

Amplissimo et verendissimo domino,  
Domino Abrahae Flexner,  
qui praeterita accurate recordando  
praesentia persapienter ordinando  
futura quasi divinitus praesagiendo  
Scholae a Studiis Sublimioribus denominatae  
ideam concepit, rationem excogitavit,  
effigiem demum ad verum perduxit,  
cum ii qui in praediſta Schola magiſtri munere funguntur  
tum ii qui—quod novum atque inusitatum eſt—  
pro meritis potius quam pro emeritis habiti  
in re communi curam ponunt  
grate pieque in decimum decorae vitae decennium  
laeta optant et ominantur.  
Cuius rei in teſtimonium nomina subscripserunt  
Id. Nov. A. D. MDCCCCLVI

Oswald Veblen

E. A. Lowe

B. D. Meritt

Deane Montgomery

Marston Morse

K. Gödel

Harold F. Cherniss

James W. Alexander

Hassler Whitney

E. L. Woodward

Hetty Goldman

R. Oppenheimer

Atle Selberg

Walter W. Stewart

Arne Beurling

Erwin Panofsky

Ernst Kantorowicz

George Kennan

Homer Thompson

F. J. Dyson

A. Pais

C. N. Yang

Andrew Alföldi

(The names shown above are those of the Faculty who signed the original scroll  
and are in approximately correct order.)

C O P Y

Flexner

23 September 1959

Memorandum to the Faculty and Faculty Emeritus:

You may wish to know that funeral services for Dr. Flexner will be held on Friday afternoon, September 25th, at 2:30, in Judge Lane's chambers in the Allen Court Room at the University of Louisville, Kentucky. They will be conducted by the episcopalian minister and President Davidson of the University of Louisville. Burial will be in Caze Hill Cemetery.

A telegram of condolence has been sent to the family on behalf of the Faculty and Director, and flowers will be sent to the funeral in the name of the Institute.

Verna Hobson



# ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA

425 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

*Editorial Offices*

May 4, 1976

Miss Aida L. La Brutte  
Secretary to the Director  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Miss La Brutte:

I have made a photocopy of your photograph of Abraham Flexner,  
and I am happy to return your original at this time.

Thank you very much for letting me borrow the photograph and  
giving me permission to reproduce it in the 1976 Medical and  
Health Annual.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Maher Epstein".

(Mrs.) Barbara Maher Epstein  
Picture Editor  
Medical and Health Annual

BME:je  
Enclosure

April 28, 1976

Mrs. Barbara Maher Epstein  
Picture Editor  
Medical and Health Annual  
Encyclopaedia Britannica  
425 No. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Mrs. Epstein:

As we agreed on the telephone today, I am sending along Dr. Flexner's photograph for your use. I also enclose the signed release.

As I mentioned, it is the only photograph in our files of Abraham Flexner, and we would very much appreciate its prompt return.

Sincerely yours,

Aida L. La Brutte  
Secretary to the Director

Enclosures



# ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA

425 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

20  
April  
1976

Director, Photo Archives  
Institute for Advanced Study  
Olden Lane  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Sir:

I am gathering illustrations for the first volume of the new Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., publication MEDICAL AND HEALTH ANNUAL, and I will be grateful to you for sending me the following:

a black-and-white photograph of Abraham Flexner (founder of the Institute for Advanced Study and its first director, 1930--39) for use with the article The History of Medical Education.

I will be happy to pay for the photograph, and I will return it after I have finished using it. If you wish to telephone, collect, about this request, my number is (312) 321-7339.

Our standard release is enclosed. Please sign and return it with the material you send. If you are unable to fill my request, perhaps you can give me the name and address of a source than can.

Although I will not begin to prepare illustrations for reproduction until the end of May, I want to collect as many of them as I can in advance in order to avoid having to search anxiously for them at the eleventh hour. I will, therefore, welcome an early response from you. My deadline is 31 May 1976.

Thank you for giving this request your attention.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Barbara Maher Epstein  
Picture Editor  
Medical and Health Annual

Enclosure

1976 Medical and Health Annual: The History of Medical Education

Institute for Advanced Study  
Organization

To Mrs. Barbara Maher Epstein

*Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc.*  
425 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Gentlemen:

*We, the undersigned, are owners of the copyright or the right to copyright in the following pictures or pictorial matter which you and your associated companies are hereby authorized to reproduce, in whatever size desired, in your publications.*

black-and-white photograph of Abraham Flexner (1866--1959), founder of the  
Institute for Advanced Study and its first director, 1930--39

CREDIT Courtesy, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

(CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN AS SHOWN ABOVE UNLESS CORRECTION IS REQUESTED)

April 28, 1976  
Date

*John S. Le Zent*  
Authorized Signature

Witness

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

From the DIRECTOR OF POSTGRADUATE  
MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL  
43 WOODSTOCK ROAD  
OXFORD

Telephone ~~45021~~

Change of telephone number in Oxford 11206

22nd March, 1974.

Dr. Carl Kaysen,  
The Institute for Advanced Study,  
Princeton,  
New Jersey 08540  
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Kaysen,

I apologise for not having written earlier to  
thank you most sincerely for your kind response to my  
enquiry about Abraham Flexner. I had heard of the  
article in Daedalus the day before your copy of it arrived.  
Many thanks for this.

