My Dear Sir:

A regular meeting of the University Council will be held in the Faculty Room, Friday Oct. 7th 1892, at 4:30.

By order of the President.

C. R. Henderson

University Recorder.

Oct. 5th 1892
Procedure in Office of Dean of Women.
coffee & donuts
of favorable and sufficient
Commendation.

5717 Kimbark Avenue
Chicago, Illinois
February 1st, 1913

"Upon recommendation of Dean Talbot it was voted that hereafter the closing hour of large dances such as the Washington Promenade and the Junior College Day Promenade be 2:00 P.M."
May 2, 1914

Divinity School may hold social functions on other nights than Sunday and Saturday provided that the school and faculty participate and dean of school authorities.
April 3, 09

Mrs. O’Adams that Dramatic Club that social affairs connected with the presentation of a play be given on Friday rather than this evening.
Nov. 23, 07

Ruled by Pres. that no social events should be scheduled at the Reynolds Club without the concurrence of the Dean of Women and that any meeting in the R. C. at which women are present is properly a social event.
Dec 5, 1962

Received your expense student

Guarantee that money is
in hand for expenses. Pay

Social function. Repaid
in advance
Oct 26, 1907
Chairman of Com. on Exhibitions
& the Dean of Women were present
power to grant permission to
hold social event on Halloween
May 12, 06

The entertainment of women in fraternity houses at "home parties" is not considered desirable.
Oct. 27 06

Dances of the Score Club to be held only on Sat. after next. Ruled by D. J. W. that they must close at 10.20.
May 13, 05

[Illegible]

[Illegible]

College Day in June a few

[Illegible] date for Annual

[Illegible] y Woman's Athletics

[Illegible] (no other functions

[Illegible] with Woman's participants)
with the Dean of Universities

such persons who are interested

such persons interested in information
all personal affairs in which

Mar 10 06
Special rulings on social affairs.
Passage eligibility for initiation into women's secret clubs, data to be furnished by Bureau of Records (see form).
May 23, 1908
Dec 31, 1908

Dramatic Club initially is regarded as a "social function" Club to be ad

Jul 3, 1909

vised that social affairs connected with the function of a play should be given on Tuesday of Sat. rather than Thursday.
April 3, 1909

Afternoon dances given by men and women are limited to Fridays and Saturdays.
Gives approval to applications for extra work.
Repots to Board of S.O. all cases of neglect or infringement of social rules and recommend to Board action or exceptions to rules.
Issues permits for use of rooms in Lexington Hall for social purposes (duplicate to Dept of Buildings)
Passion fitness of women students to undertake extra work of "timbly appearance".
Presents to Board of Student Organizations requests to hold entertainments in other than authorized places (see approved list)
Head of Women's Home

Sends a weekly bulletin of authorized social functions not later than 6 p.m. of each Friday.
Keeps lists of members of women's clubs.
Lexington Hall

Business meetings close at 10 P/M.
SPECIAL RULINGS ON
SOCIAL AFFAIRS
Course Book, Art 43, sec. 1.

Student social affairs are under the direction of the Dean of Women, and all social entertainments must be registered in advance with her.
Entertainments conducted under the auspices of students or student organizations are held only on Friday or Saturday evenings or on the evening preceding a holiday, and close at an hour no later than midnight unless special permission is given by the Board of Student Organizations.
Course Book, Art. 43, sec. 3.

Entertainments conducted by students must be held in University buildings or at places approved by the Board of Student Organisations. (see list)
Course Book, Art. 43. sec. 4.

The expenses of parties held in University buildings and by officially recognized groups must be guaranteed in advance to the Dean of Women.
March 10, 1906.

All social affairs in which local chapters of fraternities participate shall be registered with the Dean of Women.
May 12, 1906.

The entertainment of women in fraternity houses at "house parties" is not considered desirable.
October 27, 1906.

Dances of the Score Club to be held only on Saturday afternoons. Ruled by the Dean of Women that they must close at 5:30 P.M.
October 26, 1907.

Chairman of Committee on Exhibitions and the Dean of Women were given power to grant permission to hold social events on Hallow e'on.
November 23, 1907.

Ruled by the President that no social events should be scheduled at the Reynolds Club without the concurrence of the Dean of Women and that any meeting in the Reynolds Club at which women are present is properly a social event.
May 23, November 7, December 5, 1908.

Dramatic Club initiation is regarded as a "social function."
April 3, 1909.

Board of Student Organizations advises the Dramatic Club that social affairs connected with the presentation of a play be given on Friday rather than other evenings.
April 3, 1909.

After-moon dances given by men and women are limited to Fridays and Saturdays.
May 2, 1914.

Divinity School may hold social functions on other nights than Friday and Saturday provided the whole school and faculty participate and the Dean of the School authorizes.
February 1, 1913.

Upon recommendation of Dean Talbot it was voted that hereafter the closing hour of large dances such as the Washington Promenade and the Junior College Day Promenade be 2:00 A.M.
Lexington Hall

For refreshments see Miss Colburn.
Lexington Hall

Social gatherings on Friday and Saturday only.
Passes on the fitness of women students to undertake the extra work of "public appearance."
Passes on eligibility for initiation into women's secret clubs, data to be furnished by the Bureau of Records.

(see form).
Keeps lists of members of women's clubs.
Reports to Board of Student Organizations all cases of neglect or infringement of social rules and recommends to Board action on proposed exceptions to rules.
Presents to Board of Student Organizations requests to hold entertainments in other than authorized places.

(See approved list.)
Sends to Heads of Women's Houses a weekly bulletin of authorized social functions not later than 1 P.M. of each Friday. (see form.)
Gives approval to applications for extra work.
Issues permits for use of rooms in Lexington Hall for social functions. (Duplicates to Superintendent of Buildings).
Approved entertainments

Oct. 10  Phi Alphalon
d Suarez dance at Homecoming

Phi Gamma Delta
dance at home

Oct. 11  Alpha Delta Phi
dance at home
Charge for dance at Lexington $3.

Evening meeting.

Must close at midnight.

Social gatherings on Fri. & Sat. only.

Business meetings close at 10 p.m.

Refreshments see Mrs. Leonards.
THE FIRST FACULTY MEETING

A sheet of paper headed simply "The University of Chicago" printed in light blue ink carried this message crudely mimeographed to the sixty or thereabouts men and women who constituted the first faculty of arts, literature and science of the new University of Chicago:--

Sept. 28, 1892

Dear Sir:

You are invited by the President to meet the faculty of Arts, Literature and Science on Saturday, October 1st, at 4:30 P.M. at Room A 7.

Recorder.

It may be noted that the building was not designated. There was no need. Cobb Hall it must be since there was no other building save the three men's residence halls to the south. Even Cobb Hall was unfinished, lacking a front door and entered by means of walking over the threshold on a plank.

"Room A 7" was the large room at the southeast corner of the first floor. For many years it was known as "the faculty room" and in that room with President Harper's office adjoining were born and nurtured or after trial discarded the policies which were fruit of the extraordinary vision of the young president and the varied experiences of his faculty. The room was not merely large but attractive with leather covered chairs, a long center table and rugs agreeable to the eye - a room quite different from the hit or miss quarters familiar to most of these newcomers as places.
where business must be hurried in order to escape to a more congenial
environment. Some of the members of the university faculties had themselves
formerly been presiding at their own staff meetings. E.G. Robinson of Brown
University, G.W. Northrup of the Baptist Union Theological Seminary, Galusha
Anderson of the old University of Chicago and of Denison University, T.C.
Chamberlin of the University of Wisconsin, Alice Freeman Palmer of Wellesley
College and A.W. Small of Colby University. From many parts of the world
this group came to cast in their lot with the new institution under its
stimulating and enthusiastic leader. Several from Germany, from England
and Scotland, while great universities, Harvard, Yale, Johns Hopkins,
Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, California gave their quotas.
Here took place the first of that series of mighty word battles between
Professor T.C. Chamberlin and Professor W.G. Hale on the relative importance
of the classics and the sciences which continued as long as the two men
met to discuss educational policies or any other question, in fact:

Such was the setting for that first faculty meeting. What happened?
The official record is meagre. Dr. Henderson, the Recorder, was dearly
beloved, but his gifts lay in a different direction from that of taking
detailed minutes of a meeting. Possibly too, realizing the significance
of the occasion, his power of expression was benumbed somewhat as happens
when one is called by long distance telephone from half way across the
continent. Fortunately some private notes taken at the time help fill out
the picture. Practically all of the faculty were present as it was too
thrilling an occasion to miss. President Harper opened the meeting with
prayer and this continued to be his custom whether official gatherings were
large or small. He then, in the words of the minutes, "gave a brief address upon some special points for consideration." The President emphasized the importance of securing unity in spirit, but not necessarily in opinion, as the members of the group organized and developed the institution. He said that the burdens involved in the preliminary organization had been carried by a few and must henceforth be borne by the many. He described in general terms the lines of separation between the senate, the council and the faculty. The several duties and responsibilities of these bodies he thought would have to be more fully defined as the result of experience but he urged that flexibility should always be their characteristic. Several specific topics were mentioned for discussion but he dwelt chiefly upon secret societies and their place in the university and reported that the trustees had already had the subject under discussion and presented the following suggestions to the Faculty:

1. The rules of each society, the location of its rooms, etc. should be made known.
2. Special emphasis should be placed on literary societies.
3. Societies detrimental to the interests of the University should be given up or disbanded.
4. Restrictions as to membership might be possible.

