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University of New Mexico Board of Regents Minutes for February 20, 1926

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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF THE
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Saturday, February 20, 1926, at 3:00
P. M., in the Office of the University.

Present: Messrs. Nathan Jaffa, J. A.
Reidy, A. A. Sedillo, Charles
Lembke, Mrs. Frances Nixon,
and President Hill.

Present

Upon motion of Mrs. Nixon, seconded by
Mr. Sedillo, it was unanimously resolved
that the minutes of the previous meet-
ings be approved and all actions of the
Executive Committee and of the President
of the University were hereby ratified
and confirmed.

Resolution of
Ratification
and Approval

Messrs. Jaffa and Lembke reported that
they had inspected the Library Building,
in which the steel stacks are nearing
completion, and expressed themselves as
pleased.

Inspection of
Library Building

The following memorandum of cash balances
reported by Miss Parsons was ordered made
a part of this record, to wit:

Cash
Balance

	Ref.: 67-68 (Feb. 20-26)
	Feb. 20-26)
Gen. Mtc. Fd.	2,886.55
Halls--D.H. & R.H.	
Bldgs.	
S.D. & E. Emery.	319.07
Certfcts. Dpst	
Mtc.	<u>3,205.62</u>
P.S.B. Fd.	
S.S. R.Fd.	
Breece Fd.	
Insrnc. Fd.	
Bldg. Fd.	
Bonds, US Reg	1,750.00

J. S. Parsons

Budget on
Library, Stacks,
Furniture, In-
surance, etc. for
Next Three Months

a) Library

President Hill called attention to the fact that some extraordinary expenses would be incurred or due within the next three or four months. He called attention to the fact that out of some \$60,000 due on appropriation from Santa Fe since July 1, 1925, about \$30,000 to date had been received, the figures of which have been given in preceding pages and reports of Miss Parsons. The attention of the Board was called by him, for example, to the following demands, in round numbers:

Due E. J. Marchant on contract, about
\$2,000,
Due Library Bureau on contract, about
\$4,000,
Due architect on contract, about
\$1,000,
Needed light fixtures for rooms, about
\$1,500,
Needed plans, supervision, conduits,
and light fixtures for stacks, about
\$500,
Needed linoleum for Library, about
\$1,500,
Needed furniture, equipment, about
\$5,000,
Needed sod for lawn, trees, piping,
and electric conduits around the Li-
brary Building, about
\$750.

TOTAL ADDITIONAL MONIES NEEDED (OF WHICH ACTUAL CONTRACTS ALREADY MADE CALL FOR ABOUT \$7,000) EQUAL \$16,250.

b) Insurance

Insurance for a three-year period will be due in May, and will amount to about \$6,000.

The total amounts in addition to General Maintenance, therefore, to be needed within the next four months will be not less than \$22,250.

Of this amount, there should be available at Santa Fe \$10,000 Special Appropriation for Library equipment and furniture, leaving the additional amount of some \$12,250 to be obtained.

President Hill expressed grave doubts as to whether the Summer Session, which last year had a smaller attendance and a greater cost than before, should be attempted during the coming summer, owing to the serious danger of incurring a deficit.

Reports from Miss Parsons on Halls showed the following results:

Report on
Halls

Dining Hall, Excess Costs to January
31, 1926, \$503.47

Residential Halls, Excess Returns to
January 31, 1926, 54.81

Detailed reports on campus work for the period ending February 6, 1926, prepared by Mr. Frank, were presented and ordered filed.

Report on
Campus Work

President Hill stated that owing to the inability to secure a meeting of the Board during the past three weeks, he had, with the knowledge and consent of Messrs. Reidy and Lembke of the Board, ordered paid certain bills which were due. These bills were numbered from 2245 to 2349, inclusive.

Payment of
Bills

The following bills, numbered from 2350 to 2381, inclusive, also were presented in duly certified form for the examination of the Board, and were examined in detail by Mr. Lembke.

