real job of the Institute: the advancement of knowledge regardless of its utility for war or for any other immediate purpose. These are the activities which, among others, we are fighting a war to defend, and one of the best ways to defend civilization is to advance it.

Due precautions have been taken at the Institute to conform to the regulations for blackouts and air raids. The basement corridor has been chosen as the shelter room in Fuld Hall and has been supplied with a first-aid kit, cot, chairs, candles, and other necessities. In the event of a raid the lights will be turned out from the main switch in the engine room, and members of the Institute will be expected to make their way to the basement with the aid of flash lights or candles. The regulations, approved by the faculty, are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Steps have also been taken to meet the gasoline shortage. The Institute has an X card for the station wagon and all the members have cooperated so loyally in doubling up with their own cars that the demand on the station wagon has actually been reduced and it has been possible to cancel one or two of the regular trips. So long as the present regulations hold, the Institute will have no difficulty in regard to gasoline, but it will face a serious problem when the tires on the

station wagon and on the Director's seven-passenger limousine are eventually worn out.

The Institute has had no difficulty so far in the matter of protecting enemy aliens in its membership. Professor Kakutani has returned to Japan on the Gripsholm, but Dr. Kusaka has transferred from the University of California to the Institute, where he will be supported next year by a fellowship which the University of California has generously allowed him to use in Princeton.

Attention of the Trustees was called to the recent study, made by Professor Earle in cooperation with members of the faculty of Princeton University, of the intellectual resources of Princeton from the point of view of possible usefulness in the war effort but equally applicable to the problems of peace. The document is very impressive. Aside from Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study, there are in Princeton the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, the newly established research laboratory of the Radio Corporation of America, and the Gallup Poll, which is really operated more and more as a research organization. In Princeton University certain schools and groups have important research functions. These include the School of Public and International Affairs, the Princeton Surveys in State and Municipal Government, the Industrial Relations Section, the Population Survey Office, the Public Opinion Research group, which publishes the Public Opinion Quarterly, the Bureau of Urban Research, the International Finance Section, and the newly-established Department of Aeronautical Engineering. The work of the Institute, with which the Trustees are

already familiar, has been strengthened by the presence here of the Economic Section of the League of Nations. There is increasing cooperation among the members of all these groups. This cooperation is not formally organized but takes place in much more useful informal ways, with the result that there is being built up here an academic community unique in many ways so far as this country is concerned. (Note: A summary of these facts has recently been published by a member of the Institute, Professor Harvey A. DeWeerd, in the Princeton Alumni Weekly, a copy of which is enclosed with these minutes.)

Mr. Hardin moved that the report of the Director be spread on the minutes, and the motion, being seconded, was carried.

The Director reported two interesting gifts to the Institute. Professor Meritt has transferred the title to his entire collection of books and squeezes to the Institute, and Robert Garrett of Baltimore has presented the Institute with an interesting and important collection of Maya manuscripts. The terms upon which the Garrett collection was accepted are outlined in a letter which is attached as an appendix to these minutes. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried that the Director be instructed to send letters of thanks to Mr. Meritt and Mr. Garrett for their generous gifts.

Officers to serve until the next annual meeting were elected as follows:

Mr. Herbert H. Maass, President of the Corporation
Mr. Louis H. Weed, Vice-President of the Corporation
Mr. John R. Hardin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Treasurer
Mr. Ira A. Schur, Assistant Treasurer
Mr. Edgar S. Bamberger, Secretary
Miss Marie C. Eichelser)
Miss Leah Harris) Assistant Secretaries

Mr. Frank Aydelotte was reappointed Director of the Institute and the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for Mr. Aydelotte.

The appointment of the standing committees of the Board was referred to the Director and Mr. Bamberger, with power. A list of the committees for the academic year 1942-1943 is appended to these minutes.

The Director reported that Mr. Bamberger had telephoned extending his best wishes to the Board and expressing his regret that he could not be present.

Mr. Flexner moved that, in view of the fact that Mr. Bamberger feels the strongest inclination possible to attend meetings but is practically unable to attend them by reason of the fatigue involved in coming to Princeton, for an indefinite period it be arranged to hold the meetings of the Board at Newark, in which case Mrs. Fuld might feel that she could attend also. Mr. Hardin seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Aydelotte read the following letter from Mr. Fosdick of the Rockefeller Foundation to Mr. Bamberger which had given him great pleasure:

"At the request of Mr. Flexner, I am sending you herewith a copy of the President's Review of the Work of The Rockefeller Foundation for 1941. May I take this opportunity to tell you what I have often wished to say about the institution which you and your sister have promoted at Princeton. It serves the same high standards and ideals to which The Rockefeller Foundation subscribes and it has been an inspiration to all of us. It is my belief that in the dark and uncertain years ahead, the Institute for Advanced Study will be one of the centers where the light will be kept burning by which we shall be saved.

