# THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES

August 4, 1941

For the confidential information

of the Board of Trustee

Record of Minutes of	Board	of	Trustees
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August 4 1941 Sheet No \$24

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming was called to order at 10 a.m., Monday, August 4, 1941. Those present were: Roll call President Linn, Mrs. Grieve, Mr. Facinelli, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Sill, Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Cope, Mr. Ferrall and Mr. Johnson. Dean Hill and Miss Moen presented the report for the Executive Board of Deans and the Executive Secretary. Appointments Mr. Johnson moved that Mr. C. E. Anderson be appointed Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Chairman of the Division at a salary of \$3,000 C.E. Anderson per year, effective September 1, 1941. Seconded by Mr. Sill and carried. The salary is to be paid in twelve monthly installments for nine months service. G.C. Higgins Upon a motion of Mr. Johnson, Dr. George C. Higgins was appointed Instructor in Physics at a salary of \$2,000 per year, effective September 1, 1941, for nine months service paid in twelve monthly installments, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried. Mr. Higgins takes the place of Howland H. Bailey who resigned. It was moved by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Sill and carried, that E. EAWIN Miss Evelyn Erwin be appointed Instructor in Home Economics at a salary of \$1,680 per year, effective September 1, 1941. This is for nine months service and the salary is to be paid in twelve monthly installments. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Deans, Mr. Facinelli moved New Inst. Engr. Drawing that an allotment of \$1,800 be set aside for the position of Instructor in Engineering Drawing. Seconded by Mr. Barrett and carried. Upon the motion of Mr. Simpson, an appropriation of \$1,100 was made

to be added to the \$700 already in the budget to cover the position of full- Full time East blockwoods time Instructor in Woodwinds and an appropriation of \$1,100 was made for the purchase of additional band uniforms. Seconded by Mr. Barrett and carried.

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Mr. Barrett then moved an additional appropriation of \$250 to be added to any balance which may be left from the Special Equipment Appropriation for the purchase of instruments for the division of Music, subject to the approval of the State Budget Officer. Seconded by Mr. Facinelli and	Purchase Instruments for Music Dept.	
carried.		
Upon the motion of Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried,		
Mr. Ferrall was appointed a committee of one to talk to Professor Willman	Band Uniforms	
regarding style and design of the new band uniforms.		
Upon the motion of Mr. Sill, Harold Kane was appointed Instructor		
in Woodwinds in the Division of Music for one year, effective September 1,	Hanold Kene - appointed	
1941. This appointment is for nine months service and the salary is	11	
payable in twelve monthly installments. Seconded by Mr. Barrett and carried		
Upon a motion of Mr. Simpson, it was voted to continue scholarships		
for C.C.C. enrollees and world war orphans. This applies to both new studen	ts Scholanships	
as well as students who have already enrolled. Seconded by Mr. Ferrall.	1	
Upon the motion of Mr. Barrett, Mr. Richard Ross was appointed Instruc-		
tor in Modern Languages at a salary of \$1,800 per year effective September 1	Bichard Ross-appointed	
1941. This salary is for nine months service payable in twelve monthly		
installments. Seconded by Mr. Facinelli and carried.		
It was brought to the attention of the Trustees that organizations and		
individuals, having no university connection, were using University dining	University Facilities for	
rooms and buildings. Mr. Ferrall moved that University property, buildings	University Facilities for University Affoirs	
and facilities can only be used for University affairs. Seconded by Mr. Johr	ison	
and carried.		
Mr. Ferrall moved that the minimum rate for spending the night in a	MINIMUM DORMITORY	
University dormitory, to be charged transients who are on the campus on	Charge	
University business, be not less than \$.50 per person for those eighteen		
years or under and \$1.00 per person for those over eighteen years of age.		
Seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried.		