Finally, upon motion of Mr. Lembke, seconded by Dr. Reidy, it was unanimously resolved that the bills on the table and all bills that have been paid are hereby duly approved for payment. *

A bill (numbered 2382) from the American Council on Education for \$100, one of several, repeated bills, was presented by President Hill. This bill is for institutional membership. It was informally, but unanimously, agreed that while institutional membership in the Council is desirable, it would be well for President Hill to look into the benefits actually being received by this institution

American
Council
on
Education

*Miss Parsons stated that general bills 2384 to 2395, inclusive, had also been paid.

therefrom, and that the present bill in the meantime be paid, amount \$100.00. A resolution to this effect was made upon motion of Mrs. Nixon, seconded by Dr. Reidy.

Amounts
Due
E. H. Norris,
Architect

Some confusion at the last Board Meeting came about with reference to the amount due E. H. Norris, Architect. President Hill presented the following memoranda prepared by Mr. Norris, and the total amount due (\$848.48, numbered 2383) was ordered paid. The memoranda sent by Mr. Norris are as follows:

Jan. 2-1926

Statement of account with the State University of New Mexico.

General Construction, Library, E. J. Marchant	\$42736.00	
Amount retained until completion	2000.00	\$40736.00
Roughing-in Heating and Plumbing, W. T. Cooper		1567.00
Bridgeman Elect. Co. Wiring		866.36
Strumpquist Eng. Co. Plumbing and Heating.		4549.55
M. P. Sawtelle, Contract on Radio Bldg.		4697.86
Total contracts and extras		<u>52416.77</u>
5% on the total contracts	\$2620.83	
Total commission to date paid	<u>2254.07</u>	
Leaving an unpaid balance	366.86	

John J. Etter, 162 days, 6 hrs. \$1302.00
This account of Etters paid in full by the University. to this office.

The above is a correct statement according to my records

Very truly yours

E. H. Norris/

Archt.

Jan. 12-1925

Statement of account with the State University of New Mexico.

Contract for Bookstax for library	\$16054.00
3% of the above amount	\$481.62

Yours truly

E. H. Norris/
Archt.

Feb. 1-1926

State University of N. Mex.
City.

Statement rendered \$848.48

President Hill presented in detail a record made by Miss Josephine Parsons, Financial Secretary, showing the names of every person on the payroll of the University, including with the names the function or title, and the wage or salary, to January 27, 1926.

Payroll
of
University

This list, presented by President Hill, of course has been subjected to slight changes since January, including, for example, the appointment of Clyde Cleveland, Student Assistant in English, \$30 per month, and the shifting of a laborer or two upon the Campus and in the Dining Hall.

The report was received with approval and ordered filed.

a) Statistical Report

Enrollment
and
Statistical
Report

President Hill called attention to the Statistical Study prepared by Mr. W.E. Bowman, at his request. This is the only complete statistical report of the kind issued by the University within seven years or more, and has met with much commendation, as evinced by letters from citizens and schoolmen.

The report was issued as a regular bulletin of the University, and the cost of printing (determined by requests for bids) was \$163.20. This figure includes the cost of six cuts used in the Bulletin.

b) Enrollment

A further report prepared by Miss Parsons, showing the enrollment of students at the University on a given date for corresponding years (not by fiscal years) as has been long the custom, shows that the University on February 5, 1926, exclusive of all extension students, etc., had the largest enrollment in the history of the institution. To wit:

Memo:

From Financial Secretary-Parsons

to President Hill

Subject--Comparative enrollment on February 5, of years 1920-1926, inclusive:

February 5, 1920	221 students
February 5, 1921	214 students
February 5, 1922	218 students
February 5, 1923	244 students
February 5, 1924	261 students
February 5, 1925	322 students
February 5, 1926	353 students

Signed: J. S. Parsons.
Financial Secretary

Offer from
Mr. Rodey

The following letter from Mr. Pearce C. Rodey was read and noted with approval:

February 8, 1926

Dr. David S. Hill,
President,
University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Dear Doctor Hill:

Your letter of February 5th, 1926, is received and the same appreciated.

The only conditions under which I would accept the honorarium would be to donate it as a debating prize. Perhaps I could add something to it and let the interest each year be used for purchasing a medal in debating.

My time is much taken with the conservancy work and private practice but if these debaters are willing to work late in the afternoon and at night we will try to crowd it in some way.