It must be a genuine satisfaction to you and your sister to have played a part in so great a purpose, and I congratulate you with all my heart."

Mr. Hardin suggested that in view of Mr. Bamberger's and Mrs. Fuld's inability to attend the meeting a telegram be sent to them expressing the regret of the Trustees at their absence.

Mr. Aydelotte extended congratulations on behalf of the Board to Mr. Weed and Mr. Douglas on their election to the American Philosophical Society.

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

(Signed) Edgar S. Bamberger,

Secretary

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

AIR RAID REGULATIONS

1. The air raid warden for the Institute will be Mr. Wesley Dauncey, with Mr. Ralph Esterquest and Miss Bernetta A. Miller as deputies.

2. The long corridor in the basement has been designated as the shelter room to which all persons in the Institute building should proceed immediately in the event of an air raid. The corridor will be equipped with chairs, couch, shovels, sand, fire extinguisher, first-aid kit, flash lights, and candles.

3. In the event of an air raid or practice blackout all lights in the Institute will be turned off from the basement. Every individual who works at the Institute at night is urged to keep in his desk a flash light equipped with a blue bulb to prevent accidents in going from one part of the building to another.

4. Until we can obtain some suitable warning bell, the signal for blackout or air raid alarm will be the blinking of the electric lights two or three times before they are finally turned out. When this signal is given every individual in Fuld Hall is directed to proceed immediately to the shelter room in the basement. Information concerning practice blackouts will be distributed in advance whenever possible.

5. In the event of a blackout or air raid alarm individuals should refrain from telephoning, from showing flash lights or any other kind of light outside the building, from using the elevator (lest they be caught between floors by the failure of the electricity), and should be especially careful not to turn on automobile lights or attempt to use cars until the alarm is over.

FRANK AYDELOTTE

February 28, 1942

Dear Mr. Garrett:

I was delighted to receive your letter of February 5th enclosing the list of your extraordinarily interesting collection of Maya manuscripts, which you have so generously offered to the Institute for Advanced Study. I have taken time to consult various members of our faculty and Board of Trustees and wish to say that the Institute would most gratefully accept your generous gift of these materials if upon reflection you decide that you would like to deposit them here.

We realize that in giving these manuscripts to the Institute it is your expectation that we should at some future date be prepared to put them to suitable scholarly use. I regret to say that it would be impossible for the Institute to make a commitment to that effect at this moment. The Latin-American field is one which has been strongly urged upon me as suitable and important for the Institute if and when we are able to expand the range of our studies. At the same time you will, of course, realize that the future is too uncertain for us to be able to make a definite decision at this time. We do not know what funds may be available to us in the future, nor what may appear to be the urgency of other fields of scholarship. We must, furthermore, make as a first charge upon any future revenues the adequate support and development of subjects already undertaken.

Under these circumstances, I should like to make the suggestion to you that in your letter of gift you express the hope that the Institute will some day be able to enter the field of Latin-American studies and to make use here in Princeton of this interesting material, but that if such development should prove impossible you empower the Trustees of the Institute to transfer the entire collection to whatever library or institution may seem to them, after careful study, most likely to be able to use these manuscripts to the best advantage for the advancement of Maya scholarship. If the gift were made under these terms I can assure you that the Trustees of the Institute would take the utmost pains conscientiously to fulfill them and to see to it that your collection was used in the way you intend.

With deep appreciation of your generosity, I am

Yours sincerely,

Robert Garrett, Esq.
Robert Garrett & Sons
Baltimore, Maryland

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Standing Committees of the Board

Executive Committee

Maass
Hardin
Flexner
Leidesdorf
Veblen
Weed

Finance Committee

Leidesdorf
Maass
L. Bamberger
Rosenwald
Hardin

Budget Committee

Hardin
Leidesdorf
Weed
Fulton

Building and Grounds Committee

Veblen
Schaap
Maass
E. Bamberger

Nominating Committee

Weed
Douglas
Moe