Editor, The Daily Maroon,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen:

My attention was called today to an article in the Cap & Gown for 1910 by Theo. M. Hammond in reference to the Chicago yell. On two occasions I have seen in the Daily Maroon reference to Mr. Hammond being the author of the Chicago yell and I had planned to correct this statement, but have let it pass by until today it was pointed out to me that the Daily Maroon had gotten its information from the Cap & Gown. I dislike very much to go contrary to Mr. Hammond's ideas on the derivation of the Chicago yell, but it seems to me only just that the facts be known. The basis of the Chicago yell was evolved by myself and I have the original copy on the cover page of my scrap book for 1892-93-94-95. At the meeting referred to in Mr. Hammond's article I submitted three yells all of which are on this original card. As Mr. Hammond states I was in charge of the meeting but it was not known at that time that I was the originator of the yell which was adopted, and I have only occasionally mentioned the fact during the past eighteen years. The yell which I submitted is as follows:

"Chica-chica-chica-go-go
Go it chica, go it chica
Go it Chicago."

I remember very well a few days later that Professor MacClintock, who did not know I was the author of the yell, stopped me in front of Cobb Hall and protested against the use of the "it" in "Go it chica" as being bad English and unnecessary to the rhythm. I confess that at the time I felt embarrassed by the criticism and I am quite sure that this had some influence on my not claiming the authorship. Furthermore from that time I used my influence in getting the "it" dropped from the cheer, and the yell was not used very long in its original form. The addition of the syllable "go" to "Chica" I believe to have been evolved in the process of the cheering.

Sincerely,
Gentlemen:

My attention was called today to an article in the Chicago Tribune of Thursday, June 13, 1910, page 10, column 1, by Mr. Hamilton, in which he has seen a tendency on the part of the Daily Chicago News to make too much of the Daily Messenger and the Chicago Daily News. He claims that the Chicago Daily News is the best newspaper in the country and that the Daily Messenger is of no importance.

Mr. Hamilton is quite mistaken in his statement. The Daily Messenger is the best newspaper in the country, and the Chicago Daily News is of no importance. In my opinion, the Daily Messenger is the most efficient and the Daily News is the least efficient of the two.

I have been associated with the Daily Messenger for the past 20 years, and I can testify to its efficiency and its ability to meet the needs of the community. The Daily News, on the other hand, has been a failure from the start.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]
January 15, 1910.

Vallee Orville Appel,
Chicago, Illinois.

My Dear Mr. Appel:

I have your favor of the 13th regarding the original manuscript of the Chicago yell. Responding to this request I do not believe there is enough of a story connected with this to make particularly interesting matter for the Cap and Gown. I have not the original manuscript of the yell, as I believe it was originally written on the back of an old envelope which I had in my pocket at the time. The facts in the case are as follows: On Saturday, October 1, 1892, the first chapel service was held in the chapel in Cobb Hall, and at that time a call was made for a mass meeting of students in the lecture room on the first floor of Cobb Hall on that same afternoon. The meeting was held with about forty people present. Prof. Stagg presided and stated the object of the meeting, and requested the assistance of Jesse D. Burks, now of Philadelphia, and a blackboard was mounted on the rostrum and as the different yells were submitted Mr. Burks wrote them on the blackboard and acted as presessor while they were tried out. I had prepared perhaps half a dozen different yells, which were in due course presented along with some fifteen or twenty others which were submitted by different members of the student body and faculty who were present. There seemed to be something lacking in practically every yell submitted, and the one finally adopted and which is now in use was suggested to me by one of the others which was submitted, and embodied some changes in it which seemed to improve it and make it acceptable to those present. It was not at all one of the yells which I had originally prepared and submitted, but was, as stated above, one which was inspired by the occasion and by some other yell which had been submitted by someone else, I do not now know who. The yell as adopted at that meeting was slightly different from what it afterward became in practice. The first line of it instead of being "Chicago, Chicago, Chicago, Go", as now given, was as follows: "Chicago, Chicago, Go, Go, Go," and it was so adopted. Some weeks afterwards in listening to the yell at a football game I noticed that it had been transformed into its present shape, which is a little more mellifluous than it was as originally presented and adopted, and I am sure I cannot tell who was responsible for the change.

Under these circumstances, I do not exactly feel like claiming the credit for the Chicago yell as now in use, as the first draft of it was merely a change from another one which had been submitted, and as the yell as adopted has since been slightly changed, and I trust you will see the entire appropriateness of my modest position in the matter. If it were true that I had originally written and submitted the yell just as it was adopted and afterwards became a part of the University life, I should feel disposed to write up the story for the Cap and Gown, but I fear
that if I should do so someone else would be apt to bob up with a counter claim of originality, and thus start a possibly unpleasant dispute as to priority of claim to the yell.

