University Archives South Caroliniana Library University of South Carolina

Records of the President 1913-1914

Samuel Chiles Mitchell January 1913 – May 1913

Andrew C. Moore, acting president May 1913 – August 1914

William S. Currell August 1914 – October 1914

This series has been microfilmed.

Biographical Notes:

Samuel Chiles Mitchell was elected president of USC in 1909. Concerned by the run down campus, small student body, and lack of spirit on campus, Mitchell launched a campaign to rally support for the University from people all across the state through speaking engagements at a multitude of events, including high school commencements, churches, and civic organizations. During his tenure, enrollment and appropriations increased, and two new classroom buildings (Davis and Barnwell) were the first significant additions to the campus since the 1850s.

Andrew Charles Moore was the first honor graduate of South Carolina College in 1887. After serving as a primary school principal, superintendent of schools in Spartanburg, SC, and professor of botany at the University of Chicago, he returned to his alma mater as professor and in 1905 became the first chair of the Department of Biology at the renamed University of South Carolina. Moore also served as interim president of the University from 1908-1909 and again in 1913-1914.

William S. Currell became president of the University of South Carolina in 1914, and guided the institution through the dramatic changes inflicted by World War I. Currell was a Charleston native and a graduate and a professor of English at Washington and Lee University. He focused his administration on improving Carolina's academic standards, and was so successful that the University became the South Carolina's first state-supported institution of higher learning to be admitted to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the region's accrediting agency. Currell also became the first president of USC to have a formal inauguration ceremony.

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Roll # 0671

- **Academics.** Inquiries from students and other schools and replies as to coursework offered by USC and requirements of the academic departments. Includes information on expenses and entrance requirements.
- **Advertising.** Information on advertisements placed by USC in various publications, including college annuals, magazines, and newspapers.
- **Alumni Association.** Alumni activities, including proposed College for Women and the establishment of a scholarship for the son of an alumnus.
- **Athletics.** Topics include eligibility of players, coaching position, scheduling of games.
- **Blease, Cole L.** Correspondence between Moore and Governor Blease concerning the University.
- **Colleges and Universities.** Correspondence with other colleges and universities regarding catalogs, plans for a standard certification form for admission of high school students, congressional actions, admissions, regulations, conferences.
- **Columbia University.** Correspondence on admissions controversy.
- Faculty. Correspondence with USC faculty regarding academic departments, salaries,

vacancies.

Finances. Topics include School Bond Issue, Sinking Fund, building funds.

Flora, A.C. Correspondence between Flora and Moore regarding his admission to USC.

Founders' Day. Arrangements made for speakers, photographs

General Correspondence. Topics include regulations, catalogs, bulletins, expenses, gifts, student health.

Hand, W.H. As State High School Inspector, Hand evaluated high school students' applications and approved/disapproved them for admission to USC. Topics include admissions applications and the status of funding for Hand's position.

Hazing. Correspondence and newspaper clippings on hazing. Includes resolution on hazing regulations at USC.

Kennedy, R.M. Correspondence regarding the Librarian.

Kohn, August. Topics include proposed Women's College, alumni, finances.

Legislature. Correspondence with members of S.C. Legislature, primarily congratulatory.

National University. Correspondence regarding a bill to establish a national university.

Peabody Fund. Correspondence regarding receipt of Peabody Funds by USC.

Personal. Personal correspondence of Moore and Currell.

Physical Plant. Topics include building repairs, electricity, sewage.

Scholarships. Includes requests for information on scholarships, applications, award notifications, funding.

Roll # 0672

Speaking Engagements. Invitations, acceptances and declinations to and by Moore and Currell regarding speaking engagements.

Spencer, C.E. Board of Trustees. Topics include his son Edward, Board of Trustees, proposed College for Women, student discipline, finances, law school.

Students. Correspondence with students and parents regarding admissions, expenses,

- credits, reports to parents on absences and grades, recommendations for former students.
- **Sub-Post Office.** Complaints about mail delivery at USC and efforts to establish a sub post office on campus.
- **Swearingen, J.E.** State Superintendent of Education. Topics include accreditation, admissions.
- **Tate, W.K.** State Supervisor of Elementary Rural Schools. Correspondence regarding decision to leave S.C.
- **Women's Education.** Topics include admissions, expenses, boarding, proposed establishment of Women's College as an annex to USC.
- YMCA. Topics include hiring of Edward King as Secretary, publication of handbooks.