Yours sincerely,



John M. Potter.

December 18, 1971

Dear Mrs. Bortell

Thank you very much  
for sending me the photograph  
of my father. I should indeed  
like to revisit the Institute and  
see the picture. Perhaps some  
day I can stop off on my way  
to NYC.



With best wishes to  
you and to Dr. Karpew,  
Sincerely,

Stan F. Levenson

ELEANOR FLEXNER  
28 ARLINGTON STREET  
NORTHAMPTON, MASS. 01060

Dec. 7, 1971

Dear~~d~~ Dr. Kaysen:

I wonder whether you have finished using the photograph of my father I sent you from which you were going to make a repro for the Institute. I would appreciate having ~~me~~ it back some time soon at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Flexner

December 15, 1971

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
1745 Army-Navy Drive  
Arlington  
Virginia 22202

Dear Mrs. Lewinson:

Your sister thought you might like to have this copy of the photograph of Dr. Flexner that she had made available to the Institute. We are pleased to send it to you and hope some time you will visit the Institute where an enlargement of this photograph is hanging.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Paul Bortell, Jr.

ELEANOR FLEXNER  
28 ARLINGTON STREET  
NORTHAMPTON, MASS. 01060

Dec. 11, 1971

Dear Mrs. Borker -

Thank you for returning my  
Dad's picture. If you wished to send a  
print to my sister - Mrs. Paul Lewinson,  
~~#718~~ 1745 Army-Navy Drive, Arlington,  
Va. 22202 - I am sure she would  
be delighted to have it. I am glad to  
hear the picture is hanging in the  
Director's office - Dad would be pleased.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Flexner

December 9, 1971

Miss Eleanor Flexner  
28 Arlington Street  
Northampton, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Flexner:

I was distressed to discover as I was going through our files that the photograph you sent us of your father had not been returned to you, and I hasten to send it now. We did have an excellent copy (and enlargement) made, and should you have occasion to need another print, we would be glad to send you one. Thank you for your help. When you visit the Institute, you will find Dr. Flexner's picture hanging in the Director's office!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Paul Bortell, Jr.  
Secretary to Dr. Kaysen

Enclosure

*follow*

November 4, 1970

Miss Eleanor Flexner  
28 Arlington Street  
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

Dear Miss Flexner:

Thank you so much for your note of October 20 to Dr. Kaysen. He appreciated your taking the time and trouble to write in spite of your sprained back, and he has asked me to tell you that we are perfectly content to have a negative made of your father's photograph, now that we know the original photographer is not known. I hope it will not be an inconvenience to you to be without this copy for a while.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Paul Bortell, Jr.  
Secretary to Dr. Kaysen

Eleanor Flexner

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

REQUISITION FOR PAYMENT

Date 10-14-70

Pay to Benjamin Strong

Address 306 Rutgers Street, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Approved by (Signature) ..... Amount \$ 12.76

To be charged to 1048

In payment of (Itemize)

Expenses incurred by Mr. Strong in connection with giving IAS a  
look at portrait of Abraham Flexner which was later returned to him

Check No. ....

Extensions Chkd .....

Batch No. ....

Entered By .....



22243

**RECEIPT FOR INSURED MAIL  
 DOMESTIC—INTERNATIONAL**

**ADDRESSED FOR DELIVERY AT**  
 (Post Office, State and Country)

*Rockville Md.*

POSTAGE	AIR <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ <i>1.00</i>
INSURANCE FEE		<i>.60</i> ¢
SPEC. HANDLING		¢
DOMESTIC ONLY	SPECIAL DELIVERY	<i>.75</i> ¢
	ADDRESSEE ONLY	¢
RETURN RECEIPT (Except to Canada)		<i>.15</i> ¢
FRAGILE <input type="checkbox"/>	LIQUID <input type="checkbox"/>	PERISHABLE <input type="checkbox"/>

(POSTMARK)



PATRON  
 OVER

POSTMASTER

By

*[Signature]*

BENJAMIN STRONG  
306 RUTGERS STREET  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850  
301 - 424 - 1325

October 2nd, 1970

The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey  
08540

Att: Mr. Carl Kaysen

Dear Sir:

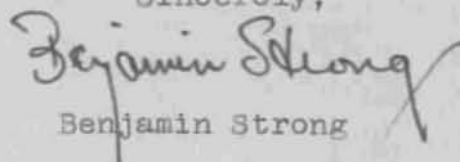
Thank you for viewing the painting of Mr. Flexner.

Sorry that you could not use the fine portrait.

There was an expense of \$12.76 for the insurance and mailing of the portrait. If you see your way clear you can reimburse me for the expense.

Thanking you again.

Sincerely,

  
Benjamin Strong

September 24, 1970

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
1745 Army Navy Drive  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Mrs. Lewinson:

Thank you very much for sending the photograph of your father. I hate to continue to trouble you about this, but do you happen to know who was the photographer? I thought of having an enlargement, and that could be done much better from a negative, of course.