If you really want to publish in the Cap and Gown something which would no doubt be interesting to the student body, I would refer you to the following fact, which can be easily substantiated by records. On the afternoon of August 31, 1892, I succeeded in getting my desk moved into Cobb Hall from the temporary offices of the University, which had been in a flat building on 56th St., and the desk was set up in what was to be the Registrar's and Steward's office on the first floor. For many months Dr. Harper had been vigorously prophesying that the new buildings would be occupied officially by September 1, 1892, but nobody had believed such a thing to be possible. Late on the evening of August 31st, however, we succeeded in getting this desk moved in by carrying it across some planks which spanned an abyss, afterwards the entrance to Cobb Hall, and that evening by the light of a tallow candle I wrote a letter to Dr. Harper, dating it from the University of Chicago, and calling his attention to the fact that the University of Chicago was now officially in operation and that this was the first official communication ever written and sent out from within the walls of the new buildings. The letter is still in the archives of the University and could no doubt be procured for publication, if you wanted it. It would seem to me that this would be a more interesting document to publish than the manuscript of the college yell.

In referring to the college yell, however, it might be interesting also to note that the University colors as first adopted by a meeting of the students were a shade of yellow known as golden rod, and the first meetings of the students and the first athletic games were enlivened by banners and streamers of this yellow instead of the maroon, as adopted some months later.

Trusting that this information will be of service to you, and assuring you that I shall be pleased to furnish anything further that I might be able to at any time, and with best wishes for the success of your enterprise, I remain,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Theo. M. Hammond.
President Harry Pratt Judson,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Dr. Judson:

It seems to me that I certainly have a grievance entitled to some consideration. When I appeared the other evening as a guest of the Alumni Association at the University, my attention was called to an article in the Maroon of the 14th inst., written by Mr. Stagg, in which he made denials of circumstances mentioned by me in an article appearing over my name in the Cap and Gown, regarding the authorship of the Chicago yell. I was completely thunderstruck and amazed at the circumstances, as I had not written any article for the Cap and Gown, nor authorized any article to be printed with my name, nor had I ever made any claim as to being the author of the Chicago yell. Upon running the matter down and finding a copy of the Cap and Gown, I discovered, much to my amazement, that Mr. Appel, the editor, had taken certain extracts from a personal letter which I had written him last fall, and printed them as a contribution to the Cap and Gown, entirely without my knowledge or consent, and had extracted such portion of my letter as would make it appear that I had made some claim in the matter in hand.

As a matter of fact, I have never claimed authorship of the Chicago yell, and I do not know how the impression gained ground that such was the case. I received last fall a letter from Mr. Appel, requesting me to submit the original manuscript of the yell, and in reply to that I wrote him a personal letter, carbon copy of which I enclose herewith for your inspection, in which you will note that I distinctly stated that I did not want him to publish anything of mine, as I did not claim to be the real author of the yell and that I very much feared that, in case I did publish any such thing, the real author would rise up and deny it, and that would be a circumstance which I desired to avoid. Now I hold that the fact of Mr. Appel's using a portion only of this letter, which was a decidedly personal letter, without even asking my permission to do so, constitutes a breach of courtesy which I can hardly afford to overlook, and the further circumstances that this letter of Mr. Stagg's appeared in the Maroon upon the exact occasion of my visit as a guest at the University, makes it particularly distressing to me.

I have written Mr. Stagg, explaining this fully, and telling him that you would doubtless show him the enclosed carbon copy of my letter to Mr. Appel. I shall have no communication with Mr. Appel regarding the matter, but shall expect some sort of proper explanation and reparation at some proper time.

The whole matter is very petty but is very distressing, as it places me in an exceedingly uncomfortable and ridiculous light without any reasonable excuse therefor.

Yours very truly,

Theo. Hammond
Hammont Pubushing Co.

June 4th, 1976

Mr. Walter Jenkins

I'm sorry to learn that you fractured your arm. I've heard from John, who I work with, that you're doing well and will be back soon.

Unfortunately, I have some serious news to share. The company is facing financial difficulties and is considering layoffs. I understand your situation and will keep you posted on any developments.

