

January 7, 1913

Professor Frank Smith

Dear Professor Smith:

After a recent conference with the men in charge of the Crocker Land expedition, I can authoritatively say that if the University appropriates any sum for my procuring polar specimens for the museum, the University will receive any such specimens which I may collect for it, and also credit in the expedition in proportion to the extent of the appropriation. The American Museum already has complete sets of nearly all the ordinary life forms of the Arctic regions, and cares more particularly now only for the rarer specimens, which our University is not so desirous of procuring at present. Of course the expedition can guarantee nothing, for the outcome cannot be foretold, but if it be successful Illinois would share in the credit and in the collections.

I feel that this affords our museum opportunity to acquire valuable specimens at a comparatively low cost, and also to lend its aid to a distinctly worthy scientific enterprise. Do you not consider the matter in the same light?

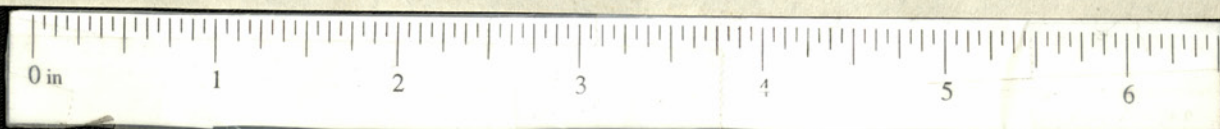
I shall be glad to talk the matter over with you at your convenience, and I think the Dean and President James might be likely to be interested.

I remain

Yours sincerely

Room 138, Natural History Building





Urbana, Illinois,

January 8, 1913.

Professor C. W. Rolfe,

Head, Department of Geology.

Dear Professor Rolfe:

In my correspondence relative to the Crocker Land Expedition and its fitting out, I frequently find need of the services of a typist, perhaps on an average of half an hour a day, and I wonder if you could make arrangements whereby our department might supply me with them when occasion demands.

Thanking you in anticipation of your attention to this request, I remain

WEE/AE.

Respectfully yours,

W. E. Oliver Ekblaw

Room 138, Natl. Hist. Bldg.





January 9, 1913

Dean E. J. Townsend

Dear Dean Townsend:

At a recent conference with the men in charge of the Crocker Land Expedition, I was informed that should the University of Illinois appropriate for the use of the expedition a sum for the collection of specimens for the University Museum, the subscription would be gladly accepted and the University assured that so far as the success of the expedition made it possible the University should obtain the specimens it desired, and also that the University should receive due share in the credit for the expedition.

The American Museum has full collections of Arctic specimens already, and desires only the rarer and less frequent forms, such as the University is not now particularly desirous of acquiring. The major portion of the appropriation would go toward furnishing me the necessary added equipment and facilities required.

I feel that at least one thousand dollars should be appropriated, for then I could consistently expect or demand that sets of musk-oxen, seals of various kinds, birds, walrus, bear, and other polar animals, vegetation, and geological specimens be supplied.

I shall be glad to talk over this matter at any time you may find it convenient.

Yours respectfully



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President Edmund J. James

University of Illinois

My dear President James:

The chairman of the executive committee of the Crocker Land Expedition, Dr. E. O. Hovey, at a recent conference of the men of the party with the promoters and financiers of the expedition, assured me, upon my asking him whether or not it would be agreeable to the American Museum of Natural History to have the University of Illinois subscribe some considerable amount to the funds of the expedition for the collection and acquisition of Arctic specimens for the University museum, that since the American Museum was already in possession of nearly all the Arctic specimens that it could use - except some rarer and more unusual types - it would be glad to give the University all the specimens it might need and due credit in the expedition as well.

I asked Dr. Hovey this question as the suggestion of Professor Frank Smith, curator of our museum, and with the approval of Dean Townsend, for they felt that this was a rare opportunity to acquire Arctic groups, some of which will soon become extinct, at a nominal cost. Among the materials which Professor Smith feels that the Museum most needs are musk-oxen, polar bears, walrus, various species of seal, reindeer, and many species of arctic birds, as well as a collection of the Arctic flora, and these could be readily acquired at this time.