Since my last letter Professor Meritt has returned, and I have located the bust of your father which was given to the Institute. We will be putting it in a permanent place in the main room in our new dining hall building.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

Current Biography in 1941

Wm. Wells Flexner

41 E. 20

NY 10010

{Seitz}

212-OR7-1065

nephew

Mrs. Paul Lewinson (Jeanne)

'62 - 1745 Army Navy Dr.  
Arlington Va.

Eleanor F 413-584-0969  
28 Arlington St.

Northampton, Mass.

(may have taught at  
Smith)

4

Who Was Who

James + Jeanne - son of Simon + Helen  
(nephew) (ab's brother)

530 E. 86 - NYC.

1745 Army Navy Drive  
Arlington, Va. 22202  
Sept. 6, 1970

Dear Dr. Hansen

My sister Eleanor Flexner has told me of your inquiry about the portrait of Abraham Flexner, which is in the possession of Mr. Strong. Neither of us knows anything of such a painting. If you would like me to, and could arrange it with Mr. Strong, I would be glad to look at it (Rockville is not far from here.)

If that does not work out both she & I have photographs that we would be glad to lend so that a copy could be made of one of them.

Also, do you know that the Institute has a bronze bust of my father, made by the Russian sculptor Kromenkov in the thirties? We both remember that it was donated to the Institute.

I was very happy to read of your appointment as Director, & hope this means that the social sciences & humanities we will receive more emphasis!

(My own very humble career was in the field of economics, so it is of great interest to me.) However history, especially archaeology, have appealed to me more in recent years.

With very good wish to  
you, & to the Institute.

Sincerely,

Jean Thorne Harrison

September 11, 1970

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
1745 Army Navy Drive  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Mrs. Lewinson:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 6. I am glad to learn that there is a bust of your father which was made in the 30's, but at the moment I am not able to find its whereabouts. Professor Meritt, who is one of your father's few remaining contemporaries, is absent at this time, and when he returns I hope to learn something from him.

As for the painting, I am returning it to Mr. Strong. My own feeling is that it is a poor painting, and unless it is an unusually good portrait, I would not wish to keep it. I am also writing to Mr. Strong, as shown in the attached letter, and if you should wish to see the portrait, I am sure you can arrange it with him.

If you and your sister would be willing to arrange to have a copy made of what you consider the best picture of your father in your possession or, if you prefer, let me do so, I would appreciate it very much. The Institute will, of course, bear any expense that this creates.

I appreciate very much your kind words about my appointment and your good wishes for the Institute.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen



September 11, 1970

Mr. Benjamin Strong  
306 Rutgers Street  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Strong:

Thank you very much for taking the trouble to let me see the portrait of Mr. Flexner. It was apparently made at a date much earlier than the time at which he was associated with the Institute, and we would prefer to have a representation of him at that time. I am returning the portrait separately. May I remind you that I would be glad to reimburse you for any expense you had in connection with sending it here?

Mrs. Jean Flexner Lewinson of Arlington, Virginia, a daughter of the late Abraham Flexner, might be in touch with you about the picture. I had written to her about it, and she was unfortunately unable to add to what you had told me. She expressed some curiosity about the portrait, and I suggested that she communicate with you directly.

Thank you again for your trouble in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

cc: Mrs. Paul Lewinson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

August 27, 1970

Memo to the Director

Possibly an early Eisenhower, but  
the subject gives me pause.

M.M.

*Flexner*

September 4, 1970

Miss Eleanor Flexner  
28 Arlington Street  
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

Dear Miss Flexner:

I write to you to ask about a portrait of your father. Since I came here I have regretted the lack of a portrait or a good photograph of your father, and accordingly was pleased when I was approached by Mr. Benjamin Strong of Rockville, Maryland, who said he had a portrait which he wished to sell. The portrait was done in London by a man named Oppenheimer (sic!) and apparently much before the Institute was founded. I wonder if you know anything about the portrait, the circumstances under which it was done, and whether your father thought it was a good representation. Unfortunately, no one now at the Institute is able to be helpful in this connection.

I would greatly appreciate anything you can tell me about this portrait or about the possibility that there are other pictures of our founder which we might be able to acquire.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

*Follow*

August 28, 1970

Professor Benjamin Strong  
306 Rutgers Street  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Professor Strong:

I write to let you know that the picture of Dr. Flexner has arrived in good condition. Unfortunately, Dr. Kaysen is away at the moment, but he will return in about a week, and he will communicate with you about the portrait as soon as he has the opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Paul Bortell, Jr.  
Secretary to Dr. Kaysen

BENJAMIN STRONG  
306 RUTGERS STREET  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850  
301-424-1325

August 8th, 1970

Director Carl Kaysen  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Sir:

I just returned from a trip abroad and found your letter dated June 15th. Please forgive me for not writing sooner.

The oil painting of Dr. Flexner is a beautiful one, done by Oppenheimer of London, England.

According to a very reliable art gallery in New York City all Oppenheimer portraits are worth over one thousand dollars.

I am asking only \$400. for this painting, for Princeton University is where it belongs, I found out since.

You asked for a photo. Frankly, I would like to send the oil portrait along to you for evaluation etc. No obligation on your part. A photo cannot do this painting justice.

May I hear from you?