Please tell Miss Shepard to get in touch with me.

With kindest personal regards, I am
Very truly yours,

Pearce C. Rodey

PCR:MS

The following letter from the Chi Omega Fraternity, accompanied by a check for fifteen dollars, was received. President Hill was instructed by unanimous vote to express the appreciation of the Board for this action of the Chi Omega Fraternity, and to co-operate with them in the award of the prize.

Check
from
Chi Omega
Fraternity

Albuquerque, New Mexico,
February 17, 1926.

President David Spence Hill,
State University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

My dear President Hill:

Attached hereto is a check from the Chi Omega Fraternity, Pi Gamma Chapter, for fifteen dollars, which amount represents the prize to be donated by the Fraternity for the purpose of an award to the woman student of the State University of New Mexico, Chi Omegas excepted, who excels in economics for the academic year 1925-1926.

This is an annual prize, made in common with the custom of all chapters of the Fraternity, and hereafter will be paid to the University on or before November first of each school year.

Very sincerely yours,

Pi Gamma of Chi Omega

by Geraldine DuBois
President

President Hill announced that he had organized, and with the help of Mr. Bowman, Registrar, had successfully inaugurated the extension courses for the spring of 1926; that he had arranged with various professors to offer the said extension courses, the agreement being that they should receive three-fourths of the fees paid, and that Mr. Bowman and Professor Nanninga had made final arrangements for the use of the following meeting places down town,

Organization
of
Extension
Courses

namely:

Franciscan Hotel
Albuquerque High School
Woman's Club
Y. W. C. A.

The following courses are being offered at this writing:

Problems in American Democracy
Principles of Teaching
Beginnings of Modern English Literature
Physical Culture for Women
Spanish Literature
Chemistry of the Past Decade.

Authorization
for
Journeys

Upon motion of Mrs. Nixon, seconded by Dr. Reidy, a resolution was passed unanimously, authorizing President Hill to attend the Industrial or Commercial Conference to be held at Stanford University in March, expenses to be paid by Stanford, also to go or to send a representative to the conference of the North Central Association in Chicago during March.

Re-appointments
of
Faculty
and
Staff for 1926--
1927

President Hill called to the attention of the Board the fact that members of the Faculty and Staff were uneasy about the matter of employment for 1926-1927.

Status
of
Oil Suit

Attention was called by President Hill to the fact that the oil suit affecting the University in the Federal Court in Santa Fe is to come up about March 1, 1926. He said that in the midst of present conditions in which numerous enemies were attacking him and the Board, it was important for the welfare of education and the University to keep the eyes and minds of all citizens upon this vital matter; that we should not forget that if the action of the present State Land Commissioner stands, and if the proposed Constitutional Amendment is passed, undoubtedly the University will lose ninety-seven per cent of the expected revenues from the oil derived from its own lands presented to the State by Congress for the benefit of the University.

Letter from
Architect White

A letter from Architect White, University of Illinois, was noted, offering

to visit the State University of New Mexico in connection with any proposed plan of buildings or campus for the future. President Hill was asked to write the regrets of the Board and our inability to avail ourselves of this opportunity at this time.

At this juncture appeared Mr. Carl Magee, editor of the New Mexico State Tribune, ex-Judge M. E. Hickey and ex-Judge C. M. Botts. President Hill also sent for Mr. W. A. Keleher. Messrs. Magee, Hickey, and Botts made complaint to the Board about President Hill, stating with some unanimity that he was arrogant, autocratic, unjust to faculty members. Messrs. Hickey and Botts said that President Hill was even untruthful in dealing with members of the faculty, letters to some of whom from President Hill Hickey and Botts said they had seen.

Hickey and Botts complained that Hill had caused to be published a Statistical Study, the sole object of which was to boost himself, and which cost the taxpayers five hundred dollars, a waste of public money. Messrs. Hickey and Botts offered no proof whatever, either documentary or oral, with regard to these allegations and said that they did not care to have a written memorandum to the above effect made part of the record.

During their discourse they mentioned as complainants or witnesses Mr. John Milne, Superintendent of Public Schools, Albuquerque, Miss Isabel L. Eckles, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Professors John D. Clark and Lynn B. Mitchell on the Faculty of the University.