President Edmund J. James -2

If the University could appropriate part of the amount necessary, and Congressman McKinley or some other wealthy man be interested enough to augment this appropriation by subscription, I feel sure that I should be able to obtain a great deal of valuable material. It seems to me that this advantageous opportunity should not be lost.

I shall be glad to talk this matter over with you at any time, should you so desire, and cooperate with you in any plans you may suggest.

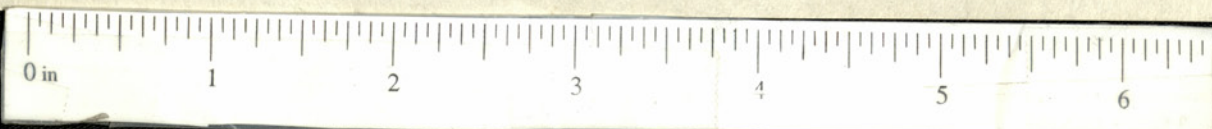
I am

Very respectfully yours

Room 138, Natural History Building

Urbana, Illinois

January 10, 1913





New York, 27 February, 1913.

My dear Dr. Kinley:

Inasmuch as you are now probably on your way out to Urbana, I wish to submit the following memoranda with reference to our conference of last Saturday.

Firstly: President Osborn's letter of 14 February addressed to you together with the documents which accompanied it are probably a sufficiently clear statement of the present organization and the plans of the Expedition, taken into consideration with the statement in the December American Museum Journal, a copy of which was given you by me; except as to the particular ship which is to take the party northward, because we have not yet come to a satisfactory conclusion of our conferences with the owners of the "Roosevelt."

Secondly: The proposed co-operation of the University of Illinois in the Expedition will be most highly appreciated and gratefully accepted by the organizing institutions, not only on account of the substantial pecuniary subscription proposed, but also and more on account of the fact that this co-operation emphasizes the national character of the support that the Expedition is receiving.

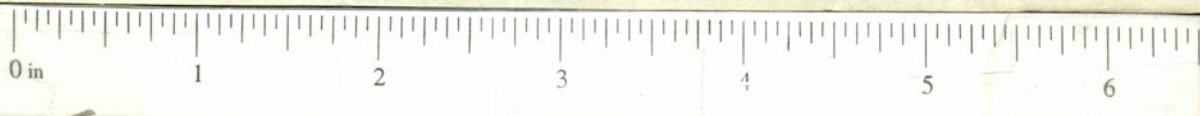
The institutions already concerned in the enterprise are:

American Museum of Natural History
American Geographical Society of New York
Yale University
United States Government through:
The Navy Department
The Weather Bureau
The Coast and Geodetic Survey
The U.S. Geological Survey (through assistance in special training of members of the Expedition)
Carnegie Institution (Terrestrial Magnetism)
Harvard University
Museum of Comparative Zoology
Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences
New York Academy of Sciences
Georgetown University
Colgate University
Bowdoin College
Worcester Academy

Besides this I may say that the Royal Geographic Society of London has given its official endorsement to the Expedition.

Thirdly: The proposed contribution of \$10,000 from the University of Illinois may be paid in three installments as follows:

\$5,000 this year as soon as may be convenient
\$2,500 before 1 July, 1914
\$2,500 before 1 May, 1915



Fourthly: The organizing institutions would be very much pleased to add the name of the University of Illinois to the list of institutions mentioned on its letter-heads, and to have the University represented on the Honorary Committee. They certainly would have no objection to the addition of Professor Bayley to the Committee in Charge, in the University so desire, although they feel that the resident members of that Committee must be left free to act in urgent matters without waiting for the vote of the non-resident member.

