Reno, Nevada
November 30, 1927

The regular full-Board meeting of the Regents was held in President Clark's Office on Wednesday, November 30, 1927, beginning at 9 o'clock, all members and President Clark being present.

Judge Brown moved that the minutes of August 31st and of September 30th be approved. Vote:

Judge Talbot            Aye
Mr. Williams           Aye
Mr. Wingfield         Aye
Mr. Pratt              Aye
Judge Brown            Aye

On motion of Mr. Wingfield, List No. 12, Regents Checks Nos. 7153 to 7167, for a total of $50,608.05, and List No. 11, State Claims Nos. 117 to 121 for a total of $3,828.75, were approved by the following vote:

Judge Talbot            Aye
Mr. Williams           Aye
Mr. Wingfield         Aye
Mr. Pratt              Aye
Judge Brown            Aye

Chairman Pratt read a letter from the Reno National Bank in re. surety bonds, after which Judge Brown moved that the Regents accept, in lieu of bonds deposited with the State Treasury any surety bond approved by the Regents and that the Regents do accept the bond of the Company mentioned by the Reno National Bank, the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland, and that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the State Treasurer. Vote:

Judge Talbot            Aye
Mr. Williams           Aye
Mr. Wingfield         Aye
Mr. Pratt              Aye
Judge Brown            Aye
At the request of Director Fulton of the Mackay School of Mines, President Clark recommended that Mr. R. M. Oliver be reemployed in the Museum of the Mackay School of Mines for the 3-month period beginning December 1, 1927, at $150 per month. Judge Talbot moved the adoption of the President's recommendation. Vote:

Judge Talbot         Aye
Mr. Williams         Aye
Mr. Wingfield        Aye
Mr. Pratt            Aye
Judge Brown          Aye

President Clark recommended the acceptance of the resignation of Charles M. Chatfield, Fellow in Chemistry, effective as of October 31st, which had been submitted to him by Dr. Sears, Head of the Department of Chemistry. Mr. Williams moved that the President's recommendation be complied with and that the resignation of Charles M. Chatfield as Fellow in Chemistry be accepted, effective October 31, 1927. Vote:

Judge Talbot         Aye
Mr. Williams         Aye
Mr. Wingfield        Aye
Mr. Pratt            Aye
Judge Brown          Aye

On the recommendation of Dr. George W. Sears, President Clark recommended the election of S. Allan Lough, A. B., Denver, 1924; M. S., Michigan, 1927, as Instructor in Chemistry, to succeed Dr. Truesdail resigned. Mr. Lough's appointment is to be effective January 1, 1928 at an initial salary of $1800. Mr. Wingfield moved the adoption of the President's recommendation. Vote:

Judge Talbot         Aye
Mr. Williams         Aye
Mr. Wingfield        Aye
Mr. Pratt            Aye
Judge Brown          Aye

President Clark recommended that the Regents, in accord with their custom subscribe for 85 copies of the 1928 Artemisia at the price of $300, each copy of the Artemisia to contain a full page advertisement of the University. Judge Brown moved the adoption of the President's recommendation. Vote:
President Clark recommended that for this year the Regents should subscribe for 60 copies of the Desert Wolf at $72 a year, or $18 a quarter, the Wolf to carry a half page advertisement of the University. Mr. Williams moved the adoption of the President's recommendation with understanding that the President should suggest to the Publications Board of the students that the Regents saw no necessity for this publication and if continued they would probably not continue to support it. Vote:

Judge Talbot Aye
Mr. Williams Aye
Mr. Wingfield Aye
Mr. Pratt Aye
Judge Brown Aye

President Clark told of Director Fulton's suggestion that exemption from the non-resident tuition charge might be made to employees or children of employees of the Mackay Companies. The Regents expressed themselves as not in favor of this plan.

President Clark recommended the acceptance of the resignation of Clarence H. Kent, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering, to be effective June 30, 1928, in accord with the request of Mr. Kent. Judge Brown moved the acceptance of the President's recommendation. Vote:

Judge Talbot Aye
Mr. Williams Aye
Mr. Wingfield Aye
Mr. Pratt Aye
Judge Brown Aye

It was the sense of the Board that the downspouts and gutters at Lincoln Hall should be repaired and installed, at an approximate cost of $700, without further delay.