Mr. Simpson moved that the Board accept the invitation of the Mayor and Town Council of Jackson to hold their next meeting at Jackson, August 11, Next Meeting at Jackson 1941. Seconded by Mr. Ferrall and carried. Then followed a discussion of a letter received from the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America asking permission to unionize University employees eli-Restaurant Employee's Union gible to membership. It was the concensus of opinion and declared as a policy of this Board that there was no need for the organization of University employees and the Secretary was instructed to so inform the Union. The Trustees were then informed that the Hitt Estate In Gillette would accept our offer of not to exceed \$10 per acre for the actual acreage if we Gillette Land Offer accepted permit them to harvest and keep the wheat crop which is on the land and ready to be harvested. Mr. Facinelli moved that this crop be released to the Hitt Estate. Seconded by Mr. Sill and carried. It was then moved by Mr. Simpson that the sum of \$385.80 for the purchase and transportation of filter material for the sterilizing apparatus in the University swimming pool be appropriated. Seconded by Mr. Ferrall Startizing for Summing For and carried. Upon the motion of Mr. Johnson, the salary rate for the coming year of Mr. Howard P. Davis, Instructor in Mechanical Engineering, was fixed at Salary H. P. Davis \$2,250. Seconded by Mr. Sill and carried. Upon the motion of Mr. Ferrall, it was voted that any balances left in Balances - See Equip Approp departmental appropriations under the \$90,000 Equipment Fund be placed in the unappropriated item which is designated "Purchasing Department for General University "quipment" to be available for reappropriation subject to the approval of State Officials. This motion was seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried. Salary H. Nichols Mr. Johnson then moved that the salary of Haydon Nichols, University Editor, be set at \$2,400 for twelve months service, effective July 1, 1941.

Seconded by Mr. Barrett and carried.	Appropriations
Mr. Barrett moved that an appropriation of $970.00$ be made to the	
Department of Veterinary Science for refrigeration repairs. Seconded by	Refrigerator Repairs
Mr. Simpson and carried.	
Mr. Barrett moved that an appropriation of \$260.00 be made for the	
remodeling of the Farm Shop in the Old Mechanics Building. Seconded by Mr.	Farmshop Remodelia
Simpson and carried.	
Mr. Barrett moved that an appropriation of \$237.00 be made for gas	
equipment installation at the Agronomy Farm. Seconded by Mr. Sill and	gas Installation-Agron
carried.	
Mr. Barrett moved that \$421.66 be appropriated for Greenhouse equip-	Greenhouse Equipment
ment. Seconded by Mr. Sill and carried.	
Mr. Ferrall moved that the request of the Library for an additional	
appropriation of \$1,627.00 for stacks be denied. Seconded by Mr. Johnson	Stacks denied
and carried.	
Mr. Ferrall moved that the request from the Library for an appropriati	on
of \$4,802.00 for an elevator be denied. Seconded by Mrs. Grieve and carrie	a. Elevator denied
Mr. Johnson moved that an appropriation of \$1,173.60, which is 60% of	
Miss Mathews' salary, be appropriated for the employment of a substitute	Mathews Substitute
while Miss Mathews is on leave of absence.	
Then followed a discussion of a request from the Albany ${}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ational Bank	
of Laramie that University funds be more evenly divided. Mr. Sill moved,	-
seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried, that the Comptroller divide as evenly	
as possible the University funds between the Albany National Bank and the	
First National Bank of Laramie.	
Then followed a discussion of Dr. Crane's letters to members of the	National Assoc. State University
National Association of State Universities. Mr. Facinelli moved that	National Assoc. State University Dr. CHANES - dismissal
Dr. Crane's letter to "My dear Colleague" and supporting papers, Chancellor	
Boucher's letter to the University and President Linn's reply to Dr. Bouche	r

be made a part of the minutes of this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Ferrall and

carried.

Copies of the papers mentioned in the above motion appear on the pages

immediately following.

