

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES

December 14, 1931

For the confidential information
of the Board of Trustee

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming was called to order by President Lynn at 10 o'clock a.m., Monday, December 14th. Mr. Bond, Mr. Geddes, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Holliday, Mrs. Oviatt, Mrs. Embree, Mr. Morgan, Governor Clark, Mrs. Morton and Dr. Crane were present.

Roll Call

The minutes of the September meeting and for the intervening meetings of the Executive Committee were approved as read.

Mr. Bond and Mr. Smith reported on their efforts to secure payment of burglary insurance covering our recent robbery. Mr. Smith was instructed to secure an estimate on the repair of the old safe as soon as possible in order to complete the settlement with the bonding company. This motion was made by Mrs. Oviatt, seconded by Mr. Elliott and carried.

Dr. Crane then read a very complete and detailed report covering the recent student strike, the events leading up to the strike, subsequent happenings, and the efforts of the administration toward final settlement. This report is too voluminous to appear in these minutes, but has been placed with the permanent records of the Trustees covering this meeting.

Student Strike

The Board then adjourned for lunch. At 2 o'clock the same day they reconvened with the same members as at the morning session.

The first order of business was to receive a committee of students who wished to appear before the Trustees in order that they might

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have a hearing and present to the Board direct their side of the matter pertaining to the strike. The committee was composed of the following:

Chairman, Howard Corpening	-	Saratoga	-	Senior	-	Law School
Eugene Cross		Rawlins		Senior		L. A. - L. & S.
William Holland		Buffalo		Senior		Law School
Percy Cooper		Casper		Senior		L. A. - L. & S.
Patrick Quealy		Kemmerer		Junior		L. A. - L. & S.

Mr. Corpening addressed the Board outlining the situation. He then called on the following eleven students as witnesses who offered evidence in support of the student claims:

Alma Porter	Worland	Senior
Francis Tanner	Big Piney	Junior
Clara Tatting	Burley, Idaho	Freshman
Luella O'Connell	Chadron, Neb.	Senior
Gerald Gibson	Cheyenne	Senior
Lucille Mullens	Cheyenne	Sophomore
Bennett Wills	Parco	Sophomore
Lottis Svenson	Laramie	Freshman
Everett Gardner	Rawlins	Junior
Glydamae Burbank	Laramie	Junior
Charles Bradford	Sheridan	Senior

After the witnesses had withdrawn members of the student committee were offered the floor and permitted to address the Trustees.

At six o'clock the Board adjourned to reconvene the following morning at 9 a.m., Tuesday, 15th. Mrs. Grieve arrived by airplane from Casper making the roll call complete.

There was a general review and discussion of the situation. at 10:30 a.m., the above mentioned student committee again appeared before the Trustees and President Crane read much of his report and then addressed the student committee with a further exposition of the situa-

tion in which the strike had placed the University. Secretary Smith was requested to read the ultimatum which the students had presented to the President at 11 o'clock a.m., Monday, December 7th. Each member of the student committee was again given the floor and permitted to address the Board.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 1 o'clock p.m., meeting was again called to order at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday.

A lengthy discussion covering all of the evidence submitted was the first order of business.

Mr. Holliday moved, seconded by Mr. Morgan and carried, that Governor Clark, President Crane and President Lynn, meet as a committee to prepare a statement to be released to the press which would be the decision of the Board in this controversy.

While this committee was out Secretary Smith presented the State Examiner's report and findings of his recent examination of the business office which was approved and signed by members of the Board as required by statute. Following is a copy of our acknowledgment incorporated in the minutes as required by law:

Honorable John A. Reed
State Examiner
Capitol Building
Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Sir:

The undersigned, constituting a quorum of the Board of Trustees, of

State Examiners
Report

Wyoming State University, Laramie, Wyoming, beg to acknowledge receipt of a copy of the report of examination submitted to you by Examiners from your office at the close of business June 30th, 1931, and August 31st, 1931 and pursuant to law, transmitted in due course for your information and consideration.

We have carefully considered this report and concur with the Examiner in his suggestions, and have requested the officials to make the necessary corrections in compliance therewith, to-wit:

The Trustees of the University are appreciative of the excellent and exhaustive examination which the office of the State Examiner has just recently completed. It is the most complete and detailed examination the University has ever had. All of the suggestions that the State Examiner has made for the improvement of the University will be adopted as soon as possible.