Judge Talbot submitted the following motion:

WHEREAS estimates of past, present and future income, resources and disbursements for the University indicate that unless the present operating expense is reduced there will occur, to the discredit of the University and this Board,
within the next year, a large deficit in the funds available for payment of salaries, supplies and necessary expenses, and

WHEREAS the annual compensation now allowed the President, consisting of $12,000 salary, use of residence and furnishings, lights, water, heat, fuel, gas for cooking, and $1,000 for entertaining, amount to about $16,000 or $17,000, and to approximately twice the compensation paid to able Presidents of many larger State Universities, which are much better able to pay high salaries than this University, which is supported by the State which is by far the smallest in population and taxable wealth, and

WHEREAS the Legislature has been generous in awarding this University a rate of taxation which with that allowed the public schools constitutes the maximum permitted by the State constitution, and a real necessity exists for curtailment of expense in order that salaries and obligations may be paid.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that from and after this date the salary of the President of this University be $6,000 per year in monthly payments with use of the residence, furnishings, light, water, heat, fuel and gas for cooking, estimated to aggregate about $9,000 or $10,000 per year.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, unless more be specially authorized by this Board, the President shall be allowed for entertaining expenses incurred by him, for which he files itemized statements with the Comptroller, not exceeding $300 for the first half of each calendar year and not exceeding $200 for the second half of each calendar year.

Followed a general discussion, at the close of which Judge Talbot moved that this meeting and the matter pending before it be taken up beginning at 1:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, December 3rd. Vote:

Judge Talbot         Aye
Mr. Williams         Aye
Mr. Wingfield        Aye
Mr. Pratt            Aye
Judge Brown          Aye

Recessed until 1:30 P.M. December 3d.

The recessed meeting of the Board of Regents convened at 2:30
P.M. Saturday, December 3, 1927, all members being present. After a new moments of formal discussion Judge Talbot asked that the question and answer record be kept by the Secretary.

Judge Talbot -
   Mr. Gorman, what was the balance of non-Federal moneys on hand, January 1st?

Mr. Gorman -
   About $7,900.

Judge Talbot -
   Mr. Gorman, what was the non-Federal income this year?

Mr. Gorman -
   About $65,000.

Judge Talbot -
   Mr. Gorman, what has been the expenditure of the University for this year?

Mr. Gorman -
   On November 30th we had a balance in fees and tuition of $27,108.47. Taking this balance of $27,000 from the non-Federal income of $65,000 would leave $32,000 expended to October 31st, plus $183,000 State tax, equals $215,000, plus $6,000 of the 90,000 Acre Grant, equals $221,000, plus $50,000 A & M Fund, makes $271,000 in round numbers. Plus November and December claims estimated at $36,000 would make the total expenditure for the year 1927, $307,000.

Judge Talbot -
   Mr. Gorman, do you know the amount of Federal moneys?

Mr. Gorman -
   The A & M Fund of $50,000 is the only Federal money applicable to this general support fund.

Judge Talbot -
   Have we spent more than our income this year?

Mr. Gorman -
   Yes, sir, about $7,800 more than our income.

Judge Talbot -
   So we have spent $7,800 more than our income this year?

Mr. Gorman -
Yes, sir.

Judge Talbot -
Mr. Gorman, have we received $7,000 more this year than usual?

Mr. Gorman -
Yes, sir, about $7,000 from State tax account settlement on bullion tax.

Judge Talbot -
We have spent that and $7,800 more than our income?

Mr. Gorman -
No, sir (explains in detail).

Judge Talbot -
So we have spent $7,800 more than our income?

Mr. Gorman -
For this year, yes. But we have put in extra lawns, sidewalks, paving, etc. There is an excess expenditure this year of $1,500 in Lincoln Hall for new furniture and an excess of $750 for new furniture in Artemisia Hall. These items are on the biennial budget, not the yearly, and next year these items will not appear in budget. Same is true of expenditures for the Engineering Colleges. This year several large pieces of machinery were purchased, one such piece in electrical equipment cost $750 and the entire cost came out of this year's income. Another piece cost $1,500 for Mechanical Engineering and it all came out of this year's allotment, but will not appear on next year's expenditures. I estimate the extra labor on Buildings and Grounds this year at $3,000 for new lawn, sidewalks, grading around the new Library, etc. All of these items make up the extra expenditure of $7,800.

Chairman Pratt -
The $7,000 has not been expended to date?