49447 CURTIS 1000 INC., ST. PAUL, HARTFOR

June Thirty 1941

Mr. Fay E. Smith, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming

Dear Fay:

You may have learned that the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Universities has appointed a special committee consisting of President A. G. Ruthven of the University of Michigan as chairman, President James F. Zimmerman of the University of New Mexico, and myself "to examine into the circumstances surrounding the dismissal of President Arthur G. Crane of the University of Wyoming." This committee is to report its findings to the Executive Committee of the Association.

I have a letter from President Ruthven this morning asking me to get any evidence that can be obtained that will throw light on the printed statements President Crane sent to all of us. I am writing to you to inquire whether you care to give us any statement for the confidential use of the committee.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) C. S. Boucher

715 Ivinson Avenue Laramie, Wyoming March 31, 1941

My dear Colleague:

Our profession has often been called a hazardous occupation. I am the latest casualty to prove the rule. Like little Orphan Annie's goblins, the politicians will get you if you don't watch out. In fact, they may get you even if you do watch out. For nineteen years I have fought a small band of hungry politicians. My nine predecessors' average tenure was less than four years. Combination of political mishaps has given the gang trump cards in a Governor whom they can manipulate. I am out and strangely enough the first reaction is one of relief. It is a novel experience to be a private citizen and to enjoy a private citizen's freedom.

Thinking you may have more than mere passing interest in my case, I am enclosing a couple of re-prints. The editorial by MacPherson is typical of a scrap book full of similar comment appearing in Wyoming press. I shall miss you with whom I have been associated so long, but hope to occasionally look in on you and note the harried look upon the faces of men who carry 49447 CURTIS 1000 ING., ST. PAUL, HARTFORD

the burden of democratic institutions.

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) A. G. Crane.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Sat., March 22, 1941

# "POLITICAL AND OTHERWISE"

"The Wise Can Learn Many Things from Their Foes"

By R. F. MacPherson

"The day's mail brings a letter from a Cheyenne friend of the University of Wyoming which contains this paragraph--

'I am anxious to hear your version on Dr. Crane's dismissal--that's positively tragic.'

A visitor from outstate who was here Thursday said he hoped 'you will get at the facts about the university upheaval and print every one of them'.

This will all come in time. For the present we are listening to what persons closely associated with the university and others who are expressing their opinions are saying. There's a big story there--not a pleasant story, we fear, and when all the jigsaw pieces of the plot are assembled the story will be told.

For the present there is one minor angle to this university purge business that should be noted before more startling developments obscure it. This is the 'economy' angle-the talk about economy which the state administration uses so often to divert attention from things which it wishes to go unnoticed. Oh, Economy, what injustice is done in thy name.

About a year ago the governor came out with the startling announcement that he had discovered overdrafts in university accounts. Although these overdrafts (temporary shortages in the building fund until revenues came in) had been mentioned in the state examiner's report from year to year and were familiar items to the state legislators.

But these overdrafts were dragged out about a year ago as a new discovery and presented as a reflection on the integrity of the university administration. The purpose was, of course, to discredit the president, Dr. Crane, and to serve as an excuse (not a reason) for his removal.

This was more than a year ago. Was there such an audit? If not, why not? And if there were, why was not the same publicity given its findings as were given to the accusations.

Of course there was nothing wrong with university accounts, as all informed persons well know. In fact, there were surpluses in accounts of most university departments at the time. But politicians had to find an excuse for taking over the university and this cloud of doubt and suspicion served as an "opening wedge".

But this hint of overdrafts and inexpert financiering introduced the 'economy' issue. The inference was that the university was in a bad way and that there must be a tightening of the purse-strings.

What was done? The salary of the president (whom the politicians were out to get) was cut \$2,000 a year. This bold stroke at economy was supposed to balance the budget of an institution that spends well over a million dollars a year. 49447 CURTIS 1000 IN

The presumption was that the president, when his salary was slashed would resign, But Dr. Crane fooled them on that point and stayed with the institution that is a monument to his life's work.