Sincerely,

*Benjamin Strong*  
Professor Benjamin Strong

*telephoned 8-21-70 to say he should mail portrait & we  
would accept costs of insurance and mailing.*

*by 8-21-70 x 1 e 0 2 6 2*

Strong

June 15, 1970

Professor Benjamin Strong  
306 Rutgers Street  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Professor Strong:

Your letter of June 3rd directed to the President of Princeton University has been forwarded to me. It is this institution with which Dr. Flexner was associated, not the University; he was, indeed, its founding Director.

I would appreciate very much having a copy of the photograph that you mention and some idea of what you think the picture is worth.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

BENJAMIN STRONG  
306 RUTGERS STREET  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850  
301 - 424 - 1325

June 3rd, 1970

RECEIVED

JUN - 9 1970

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Princeton University  
Princeton, New Jersey

Att: Office of the President

Dear Sir:

I am a professor of Visual Communications at Montgomery College here in Rockville, Maryland.

I have inherited a very fine oil portrait of Dr. Abraham Flexner, who I understand was connected with Princeton University.

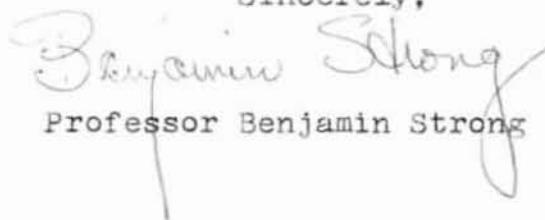
This very fine oil painting was done by an artist called Oppenheimer of London, England. The canvas size is 16 x 20, beautifully framed in a gold leaf frame.

Frankly, I have no use for this painting and I want to sell this portrait to an organization that can appreciate the value and use of such a painting.

If you are interested, I can send you a colored photo of this painting, or still I can send the painting for your examination, no obligation of course.

May I hear from you?

Sincerely,

  
Professor Benjamin Strong

BS:

copies filed: Dr. Flexner's file ✓  
Dr. Einstein's file  
Inst. Misc. Sz

December 12, 1967

Mrs. Dezso Szigeti  
508 Park Avenue  
Hopewell, Virginia

Dear Mrs. Szigeti:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 26th. Please accept our apologies for the delay in replying; it was caused by several factors, one of which was that the University had to forward the letter to the Institute, which has never been part of the University.

Your information is correct. Dr. Flexner was the first Director of the Institute and the negotiations undertaken to bring Dr. Einstein to the Institute (and this country) were Dr. Flexner's endeavors.

Perhaps you would be interested in having a copy of the most recent revision of the Institute's descriptive booklet. One is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Janet Smith  
Office of the Director



July 5, 1967

Miss Margaret F. Willerding  
Professor of Mathematics  
San Diego State College  
San Diego, California 92115

Dear Miss Willerding:

In reply to your letter of June 27th, we regret to advise that a check of our files discloses that we do not have a portrait of Professor Veblen. The School of Mathematics is without such a portrait, as well, but advises that LIFE MAGAZINE took some photographs of Professor Veblen several years ago. May we suggest that you write to the Photo Library of LIFE at The Time-Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, New York 10020.

Please accept our apologies for our inability to be helpful and with good wishes for the success of your project, we are

Sincerely yours,

Janet Smith  
Office of the Director

San Diego State College  
San Diego, California 92115

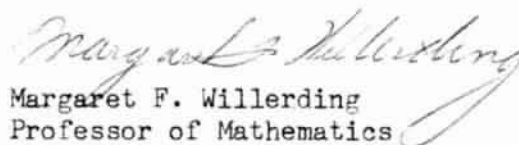
June 27, 1967

The Institute of Advanced Study  
Princeton University  
Princeton, New Jersey

Gentlemen:

I am writing a mathematics text for John Wiley and Sons, Publishers. At the beginning of each chapter we are using portraits of mathematicians who have done work related to the material in the chapter where the portrait appears. I am looking for a portrait of Oswald Veblen, who was a professor at the Institute of Advanced Study in 1932. Can you furnish me either with a picture of Professor Vehlen or tell me where I can find a portrait to use?

Sincerely,

  
Margaret F. Willerding  
Professor of Mathematics

MFW:fg

November 29, 1967

Miss Mary Tonon  
Picture Editor  
Encyclopedia Division  
THE WORLD PUBLISHING COMPANY  
2231 West 110th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Dear Miss Tonon:

Your letter of November 20th has been referred to this office for reply.

Unfortunately, the Institute maintains no photo files of any sort. The best source that could be recommended to you would be Wide World Photos. The address is:

Wide World Photos  
Associated Press  
50 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10020

Please accept our apologies for our inability to be of greater help.