Mr. Gorman -
No, but it will have been expended by December 31, 1927. This $7,000 was extra income for 1927 and is not used in the figures for 1928.

Mr. Williams -
As I understand it, the budget for 1928 will eliminate that?
Mr. Gorman -
Yes, sir.

Mr. Williams -
With everything eliminated from the budget for 1928 except Lincoln Hall repairs and University Farm overdraft, we should have a small balance at the end of 1928?

Mr. Gorman -
We have yet to be collected for November Farm Sales $1,530 grain sales and $261 milk sales, or $1,610. The Farm overdraft November 30 was $3,205, from which deduct the sales $1,530 plus $261, leaving a net overdraft of $1414.53 on November 30, 1927.

Mr. Williams -
What do you think actual loss of Farm this year?

Mr. Gorman -
The receipts for December will offset the labor.

Mr. Wingfield -
What is monthly labor account on Farm?

Mr. Gorman -
Mr. Hancock and 3 others - Hancock at $150 per month, 3 others at $4 per day, running from $108 to $112 per month. The November labor item was $491.25.

Mr. Wingfield -
Mr. Wilson's salary is not paid from the Farm fund?

Mr. Gorman -
No, sir. Mr. Wilson is paid from the A & M Fund.

Mr. Williams -
We were given $2,750 to offset possible losses on the Farm for the biennium and we will probably exceed that by $250.

Judge Talbot -
Mr. Gorman, what is the income from the Farm for this year?

Mr. Gorman -
On December, 1926 we had a balance of $344.74
During the year we have received 10,985.24
Total $11,329.98
Actual disbursements to November 30 14,535.51
Less 11,329.98
Leaves overdraft of $3,205.53
Less November sales not yet collected
  ($1530 grain, $261 milk) 1,791.00
Gives net overdraft on November 30th of $1,414.53

Judge Talbot -
The net overdraft then to December 31, 1927 is $1,414.53?

Mr. Gorman -
Yes, sir, substantially that.

Judge Talbot -
Mr. Gorman, is this $1,414.53 net overdraft the smallest the Farm overdraft has ever been?

Mr. Gorman -
No sir. It varies. I have it tabulated and will get it.

Mr. Wingfield -
I feel this way. If we can go on maintaining the Farm at not to exceed $3,000 a year I would feel very differently than if it were costing from $6,000 to $7,000. We have had 5 or 6 bad years and 2 good ones. I think the Farm should really break even. I think probably some livestock should be depleted just as some has already been depleted.

Mr. Williams -
We have to expect some work of experimental character to be carried on whether it pays or not.

Mr. Wingfield suggested that Farm inventory should be taken into account in any discussion of Farm finances and stated that he considered the encouragement of dairying the most important thing in this State.

Judge Talbot -
Mr. Gorman, I would like to ask you if the loss on the Farm has ever been as low as this year?

Mr. Gorman -
Yes, sir. We had a balance of $344 last year.

Judge Talbot -
It has been estimated that the Farm has lost $6,000 in 10 years.

Mr. Gorman -
I have it tabulated. I will get my figures.
President Clark outlined Committee reorganization action in re. changes in University Farm Management, stock to be carried, etc.

Mr. Gorman -
In round numbers, in 1915 Farm expenditures exceeded receipts by about $750. In 1916 we have a surplus of $85. In 1917 expenditures exceeded receipts by $2800. In 1924 expenditures exceeded receipts by $4200. In 1926 expenditures exceeded receipts by $2100. For the 12 year period 1915 to 1926 inclusive, the totals are:

- Receipts: $77,930.84
- Disbursements: $89,427.60
- An excess of practically: $12,000.00

Mr. Wingfield -
But that doesn't include what you got from the State.

Mr. Gorman -
No, sir. I have the State figures here by years. During this time the State has appropriated $119,366.61 for the Farm of which $43,000 was the purchase price and about $19,000 for barns, fencing, cottage, etc., making about $62,000 of this amount for capital account and leaving about $57,000 for operation.

Mr. Wingfield suggested that Farm could be sold for probably $60,000, making a gain of $14,000 over the purchase price. Inquired of President the number in Mackay School staff and in Agricultural College. For Mackay School there are Director Fulton, 3 Professors and 2 part-time young men, equalling 1 full-time man. In Agriculture, Dean Stewart, Professor Wilson and 1/2 time for Professor Scott.