Fifthly: The subscription of the University of Illinois will provide for the employment of an additional scientific member of the Expedition party - this member to be selected with a view to the needs of the Expedition as determined by the Committees and the scientific leader, Mr. D. B. MacMillan.

Sixthly: In accordance with the arrangements made with all the present contributors and the members of the expedition party, all the personal diaries and scientific notes, all the original negatives and all the material collected upon the Expedition are to come to the American Museum of Natural History, and the Museum will distribute the results to the contributing institutions in as equitable manner as is practicable, endeavoring to satisfy the peculiar needs of everyone as far as it lies in its power to do so. That is to say, the Museum retains primary control and conservation of the data obtained by the party.

In this connection, it should be stated that the first popular results (magazine articles, books, lectures) of the Expedition are already pledged to Mr. MacMillan, and the first publication of the strictly geographical results are pledged to the American Geographical Society.

I may also note, however, that it is reasonable for the University of Illinois to expect to receive as tangible outcome, specimens of walrus, seal, caribou, musk oxen, hare, polar bear, birds and ethnological material from the northern Eskimo. It is not desirable to make any special assignment of the material collected by any one member of the party, it being considered better for the interests of all concerned to pool all the material collected and determine the distribution after the return of the party to New York.

Seventhly: The tourists that go with the ship will return with the ship. They are under contract to surrender to the leader of the Expedition for the purposes thereof, all material obtained on the northward journey and up to the time that the ship leaves on its return, as far as such material may be required by the Expedition.

Very truly yours,

Professor David Kinley
University of Illinois
Urbana

In Charge.





Urbana, Illinois

March 4, 1913

Hon. W. L. Abbott

120 Adams Street

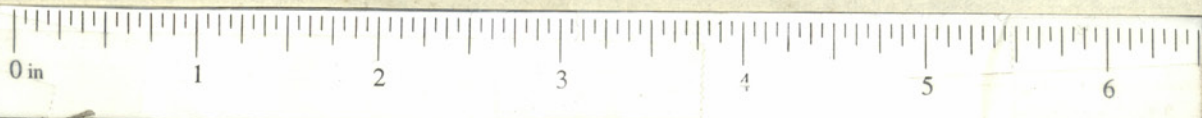
Chicago, Illinois

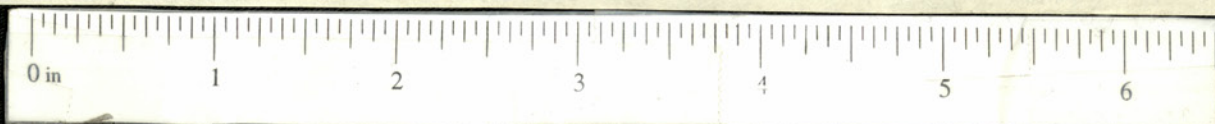
My dear Mr. Abbott:

Because I have been chosen as scientist to the Crocker Land Polar Expedition and because your nephew, Louis Abbott, tells me you are interested in it, I take the liberty of writing this personal letter to urge upon you the advisability of our University's taking advantage of this opportunity to acquire for its museum such material as will unquestionably be collected by our expedition in the way of plant and animal life, geological specimens, Eskimo belongings, and other northern phenomena, some of which may never be obtained again.

Aside from the fact that the University will thus acquire for its collections such material, it also gives it an opportunity to take a prominent part in an undertaking which is national in character, and which promises to become one of the most notable in all scientific exploration.

The American Museum under whose auspices the expedition will sail is willing to give the University due credit and honor in the expedition, its just proportionate share in the collections, commensurate with the amount the University appropriates, and representatives on the committees in charge,





Hon. W. L. Abbott -2

but naturally it cannot definitely guarantee what the results of the expedition will be since they depend entirely upon its success.