Sincerely yours,

Janet Smith  
Office of the Director


November 20, 1967

Institute for Advanced Study  
News Office  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

The World Publishing Company is preparing a new encyclopedia aimed at the high school level. Below is a request for illustrative material we would like to use in our publication. We would appreciate any assistance you can give us in regard to this request. Credit lines will be used. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Tonon,  
Picture Editor  
Encyclopedia Division



---

THE WORLD PUBLISHING CO., 2231 W. 110th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Black and white photograph of Abraham Flexner

February 1, 1967

Professor Marie M. Jenkins  
Box B  
Madison College  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801

Dear Professor Jenkins:

Dr. Flexner has been dead for  
some years, and I have been unable to locate  
any copies of the article you request in  
your letter of January 18.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. P.T.Bortell, Jr.  
Secretary to Dr. Kaysen

Box B  
MADISON COLLEGE  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801  
Jan. 18, 1967

Dr. Abraham Flexner, Director  
Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton University  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Flexner,

I should greatly appreciate your sending  
me a copy of your article "The usefulness of useless  
knowledge," from Vol. 1, No. 1, of The Field & Work  
of the Squibb Institute for Medical Research, if you  
have any copies available.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,  
Marie M. Jenkins,  
Asst. Prof. of Biology

CROSS REFERENCE

FILE: INSTITUTE GENERAL-----Flexner, Dr. Abraham

RE: letter from Little, Brown & Co. Publishers asking for  
portrait-type photograph of Dr. Flexner for use in  
book by Dr. Wilder Penfield about Dr. Alan Gregg of the  
Rockefeller Institute. (No copy of any reply)

LETTER DATED: September 27, 1966

SEE: FORMER MEMBERS----Penfield, Dr. Wilder

CROSS REFERENCE

FILE: INSTITUTE GENERAL-----Flexner

RE: folder of correspondence with and about Dr. Richard Courant

LETTER DATED: 1933-----1960

SEE: Institute General----Courant, Dr. Richard



*Just Gen Flexner*

19 November 1963

Dear Miss Hubbard:

Thank you for your letter of November 16th.  
We do not have Dr. Flexner's papers here at the  
Institute. I would suggest that you write to  
the executrix of his estate, Miss Marie C.  
Eichelser, 496 Faber Drive, Falls Church, Va.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Wilder Hobson)  
Secretary to the Director

Miss Rogene Hubbard  
University Station  
Box 13809  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

*Just Jean Flexner*

ABRAHAM FLEXNER  
522 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

ROOM 628

TELEPHONE  
VANDERBILT 6-0674

To my Friends:

Upon returning to New York after my summer vacation, I found myself faced with a peculiar situation.

Neither of my two daughters, Jean and Eleanor, now lives in New York. Jean is married and lives in Arlington, Virginia. Eleanor has been living in New York and keeping in touch with me daily, but city-living no longer agrees with her, and she suffered from migraine almost daily. She found when she went to Canada or to the country in the summer that she was in much better health. She has therefore settled in Northampton, Massachusetts, where she has at hand a good library, in which she is free to work.

This has left me without a family easily accessible. Though I shall miss New York where I have many friends and greatly enjoy the musical and other opportunities, I have decided to move to Falls Church where I shall be close to Jean, and where I also have many friends in the vicinity (Washington, Arlington). It is a wrench which I should like to avoid, but after considerable reflection it seems wise to me to make the move, which I shall do within the next two weeks. I should like all my friends, to whom I am deeply devoted, to understand what I have done and why.

My new address is 496 Faber Drive, Falls Church, Virginia, beginning November 1, 1957.

Abraham Flexner

November 16, 1963

Miss Rogene Hubbard  
University Station  
Box 13809  
Baton Rouge, La. 70803

The Institute of Advanced Studies  
Princeton, New Jersey

Gentlemen:

I am a graduate student in Library Science at Louisiana State University. I am involved in a research project in one of my classes for the Dictionary of American Biography. My individual for my research is Dr. Walter Albert Jessup.

In searching through some of the materials on Dr. Jessup I have noted a reference to an inquiry of Dr. Abraham Flexner, emeritus director of your organization at the time of his death. The reference stated that he planned to write a biography of Dr. Jessup. No doubt materials and notes are available in Dr. Flexner's papers. Can you tell me if such papers exist, and if they do, will I be able to research them for my study of Dr. Jessup?

I appreciate any help that you are able to give me.  
Thank you for your trouble.

Sincerely,

  
Rogene Hubbard

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, Inc.

417 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



TELEPHONE: OREGON 9-7300

9 June 1961

Mrs. Ray Jeffers  
Office of the Director  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Jeffers:

Thank you so much for sending us the address of the executrix  
for the Abraham Flexner estate.

We are indeed most grateful for this information.

Yours sincerely,

*Allison Crane*

Allison Crane  
Permissions Department

Just Gen Flexner

21 August 1962

Dear Mr. Baker:

We are returning the forms that you sent to Dr. Flexner who died several years ago. You might obtain the necessary permission by writing to the executrix of his estate, Miss Marie C. Eichelser, 496 Faber Drive, Falls Church, Virginia.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Bonnie Scott  
Office of the Director

Mr. William D. Baker  
State University College at Buffalo  
1300 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo 22, New York

*Just, Ben - Flexner*

6 June 1961

Dear Miss Crane:

Thank you for your letter of June 5. Miss Marie C. Eichelser, 496 Faber Drive, Falls Church, Virginia, is the executrix of Abraham Flexner's estate.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. Ray Jeffers)  
Office of the Director

Miss Allison Crane  
Permissions Department  
Oxford University Press, Inc.  
417 Fifth Avenue  
New York 16, N.Y.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, INC.

417 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



TELEPHONE: OREGON 9-7300

5 June 1961

Institute of Advanced Studies  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sirs:

Some years ago we published Abraham Flexner's Universities:  
American, English, German which is now out of print.