Followed discussion regarding Dining Room and Kitchen. Mr. Wingfield thinks do exceedingly well to give food, service and replacement for cost of only $25 per month.

Judge Talbot -
Mr. Gorman, referring to my questions concerning income and expenditures on the Farm, what is your estimate there for the years 1915 to 1927?

Mr. Gorman -
Total receipts $77,930.84, total disbursements $89,427.60, leaving about $12,000 deficit in sales account.
Mr. Wingfield -
To which you should add State grants for operation.

Mr. Gorman -
Yes sir. $57,000 from the State, making a total cost of $69,000 for the 12 years' operation.

Mr. Wingfield -
Of course, there are other items in that $69,000 for purchase of stock, etc. that should be charged to capital outlay.

Mr. Williams -
There is shown a tendency to lessen deficiency during the years.

Mr. Wingfield -
I believe we should give a good check-up for a year and if at the end of the next school year we find they did go beyond a stated amount, we make final arrangements to dispose of the Farm.

President Clark called attention to the fact that we had had several dry years preceding this year and that the Farm was the last on the ditch to receive water. Judge Talbot stated the Farm had an early water right but had been at a disadvantage before regulation.

Judge Talbot -
Mr. Gorman, I understand you to say we had run behind $14,000 and that we had received about $7,000 from installment of bullion tax receipts. If we had not received this, we would have run behind $21,000?

Mr. Gorman and all -
No, sir.

Judge Talbot -
Disregarding the budget, which doesn't make us any money or cost us any money, and considering the money we have and our expenditures, you estimate we have run behind $14,000 and if we hadn't had the $7,000 extra bullion tax money, we would have been $21,000 short, wouldn't we?

Mr. Gorman -
No, sir. While we expended more than was budgeted we did not exhaust the funds in hand. We will come out in December with a small balance. We received $7,000 in bullion tax
that was not expected and we will have expended this $7,000
and in addition a balance of $7,800 we carried over from
the previous year, making theoretically an over expenditure
of some $14,000, but many of these items were made up of
biennial allotments spent the first year and which are not
included in the 1928 budget. Also extra labor on the grounds
for new lawns, new sidewalk, grading around new Library, etc.
In other words, the budget for 1928 will be reduced by a
corresponding amount.

Judge Talbot -
If we have as much income as we have had this year and if
we have as much taxable property ($203,000,000) and from
tuition practically the same amount, we cannot expend as
much as we have this year by $7,000.

Mr. Gorman -
We have $4,037 to go on according to this report.

Judge Talbot -
If we do work on $4,037, if we do not expend any more.

Mr. Gorman -
If we stick to the budget as it is printed we will not have
an overdraft. Anything expended that is not printed in
the budget will have to come out of this $4,037 reserve.

Mr. Williams -
The repairing of Lincoln Hall ($2100 entire cost) and the
building of the ditch wall seem to me absolutely necessary.
President Clark said wall estimate was $2300.

Mr. Gorman suggested that building wall is chargeable against
Permanent Construction Tax Fund, that there will be an
available balance of about $10,000 in this fund after
December 1927 taxes are apportioned. Judge Brown agreed
that ditch wall is to be regarded as permanent construction.

President Clark said that it has been customary to follow the
budget until near the close of the biennium and then if it
appears balance will be had, to make improvements which can
be covered by such balance.

Mr. Williams -
It looks to me as though, to sum up the whole matter, if
we do nothing in the way of repairs except Lincoln Hall and
the Farm overdraft, we will have a balance of $1500, unless
there are other things to be done that we have overlooked.
Mr. Gorman -
   All the urgent things have been done.

Mr. Williams -
   Paving the road in front of Lincoln Hall will cost from
   $5000 to $6000.

President Clark stated that if the money were available he could
   outline a $100,000 program of perfectly desirable Campus
   improvements.

Judge Talbot -
   With an overdraft of $1400 on the Farm this year and if we
   should run over $1400 next year, together with Lincoln Hall
   improvements, we would consume our balance.

President Clark outlined Home Economics situation whereby we
   have $2100 of additional saving.

Chairman Pratt called attention to the item of $10,000 for
   electric power for 2 years, or $5000 a year and stated that
   for this year we have already consumed $8000 of such power,
   leaving but $2000 available for next year.

Mr. Gorman -
   The $8000 necessary for the second year of the biennium
   I have protected in the 1928 estimates, the increase over
   previous estimate due to extra power required for new
   Heating Plant and the opening of Artemisia Hall.