It was "moved by Mr. Howland that under the restrictions named by the President the Secret Societies be permitted in the University." "On motion of Mr. Laughlin this matter was committed to a committee for consideration." The President named in this committee Messrs. Judson, Hale, Small, Tufts and Stagg.
A plan for a University Bulletin was announced, and it was stated that on Thursday at noon of each week the material for announcements for the Weekly Bulletin should be handed to the Recorder.

The Examiner, Mr. Abbott, reported that 510 students had been matriculated, divided as follows:

- Graduate School: 126
- Colleges in 3 upper classes: 85
- Colleges in freshman class: 85
- Special students: 61
- Divinity School: 153

510

"The President expresses the hope that the time will come when the Academy College work may be transferred to some other place and the higher work be given all our strength on this campus." The meeting then adjourned having revealed several outstanding figures and started the discussion of questions which after nearly forty years are not yet fully settled. Best of all was the strengthening of enthusiasm and confidence in the venture with which the group had cast in their lots.
During the long months preceding the opening of the University of Chicago, President Harper and his close advisers worked assiduously at the task of selecting a group of scholars, teachers and administrators who would be able to carry out the ambitious plans for a new and really great University in the Middle West. The policy of treating men and women without discrimination had been decided upon, but the choice of women for the first group was peculiarly difficult, for women had but very recently been given an opportunity for academic training and experience. One outstanding woman for his needs occurred almost at once to President Harper. Alice Freeman Palmer, recently the youthful president of Wellesley College, had already established a national reputation as an educator, and President Harper made repeated and alluring attempts to secure her co-operation. Her ties and obligations in Massachusetts held her there strongly, but after a long series of discussions she was finally convinced of the promising future of the new university and the opportunity it would afford her to contribute further to the education of women and she accepted the position of Dean of Women in the graduate school and colleges, and professor of history, to give twelve weeks of each year to residence work in organizing and supervising the life and work of the women of the University. She made as a condition of her acceptance the appointment of Marion Talbot, a close friend and associate both at Wellesley College and in the work of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and other educational organizations. Miss Talbot was to be Dean (of Women) of the Senior Colleges, and assistant professor of sanitary science, and be in residence continuously. Meanwhile Miss Julia E. Bulkley, appointed as Dean (of Women) in the Academic Colleges, was pursuing her doctoral studies in Europe. Mrs. Palmer and Miss Talbot left Boston on September 19, 1892, for Chicago, amid the doubts and questionings of their conservative academic
friends as to the success of the new institution whose novel features were thought to be too eccentric and bizarre and unstandardized to be worthy of respect and confidence. On arrival in Chicago they found that arrangements for the reception of the students who were to arrive the following week (the University was to open on October 1, 1892) were far from complete; in fact, were in a chaotic condition. Consequently, the two women found plenty of problems and work at hand and did not hesitate to perform the duties of cook and housekeeper in temporary quarters, interspersing them with conferences of the Senate and University Council on grave problems of academic procedure and policy. There were also contacts to be made with Chicagoans, strengthening the confidence of those who had already shown interest, and securing new supporters from the hesitants. The field was open for enterprise, ingenuity, and wisdom. Seed was to be sown, customs established, and forces directed toward the fulfilment of ideals for which all the members of the staff and faculty were ready to make sacrifices. Every act and decision was deemed important in determining the character and influence of the new university on American science and education.

So the days were filled with significant activities, each new decision creating precedents and it seemed that there never was a repetition requiring the need of precedents, but rather adaptability in establishing a wholesome and finely loyal community spirit in forging ahead along right lines toward noteworthy achievement.

At the end of three years the claims of Massachusetts and her home proved so strong that Mrs. Palmer withdrew completely from Chicago and the circle of friends who had honored her, and Miss Talbot was appointed by the trustees Dean of Women, the first use ever made of the term. As President Harper told her, she was to have supervision of all the activities in which women were concerned, especially the social, and these were indeed manifold, as indicated by the outline she drew up:
General policies concerning women by—

1. Correspondence, i.e., giving information concerning conditions of living, methods of administration, forms of organization, candidates for special scholarships, social life, etc., answering questionnaires, following up newspaper stories.

2. Consultation, i.e., advice as to relations with women's undertakings such as Naples Table, deans of women, Association of University Women, etc.

3. Attendance at meetings of Faculties and Boards and recommendations for action.

Graduate women:

Promotion of Women's Graduate Club
Hospitality to women fellows
Consultations as to plans, etc., of graduate women

Organized social life:

Recommendations to Board of Student Organizations
Registration and approval of social functions
Direction of social calendar
Conferences with social committees and officers of organizations
Assistance to fraternities in maintaining good social standards
Lists of members of women's secret clubs
Approval of proposed new members
Conferences as to methods of administration of clubs
Assistance in forming organized groups
Consultations with officers of organizations (e.g., Y.W.C.A.)

Publicity and hospitality:

Arrangements for women guests and speakers. Entertainment of women visitors
Representation of women of the University at meetings, banquets, on advisory boards, etc.

Women's Halls:

Assistance in choosing Heads of Houses
General co-operation with Heads of Houses
Help in meeting perplexing situations in Halls
Chairman of Inter-House Council

General social and personal matters:

Standards of dress, dancing, conduct, and manners
Consideration of unfavorable criticisms
Requests from non-University people and organizations for co-operation
Conduct of men in Women's Quadrangle
Women's activities in sales contest and other money-raising undertakings
Advice about money matters
Conferences as to occupation, marriage, etc.
Complaints of landlords, employers, etc., lack of conveniences in buildings, insults, offensive conduct, thieving
Aid in accident, illness, death, mania, etc.

Dean Talbot

When in 1925, at the age established by the University, she retired, the appointment of her successor was given grave consideration, resulting not in transferring the post to a single person, but in pooling the influence and experience of seventeen women who held important academic and administrative positions in the University, who should be known as the Women's University Council. The policy had been adopted by Dean Talbot of serving simply in an advisory capacity, where women were concerned, to such agencies as the housing bureau, scholarship appointments, loan funds, employment agency, athletics, and dramatics; and she had limited her responsibility in these matters to the administration of such regulations as had been made by the different boards and committees. Certain principles underlying the conduct of these manifold interests served to unify them and lead to a well coordinated administrative program. These principles were stated as follows:

The social life is to be so ordered as to (1) contribute to, and not impair, the intellectual efficiency of the students; (2) be a source of physical recreation and not of bodily exhaustion; (3) add to social resources of students and to their ease and enjoyment in meeting social situations; (4) develop a sense of social responsibility and dependableness; (5) aid in establishing reasonable standards of money expenditure; and (6) include as many students as possible who need it.
Miss Minn Talbot

Dean of Women

The University of Chicago

My dear Miss Talbot:

Being in my fourth year of the social while in this University I feel I may take the liberty of writing you a few words of criticism in regard to the dancing at present permitted in the University. I wish to state in the beginning that I am, I believe, an ordinary
normal man, neither better nor worse than the ordinary. But anyone who has the proper respect for women and the welfare of his sisters or sweetheart at heart, cannot but feel disgusted at the dancing, particularly the Tango, as it has been carried on in the past nine months at this institution.