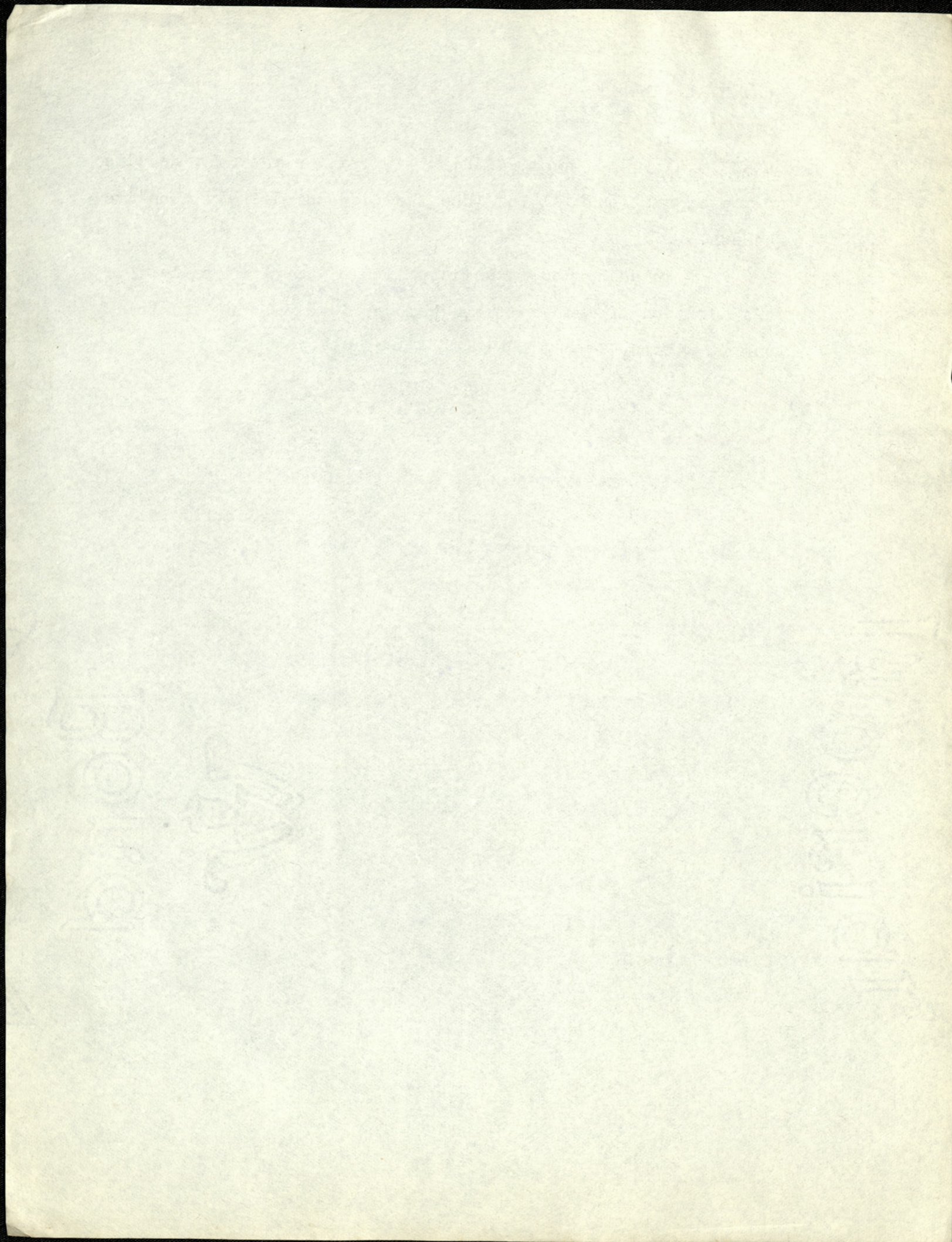
Thanking you in anticipation of your favorable consideration of this matter, whenever it may be called to your attention, I remain

Sincerely yours

Acacia House

Champaign, Illinois





UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA

W. L. ABBOTT, PRESIDENT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
120 ADAMS ST.
CHICAGO

March 6, 1913.