But we're talking about 'economy'. Economy here worked out as it has everywhere else under the present state administration.

After the president of the university was shorn of his administrative powers, and his salary cut, the politicians created a new university officethat of comptroller -- at a salary somewhere around double the cut in the president's salary. So instead of decreasing the university's financial burdens, the politicians increased them. (We are not criticizing the comptroller idea. Such a reorganization had long been recommended by Dr. Crane.)

We do not know what is behind the dismissal of Coach Blanchard--employed by a state administration-controlled board one year ago. But we do know that the administration had a moral obligation to Mr. Blanchard whom it took out of a good, steady, wellpaid position a year ago and made him university football coach, only to fire him 12 months later.

So what? A new position is created on the faculty, a new dean is appointed, presumably at a respectable salary. Under the circumstances, what could the administration do but take care of Mr. Blanchard?

But the creation of two new jobs--comptroller and dean of students-somehow nullifies the administration's claim that university finances are in a mess and that the situation calls for economy."

#### "DR. CRANE MAKES A STATEMENT"

"Throughout the protracted controversy between Governor Smith, the Board of Trustees and myself, I have refrained from making public statements, but now I feel that Wyoming citizens have a right to expect some statement from me. A dangerous situation demands a warning.

# Why Did I Not Resign?

I knew two years ago that the governor and the appointees on the board in 1939 were hostile to me. I knew that the appointments in 1941 would be hostile to me, and that inevitably majority control of the board would rest in March, 1941, with the governor. Every device was used to induce me to resign, including a wholly unjustified reduction in salary. On March 27, 1940, the trustees offered me a one-year continuation of contract. I asked for ten days time to consider my decision. During that time a letter from the governor reached my desk ordering the contracts of 11 leading members of the faculty held up. When this list, commonly called the "purge" list, was received, I immediately accepted the contract in order to do what I could to avert a catastrophe to the institution. In my acceptance I said, "laying aside all personal considerations, I feel that I can still be of service to this institution in these critical times." Contracts for "purge members" and all others were approved for that year at least. I believe that my battle has helped to avert catastrophe to the institution up to this time and I hope that it may be a deterrent in the future. I remained in and took the count because the issue is more than personal. The issue is the integrity and welfare of the University, is the defense of educational ideals. I could not retreat in order to save myself work, worry and humiliation. A clear professional conscience is worth more than a contract.

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WHY?

People of the state are properly asking why did the trustees take such drastic and unusual action? No satisfactory answer has been given to me or to the people of the state. To me the reply has been that no charges were contemplated or would be made beyond the unsupported charge of "serious differences in policy," No bill of particulars has been furnished. The plausible explanation is that control of this institution is desired by the ruling administration for purposes with which it is believed I would not be in accord. Evidence supports the current charge that dictatorial control of the University by the resent state administration is desired for political reasons, that it is planned to use the positions of the University for political and personal patronage.

The insecurity of political appointments is in direct conflict with the security that comes from the merit policy, and the attitude of employees of the two plans are directly opposed. One promotes concentration upon effective, scholarly service. The other demands employees' allegiance and attention to political service. One policy leaves scholars free to study and teach the truth. The other policy englaves the teachers to partisan objectives. The injection of political purposes into an educational institution breeds conspiracies, favoritism, cliques and cabals, distrust and discontent.

If "serious differences in policy" means control of this institution for political and personal purposes, then Grane was in the way. He not only had to be fired but if possible discredited.

## LOOK AT THE RECORD

In a controversy such as this, every effort should be made to get at the plain, undisputable facts. What is the record? The enrollment of college students has advanced from 702 in the academic year 1922-23 to an estimated total for the present academic year of 2,285. Buildings have increased from ten to 25. Investment in plant at Laramie has increased from \$1,506,300.00 to \$3,731,484.00. The institution has come through ten years of a severe depression and carried an increasing load without any corresponding increase in funds.