We have recently received a request to reprint from this book, and, since we no longer claim any rights in the book, we should like to refer this request to the author's Estate. The Rockefeller Foundation has suggested that you might be able to help us in tracing the Estate. We shall be most grateful for any assistance you can give us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Allison Crane'.

(Miss) Allison Crane  
Permissions Department

Just for Flexner

7 March 1961

Dear Miss Eichelser:

Thank you for your letter of March 4th, and for sending me the excerpt from Dr. Flexner's will for our records. I am returning herewith three signed copies of the receipt.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Miss Marie C. Eichelser  
496 Faber Drive  
Falls Church, Virginia



496 Faber Drive  
Falls Church, Va.  
March 4, 1961

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

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Upon receipt of your note of March 1st I got in touch with the attorney for Dr. Flexner's estate about your request for a copy of the Will.

Since neither of us has an extra copy of the Will and since the estate is now closed and all funds paid out, Mr. Richards suggested that I send you a verbatim statement of the paragraph covering the bequest of the gold clock to the Institute. This I enclose. There is no other bequest or devise to the Institute mentioned in the Will.

Mr. Richards told me that it is not customary in Virginia to send out copies of the Will to the institutions and individuals involved, but that if you would like to have a photostatic copy of Dr. Flexner's Will you can obtain it by applying to Thomas B. Chapman, Jr., Clerk of the Circuit Court, Fairfax County, Fairfax, Virginia. The cost of such a copy would be, he thought, \$2.00.

Sincerely yours,



Marie C. Eichelser, Executrix,  
Estate of Abraham Flexner

Excerpt from the Will of Abraham Flexner, dated November 6, 1957

THIRD: I give and bequeath to THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY, in Princeton, New Jersey, the gold clock bequeathed to me by Mrs. Fuld, in the hope that it will be used on the desk of the Director.

1 March 1961

Dear Miss Eichelser:

Thank you very much for your note,  
and for sending me the clock which is  
Dr. Flexner's bequest.

I believe that, as Director of the  
Institute, before I return the formal  
acknowledgment, I should have of record  
the will containing this and other  
provisions affecting the Institute.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Miss Marie C. Eichelser  
496 Faber Drive  
Falls Church, Virginia

496 Faber Drive  
Falls Church, Va.  
February 28, 1961


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

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Dr. Flexner bequeathed to the Institute for Advanced Study a small gold clock which he had received by bequest from Mrs. Fuld. In his Will he expressed the hope that the clock would be used on the desk of the Director.

I have today shipped the clock by insured registered mail. When it has been received by you will you please sign the enclosed receipt in quadruplicate, retaining one copy for your records and returning three copies to me?

Sincerely yours,



Marie C. Eichelser, Executrix,  
Estate of Abraham Flexner

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF ABRAHAM FLEXNER,  
DECEASED

DATE OF DEATH: September 21, 1959

R E C E I P T

I, the undersigned, The Institute for Advanced Study,  
hereby acknowledge to have received from Marie C. Eichelser,  
Executrix of the Estate of Abraham Flexner, deceased, the  
portion of the estate due me consisting of one gold clock,  
as shown by the First and Final Accounting filed in this  
matter on the \_\_\_\_day of January, 1961.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
and seal this \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1961.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Just for Flexner*

19 February 1960

Dear Dr. Richards:

As you requested yesterday, I am sending you the minutes of the meetings of the Faculty and of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study referring to Dr. Flexner's death.

Faculty meeting of October 7, 1959:

"The Director referred to the death of Abraham Flexner and paid tribute to his achievements in connection with the founding of our Institute."

Trustee meeting of October 13, 1959:

"The Director reported that the co-founder and first Director of the Institute, Dr. Abraham Flexner, had died in September. The members of the Board stood for a moment of silence in his memory, and the Director was requested to prepare an appropriate Scroll to send to Dr. Flexner's family."

The scroll sent to Dr. Flexner's daughters was actually a copy of one which was prepared by the Faculty of the Institute for presentation to Dr. Flexner on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday. I am enclosing a copy. It hardly seems that the two minutes will be of much use to you for your obituary of Dr. Flexner for NATURE, but perhaps the scroll will.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Wilder Hobson  
Secretary to the Director

Dr. A. N. Richards  
University of Pennsylvania Medical School  
Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania

Just gave Eleanor  
Jan. 13, 1960

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer

My sister Eleanor Flexner and I  
send you our warm thanks and  
appreciation for the beautiful scrolls  
engraved with a Latin inscription  
which you recently sent us, and  
which memorialize Abraham Flexner  
on the occasion of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We are very glad to have these to keep.

Sincerely yours,

Jean F. Lemmon

737 RUGBY ROAD  
BRYN MAWR, PENNSYLVANIA

February 22. 1960.

Dear Mrs. Hilson: -

I send you my  
most appreciative thanks for  
your letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> which  
gives me such information as  
is to be had from the Institute  
concerning activities by the  
Trustees at the time of Mr.  
Flexner's death.

That together with the Foreword  
to the Bibliography published  
in 1955 will satisfy my needs.