A copy of this acknowledgment has been placed on record with the minutes of our meeting on the 15th day of December A.D., 1931.

Signed: Will M. Lynn
Wallace C. Bond
Fred W. Geddes
F. A. Holliday
Mabelle G. Oviatt
Harriett T. Grieve
J. A. Elliott
N. D. Morgan

At six o'clock the Board adjourned until the following morning, Wednesday, the 16th, at 9 a.m., the Board reconvened with the same members present as at the previous session with the exception of Mrs. Morton.

Upon the motion of Mr. Bond the brief prepared by the above mentioned committee was approved and authority granted to release it to the press with the proviso that if in their judgment the committee wishes to do so extracts of the President's written report may be published also. Upon the motion of Mr. Bond it was voted that the statement as read by the President of the Board be adopted as the official expression of this Board. This motion was seconded by Mr. Morgan and unanimously carried.

UNANIMOUS ACTION OF WYOMING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming has carefully reviewed and studiously considered the very complete report of President Crane regarding the recent disturbance at the University, the twenty-four hour strike and the preceding events and has heard all of the evidence submitted by the student body through the student representatives.

The Board is convinced that the difficulties arose largely out of misunderstanding regarding certain campus customs and the misinterpretation of President Crane's statements. The Board believes that in the publicity the incidents were greatly exaggerated and realize that there was no intent to charge any individual student with immorality on the evening of December 4th. President Crane's written statement to the Board is that he intended to convey only the meaning that by their actions they were throwing themselves open to grave suspicion, adverse comment and misunderstanding, and that he wished to show emphatically his condemnation of evils associated with these practices.

There has been heretofore no regulation against the students leaving social functions during intermissions but the Board does emphatically disapprove the practice of travel from entertainment halls to parked automobiles believing that, although the large majority of students follow this practice innocently as an accepted custom, it is not desirable or necessary and exposes those doing it to suspicion and adverse criticism. The Board will support all reasonable measures to mitigate and eliminate this practice as well as the practice of drinking and petting which sometimes accompany what otherwise would be innocent practices.

It appears that, on the evening of December 4th, there were no discourtesies to the President or Faculty although some discourtesies did follow later in the heat of the strike. While the report of the President and the evidence presented by the students indicate that the moral standards of the student body of the University of Wyoming are no less meritorious than those of other universities, yet the Board commends very highly the desire and activities of President Crane to raise and maintain higher standards of social training and life upon the campus of the University.

The Board is of the opinion that the students have been subjected to similar destructive influences as has youth throughout the Nation. The Board believes that such conditions are the local expression of more general and universal conditions and that this and other educational institutions should set themselves seriously to the correction of unwise and injurious practices.

The Board approves the appointment of a combined faculty and

student committee and to further investigate conditions and devise ways and means of correcting questionable customs and expects that the resulting constructive measures will have the wholehearted support of all members of the faculty, of the students, of the City of Laramie, and of the State of Wyoming.

The Board positively condemns student strikes as a means of securing redress of grievances because the way is and has been at all times open for orderly appeal to the President of the University or to the Board of Trustees.

The Board unequivocally condemns all forms of University disloyalty, disturbance, agitation, unfavorable propaganda, and unwarranted publicity which disrupt orderly student growth and development.

President Crane then mentioned the conference between himself, Mr. Elliott and Dean Rhoads. President Crane informed the Board that he had assurance of the active cooperation of Dean Rhoads with the policies of the administration and that with this in mind the recommendation of the President as expressed in his written report requesting the release of Dean Rhoads was withdrawn.

Dean Rhoads

At this point the Board adjourned for lunch to reconvene at 1 o'clock.

The Trustees enjoyed a very interesting report from Mrs. Oviatt covering her attendance as our delegate at the annual meeting of the Association of Governing Boards of State Universities and Allied Institutions which was recently held at the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Bond and Mr. Smith then informed the Board of our need for additional burglary insurance which would also cover day-light holdup and robbery of our messenger. Upon the motion of Mr. Holliday, seconded

Insurance

by Mrs. Grieve and carried, Mr. Geddes, Mr. Bond and Mr. Smith were appointed a committee to obtain such insurance as they think the University needs at a cost not to exceed approximately \$500.00 per year.

There being no further business the Board adjourned, sine die

Adjournment



Fay E. Smith
Secretary