## THE LIVING UNIVERSITY

Although the above evidences of growth are the ones most often cited because they are the most obvious, they are not the greatest accomplishment. The greatest achievement is the getting together and holding a scholarly progressive staff, the living University. For years the University of Wyoming was used as a spring board for faculty people to jump from. Consequently, the annual turn-over in faculty each year was high, 26 percent in 1922 and only 8 per cent in 1939-40. When a institution does not hold the new additions to it's staff two things happen. First, the better prepared, the most competent, the more progressive members jump first beacuse they have more opportunities, and second, the less desirable members remain. Both results combine to lower the quality of the institution's service.

#### LEADERS ARE LEAVING

When I came to Laramie I defined my job as that of creating and maintaining conditions such that other people could work happily and effectively. Throughout the years I have adhered to this policy in the endeavor to make

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Wyoming a happy place for members of the staff. That this has been accomplished is evident from the above figures and from the fact that this was achieved in the face of average salaries lower than that paid in competing institutions. Today the picture is not so bright. Some strong leaders have already left because the situation is not happy. Others are seeking to leave.

# QUALITY RECOGNIZED

<sup>A</sup> further proof of the improved quality of service is shown by the recognition granted the institution by standard accrediting agencies of the United States. During the 19 years the institution has been recognized by the Association of American Universities, by the honor scholarship societies of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi and Phi Kappa Phi, and by a score of lesser scholarship organizations. The approval of these societies is made in accordance with strict standards and after complete examination of the institution. Its faculty scholarship, the achievement of its alumni, its equipment, its morals, are all taken into account. Wyoming University is today recognized as a state university of high grade.

## MERIT HAS BEEN THE RULE

In selection and retention of employees in any and all departments of the University, the rule of merit has been rigorously applied. Men have been chosen and retained for the quality of their scholarship and of their service, regardless of politics. The steady, continuous, fearless application of the merit policy has gradually built up for Wyoming a faculty of high professional rank. This policy is now threatened with the effort to make the institution subservient to a small political clique in the state house and in Laramie. 'This threat does not come from the Republican party, of which I have been a life-long member, but from a small clique seeking personal power and influence.