Yours very sincerely

A. N. Richards



*Just given Flexner*

BELGIAN AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

ESTABLISHED BY

THE COMMISSION FOR RELIEF IN BELGIUM

HERBERT HOOVER  
CHAIRMAN

GRAYBAR BUILDING  
420 LEXINGTON AVENUE  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TELEPHONE  
MURRAY HILL 3-1496

September 24, 1959

Mr. Minot C. Morgan, Jr.  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey

*file*  
Dear Minot:

Thank you for your telegram regarding the services for Dr. Abraham Flexner. I did not plan to attend and I have written a letter to his older daughter.

My connection with Dr. Flexner goes back to 1929 when he lectured in Belgium for this Foundation.

Yours sincerely,



PERRIN C. GALPIN  
President

PCG:M

HERBERT H. LEHMAN  
41 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

September 24, 1959

SUITE 2704  
ELDORADO 5-1182

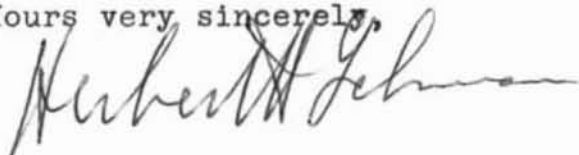
Mr. Minot C. Morgan, Jr.  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Morgan:

Thank you very much indeed for your telegram advising me that the funeral services for Dr. Abraham Flexner will be held at the University of Louisville, on September 25th. I appreciate your notification. I regret, however, that it will not be possible for me to attend the services.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Herbert H. Lehman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

*Just. Gen. Flexner*

18 December 1959

Dear Mrs. Lewinson and Miss Flexner:

At their most recent meeting, the Trustees of the Institute had occasion to take formal note of the death of your father last September. The minutes of the meeting read:

"The members of the Board stood for a moment of silence in his memory, and the Director was requested to prepare an appropriate Scroll to send to Dr. Flexner's family."

What I am sending you is not a scroll that I have prepared for this time, but a copy of one which we prepared, and which all of the Faculty of the Institute signed, in celebration of your father's ninetieth birthday. It seems to me to say well what now needs to be repeated; and I send it in the hope that the wishes for happiness which it conveys were not disappointed.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
Miss Eleanor Flexner  
1718 Army Navy Drive  
Arlington, Virginia

MRS. PAUL LEWINSON  
1718 ARMY NAVY DRIVE  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

September 27, 1946

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer

Clara and I wish to thank you and the faculties of the Institute for Advanced Study for the message of sympathy and appreciation and for the beautiful flowers which were sent to Louisville for our father's funeral.

Both our parents were very happy during their years in Princeton, and these last messages from the Institute therefore have meant much to us.

Sincerely,

Jean Flexner Lewinson

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	
NIGHT LETTER	

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E

# WESTERN UNION

1206 10-51

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise the message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	
LETTER TELEGRAM	
SHIP RADIOGRAM	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
			S. D. LEIDESDORF & CO.	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

September 23, 1959

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
1718 Army Navy Drive  
Arlington 2, Virginia

THE OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE INSTITUTE ARE DEEPLY GRIEVED  
TO LEARN OF YOUR FATHER'S PASSING AND EXTEND HEARTFELT SYMPATHY  
TO YOU AND YOUR SISTER. WE ARE ALL KEENLY AWARE THAT THE  
INSTITUTE'S EXISTENCE IS DUE TO HIS BRILLIANT INSPIRATION.  
SHALL ALWAYS REVERE THE MEMORY OF YOUR DISTINGUISHED FATHER  
WHOSE PASSING LEAVES IRREPARABLE VOID.

Samuel D. Leidesdorf  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Institute for Advanced Study

Just Gen Flexner

Marie C. Trinchieri  
40 Rhinasmith Avenue  
Midvale, New Jersey

11/16/59

Dear Sir:

at college I have been assigned to write a term paper on Abraham Flexner. In my reading I have found that he was the founder and first director at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.

I haven't been able to find much material on this man and I thought that you would have some information about this man's background and his work. So you happen to know where I could obtain a copy of his autobiography entitled "I Remember" published 1939.

I would appreciate any  
information you could give  
me. I haven't much time left  
for this paper as I have  
been searching for material  
the last few weeks.

Sincerely,  
Marie Turchetti

*Dr. Gen. Flexner*

1 October 1959

Dear Miss Mangeat:

Thank you for your letter of September 30th. Dr. Flexner died in Falls Church, Virginia, on September 21, 1959.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Wilder Hobson  
Secretary to the Director

Miss Claire Mangeat  
Policy Benefits Department  
T. I. A. A.  
730 Third Avenue  
New York 17, New York



TEACHERS INSURANCE AND ANNUITY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
COLLEGE RETIREMENT EQUITIES FUND



730 THIRD AVENUE  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

September 30, 1959

Mr. Robert Oppenheimer  
Director  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey

Re: Contract No. IA-1448  
Abraham Flexner

Dear Mr. Oppenheimer:

We are very sorry to learn of the death of Dr. Flexner.

As the sum of the payments already made under this contract exceeds the original accumulation, payments terminated with the last monthly payment preceding the death of Abraham Flexner. Therefore, the instalment payable September 1, 1959 was the last instalment payable under the contract, and the contract now has no further value.

