

Official Papers of M. Carey Thomas

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Reel 139

December 10, 1918.

Dear Mr. Jones,

I am in doubt as to what we ought to do about Professor Gray. He cabled me from England to know whether we wished him back in the second semester. I saw Dr. Anna Lingelbach, who is taking his work, and asked her whether she would be willing to give it up in order to let him return. She said that she thought it would be her duty to do so although she very much enjoyed the work and would like to keep on with it, but that she wished to retain one course, the free elective in the history of the war, which is taken by seventeen students and for which she has spent a great deal of time in preparation. She said that she would think \$350 a proper compensation for this course in the second semester, as it is one-third of the work that she is giving. I then cabled to Professor Gray to say that we should be glad to have him come back for the second semester at half salary less the \$350 which we must pay for the course that Dr. Lingelbach wished to continue. He cabled me that unless he had full work and full half salary he would not return and asked me to reply. I replied saying that as this increased our budget the matter could not be decided until the Directors' meeting on the 20th.

I scarcely know what we ought to do. The extra expense involved will be not only the \$350 but the difference between \$1000 which we agreed to pay Dr. Lingelbach, and \$1500 which we must pay Professor Gray. That is, if he returns we shall have to pay out \$850 more than if he does not return. As he left us late in the summer voluntarily, I think that the situation is a little different from what it would have been had he been drafted. I am rather inclined to think that perhaps we had better let Dr. Lingelbach finish out the year in view of our tremendously heavy expenses. The wages of our mechanics have been increased

from week to week in order to hold them and we are now paying our day laborers \$4.25 a day. I have been afraid to ask Mr. Hurst to calculate what increase this will mean for the year. The cost of food is also going up and the increase in the wages of the servants in the dormitories alone amounts to nearly \$8,000 more than we paid for the same servants last year. If we add to this the cost of the influenza epidemic our deficit will be so large that it will probably take the whole of the income of Mrs. Sage's legacy for the first year to pay it off.

I ought to add, however, that the students do not like Dr. Lingelbach very much but that they like Dr. David exceedingly, so that I think that we can worry through the year in the history department and save \$850. This on the whole is my judgment but I should be glad to have it confirmed by thee. I will of course bring up the matter in the Directors' meeting.

Very sincerely thine,

Professor Rufus M. Jones  
Haverford College  
Haverford, Pennsylvania.