Mr. Williams -
   Doesn't it look like if we confine ourselves to Lincoln Hall
   and not over $400 for the Farm that we will have a $1500
   balance?

Mr. Gorman -
   Yes, sir.

Judge Talbot -
   It seems to me if we repair Lincoln Hall and have as much
   overdraft at Farm as this year we would consume our balance
   and we cannot pave in front of Lincoln Hall, paint the
   Education building and cannot repair the roadway, and with
   the bullion tax decline we will have less money than we had
   this year.

Mr. Williams inquired when the 1928 tax moneys become available
and Mr. Gorman explained that during the entire year of 1928 we will be supported by taxes from 1927 valuations. Mr. Wingfield expressed opinion that valuations would be increased in 1929.

Mr. Williams -
I favor economy in every Department if we can practice it. Aren't we being held up a little bit for the privilege of training teachers in the Reno schools?

President Clark explained teacher-training proposition.

Mr. Wingfield -
I would like to express an opinion. I have no animosity toward anyone. I have formed this opinion within the last few days. If we were to cut wherever we could on little things here and there, the best I can see after going over all these figures, would be to make a saving of $10,000 to $12,000. Should that be done it might interfere with different plans that the University is carrying; to some extent it might not. I do not believe in throwing money away but should $10,000 to $12,000 a year be putting the State in jeopardy, we had better go back to the Indians. The President's salary, while I think it is a little high; however, it is there, it was put there by another Board. Living conditions have not gone down since that time. There seems to be a question which we might as well meet. Is Dr. Clark the man we want as President of the University? If not, I do not think the matter should be concealed. If he is, let's meet the situation from that angle. I do not think $6,000 a year enough for a man who has this responsibility on his shoulders. He is handling a lot of money and a lot of students, students who will be the future citizens of this State as well as of other States. I think the thing should be met right on these grounds. As far as $100 here and there is concerned, I do not think that amounts to anything at all. I wouldn't go through what we have during the last 3 or 4 days for the price paid. I'd leave town! That is the reason I wanted my auditors to go over the books. One man has been an auditor for 23 years and the other man has had a lot of experience. Neither of them writes reports to suit me. If they did, I wouldn't employ them. Their report to me shows no danger of a deficit. That seems to be the situation so far as I can see that we have to face. It looks as though the matter should be disposed of one way or another and let's go home.

Judge Brown -
The motion to reduce the salary to $6000 and to cut down the allowance gives two reasons. One is the size of the salary and its asserted comparison with other institutions. To my mind that is not a matter that ought to mean very much at this time. Dr. Clark came to us at a salary of $7500 and an expense allowance of $1000. The Board of Regents increased that salary to the present salary. He has gone on here at the University for a number of years since that increase with a majority of this Board and the University has grown in students and in material conditions and wealth. It has certainly increased its standards and acquired a reputation which is known through the University world. It seems to me that this is not the time to make a cut on a comparison with other salaries. It would be a reflection on Dr. Clark that we should ask him to accept $2000 a year less than he actually came for after all these years. We should consider if we can get a better President than Dr. Clark.

The other basis for the proposed salary cut was that we were facing a serious shortage. The figures show that that assumption was a mistake on Judge Talbot's part. We are apparently in the clear for the 1928 expenses. Mr. Brown's figures show a balance of something over $4000 with a fair probability that ... out of that $4000 reserve. We could let the retaining wall go since it could be properly paid for from the Permanent Construction Fund. There is no shortage unless we create it. There is a probable reserve at the end of the next year as shown by the investigation that has been made through the help of Mr. Wingfield's auditors, who not only supported the Comptroller's report but have enlarged it. As Mr. Williams said the other day, inasmuch as the President's salary was fixed by another Board, it should not be touched unless the budget and probable income situation make it absolutely necessary to do so. The condition Mr. Williams thought would justify a cut I feel is not shown.

Mr. Wingfield -
From things I had heard I thought this was a mad house. It is much better than I expected. It is a good idea to have this matter considered and terminated so we can put our minds on other matters.