Mr. W. Elmer Ekelaw,
Acacia House,
Champaign, Ill.

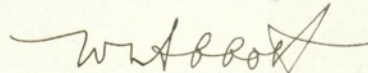
My Dear Mr. Ekelaw:-

I have your favor of the 4th inst., suggesting that you be commissioned to collect scientific specimens while on your coming polar expedition.

In reply, will say that I find that President James has received a proposition from the American Museum on this subject, and although there appears to be serious difficulties to the plan, it is under consideration, and I hope something may be worked out of it, although lack of funds for one thing makes this appear doubtful.

I thank you very much for your letter, and I wish to assure you that all Illinois men take pride in the fact that you were selected as scientist for this exploration.

Very truly yours,



WLA/C

March 6, 1913.

Mr. W. H. Miller,
Associate House,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Mr. Miller:-

I have your favor of the 4th inst., suggest-
ing that you be commissioned to collect scientific specimens while
on your coming return expedition.

In reply, will say that I find that President
James has received a proposition from the American Museum on this
subject, and although there appears to be serious difficulties to
the plan, it is under consideration, and I hope something may be
worked out of it, although lack of funds for one thing makes this
question doubtful.

I thank you very much for your letter, and I
wish to assure you that all Illinois men take pride in the fact
that you were selected as biologist for this expedition.
Very truly yours,

W.H.M.



Urbana, Illinois

March 21, 1913

Mr. W. L. Abbott

120 Adams St.,

Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Abbott:

I wish to express to you my very sincere thanks for your kindly interest in my trip to the North, and my appreciation of the opportunity you and your Board of Trustees gave me to present the facts regarding the Crocker Land Expedition at your recent meeting.

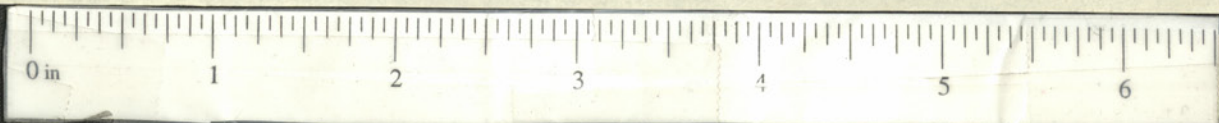
I feel confident that the results of the trip will justify the action which the University has taken, and I assure you that Mr. Tanquary who has been chosen from Illinois also, and I will do our utmost to work successfully to the glory and credit of our Alma Mater.

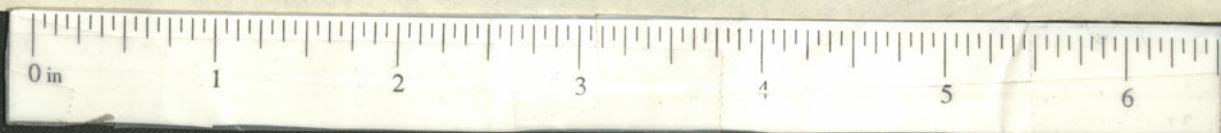
Thanking you again for your kind interest, I remain

Sincerely yours

1103 West Springfield Avenue

Urbana, Illinois





New York, 24 June, 1913.

My dear Dean Townsend:

It is a matter of only a week until our boat leaves New York for the North, and for three years we shall be out of communication with any one at Illinois or anywhere. Before sailing I wish to take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation and Dr. Tanquary's of the many things you have done for us and your kindly interest in our expedition. Not only Mr. Tanquary and I but the authorities of the Expedition and Mr. MacMillan, the leader, feel that we owe a great deal to you.