I do not know whether or not you or your representatives have looked informally on the university dances, or whether you have depended upon thatbare illustration of the modern dance "pulled off" by some of the girls last year and repudiated at once by the majority by some of the finest girls in the community—but I am sure no woman who has reached the age of discretion would condone the Tango if she had seen it danced as it is at University functions or other dances totally outside our own circle for that matter.
do it fair to the fathers
and mothers who entrust
their pure + innocent daughters
to your care, to permit this
to go on? I do not
believe + no one will ever
make me believe, that the
majority of girls who dance
this know why it is they prefer this type of dancing
to any other + why it is
that you see people "Tang" where there is no music + not
even a floor - for instance at beach parties - the
doctors of New York and
the American Medical Association of this city, have answered that question fully and candidly, and state that the continuous practice of any dances in which a 'wriggling or similar movement' is included will eventually result in a nervous break down of the participants—a good physiological reason, moral grounds set aside. As far as the men are concerned I should say let them take their chances. But not the innocent girl, shielded by her parents mistaken ideas.
so that she is thrust out alone, with no more idea of how to take care of herself and her purity than a child of five.

I will grant readily that there are a few girls — and only a few — who dance the Tango and some of the other slits — well knowing why they themselves enjoy it as well as their partners — and say let them go some place where they will meet others of the same class — but prohibit these dances at University affairs — as has already been done at Illinois, Wisconsin, Johns Hopkins, and countless other schools and clubs.

Prof. James Smith, President of the Chicago dancing masters' association, in his fall announcement said that in his opinion the Tango is the worst form of dance ever put on a ballroom floor. Prof. Guynn quotes a leading dance sense as saying “The Tango, because of the very nature of the dance, leads to an abandon which with the excitement of music results in immorality.”
There are plenty of the older dances which showed would take the place of the present inheritances from the vulgarity of the underworld.

The simple little “Come through the Rye” waltz, the almost unnumerable Schottisches, the polka for the fast dancing feasts, the “Ocean city Minuet” so popular ten or 12 years ago— for those who prefer fancy steps—and in fact countless others.

In conclusion, I want to say Mrs. Talbot— that I am not a crank sitting outside of the circle and regarding with envy the good times of others—but on the contrary I am.

Strong for all University functions - am a fraternity man - and never thinks of missing a dance.

I presume you are wondering why I have waited so long to write this protest and I shall tell you why I decided to in preference to simply abstaining from questionable dances myself and filling my programs with men who did likewise.

I have a very dear friend - one of the finest fellows I have ever known.
who asked me to look after his sister—

Pursuant to his wish I have been getting the girl started out right in her studies and have been pleased to note that owing to her certain attractiveness she is being congenially called upon last evening in response to an urgent note and while walking with her she told me her reasons for calling on me for advice. And the story that little girl told out, starting with her learning the Tango and hesitation, the fall and ending—well in the worst was enough to turn a heart of stone—If you could have heard her—the type of a university girl most consuming only innocent but ignorant—telling how with a contemptuous snort, she attended a university dance with a university man and the after results of that evening you would not hesitate a moment to issue a drastic order prohibiting further
indulgence in these dances—do it not better to have a certain amount of indignation expressed by some students—than that one girl should suffer what this one has—why put it off longer—why not follow the steps of others & issue an order prohibiting further indulgence.

The remarks I hear men make every day who themselves dance these & the crude jokes made are disgusting. The present idea of student chivalry is bunk pure & simple & about as effective as the lukewarm efforts to carry out orders at the Reynolds club last spring.

For obvious reasons I do not sign my name—but here's hoping for a greater & better chivalry—plenty of wholesome fun & highest respect to woman—a southerner.
During the long months preceding the opening of the University of Chicago, President Harper and his close advisers worked assiduously at the task of selecting a group of scholars, teachers and administrators who would be able to carry out the ambitious plans for a new and really great University in the Middle West. The policy of treating men and women without discrimination had been decided upon, but the choice of women for the first group was peculiarly difficult, for women had but very recently been given an opportunity for academic training and experience. One outstanding woman for his needs occurred almost at once to President Harper. Alice Freeman Palmer, recently the youthful president of Wellesley College, had already established a national reputation as an educator, and President Harper made repeated and alluring attempts to secure her co-operation. Her ties and obligations in Massachusetts held her there strongly, but after a long series of discussions she was finally convinced of the promising future of the new university and the opportunity it would afford her to contribute further to the education of women and she accepted the position of Dean of Women in the graduate school and colleges, and professor of history, to give twelve weeks of each year to residence work in organizing and supervising the life and work of the women of the University. She made as a condition of her acceptance the appointment of Marion Talbot, a close friend and associate both at Wellesley College and in the work of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and other educational organizations. Miss Talbot was to be Dean (of Women) of the Senior Colleges, and assistant professor of sanitary science, and be in residence continuously. Meanwhile Miss Julia E. Bulkley, appointed as Dean (of Women) in the Academic Colleges, was pursuing her doctoral studies in Europe. Mrs. Palmer and Miss Talbot left Boston on September 19, 1892, for Chicago, amid the doubts and questionings of their conservative academic
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So the days were filled with significant activities, each new decision creating precedents and it seemed that there never was a repetition requiring the need of precedents, but rather adaptability in establishing a wholesome and finely loyal community spirit in forging ahead along right lines toward noteworthy achievement.

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Partial Survey of Interests and Duties of the Dean of Women.

General policies concerning women by

1) Correspondence, i.e., giving information concerning conditions of living, methods of administration, forms of organization, candidates for special scholarships, social life, etc., etc., (answering questionnaires) following up newspaper stories.
2) Consultation, i.e., advice as to relations with women's undertakings such as Naples Table, Beaux of Women, Association of University Women, etc.

Graduate Women.
Promotion of Women's Graduate Club,
Hospitality to Women Fellows,
Consultations as to plans etc., of graduate women.

Organized Social Life.
Recommendations to Board of Student Organizations.
Registration and approval of social functions.
Direction of social calendar.
Conferences with social committees and officers of organizations.
Assistance to fraternities in maintaining good social standards.
Lists of members of women's secret clubs.
Approval of proposed new members.
Conferences as to methods of administration of clubs.
Assistance in forming organized groups.
Consultations with officers of organizations (e.g., Y.W.C.A.)

Publicity and Hospitality.
Arrangements for women guests and speakers. Entertainment of women visitors.
Representations of women of the University at meetings, banquets, on advisory boards, etc.

Women's Halls.
Assistance in choosing Heads of Houses.
General co-operation with Heads of Houses.
Help in meeting perplexing situations in Halls.
Chairman of Inter-House Council.

General Social and Personal Matters.
Standards of dress, dancing, conduct, and manners.
Consideration of unfavorable criticisms.
Requests from non-university people and organizations for co-operation.
Conduct of men in women's quadrangle.
Women's activities in sales contest and other money raising undertakings.
Advice about money matters.
Conferences as to occupation, marriage, etc.
Complaints of landlords, employers, etc., lack of conveniences in buildings, insults, offensive conduct, thieving.
Aid in accident, illness, death, manic, etc.
The University of Chicago

Summons to the first Faculty Meeting.

Sept. 28, 1892.

Dear Sir:—

You are invited by the President to meet the Faculty of Arts, Literature and Science, on Saturday, October 1st, at 4:30 P.M. at Room A.7.

Recorder
Official minutes of
1st meeting of faculty
Oct. 1st, 1892
4:30 P.M.

The President in the Chair. (1) The
President gave a brief address upon
some special points for consideration.
(2) Mr. Storandt moved that
under the restrictions named by the
President, the Secret Societies be
permitted in the university. (3) On
motion of Mr. Langdon, this matter
was committed to a committee for
consideration. The President named
on this committee Messrs. Jordan,
Hale, Small, Tufts, and Staff. It was
stated that on Tuesday at noon each
week the material for announcements in the Weekly
Bulletin should be handed to the Recorder.

The Examiner, Mr. Abbott, reported that
up to this time 510 students had been matricu-
lated, of these, Graduate College 306,
College 154, upper classes 85, and freshmen 30.