Judge Talbot -
I have long been confirmed in the opinion that we have been paying a salary too large considering the small University, small student body, small taxable property and population which would not make much of a City in other States.
The salary of the President is far in excess of that in any similar institution even in wealthier States or compared with State Universities anywhere and considering the $12,000 and emoluments attached to it which bring it to $16,000 or $17,000, it seems to me it is very far in excess of what is being paid in any State University of similar size or number of students and that the people of the State have a hard time to pay taxes. I feel conscientiously as Regent that the burden of carrying this weight by taxpayers is excessive for small school and other States much better able to pay, pay less.

But the majority should control and those things should be considered carefully. And in regard to any probable deficit it doesn't look as bad as we expected and I am glad of that. If we don't keep up the repair of buildings and do much needed improving but instead spend the money on what I think too large a salary we may get along, but if the repairs on Lincoln Hall, ordered some months ago, had been made, we would not at this time have money enough to pay for them. We would have a deficit today. If we continue to pay this large salary to the President and if emergencies come — extra fuel, generally buildings need some repairing inside and out, and certain things happen, there might be something in the Heating Plant, we might have a fire, and I think it would be better to pay somewhere nearer the salary to the President which is in accordance with the salary paid in smaller institutions and in smaller States and still pay a reasonable salary to our President. That is the way it looks to me. I have the most kindly feelings for everybody present and am pleased that Mr. Wingfield, with his large interests in the State, is present and that he has had his auditors give him a financial report on the University.

Mr. Williams —
I stand just where I did the other evening. I said if the investigation showed a deficit, I would vote to consider the reduction. I would be very hesitant otherwise to favor a decrease in salary to take effect immediately. If I understand the situation, if we are not skimping too much on buildings and grounds, under the present budget we will have a balance of $1500 at the close of 1928. I will live up to what I said last night. If we were electing a new President, I should wish the salary decreased. I believe that the salary is too high but I am not going to vote to cut in two the President's salary, to take effect immediately, when there is no danger of a deficit. In some little minor points I
am disappointed in the President but in large matters he has always measured up. When asked by the President what the minor matters were, Mr. Williams said he considered the President had been lax in student discipline that when a student was in grave delinquency, the President had not, so far as he knew, taken proper steps to prevent a recurrence.

President Clark stated his method of dealing with offenders.

Judge Talbot -
The sentiment expressed being adverse to the motion, I withdraw it and make a motion that, effective from and after December 31, 1927, the salary of the President shall be $7500.

Judge Brown -
I make the same objections to that which I made to the former motion.

President Clark asked why Judge Talbot makes an exception against the President which is not made for staff members, since they are given 5 month's notice prior to the end of their salary years. Mr. Wingfield agreed that the President should have notice equal to that of other staff members. Judge Talbot inquired when the President's salary year began. On being told September 1st, he moved that from and after September 1, 1928, the salary of the President should be $7500 per year.

With the consent of the other members of the Board, the Chairman ordered the first motion withdrawn and the second motion placed before the Board for consideration.

Judge Brown expressed himself as against the second motion since there is no necessity to cut the President's salary at this time. In view of the growth of the University during President Clark's administration, he would consider a cut in salary unwise.

We might as well face the situation that this is tantamount to asking for the President's resignation. Things are fairly quiet and satisfactory here on the hill. All of us agree we have a man who is in large measure satisfactory. We do not know what a change would do. If, as we go through this year and the coming year, we see that we are not going to come out satisfactorily, if we see that there may be call for drastic cuts, we should then talk the matter over with President Clark, I am sure he would meet us half way. That should be our course rather than to run the risk of putting
through something which will change conditions in this University and force the resignation of President Clark.

Mr. Wingfield inquired the number of meetings in a year and President Clark gave the information.

Judge Brown -
This matter of salary has been up many times. My attitude has been thoroughly understood. I appeared before the Legislative Committee asking that the bill to reduce the President's salary should not pass. My election was based in large measure upon my stand in this matter. I do not know that I can add anything to the views I have already expressed.

Chairman Pratt -
I have been, in common with the rest, fairly bombarded regarding the salary question. Two rather prominent citizens spoke to me last night in favor of the salary reduction. I move that consideration of this motion be postponed until a later meeting.

Mr. Wingfield -
I second the motion. He later withdrew his second stating, I believe it is detrimental to the University to leave this thing unsettled. I do not see the necessity of going over this business again.

Chairman Pratt -
Since the second is withdrawn, I withdraw the motion.