Will you please give my best regards to my friends in the University, and believe me

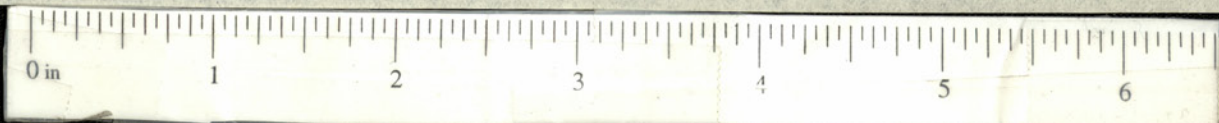
Sincerely yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,

New York City.

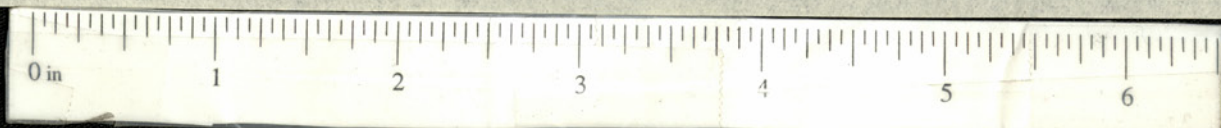
Dean E. J. Townsend,
University of Illinois,
URBANA,
Ill.

W.E.E./B.P.



MADE IN U.S.A.

M. S. & B. BECKEN LIME



New York, 24 June, 1913.

My dear Brother Kelly:

Your kind letter of good wishes has come to me, for which I thank you. I also received this week a bill for my copy of the alumni record. I thought that I paid your bill for it and also Mr. Tanquary's before I left Illinois, but if I did not, will you please send the bill for both of these to George V. Wood of Gifford, Ill. We are very busy preparing for our departure next Wednesday.

With sincerest regards to you and your mother,
I remain,

Fraternally yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
New York City.

Mr. J. H. Kelly,
President's Office,
Univ. of Illinois,
URBANA,
Ill.

W.E.E./B.P.



IN 685 BELLE LANE

RECEIVED



New York, 25 June, 1913.

My dear Dr. Derick:

Our ship sails from New York in just about a week and, as we will be busier every day, I shall utilize this brief leisure time to thank you for your kindly interest in the Expedition and the many things that you have done to further its success, both for Mr. Tanquary and myself. The loyalty of such friends as you makes it hard to leave you behind, but I assure you that we shall often think of you and remember with gratitude all that you have done.

With best wishes to you and your family, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,

New York City.

Dr. C. C. Derick,

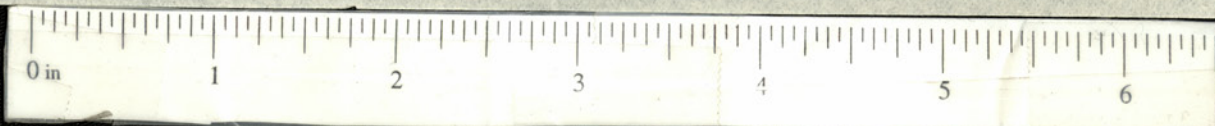
105 Chemistry Bldg.,

Univ. of Illinois,

URBANA,

Ill.

W.E.E./B.P.



W.S. & B. REGENT LINEN.

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New York, 25 June, 1913.

My dear Brother Hottes:

I wish to thank you in the behalf of Mr. Tanquary and for myself for the many things that you have personally done to insure the success of our expedition and to help us along in our preparations both in a scientific and a financial way. We are, indeed, glad that you are a brother of our fraternity, not only because of the membership in it but because we know that we shall meet you at the reunion when we return.

Again thanking you for all that you have done for us and wishing you continued success and happiness, and with sincerest regards to Mrs. Hottes and Flora as well as to yourself, I remain

Fraternally yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,

New York City.