The President expressed the hope that the time will come
when the Academy College will be transferred to some
other place and the high school be moved out of the
present location. E. Anderson, Recorder.
Dear Mr. Abbott,

Will you give me by Tuesday some figures to use in a short public address I am to make in Washington this week? I should be glad to have the following facts:

- Total no. of students: 3,777
- Women: 1,244
- In grad. dept.: 1,434
- Men: 2,543
- Colleges represented: 39
- In academic college: 1,253
- Men: 1,031
- Women: 322

If you have other interesting and significant figures which you can easily give me, please send them to my box in the Post Office and greatly oblige.

Sincerely,

Marion Talbot
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<th>Folder No. or Name</th>
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Your attention is called to certain important features in the organization of the University. Whereas each school and group of colleges is directed by its own faculty, the educational policy of the University as a whole is unified by the Senate, a body made up of all heads of departments regardless of the division of the University in which the major part of the work of the department is offered. In the same way, the administrative policy of the University as a whole is unified by the Council, a body composed of the administrative officers from all divisions of the University. In addition there are several administrative boards constituted of representatives from the different faculties and entrusted with the control of special matters which concern all divisions of the University, such as libraries, physical culture and athletics, student activities, religious work, and recommendation of teachers. It is understood that the rulings of these bodies affect all divisions of the University unless otherwise specified. Whenever the term "student" is used by them, students in every division of the University are included. In illustration, a student may be under the direction of the law or divinity faculty as regards his studies; but he is required to conform to the rules of the University as regards his use of the libraries, his eligibility for public appearances, or his membership in societies.

The importance of this unifying influence is already very great and every member of the University should cooperate in increasing its value. Every student should be led to consider himself primarily a student of the University and secondarily a student of a school or college. The student councils should be encouraged to consider problems and to make recommendations in the light of their relation to the University as a whole as well as to that of a specific division of the University.

By maintaining a proper coordination of the divisions of the University
and developing a sense of unity throughout, not only will progress be made along
lines which depend upon the unity and coherence of the whole, but the separate
divisions will themselves be the stronger.

† As a practical step towards securing this end I would suggest that each
student council should meet at least annually and preferably in the autumn quar-
ter, for a consideration of the enactments of the University affecting all students
and take measures to bring them before each student body appointed to represent
the students.

† For the faculties

† For the student councils
Two questions were submitted by the Board to the women officers of the University, viz:

I. The further consideration of the introduction of women's intercollegiate fraternities and their adaptation to the house life among the women.

II. The withdrawal of approval from all secret local clubs among the women and the forbidding of the initiation of women students into these clubs.

The questions were first submitted by the Dean of Women to the Club of Women Fellows. After prolonged discussion it was declared by a vote of 13 to 0, 1 not voting, to be the judgment of the Club that intercollegiate fraternities are not at present adapted to the life of the women at the University of Chicago.

At a subsequent meeting it was unanimously voted that in the opinion of the Club of Women Fellows approval should not at present be withdrawn from the local secret clubs, although the Club considers them as strictly experimental and therefore urges the Board of Student Organizations to encourage all forms of association which tend to promote a spirit of unity and democracy and to develop those qualities which result from cooperative effort.

The action taken by the Club was heartily endorsed by the women of the faculty and the Dean therefore begs leave to submit that both questions are answered in the negative by the women officers.

Submitted to the
Board of Student Organizations
by Dean Talbot, May 7, 1896.
Resolved that it be the sense of this body that an Academic faculty be constituted consisting of (1) all Instructors in the Academic College; (2) the men whose charge includes students in the Academic College; (3) the Heads of Departments represented in the Academic College.

(b) That it be the duty of this Faculty (1) to consider and act upon matters of detail pertaining to the Academic College; (2) to consider and recommend the action of the general faculty all matters of educational policy arising in connection with the work of the Academic College.
COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF INCREASING THE INTELLECTUAL INTEREST OF UNDERGRADUATES


In the present marking system of the University seven grades above the passing mark are distinguished: D, corresponding to percentages from 61-70; C-, corresponding to percentages from 71-75; C, corresponding to percentages from 76-80; B-, corresponding to percentages from 81-85; B, corresponding to percentages from 86-90; A-, corresponding to percentages from 91-95; A, corresponding to percentages from 96-100. These grades carry respectively 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 grade points. For graduation a student must have 30 majors and 70 grade points; in other words, his average grade must be C or better. The student receives each quarter a final report as to the exact grade given him in each of his courses of the previous quarter, and an official statement of his standing in grade points.

With this system insofar as it relates to the reporting of grades by the instructor to the recorder, the committee is not concerned. It may be remarked, however, that the system, in this regard, seems to be the members of the Committee exact to a sufficient degree, flexible, practicable, and a convenient basis for decision as to honors, scholarships, questions of eligibility, etc.

With the system insofar as it relates to the reporting of marks by the recorder to the student, however, the Committee is concerned; for it considers that such detailed reporting has a very injurious effect upon the attitude of the student toward his work.

The system disposes the student to think of his college course in terms of grades and grade points. The official insistence upon gradation tends to make him think more of the measurements than of the thing measured. The official quarterly report for work done in each separate major leads him to regard his course as a collection of independent and isolated units, and is calculated to obscure the idea of his course as a whole composed of developed and related parts and significant for his entire life.

The system constitutes a considerable and distracting factor in the student's thought, and a large element in his conversation with fellow students. It leads in large extent to the election of courses with reference rather to the securing of grade points than to the inherent value of the courses. It results often in the belief that the instructor has been unjust; and this belief in turn creates an attitude of hostility which prevents work of the right sort.
Most grades, moreover, fall within the range indicated by the letters C, D-, and D, and it is therefore upon divisions within this range that thought, words, and feeling are most freely spent; yet this is precisely the range in which subdivisions are of the least real importance, for it is the general field which intervenes between danger and distinction.

In view of these considerations, the Committee believes that a very different policy should be adopted with regard to reports to students; and suggests specifically the following:

**PLAN**

1. After each of the first three quarters of residence the student shall receive an official report as to his work in each of his courses in that quarter. In such reports, however, only three grades above the passing mark shall be distinguished: High, corresponding to the present A; Medium, corresponding to the present B; and Low, corresponding to the present C. At the middle of each of the first three quarters every student whose work in any course is below the grade Medium shall be notified of that fact, with the specification of his status as Poor (- = C-), Barely Passing (- = D), or Below Passing (- = E and F).

2. After the completion of nine majors he shall be notified of his total standing in grade points. He shall at the same time be informed either (a) that he may return to the University and may remain for three more quarters, with the understanding that he will be placed on probation if his average falls below the grade of Medium; or (b) that he may not return to the University.

3. During his second three quarters he shall receive no grades; except that at the middle and end of each quarter he shall receive notice in case his work in any course is below the grade of Medium.

4. After the completion of 18 majors he shall be notified of his total standing in grade points. He shall at the same time be informed either (a) that he may return to the University and may remain for six more quarters, with the understanding that he will be placed on probation if his average falls below the grade of Medium; or (b) that he may not return to the University.

5. During his last six quarters he shall receive no grades; except that at the middle and end of each quarter he shall receive notice in case his work in any course is below the grade Medium.

6. After the completion of 27 majors and again at the end of his course he shall be notified of his total standing in grade points.
The committee believes that this plan is free from the objectionable features of the present system; that it recognizes adequately the particular need for the frequent and specific valuation of freshman work; that it provides adequate notification of unsatisfactory work; that it affords, in the annual statement of total grade points, a report sufficiently exact for students and parents; and that it is conducive to the development in the student's mind of the idea of his college work as an organic and kinetic whole.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. GALE
W. D. HARKINS
J. W. LIND
D. A. ROBERTSON
E. H. WILKINS,

Chairman.

Miss Talbot is a member of the Committee, but was absent from Chicago during the quarter in which this report was prepared.
My dear Sir:—

The first University Convocation, established by order of the Board of Trustees, will be held Jan 26, 1892, in Central Music Hall at 8 o'clock.

In connection with the University Convocation, the University Sermon will be preached by the Rev. E. G. Robinson, D. D., in the Chapel, Sunday, Jan. 1st, 7:30 P. M.