Mr. Williams -
I would like to make a statement. It is my unhappy province to be the Board of Regents once every two or three years. I think the salary above the average. I do think that a State as poor as our State might reasonably establish something like the minimum salary in other institutions in our class. Mr. Clark came at $7500. We cannot ask him to accept a cut to that amount after 10 years of service. I would like to see this so arranged that he can with dignity remain. If Judge Talbot will accept an amendment to his motion, I suggest that the salary be fixed at $8000. That, together with use of house, furnishings, light, heat, water, etc. would seem to me to be a reasonable salary.

Judge Talbot -
I accept the amendment.
President Clark as mere matter of information stated house is not completely furnished, that when they arrived there was a dining room suite, a few scattered pieces of furniture for the lower floor and the rugs on the lower floor. Above stairs there was only furniture for one scant bedroom suite. He brought a carload of furniture with him.

Judge Brown -
I consider at this time any suggestion of decrease in salary is undesirable. When and if we are faced with a deficit, then we can sit down with the President and talk things over and with his cooperation make the cuts where they must be made. Until then I think we should stand where we are. If President Clark were allowed to go because of a cut in his salary, we would receive just as much criticism the other way and perhaps a great deal more. We are endangering the situation by such a movement and putting the University where there may be a serious upset. We had better pay what we think is a high price rather than upset the present situation. If the time comes in the future instead of introducing a motion to cut his salary we should begin by having a frank and fair discussion with President Clark. I do not think that time has come. If we lose him we will be subjected to much more criticism than by continuing the present salary.

Mr. Williams -
We should consider the claims of Dr. Clark to have a good salary and also the rightful expectation on the part of the people of Nevada to bear no unnecessary burdens.

Mr. Wingfield -
If we cut in all possible places we could not save more than $10,000 in all and would do this at the expense of the standards of the University.

Judge Brown -
I would say this, Mr. Williams. I think the question is, Are we going to endanger the University by making a change in the Presidency? The question is, Do we want Dr. Clark to remain here as President?

Mr. Williams -
I will answer that in the affirmative.

Judge Brown -
Then, too, I think the people of the State want Dr. Clark
Mr. Williams -
While it is desirable that President Clark remains, we should keep in mind what would be a reasonable compensation from a poor State. President Clark can certainly see the advisability from an economic standpoint of our considering what would be a reasonable salary.

Judge Brown -
It would be exceedingly poor economy to save $4000 at the risk of losing President Clark.

Mr. Wingfield -
Had the figures as presented to me by my auditors showed any necessity, I would have supported the motion to cut the salary at this time, but they show no such necessity. I would have voted for a salary of $9000. But since the figures show no danger of a deficit, I do not see the necessity for any cut.

Judge Talbot -
We would save $4000 for improvements each biennium.

Judge Brown -
I doubt that the saving is worth the chance which might mean a serious loss to the University.

Mr. Wingfield -
We would lose more than we would save.

Mr. Williams -
If we fixed it so that on our part we were recognizing Dr. Clark's ability and he on his part recognized our poverty, there would no be loss.

Judge Brown -
I say I think it is unwise that we should endanger our present situation. When a man has served for years as acceptably as President Clark has served, his salary should not be reduced. We have always been low in population and in taxable valuation. When any man has been receiving a fixed salary and his employer says to him, "Now, I am going to make a slice in your salary, I am going to cut your salary down 1/3 beginning the first of April, or the first of May next", that man naturally feels he is no longer wanted in that position. When we have a new President sometime in the years ahead, we can set his salary at a lower figure.
If you make a motion to set the salary of Dr. Clark's successor at $8000 that is one thing, but we are dealing with Dr. Clark's salary.

Chairman Pratt -
Any further discussion? Call the roll.

Vote:

Judge Talbot       Aye
Mr. Williams       Aye
Mr. Wingfield      No
Mr. Pratt          Pass
Judge Brown        No

Chairman Pratt -
The Secretary will state the result, Secretary does so.

Chairman Pratt -
The motion is lost.

Judge Talbot -
I move that, effective from and after September 1, 1928, the salary of the President shall be $10,000.

Judge Brown -
I move we adjourn.

Mr. Wingfield -
Second the motion.

Chairman Pratt -
Call the roll.

Vote:

Judge Talbot       No
Mr. Williams       Aye
Mr. Wingfield      Aye
Mr. Pratt          Aye
Judge Brown        Aye

Adjourned.

Walter E. Pratt
Chairman

Carolyn M. Beckwith
Secretary