Botts and Hickey said that they had seen a number of letters written by President Hill to Dean Clark in the course of business, which, they thought, were harsh and even brutal.

Mr. Carl Magee stated that he was not acting jointly with Hickey and Botts, but independently and of his own accord. He said that he had been opposed to the retention of President Hill for a long

time, some three years; that he had satisfied himself that President Hill was a man most unfortunate in his contacts, and that it was Magee's determined, irrevocable conclusion that Hill must go.

Hickey, Botts, and Magee each and all admitted that President Hill had given the University an excellent administration financially, academically, and was an unusually good executive with the exception of this matter of personalities and "unfortunate contacts". Mr. Magee emphasized the fact that he had never known a more sincere man.

Mr. Keleher thereupon addressed the Board, defending President Hill, who, he pointed out, had made an excellent record in the up-building of the institution with reference to finances, enrollment, scholarship of faculty, and multiplication of buildings, which even his personal enemies, including those present, had not and could not deny. He also pointed out that with the exception of illustrative anecdotes told, no proof whatever had been produced by those present to support the allegations in regard to the points involved, most of which were matters of personal differences with various persons during the past seven years.

At a late hour, about 5:15 P. M., Messrs. Magee, Hickey, Botts, and Keleher withdrew.

President Hill was invited by the Board to make any remarks he felt inclined to express.

Replying, he said that he felt so grieved and outraged by the unjust attacks upon him that he did not feel like speaking--that he was inclined to let his record speak for itself and ~~to let his record speak for itself and~~ to trust the fair spirit of the Board, which to date had been just and generous to him.

However, he pointed in substance and briefly to these facts, namely:

- 1) That the University was in the best condition of its history when the self-appointed "committee" broke in upon

the peaceful meeting of the Board on January 2, 1926. He recalled that the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Jaffa, had just congratulated the President and the Board to this effect a few minutes before the sudden appearance of the Committee on January 2 was announced.

2) President Hill called attention to the fact that Messrs. Hickey and Botts had impugned his motives--particularly with reference to the publication of a bulletin of statistics. Judge Botts, President Hill declared, had said angrily over the telephone to Hill several years ago after Botts had had an altercation with a watchman or gardener about a picnic of his family on the Campus "That he was off the University for life". Botts was also an opposing attorney in the litigation about the heating plant. That ex-Judge Hickey is the brother of Miss Hickey, who was let out of the University five years ago.

President Hill then called attention to the facts that this group of nine persons, the "committee" of January 2, included one man who had demanded in vain a substantial contribution to the Democratic Campaign Fund; one who had been suspended; a dentist let out of the University not only because of inadequate funds but also because of poor work, and who had endeavored to have his brother-in-law made a professor; a man who had tried recently to sell the President a house; a city commissioner whom the President had opposed in the placing of a reservoir deemed unsightly and dangerous near the University, and one man who had been asked by the President to withdraw from the University because faculty members had reported that he was drinking or furnishing liquor to students. It had been reported to him that at least two of the Deans were working against him, and also an ex-employee of the University, now Principal of the local High School.

3) The University, he said, under the administration of the present Board, three of whom were original members, and himself, had grown demonstrably as to

THOROUGHGOING ORGANIZATION
 FINANCIAL VALUE
 NEW BUILDINGS
 ENROLLMENT
 SCHOLARSHIP OF FACULTY
 RECOGNITION ABROAD
 MORALE AND SOCIAL CONTROL

4) A background of this fight, President Hill said he believed, was his fight on the attempt to deprive the University of its income from the oil derived from the lands given by Congress for the exclusive use of the University. The action of the State Land Commissioner, together with the effect of the proposed Constitutional Amendment, would eventually deprive the University of about ninety-seven and one-half per cent of its legitimate revenues from the oil on its lands, he said.

5) Finally, he called the attention of the Board to the fact that practically every policy and important action of the President had been done with the prior knowledge and approval of the Board.

The Board went into executive session, which continued until 6:15 P. M.

Signed:

J. A. Reesley
 Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Regents

Date:

Feb 20 - 26