The exercises of the Convocation as approved by the Senate of the University, will include:

1. University Address. By Professor von Holst on "The need of Universities in the United States."
2. The announcement of Fellowships, Scholarships, and Honors.
3. The recognition of incoming students, namely, students who have just matriculated for the Academic Colleges, the University Colleges, the Divinity School, and the Graduate School.
4. The President's Quarterly Statement of the condition of the University.

Instructors, of all ranks, in the University are requested to meet at 7:45 in the dressing room on the main floor of the hall, and from there to march to the platform. The procession will be formed in the order indicated in the arrangement of names in the Calendar. Instructors will be seated during the exercises on the platform.

The distribution of tickets is in the hands of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, T. W. Goodspeed. Because of the small seating capacity of the house, the number of tickets is limited. They will be distributed, however, as liberally as possible.

The students will be seated on the main floor of the hall; incoming students in the various colleges and schools in front.

At the close of the exercises, the President and Mrs. Harper will hold a reception in the foyer of the hall to which members of the University and their friends are invited.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
Recorder's Office, Feb. 7th, 03.

My dear Sir:—

The order of business for the meeting of the Faculty of Arts, Literature and Science Thursday at 4 P.M. includes

(1) The consideration of the re-organization of the Faculty of Arts, Literature and Science.

(2) The consideration of Prof. Abbott's motion on "Examination for Advanced Standing," referred by the Senate.

(3) The consideration of resolutions of Prof. Chambly relating to "Requirements for Admission" referred by the Senate.

Resolution as follows:—

"Resolved that there be added to each group of subjects required for admission to the University, science sufficient to make the total amount equivalent to eight majors, and that these be either required or alternative, as may be hereafter determined in the case of each group separately."

Yours very truly,

Recorder.
My dear Sir:--

In accordance with the request of the Faculty of Arts, Literature and Science the Board of Trustees has established a Board for the administration of the affairs of the University Colleges. The following names have been nominated by the President, and appointed by the Board of Trustees:-- Professors Chamberlin, Judson and Talbot members ex-officio, Professors Abbott, Blackburn, Bolza, Buck, Castle, Salisbury, Stratton, Starr, Stokes, Terry, Tufts, Vos.

The appointment will continue until May 1st at which time a new appointment will be made for the year May 1st, 1893 to May 1st, 1894.

The first meeting will be held Wednesday March 8th, at 5 o'clock in the Faculty Room.

By order of the President,

Yours very truly,

Recorder.
Miss Marion Talbot,
Univ. of Chicago.

My dear Miss Talbot:—

By action of the Board of Trustees of the University there has been established a Board for the administration of the affairs of the Department of Physical Culture and Athletics. This Board consists of A. A. Stagg, and Miss Foster, Ex officio, and five members nominated from the University Faculties by the President and appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Board will sustain to the Senate and Council of the University the same relations as now sustained toward those bodies by the Faculties of the University. The tenure of office will be one year from May 1st, 1893. The members of the Board as nominated and appointed are Messrs. Caldwell (William), Judson, Johnson, Miss Talbot, and Mr. Tufts.

You are hereby notified of the appointment.

The first meeting will be held in the faculty room Monday March 20th, 1893 at 4 P.M.

By order of the President,
Yours very truly,

Recorder.
My Dear Sir,-

At a recent meeting the following were appointed the Parietal Committee. I should be glad to meet with the Committee at its first session and to speak of the general work which will naturally fall to it. May I ask you to meet the other members of the Committee in the Faculty Room, Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock?

Yours very truly,

William R. Harper

T. H. Root.
Mr. Young,
James H. Tufts.
Miss Talbot,
A. A. Stagg,
Starr W. Cutting.
Dean of the Colleges, Ex-Officio.
Dear Miss Talbot,

Your letter reached me here last night. Hope the delay is not an inconvenience to you.

We have no printed rules. When I went to Vassar we had a compendious Student's Manual. We soon replaced it to directions for the student, a pamphlet of seven or nine pages. When that edition was exhausted we decided to print no more.

Yet, every year, we take of a card on the inside of each bedroom door giving a few statements that seem need. At present the lady principal uses the Bulletin board to announce the one or two things it seems necessary to say, or the girl a talk to the student-body.

Our chief rule is against talks in the walls! It is hard to enforce it, but we insist — and charge damages (once a year, — moral instruction, rather than punitive).

Our old volume really included very little that older girls do not know, and yet, somehow, these things need to be said to many. I will ask the
Secretary to try to find you a copy of directions for the student. I have it sent to your present address.

I shall be very glad to see the result of the study of students' work.

Hope that your summer's rest has given you the feeling that you are altogether well and strong and ready for your work. Come to see us at Deer whenever you can take us in, on your journeys.

There is always a cordial welcome there for you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Wellesley College,
August 24, 1894.

My dear Miss Kelbot,

I enclose a copy of last year's direction to the students. I understand that they are in process of revision but I do not think there will be any change in the "Care of Buildings." The college does not in any way in the care of rooms beyond what is here stated.

I may add that this part of college work is not under my supervision - I believe Mrs. Farr visits the rooms once or twice in each term to see that there...
LIBRARY.

Students are allowed to draw books from the General, Gertrude, and Art Libraries, subject to the following rules and restrictions:

I. Books may be drawn on Saturdays from 4 to 5:30 P. M.; they must be charged and canceled by a library attendant, and must be returned before 9 A. M. on the Monday following the date on which they are charged. A fine of fifty cents per day will be incurred by failure to return books at the time specified on the charging slip. Books may be drawn only by personal application, or on written order, by which full responsibility for books so delivered is assumed. No one can draw more than two volumes per week.

II. Instructors may give permission to their students to draw books for use on special topics (except such works as are temporarily reserved for class use). Charges must be made on printed slips, signed by the instructor. A failure to return the book on the date specified on the slip, will subject the student to a loss of the privilege for three months.

III. Books cannot be taken from the library to a recreation room except by the written permission of the instructor. When so authorized, the student may charge books on the pin on the librarian's desk (works reserved for class use excepted), stating her name, the hour of the recreation, and the name of the instructor. Such books must not be taken from the library till five minutes before the recreation, and must be returned immediately at its close, and the charge removed from the pin.

IV. The librarian will recall, on request, books drawn by instructors for personal use, after one week from date of charging. Books needed for class work are subject to immediate recall.

V. No deviation from a rule shall be made except by the library committee, on a written statement of satisfactory reasons. Fines must be paid when incurred. If afterwards excused, the money will be refunded. An unpaid fine cancels the privilege of drawing books. All works lost or seriously damaged by a student must be replaced by a new copy. Ignorance of the library rules will excuse no one from penalties attached to their violation.

VI. The following works are restricted from circulation:

- All volumes of the original collection donated to the library by the Founders of the College.
- All works included in the Powell Collection.
- All works included in the above of North American languages.
- All works included in the Dutch Cabinet.
- All elegantly bound sets (full calf or morocco).
- All works of larger size than quarto.
- All volumes of $5.00 or more in value, or for special reasons impossible to replace.
- All bound periodicals. The latest number of an unbound periodical may be drawn for use over Sunday, but cannot be taken for use on special topics during the week.

REGULATIONS

FOR ALL STUDENTS CONNECTED WITH WELLESLEY COLLEGE.

I. a—Without permission from the President, students will not join or leave any department of instruction, nor attend any courses except those to which they are assigned.

b—Conditions must be removed within one year from the time when they were incurred.

c—Excused examinations for the removal of conditions will be offered in September, January, and June. Students who wish to take such examinations must report to the departments concerned, a week before the semi-annual examinations begin, and before the first day of the entrance examinations in September.

d—A student who fails to remove a condition at one of the stated examination periods immediately following the examination at which the condition was incurred, shall be required to withdraw from all outside obligations, whether of club, society, class committee, or publication, until such condition is removed.

e—A student having a deficiency in regular College work, owing to protracted absence or to other circumstances, and failing to make good such deficiency at one of the two examination periods immediately following the examination at which the work would have been in due course completed, shall be required to withdraw from all outside obligations, whether of club, society, class committee, or publication, until such deficiency is made good.

II. Students will punctually attend all College exercises; viz., Prayers, Classroom appointments, Chapel service on Sunday, Domestic work; and such other obligations as shall be officially made.

III. Students absent from any Classroom appointment will, upon their reappearance in class, present their excuse to the teacher in charge; but such excuses at the opening of the term must be countersigned by the officers in charge of permissions. Excuses for absence from Prayers and Chapel service on Sunday, will be presented to the officer in charge of permissions.