Dr. C. F. Hottes,

Natural History Building,

Univ. of Illinois,

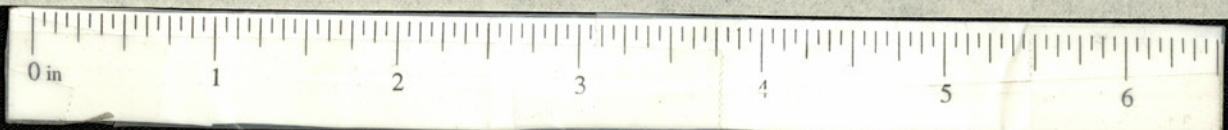
URBANA,

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W.S. & S. REGENT & CO.
New York, 25 June, 1913.

My dear Professor Rankin:

Before sailing for the North I wish to thank you for Mr. Tanquary and myself for the many things that you have done for, and the interest you have taken in, our expedition. I trust that everything will progress as nicely with you in the future as it has in the past and that when we return from the North we shall find you directing the work of the Agricultural College with the same proficiency that you have in the past.

With sincerest regards to you and Mrs. Rankin,
I remain

Fraternally yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
New York City.

Professor Fred Rankin,
University of Illinois,
URBANA,
Ill.

W.E.E./B.P.



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AMERICAN RECENT FILM



New York, 25 June, 1913.

My dear Professor Alden:

I wish to thank you most heartily for your recommendations in the matter of textbooks on English composition, especially on the short story and essays. If I have time before I sail next Wednesday I shall procure all these books, for I feel that I cannot more pleasantly and profitably spend the time than in attempting to do better work of a literary kind than I have been able to do in the past. I am sorry that I could not see you before I left, but I hope that I shall profit enough by your suggestions to pay you by some interesting stories upon my return.

With sincerest personal regards and heartfelt gratitude,
I remain

Cordially yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,

New York City.

Professor R. W. Alden,
Univ. of Illinois,
URBANA,
Ill.



W.S. & B. REGENT LINEN
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New York, 25 June, 1913.

My dear Professor Parr:

I have received your letter and the pamphlet regarding the winds and weather which you sent me and have turned them over to Ensign Green, our meteorologist. I thank you for this voluntary attention on your part and assure you that the Expedition appreciates it.

Hoping that you will have a pleasant summer and a profitable year, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
New York City.

Professor S. W. Parr,
107 Chemistry Building,
University of Illinois,
URBANA,
Ill.

W.E.E./B.P.



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W.S. & B. REGENT LINEN.



New York, 23 June, 1913.

My dear Brother Kelly:

I am writing to ask you or Mr. Lee to keep for me all clippings which touch upon our Crocker Land Expedition or the people comprising it in any way. I am very anxious indeed to have all the Western items regarding it and would consider it a great favor if you will save these clippings and send them from time to time to Mr. George V. Wood, Gifford, Ill.

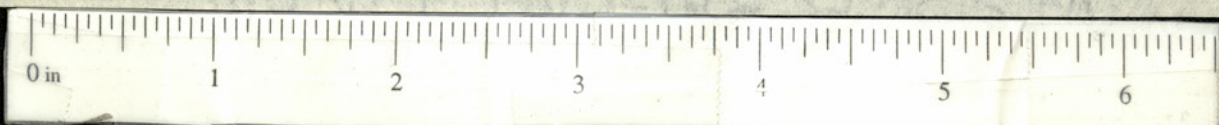
With sincerest regards, I am,

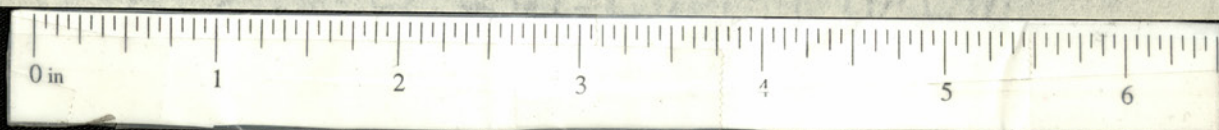
Loyally yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
New York City.

Mr. J. H. Kelly,
President's Office,
Univ. of Illinois,
URBANA,
Ill.

W.E.E./B.P.







University