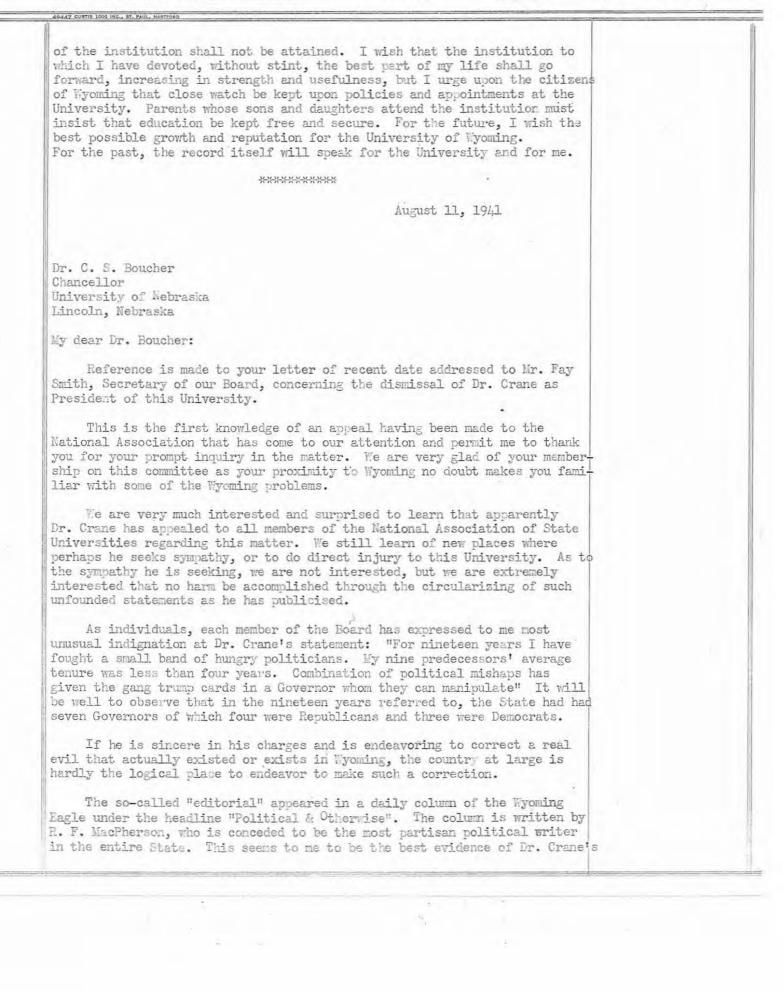
# ALL EMPLOYEES GIVEN FAIR HEARING

In the enforcement of the merit rule, the policy of good business everywhere has been followed in that any employee of the institution who was not to be retained was first of all given the specific reasons for his release. The truth of these charges was then established by evidence, and any employee desiring it was given a hearing upon appeal to higher officers of the institution which in some cases extended to the president's advisory committee and finally to the board of trustees. This guarantee of charges, proof and hearing has been steadily maintained.

## NO HEARING GIVEN CRANE

In my own case no charges have been made. Consequently, there has been no opportunity for attempted proof or refutation. I have been given no hearing. The matter of my case was determined in star chamber "executive session" from which I was excluded. The only result made known to me was the sentence of summary discharge. Instead of permitting the completion of my term of service and declining to renew it, I was summarily discharged. This action, I believe, was deliberately, maliciously, designed to defame and destroy my reputation as a professional man.

I hope the institution shall continue to serve the welfare of the state to which purpose I dedicated myself 19 years ago and that political domination



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attempt to make political matter out of non-political matter.

The Board of Trustees is composed of nine members. They are appointed by the Governor of the State and confirmed by the State Senate. Each holds office for a term of six years. Three are appointed each two years. The Governor, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the President of the University are ex-officio members of the Board under the laws of Wyoming. Such members have the right to speak upon any question, but have no vote.

The Board is now and has always been composed of representatives of both major political parties. The party in power usually retains a majority of members of its party affiliates upon the Board. Right or wrong, both parties have always followed this procedure. To the best of my knowledge it has never been abused.

The Board under the State Constitution is charged with administering affairs of the University. The Board has full power to engage or discharge. No employee under the Constitution has any tenure of office beyond that for which he is elected or appointed.

Action was taken after prolonged and serious deliberation. In January 1940, the Trustees decided that Dr. Crane's contract should not be renewed at its expiration June 30, 1940. He was so notified by a committee of three, two of whom were his close personal friends. He then asked for additional time in which to determine his method of retirement. He further advised the Board that in approximately thirty days he would ask for a meeting of the Board to convey to them his decision. The Board waited in vain for his request for a meeting. Instead of notifying the Board, he undertook a campaign against the Board and State Officials, enlisting the aid of politically minded editorial writers, some labor unions, luncheon clubs and student factions. Even then the Board consented to renew his contract for one additional year. However, on March 17, 1941, relations between Dr. Crane and the Board became so intolerable, he was removed from further responsibility and his services immediately paid for to the termination of his contract.

In the opinion of the Board, and I believe the majority of the citizens of the State, the reasons given for the termination of Dr. Crane's contract are certainly ample. Further they have been proven by Dr. Crane himself. I quote the first paragraph of the resolution taken from the minutes of March 17th, 1941.

"Serious differences on policy having arisen between the President, Dr. Crane, and this Board, it appearing to be to the best interests of the University to terminate his tenure of office with the University, the Board hereby terminates his services," etc.