IV. No organization will be formed without the consent of the President and Faculty, and such organization will be subject to their control. The constitutions and by-laws can neither be adopted nor changed without their consent.

V. a—Students will hold no entertainments or regular meetings without the consent of the President.

b—Public literary exercises will be submitted to the approval of the Professors in charge of the departments of Rhetoric and Elocution.

VI. A brief period of strictly silent time will be observed each evening. During this time students will be required to be in their rooms, and silent. Opportunity is thus given for private devotion.

VII. At 10 P. M. students will promptly extinguish their lights, retire, and preserve quiet. No work is permitted until the rising bell.

VIII. Students are forbidden to walk alone in the evening.

IX. Students will not leave town nor attend places of public amusement without permission. Before leaving the College the student will leave her card of permission at the office appointed, and see that it is canceled there immediately upon her return.

The officer in charge of permissions is, for the Main Building and the Village, the President's Deputy; for Stone Hall and the cottages, the Superintendent of the building.

X. Students will not take gentlemen to any private room without permission.
HEALTH DIRECTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF ALL STUDENTS.

For their best development, no less than for their success in purely intellectual work, students should conscientiously observe the established laws of hygiene. The College, having required a certificate of good health upon entrance, will hold all students responsible for the maintenance of the same standard.

Students should consult the Resident Physician in all cases of slight as well as severe illness, and they will be expected to follow her advice strictly. No charge will be made for attendance unless the illness is protracted, or so severe as to call for extra service.

The following directions and suggestions are for the guidance of all:

I. Students should exercise not less than an hour daily in the open air; but regular practice in the Gymnasium may take the place of one-half hour of such exercise.

II. a—Students should be present and punctual at meals.
   b—They are warned against irregularity and indiscretion in diet.
   c—They are requested not to keep any eatables except fresh fruit in their rooms.

III. a—Students should not visit the rooms of those absent from table or from College appointments on account of illness, except by permission of the Physician or Superintendent of the building.
   b—They should not visit the rooms of other students in study hours.
   c—The Sabbath rest should not be interrupted by visiting.
   d—Under ordinary circumstances they will not receive visitors to the College on any other day than Monday.

IV. a—Rooms should be kept thoroughly ventilated by night as well as by day.
   b—Every study parlor should be provided with a thermometer. A mean temperature of 50° is advised.

V. The variable and severe New England climate necessitates the use of different grades of underwear. Students are cautioned against imprudent changes in clothing, especially during the spring.

VI. Baths should be taken regularly and at proper hours, in accordance with the rules posted in each bathroom.

CARE OF BUILDINGS.

I. The occupants of rooms will be held responsible for all damage.

II. Neither walls nor furniture are to be marred by driving nails, tacks, or pins, or in any other way. No articles are to be glued, pasted, or fastened to the walls or furniture, or placed under the moldings of the furniture or woodwork.

III. Pictures and other ornaments may be suspended only from hooks on the picture molding.

IV. Ink must be kept in "Safety" stands. These may be purchased at the College bookstore.

V. Combustible materials must not be used to ornament the gas fixtures or lamps.

VI. Long cotton draperies are not allowed.

VII. None but "Safety" matches will be used or kept in the building. Burnt matches must be put in the match safe only.

VIII. Lighted lamps must not be taken from the room.

IX. The study lamps must be filled in the daytime only.

X. No one is allowed to take lights or matches to the trunk rooms under any circumstances whatever.

XI. Students should not leave the gas or lamps burning when absent from their rooms, and should see that the gas is entirely turned off at night.

XII. Students are requested to be very careful to close their windows when a storm is approaching.

XIII. Care is required in the use of the water fixtures in the closets and bathrooms.

XIV. No paper or rubbish of any kind should be thrown from the doors or windows, or scattered upon any part of the grounds about the buildings.

XV. All damages, defects, and leakages should be immediately reported at the office.
My dear Sir:

You will receive herewith a "special number" of the UNIVERSITY RECORD which contains:

1. An announcement of the first meeting of the University Congregation which is to be held Saturday, January 2 at 2:15 P.M. in the faculty room of Haskell Museum, dinner to be served at seven o'clock in the assembly room of the Museum.

2. Statute xix of The University relating to the organization of the University Congregation. For the present year, the payment of the membership fee is suspended but each member is expected to pay the price of the dinner, $1.50.

3. The programme of the Congregation.

4. The names of the members of the Congregation.

5. The rules recommended by the Senate for the use of the Congregation, until others may be adopted.

The character of the subjects which are proposed for discussion and the importance which attaches to the first meeting of the Congregation make it desirable that the attendance should be as large and as representative as possible. We certainly hope that we may have the pleasure of greeting you at this meeting. You are requested to indicate your intention to be present or absent upon the enclosed card. Tickets for the dinner may be purchased on the evening of the dinner. Application for tickets must be made on or before December 26. The guests of the Congregation at dinner will be the members of the Board of Trustees, the Convocation orator Mr. Henry D. Estabrook, and others whose names appear on the accompanying programme.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

William Harper
University Aides.

Winter Quarter 1904.
Helen Alden Freeman.
Lillian Stephenson.
Clara Henrietta Taylor.
Lillian Ethel Vaughn.
Anne Payne Wells.
Clara Kingswell Wheeler.
Margaret Ernestine Burton.
Gladys Elizabeth Gaylord.
Elizabeth Maria Munger.
Helen Newman Roney.
Edith Emily Terry.
Helena Marie Bassett.
Mary Fiske Heap.
Helen Elizabeth Hendricks.
Stella Anderson.
Winifred Kelso.
Margaret Spence.
Helen Tytler Sunny.
Sarah Louise Capps.
Mary Ethel Courtenay.
Alice Greenacre.
Mary Ione Avery.
Willowdean Chatterton.
Marjorie Day.
Helen Eaton Jacoby.
Florence Leland Manning.
Louise Chabrier Norton.

Katherine May Slaughter.
Lulubel Walker.
Caroline Dickey.
Elizabeth Fogg.
Jessie Heckman.
Eloise Kellogg.
Ethel Kawin.
Mary Jerome Lilly.
Charlotte Merrill.
Helen Fisher Peck.
Helen Frances Riggs.
Anne Marie Weaver.
Geraldine Gunsaulus Brown.
Helen Mackay Brown.
Mollie Rae Carroll.
Edith Olive Davis.
Mary Louise Etten.
Alice Ferguson Lee.
Edith Ione Hemingway.
Vera Lenore Moyer.
Edith Prindiville.
Hazel Leigh Stillman.
Clara Wilson Allen.
Eva Pearl Barker.
Miriam Julia Cole.
Lillian Warne Francis.
Isabel Florence Jarvis.
Frances Meigs.
Wilhelmina Priddy.
Ruth Reticker.
Josephine Warren Roney.
Margaret Veronica Sullivan.
Muriel Bent.
Ruth Beatrice Bosell.
Dorothy Fox.
Martha Florence Green.
Helen Wauring Gross.
Effie Marie Hewitt.
Cora Elaine Hinkins.
Virginia Hinkins.
Mona Quayle.
Myra Harriett Reynolds.
Cornelia Morgan Beall.
Arline Henrietta Brown.
Suzanne Fisher.
Mary Letitia Fyffe.
Ruth Hough.
Helene Pollak.
Margaret Gladys Riggs.
Margaret Rhodes.
Harriet McKay Tuthill.
Charlotte Malina Viall.
Ruth Robertson Allen.
Katherine Biggins.
Caryl Cody.
Katherine Covert.
Phyllis Fay.
Grace Elizabeth Hotchkiss.
Hilda MacCintosh.
Mary King MacDonald.
Edith Noel Smith.
Irene Tufts.
Julia Vorhees Dodge.
Marjorie Josephine Fay.
Margaret Lambert Hancock.
Elsie Belle Johns.
Katherine Keith.
Ruth Manierre.
Alma Marie Parmele.
Ruth Waring Prosser.
Ruth Marie Sandberg.
Claire Votaw.
DELAMATER & DENNY

BUGGIES, SURREYS, CARTS, SPECIAL JOBS, FARM MACHINERY, AND CARRIAGE REPAIRING.

