

UCCSN Board of Regents' Meeting Minutes March 4-5, 1907

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Reno, Nevada

March 4, 1907

Special meeting of the Board of Regents was held at the office of the Chairman of the Board, at 2:00 P.M., March 4, 1907.

Present Regents Smith, Sunderland and Souchereau. Absent Regents Lewers and Henderson.

Motion of John Sunderland, seconded by J. E. Souchereau, the President of the University was authorized to prepare a bill for the Legislature authorizing the Regents to sell the present Experiment Station Farm, and the purchase of other lands instead.

The President of the University was also authorized to prepare a bill granting the assent of the State to accept the Adams Fund appropriation from the U. S. Government.

The report of the President of the University on his eastern trip was submitted and ordered to be copied in the minutes.

March 4, 1907

To the Honorable

The Board of Regents

of the University of Nevada

Sirs:

I have the honor to make the following report of things done, and things to be done, during my trip, covering the time from January the 17th to March the 3rd, 1907.

This trip to Chicago, New York, New Haven, Philadelphia and Washington was taken by official order of the Board of Regents.

The report is intended to give briefly and accurately the several persons herewith mentioned, who have manufactured considerable interest in the University, which you have the honor as a Board of Regents to direct and control.

I. Mr. F. M. Smith has given to the University this year the

sum of One Thousand dollars to assist students in the Mining School. I had an interview with Mr. C. B. Zabriskie, who assured me that this amount of One Thousand dollars would be continued an indefinite number of years for the same purposes to which it is now devoted. Mr. Zabriskie also advised me to see Mr. Smith upon his return to California in April and suggest the plan of a new building for the University to be given by Mr. Smith and to be named after him.

II. In Washington, I had two interviews on different days with Senator George S. Nixon, regarding his proposition to secure gifts of a considerable amount of money to the University. He authorized me to say to the Regents that as soon as in his judgment the time was ripe, he would take the responsibility for the University from the men who have made their money in Nevada, a sum of money that would aid the University in carrying out the larger ideas in regard to its teaching force, its equipment, its buildings and its grounds. Just in what special Department of the University this money shall be applied, he will leave to the Regents and the faculty largely to determine.

III. I am not permitted to say to the Regents just now what was

said by Mr. Clarence H. Mackay. I asked his permission to state what he said to me to the Board of Regents, but he requested that I should not do it just at the present. I called his attention to several items of importance and he has taken these suggestions under advisement and will give us an answer possibly within two months.

IV. I spent most of two days at Yale University. I called on President Hadley and later on Professor A. H. Cook, one of the Professors of English, and talked with them about the type of man we wanted for the English Department of the University. The conference between us was very satisfactory, and he said he would do all in his power to assist us in getting the right man for the place. I was shown through the Mining Laboratory by Professor Huntoon, who has charge of the Department. A School of Mines has been established at Yale within the last two years, and the Mining Laboratory is the gift of John Hays Hammond. It is a very commodious building of brick and stone similar to the Mackay building. The course of study is really five years in length, three years for the Sheffield Scientific School and two years for the Mining and Metallurgical course. I was impressed with the substantial character of the buildings, both at Columbia and Yale.

The buildings are very generally of stone and brick and the inside finish of the buildings is generally of oak or Maple. I have brought with me a plan of the cabinets for specimens of ore which is the best thing I have seen.

V. I spent one day at Teachers' College, making a study of the Physical Education Department, the Horace Mann High School and the several Departments devoted to technical and Engineering training.

VI. I spent one day in New York with the Secretary of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. As the Board of Regents doubtless knows, Mr. Carnegie has established this foundation with a fund of Ten Million dollars, the proceeds of which are to be used as pensions for Teachers of Colleges and Universities. Mr. Carnegie excluded members of Universities which were governed by sectarian boards. He did not include State Universities nor did he exclude them, but left the question to be decided by the Governing Board of the Foundation. I sought to show the Secretary in this conversation that it was very doubtful whether any Legislatures of any State would make an appropriation to pension the Professors, who, by reason of old age or by reason of failing health, were

unable to continue teaching. Of one thing I was quite sure, and that is that the Universities in the smaller States, such as Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico and Arizona, would not do so. At the Secretary's request, I am to present to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, these reasons in a more formal manner.

I am of the opinion that the action of the Trustees of the Foundation will result in including State Universities within the plan of pensions. I want to call the attention of the Board of Regents to one case which I think may well be put under this plan and application made for a pension from the Foundation. I refer to Professor Thomas W. Cowgill, Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Nevada, who has been an invalid for seven years. I know of no case that should appeal to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching more successfully than this one, and I suggest that a resolution be adopted by the Board of Regents, recommending Professor Cowgill for a pension of One Thousand dollars a year from this Foundation, and that in due time, I will take steps to present his case very fully to the Trustees of the Foundation.

VII. I also called at the Office of the General Board of Education which has recently received the gift of Thirty-Two Millions of dollars from Mr. John D. Rockefeller. None of this money goes to State Universities, but is to be devoted to the education of women and men, particularly in the South, and in the East and Middle West. Nevertheless, I am persuaded that some part of Mr. Rockefeller's benefaction might come to the University of Nevada after a little while, if the Board of Regents should deem a gift from him as one that would be welcomed by the Regents and by the State. Mr. Gates of 26 Broadway is the Chief Advisor in the distribution of these funds.

VIII. Mrs. Stubbs and I visited Mr. Borglum's studio on the 22nd, and had an opportunity to study the statue of John W. Mackay. The work impressed us as a masterpiece, showing Mackay in the garb of a Virginia miner just at the moment when, with a specimen of ore in his left hand, he lifts his eyes toward the horizon as though in a vision he saw the opportunity of doing great good to his time and to his kind.

This statue is completed and ready to be sent to Reno

to the University whenever the building is far enough to
place the statue in position ready for unveiling.

Very respectfully yours,

President Stubbs

No further business, the meeting adjourned to meet at the call
of the Chairman.

Oscar J. Smith

Chairman

Geo. H. Taylor

Secretary