Please take care of yourself and rest. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Vallee Orville Appel,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Mr. Appel,—

I have your favor of the 15th regarding the original manuscript of the Chicago yell. Responding to this request I do not believe there is enough of a story connected with this to make particularly interesting matter for the Cap and Gown. I have not the original manuscript of the yell, as I believe it was originally written on the back of an old envelope which I had in my pocket at the time. The facts in the case are as follows: On Saturday, October 1st, 1882, the first chapel service was held in the chapel in Cobb Hall, and at that time a call was made for a mass meeting of students in the lecture room on the first floor of Cobb Hall on that same afternoon. The meeting was held with about forty people present. Prof. Stage presided and stated the object of the meeting, and requested the assistance of Jesse C. Parks, now of Philadelphia, and a blackboard was mounted on the rostrum and as the different yells were submitted Mr. Parks wrote them on the blackboard and acted as presenter while they were tried out. I had prepared perhaps half a dozen different yells, which were in due course presented along with some fifteen or twenty others which were submitted by different members of the student body and faculty, who were present. There seemed to be something lacking in practically every yell submitted, and the one finally adopted and which is now in use was suggested to me by one of the others which was submitted, and embodied some changes in it which seemed to improve it and make it acceptable to those present. It was not at all one of the yells which I had originally prepared and submitted but was, as stated above, one which was inspired by the occasion and by some other yell which had been submitted by someone else. I do not now know who. The yell as adopted at that meeting was slightly different from what it afterward became in practice. The first line of it instead of being "Chicago, Chicago, Chicago, Go", as now given, was as follows: "Chicago, Chicago, Go, Go, Go, Go," and it was so adopted. Some weeks afterwards in listening to the yell at a football game I noticed that it had been transformed into its present shape, which is a little more mellifluous than it was as originally presented and adopted, and I am sure I cannot tell who was responsible for the change.

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Dear Mr. Smith,

I have received your letter dated October 2nd, 2023, regarding the status of the project. I appreciate your patience during these challenging times. I assure you that we are working diligently to ensure that the project is completed on schedule.

Thank you for your understanding and support. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]
Gown, but I fear that if I should do so someone else would be apt to bob up with a counter-claim of originality, and thus start a possibly unpleasant dispute as to priority of claim to the yell.

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Trusting that this information will be of service to you, and assuring you that I shall be pleased to furnish anything further that I might be able to at any time, and with best wishes for the success of your enterprise, I remain,

Yours very truly,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
June 22, 1910.

President Harry Pratt Judson,
Chicago, Illinois.

My Dear Dr. Judson:

It seems to me that I certainly have a grievance entitled to some consideration. When I appeared the other evening as a guest of the Alumni Association at the University, my attention was called to an article in the Maroon of the 14th inst., written by Mr. Stagg, in which he made denials of circumstances mentioned by me in an article appearing over my name in the Cap and Gown, regarding the authorship of the Chicago yell. I was completely thunderstruck and amazed at the circumstances, as I had not written any article for the Cap and Gown, nor authorized any article to be printed with my name, nor had I ever made any claim as to being the author of the Chicago yell. Upon running the matter down and finding a copy of the Cap and Gown, I discovered, much to my amazement, that Mr. Appel, the editor, had taken certain extracts from a personal letter which I had written him last fall, and printed them as a contribution to the Cap and Gown, entirely without my knowledge or consent, and had extracted such portion of my letter as would make it appear that I had made some claim in the matter in hand.

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The whole matter is very petty but is very distressing, as it places me in an exceedingly uncomfortable and ridiculous light without any reasonable excuse therefor.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Theo. M. Hammond.
Mr. Robertson:

To ask Mr. Appel how he came to use Hammond's letter without authority.

- J. E. L.
Aug. 10 - 1910.

My dear President Judson:—

I am returning the Hammond letters which I received since my arrival here three weeks ago.

Mr. Hammond wrote me before I left Chicago, and I replied to his letter. Mr. Appel certainly took liberties with Mr. Hammond's letter. It is regrettable that Mr. Hammond's letter memory was not more accurate; also that my communication to the Daily Maroon happened at the time of Mr. Hammond's visit to the University of which I was not aware at the time.

Sincerely,

Amstagg
The Chicago yell has been written up in the 1910 Cap and Gown, page 35. However, the enclosed letters will explain the mistake in authorship of the yell, which belongs to Mr. Stagg. The original copy of the yell as presented by him is on the cover of the first scrap book, together with two other yells which he proposed. As he remembers the meeting, of which he was chairman, he arranged for two bunches of twelve men on opposite sides of the room to try out the yells in turn, while the rest listened, after which they were tried by the whole body of students. The Chicago yell seemed to be adopted quite spontaneously, there being no question about its being the best of those proposed. As Mr. Stagg remembers it, there were two meetings of the students to select the yell, but the action cannot be verified from any source.
The Chicago valley is seen written up to the 1910 gap and good. Here, however, the scenario changes with the expansion into sanitation of the valley which presents a new and unique problem. The original name of the valley is presented in Mr. Green's book together with two other valley writers. Proceed to the meeting of which we were present and remember the meeting of which we were present for two purposes of some kind.

After which they made their way through the whole body of students. The Chicago valley seemed to me to be subject during spontaneous process pain and discussion about it. Pain of the part of these people. Mr. Green, remember his. I think there were two meetings of the students to select the valley and financial means for the development process.