PECATONICA, ILLINOIS

Marion Talbot,
Dean of Women

Chicago, Ill

University of Chicago
Oscatonia I11 Oct 30th 09

Marion Isbott, Dean of Women
University of Chicago

Dear Madam,

The circular issued by Dean P.E. Vincent, relative to college life, its responsibilities, dangers etc., was received a few days ago, and since our daughter, a minor child, the only one we have, is enrolled among the students of the U. of C. You may be sure we read the circular letter with deepest interest. After making allowance for
the blind worship and sometimes insane affection shown by parents for an only child; I trust you will consider what I shall write you as coming from one who understands that his daughter is merely flesh of blood, subject to influences for both good and evil, and while her parents are proud of the fact that they have escaped nearly all of the snare by pit-falls that lead us into the downward course in life, they have no assurance that their offspring will pursue the same straight-forward course.

Let me tell you what we, who know...
For best, expect of our daughter, we expect her to be always honest. We are quite sure that she will not try to deceive you as her associates, in matters where caution is called for. We expect that she will be more than ordinarily studying as she was ever so in her high school work. Early in her school days she expressed a desire to become a teacher and agitated me that whatever I might have to leave her as a pecuniary endowment, to give her in the form of a collegiate education, this we have undertaken to do at
the sacrifice of many other cherished objects and dreams, since we are now drawing for the expense of her University Course, on a fund accumulating by years of toil. We are not sure that any person of her age, can appreciate that fact or realize the importance of it.

However, up to the present time, she has shown but little desire to indulge in the amusements and pastimes which seem to captivate the average Child. Parties bore her. Cheap Shows & Catchphrases entertainments have never appealed to her. tho’ we have allowed her to act at her own pleasure in
such matters,
Here to fore we have been compelled
to drive her away from the books
and out of the air and sunshine
and our greatest fear of friends
are, that she will neglect her
physical well being, in her zeal to
satisfy us that our confidence in
her sincerity was not misplaced,
I accompanied her to the University
September 20th, was present at the
meeting at Lexington Hall. I also assisted
her in arranging her room at
Garnwood Hall where I left
her believing as we now believe, that
it was safe to trust her even there.
in a great city, where the keen edge of the world's weapons of destruction are always in evidence, we have nothing to suggest and have but one criterion to make of all that I saw while at the U. of C., I noticed that it was impossible to ventilate the rooms on the first floor of Penrosewood Hall; there is no transom above the door of Mobles sleeping apartment, and I saw no way of letting in a breath of fresh air except by unlocking the window and raising or lowering the sash, which would hardly be considered safe in a first-floor room.
Quoting from the Dean Circular letter: "We try you to remember that because you are at a distance, you should not evade responsibility which we can only in a limited way undertake to assume." We could not think of placing the responsibility for our Daughters department entirely in the hands of any one person or institution. We shall be very grateful for any suggestions made by you or any others who are in authority at the University. And I sincerely hope that as Dean of Women, you will thoroughly acquaint yourself with Mable, or as much as as your limited time will permit. Asking your assistance in the letter. I am very respectfully yours,

Wm. De La Mater
Peotowca De Nov 22/0

Marcon Talbot, Dean of Women
University of Chicago

Dear Madam,

About a year ago I wrote you concerning my daughter Mabel and her proposed course at the U. of C. I put much stress on the importance of education and lamented the fact that my parents were unable to give me even a fair knowledge of the common English branches "the three Rs." It is not necessary for me to explain why I thought best to break into Mabel's first year at the U. in fact I left it entirely with her and
in her room at Greenwood Hall.

I simply said, "If you think I am asking too much, you may stay where you are, but I will abandon the postoffice proposition." She decided to come home for a while and carry on one or two studies by correspondence along with her work in the office. This she has done, and it is possible that by the time her first year work in the postoffice is completed she will insist on returning to the University.

I have never for one moment thought of trying to induce her to abandon the idea of becoming a teacher, which is the object she has in view. But I am
occasionally advised by teachers to do so. Even her High School Professor, Prof B.F. Kepner of 
Fenelon Fell, advised me not long since to have her so shape her University course that she will be 
gattled for some other occupation than teaching.

The problem of life, in my opinion, can not be solved in advance, or at the beginning. And I think that few of us, 
perhaps none of the deep thinkers who have lived the allotted three score and ten years, have ever been able to tell what the goal 
sum of life amounts to. I am convinced that education or the cost of it would
have been wasted on me. I am usually in the group of a harrowing timidity when in the presence of educated people, and I have been thrown constantly among them both in a social and a business way, and while I have not been an entire failure as a man among other men, I feel that the average woman is not forced to show her lack of education as often as I have been. I have four married sisters, they received the common school education of fifty years ago, all are the mothers of children and their families have been their principal source of enjoyment.
and are to this day, and I ask myself this question: Which is the noblest work for woman, devotion to life to a family, or to a calling that is generally poorly paid and often times little appreciated? In other words, does the world need teachers more than it needs women like my own sisters.

In educating my daughter while her mother does her drudgery, washing, cooking, etc., things she can not do and keep up her studies, am I unfitting her for what has been in all times, the work of faithful women. These are the Problems, or this the great Problems that has been in ever
Mint for a few years past.
If I had unlimited means it
would be no problem at all.
It would be simply a question
of how much learning she wanted.

and still, I am a stickler for
keeping close to nature, and you
will agree that the natural way
is the course my sister took.

Can my daughter ignore the call
of nature or the pleadings of
the opposite sex? Already a
former schoolmate, an exemplary
young man, looks askance
at her, and her cheek grows
flushed in spite of her haughty
ways, all of which may mean
nothing, but it tends to
"cross the wires" in the problem.
referred to above,
I think I mentioned in my former letter that we have laid by what
seem to us to be money enough for Mabel's University Course. It came
from years of hard work as a mechanic and I certainly want
to apply it where it will do the most good. She is quite sure
she will be able to place a like sum in the bank in a few years
to reimburse us. Which of course
is the dream of a child,
and so we plan for Mother, E.P., and
why I have written
I can not readily explain all this
to you unless it is that I
have imagined you would be
interested in this style of a
letter from the position you
occupy in the University. Perhaps our first step will be to consider the matter of higher education simply as another form of life--a great game of 'Blindman's Buff,' just a plain gamble not unlike a dip into the stocks & bonds of Wall Street. If my daughter returns to the U.S. I trust it will prove all for the best. And I hope you will find time to write me a few stimulating words that I may not weaken in making what really amounts to something of a sacrifice. I mean very respectfully. Wm. De La Mater
DeLafeltz
These regulations (or some of them) are not observed, I have indicated those which are not absolutely followed.

I should be very happy to be able to give you any assistance in my power. My jurisdiction is only over the "domestic work" of the students.

We shall be very glad to see you at the college once more. I only wish we could see you every week the year through.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Dear Mr. De La Motte:

I need hardly assure you that I find your letter extremely interesting. Although I cannot look at the problem in so personal a way as can one who has to consider the future well-being of a daughter, I can readily see why it is so many serious questions arise. It may be of interest to you to know that my experience leads me to believe that if you are able to give your daughter collegiate training, it will not of necessity result in her devoting herself to the calling of a teacher. There are many women who have the intellectual satisfaction of education, who find their happiness in family life and render efficient and noble service in the home.

I think it must be remembered that educational conditions for women are very different than fifty years ago, and it seems to me not unlikely that your sisters, if beginning their career to-day, would be eager to have training beyond that which the common school provides. Then too, industrial conditions have changed so that the duties of women in all homes except those in a very remote country district, are of quite a different character from what they have been in past generations. Your daughter made a very favorable impression upon us during her short residence in the University. We think you can trust her judgment to do
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Office of the Dean of Women

not only the dutiful but the wise thing in the matter of her future life. If the young man of whom you write has ability, energy and ambition, he will grow intellectually as well as in other ways, and her happiness would depend largely upon her ability to be a sympathetic and helpful companion for him in the future. If her education were to stop at this point, it would be quite possible that in later years, he would be the one to feel embarrassed by her limited education. If there is any feeling between them such as would lead them to make a wise decision, that feeling will persist and even become more real after the lapse of a few years. She is still very young to assume family responsibilities and it would be unfortunate to encourage her to undertake them when her longings are still for further development and training. Your letter is very conclusive proof that formal training is not by any means the only way of securing a real education and strengthening ones' powers of thinking. If your daughter should not return to her work here, I am sure she would devise ways and means, although it would be under serious handicap, of accomplishing the end she has in mind.