What action did he then take? He attacked the University through Wyoming press releases, the circularizing of the National Association with the material accompanied by his letter and by securing publication of his letter in "School and Society". Such action could not correct any internal situation such as he charges exists.

Dr. Crane further charges: "It is planned to use positions of the University for political and personal patronage." Since Dr. Crane has been out, thirteen appointments have been made to the instructional staff. All thirteen of these came from without the State of Wyoming, politics unknown.

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No person from within the State of Wyoming has been appointed to ANY office in the more than four months which have elapsed since Dr. Crane's dismissal. There is one exception, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Ambrose voluntarilly resigned to accept a position paying almost double that which yoming could pay. At his urgent request he was permitted to assume his new duties without the usual time to acquire a new man. His successor was a man who for many years had been a resident engineer of the City of Laramie, recommended by many of both political parties and today, I daresay, there are not two members of the Board who even know the new Superintendent's politics.

Does this indicate political patronage? Politics do NOT dominate the Board at Wyoming University. Every member of this Board vouches for this statement regardless of political belief.

Dr. Crane has charged that his dismissal was "deliberate, malicious, designed to defame and destroy reputation," etc. He did his best to provoke a newspaper controversy which could have but two results: I. Injury to the University. II. Injury to Dr. Crane's professional career. We submit as proof that we did not wish to injure him the fact that we refrained from making any public statements.

A detailed denial of newspaper charges is of no value, however, it should be of as much value as the charges. It is not difficult for anyone, much less the President or Ex-president of a State University, to have matters of such nature printed, especially, where in some quarters any attack can be and usually is construed as political capital.

As the matter stands all members of the Board have refrained from comment and no statement has appeared, even though it was justified and in many instances demanded.

The endeavors of every member of our Board were, and are, for the best interests of the University of Wyoming. We shall continue to strive to accomplish the right, as we see it, for the youth ofour State with all the resources at our command.

If we can be of further service to your Committee, may I have the pleasure of hearing from you.

I am

Cordially.

(Signed) Ralph S. Linn, President Board of Trustees.

Mr. Ferrall then moved that the Comptroller be instructed to issue a warrant payable to Dr. Crane in the amount of \$3,000, and since the Comptroller has requested it, the wording to appear upon the voucher should be "as per Dr. Crane Issued resolution passed by the Trustees of the University of Wyoming at their Neet 3,000 Warmant ing held March 17, 1941, terminating the services of Dr. A. G. Crane. This

Record of Minutes of

Up Instruct Ifecti In twel Th	ctor in Mechanical Engineering	and carried. n, Mr. Herbert F. Knauer was appointed ng Drawing at a salary of \$1,800 per yea salary is for nine months service payab	
instruc effecti n twel Th	tor in Mechanical Engineerin	ng Drawing at a salary of \$1,800 per yea	ar,
effecti n twel Th	ve September 1, 1941. This		
n twel. Th		salary is for nine months service payab	Je
Th	ve monthly payments.		110
laced	en followed a study of cand	idates for the Presidency, fifty names w	iere Presidential Candidates
	before the Board. After dis	scussion it was agreed that the followin	g
hould	be called for an interview H	before the Board at the next meeting to	be
eld at	Jackson, August 11, 1941.		
Dr Dr Dr Dr Dr	<ul> <li>C. S. Boucher, Chancellor,</li> <li>William R. Chedsey, Direct</li> <li>Paul Essert, Superintender</li> <li>Robert W. Miller, Professo</li> <li>James Lewis Morrill, Vice-</li> </ul>	tor, Missouri Schol of Mines at of Schools, Grosse Point, Michigan or of Law, Syracuse University -president, Ohio State University	
		ett, seconded by Mr. Sill and carried, t	
		nt office be replaced in the hands of th	
		and that Miss Justine Gentle be re-engag	ed
	stant at a salary of \$1,620,	, C (.	
Me	eting adjourned at midnight.		
		Fay E. Smith Secretary.	-
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