So that our records may be complete, will you please tell us the exact date and place of Dr. Flexner's death.

*Sept 21 1959  
Falls Church  
Va.*

If you have any questions, or if we can be of assistance in any way, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

*Claire Mangel*  
(Miss) Claire Mangel  
Policy Benefits Department

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION

## TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International  
Letter Telegram

1201

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

sent 9/22/59

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
1718 Army-Navy Drive  
Arlington 2, Virginia

The Director and Faculties of the Institute for Advanced Study wish to express their deep sympathy to you and to Eleanor and through you to other members of the family of Dr. Flexner. The death of the spiritual father of this Institute brings a sense of great loss and profound grief to us all.

Robert Oppenheimer for the Faculty

cc: Mr. Leidesdorf

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

sent 9/22/59

Mrs. Paul Lewinson  
1718 Army-Navy Drive  
Arlington 2, Virginia

The Director and Faculties of the  
Institute for Advanced Study wish  
to express their deep sympathy  
to you and to Eleanor and through  
you to other members of the family of  
Dr. Flexner. ~~whose death~~ brings a  
sense of great loss and profound  
grief to us all

Robert Oppenheimer for the Faculty

The death of the spiritual father  
of this Institute

drafted by Prof. Herli, with Prof. Panofsky,  
& approval Prof. Morse.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

## TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

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from Rheinfelden, Schweiz, received 9/22/59

Flexner condolences should be sent with us everything planned. Love.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201

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9/21/59

sent to: Prof. Veblen in Maine, Dr. Lowe in Holland, Prof. Woodward  
in Oxford.

On behalf of Dr. Oppenheimer deeply regret inform you Dr. Flexner died  
this morning.

Verna Hobson

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201

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LT=International  
Letter Telegram

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sent to all Trustees, 9/21/59

Deeply regret inform you Abraham Flexner first director of the  
Institute for Advanced Study died this morning.

Robert Oppenheimer

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION

## TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201

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LT=International Letter Telegram

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Dr. Robert Oppenheimer  
Salinenhotel  
Rheinfelden  
near Basle  
Switzerland

Dr. Flexner died this morning. Wiring trustees. Two daughters survive. Consulting Professor Meritt re wire of condolence from ~~Institute~~ Faculty. but will hold to hear from you.

*sent 9/21/59*

*in your name.*

*Love*

*Verna*

Flexner daughters:

Mrs. Paul Lewinson, 1718 Army-Navy Drive, Arlington 2, Va.

Miss Eleanor Flexner, 28 Arlington Street, Northhampton, Mass.



THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA  
HOME OFFICE, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

CARROL M. SHANKS  
PRESIDENT

September 23, 1959


Dear Bob:

It was a sad thing to receive your telegram concerning Abraham Flexner's death.

Certainly, he was one of America's all-time great men, and a great proportion of his work will live on after him.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carroll M. Shanks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sincerely yours,".

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

C O P Y

23 September 1959

Memorandum to the Faculty and Faculty Emeritus:

You may wish to know that funeral services for Dr. Flexner will be held on Friday afternoon, September 25th, at 2:30, in Judge Lane's chambers in the Allen Court Room at the University of Louisville, Kentucky. They will be conducted by the episcopalian minister and President Davidson of the University of Louisville. Burial will be in Caze Hill Cemetery.

A telegram of condolence has been sent to the family on behalf of the Faculty and Director, and flowers will be sent to the funeral in the name of the Institute.

Verna Hobson

C O P Y

MONTEFIORE HOSPITAL  
New York.

October 2, 1956.

Dr. Abraham Flexner  
522 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Flexner:

In further elaboration of the letter which I wrote to Mr. Leidesdorf on the occasion of his 75th birthday, I can give you the following details. Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf, who was one of the executive officers of our Board of Trustees at the time, called on me on Sunday morning, Dec. 19, 1929, in accordance with his custom, to discuss hospital affairs. Among other things, he told me of the new Bamberger development and said that five million dollars would be made available for some important benefaction. Specifically, he asked my opinion about the desirability of establishing a Jewish medical school. I did not hesitate to tell him that a strictly Jewish medical school was not as urgent a necessity at that time as other educational projects which might be more eligible for consideration. This led to my suggestion that he seek you out as an outstanding educator and leading thinker on the subject of medical education who is universally credited with the remarkably effective reorganization of medical schools in the United States. In his characteristic perceptiveness and philanthropic spirit, Mr. Leidesdorf agreed that he must talk the whole matter with you. The actual letter of introduction to his subsequent meeting with you was placed in his hands by the late Mr. Fred. M. Stein, who was beginning his presidency of Montefiore Hospital at the time.

You can imagine the pleasure in which I heard shortly after that of your meeting with Mr. Leidesdorf, of the idea of the Institute for Advanced Study which you placed before him, of the establishment of the School and of your appointment as Director of the enterprise. I have always felt a glow of satisfaction for the part, however minor, which I played in this dramatic turn of events.

My meeting with you at lunch this noon was another pleasant experience in our long friendship and I hope that you will have many more happy years in which to enjoy the memories of great deeds productively done.

With affectionate regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

(Signed)

E. M. Bluestone, M. D.  
Consultant.