With appreciation of your kindness in writing me so frankly and with the hope of hearing from you again, I am

Very truly,

Mr. Wm. J. De La Mater,  
Pecatonica, Illinois.
UNIVERSITY HOUSES.

Remarks of Dr. Harper, in Chapel, Tuesday, June 29th, 1893.

A few weeks since, the Dean of the University requested the Faculty of Arts, Literature and Science to appoint a Paristal Committee, which should consider the details of Student and University Life upon the Grounds of the University, as well as at a distance from these grounds. This Committee held a meeting and considered the various problems presented by the members of the Committee. In view of the circumstances in which we are places here together, at this meeting of the Committee, it was found difficult to formulate anything that was in any sense satisfactory.

A little later, the Council of the University took up the matter and as a result of their work, a plan was proposed which was submitted to various members of the Faculty, to the Paristal Committee, to the Committee of the Board of Trustees or Organization, and finally to the Board of Trustees itself. This plan, after many modifications, and many suggestions, combining as well as could be combined the wisdom of many persons, was legally adopted and you have it in your hands as published in the last official bulletin of the University. It has been suggested that perhaps a word or two of explanation as to the origin of the plan and as to the details, might be of service to us as we enter upon the organization of University houses, as they are to be called, in accordance with the Plan.

In this University life & ours, there are many things to draw us apart, many, many departments of work, many different interests, many instructors, and very many courses of instruction. We do not have that influence which comes from class organization. The University has been organized upon another plan. No one doubts for a minute that there is great gain in all that constitute class interest, but it is possible that this gain may be secured in some other way. No one doubts for a minute the need of some influence which will bring those of kindred spirits and hold them together, and bind them into a unit. In an institution as large as the University promises to be, it is entirely out of the question that every man and woman in the institution shall know or become intimate with every other man and woman. In the nature of things, this is
impossible. We must make provision, therefore, for something else. In a small college where the number is limited to but one, two, or three hundred students, this thing is possible, and here, without doubt, is one of the strongest arguments in favor of the smaller colleges and smaller institutions, but it remains to be seen whether we may not in a great University, the students of which will number thousands, accomplish this same thing, organized in such a way that there may be in this institution the equivalent of many smaller colleges, organized in such a way that those who are so minded may associate with others like themselves, may draw to themselves those with whom they wish to associate. And for this purpose, in order to accomplish this and, in part also to introduce the principle of self-government, a principle, in which I am sure we all believe, the plan which has been proposed has its basis.

It is understood, if I may be allowed some words of explanation, it is understood that these houses, as they are organized shall cultivate the individual spirit, that each house shall have its own traditions, its own interests, that there shall be, if you please a rivalry between houses, a rivalry for good. It is understood that the control of the house shall be essentially in the hands of those who constitute the house, not as you will notice from the details of the plan, certain safeguards have been established. The head of the house in every case is appointed by the President. This means that the head of the house is in every case confirmed by the Board of trustees, and in this confirmation and appointment, becomes an officer of the University, an officer with all the authority that belongs to any officer of the University.

Each house, according to the plan, is to have a Counsellor, selected by the members of the house from some faculty of the University. This Counsellor is the representative of the house in faculty meetings. This counsellor is to have in his hands the public interests of the house and will advice with the Committee, being an advisory member of the Executive Committee in all cases in which advice may be necessary. But aside from these officers, the remainder of the organization is entirely in the hands of those who constitute the membership of the house. The Executive Committee is the Committee chosen by those who live in the house, the Secretary, and Treasurer, or an officer who may combine the work of both these offices, is to be elected by the members of the house, and in real truth, the house is to be self-governed. This to my mind is the essential principle of the plan proposed.

But a more important point from the point of view of the constitution of the house, is this that membership in the house is to be determined by those who already have become members. This
practically makes the House a Club, or a Society, if you please. Those who have once gained membership in the House decide within certain limitations who shall afterwards become members of the House. There are of course many possibilities of vacancies in the House. For the interests of the members in the house, as well as for the interests of the University, it is necessary that these vacancies be filled and provision is made in the plan for the temporary filling of such vacancies, but the guest, the temporary occupants of a room in the house, then occupies it only for a specific number of weeks, and if during that time, the guest is not elected to membership, the guest has no longer any claim upon the room which he or she may have occupied. This does not mean that if there still continue to be vacancies in the House, this guest may not continue to reside in the House. It does not mean that if there should be vacancies in one of the houses, the guest may not be transferred to another house in which there are some vacancies, but it does mean that no person shall become a permanent member of the House without the consent of those who have already become members of the House. This perhaps is the second most important feature of the plan.

The rules, are the rules of the house and yet you will note that in every case these rules are to be approved by the University Council. The Council of the University (you are aware of its constituency) has the control of all administration in the University, and it reserves to itself the right in this case to approve or disapprove of the rules which may have been adopted by the vote of the House.

The same plan has been adopted in the matter of furniture and equipment of the House as has been adopted in reference to the furniture and equipment of the Commons. It is necessary that these houses should be furnished. Our plan of working all four quarters in the year, of welcoming students who are able to come only for a single quarter if that is necessary in any case makes it necessary that rooms upon the ground shall be furnished. It seems, with us however, wise to render all the assistance that can be rendered in this matter, and so the Trustees propose to furnish the money for the furnishing of the houses upon terms, an examination of which I am sure, will show that they are business-like and reasonable. It means that one House may be furnished better than another. This means that those who so desire can have a house furnished with some degree of elegance. It means that those who so desire may have a house furnished very elegantly. What the house does will determine this. It means that members of a house are at liberty to purchase and put in the house any furniture that they may desire, but a restriction is placed upon all furniture for which the House pays only the percentage. It is not wise that those who are here today
for example, shall establish a debt too large for those who are to follow, and here the Trustees themselves stand in order to hold a proper restriction, and all furniture which is to be purchased, and for which the trustees are to advance the money must be purchased by an officer of the trustees, and purchased upon requisition approved by a committee of the Board which has charge of the Buildings, etc.

We have upon the Campus, or better, as I trust we may get into the habit of saying, in the Quadrangles, though the Quadrangles do not yet appear. We have in the proposed Quadrangles, only five houses which may be organized today. I hope myself that the other two houses that have been erected, the Divinity Houses may be organized later on, and that the organization may be affected before the 1st of October. It is possible for us to organize five distinct houses, however, now. These will by no means accommodate the students who will be in attendance at the University, and provision is made for the organization of houses away from the Quadrangles. You will agree with me, and especially those who are older, that it is very much better for us to take the young men who come to the University from a distance and bring them together under some such organization as this and come into close and official contact with them, than to allow these young men, especially the younger men who come from a distance, to scatter in any part of the city in which they may reside. And so I eventually hope that those who are here who do not desire to live in the Quadrangles, and those who are coming who will not find it possible to do so, will see the advantage of living together in University Houses organized at a distance from the University that may be most convenient. The plan provides for this, and is designed to encourage it as much as possible.

Indubitably there will be modifications in this plan suggested by experience. Undoubtedly there will be difficulties which the plan does not provide for, but in the essential principles of the plan, I am sure that it is one which must appeal to every man or woman who is interested in home life and in self government. These are the two things we desire to secure, and these two things are possible. Let us modify it as circumstances demand, let us change it radically in the years that are to come, if it seems necessary so to do, but let us today, if we will, enter into this plan with all the interest that is possible. Let us take hold of it, let us carry out its details and when these difficulties arise, as they certainly will arise, let us face them and remove them. The Women's Houses will be organized under the direction of Mrs. Palmer and Miss Talbot. Shall will be organized under the direction of Mr. Stagg. The organization of the Graduate House has not yet been provided for, but the details of it will be in the hands of Mr. Judson, and the announcements will be made in connection with it.
to understand and appreciate the full implications of the

solution. I do not expect you to be able to grasp all the

tissue that is involved, but I hope you will see the

importance of trying to come to grips with the

problems that are at the root of the issue.

Hopefully, this will give you a clearer picture of

the situation and help you to develop a more

constructive approach to finding solutions.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Date]