

FELLOWSHIPS

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
CHARLESTON, S. C.

GMR	22		<i>GMM</i>
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20 November, 1939			

Report

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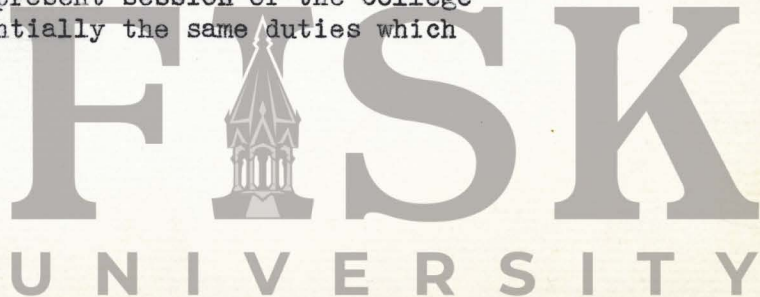
Easterby, J H

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

My note on your recent request for information to the effect that a letter would follow is the only specific evidence which I can produce to show that it has been my desire ever since returning to Charleston to write you concerning the results of my residence at the University of Chicago as a Rosenwald Fellow. I had hoped to see you and Mr. Embree at the conclusion of my examinations on August 22, but, much to my disappointment, I found that both of you were away from the city at that time. During the short time between my arrival in Charleston and the opening of College I was too desperately tired to compose the letter which I so much wanted to write you, and since the beginning of the session I have been literally overwhelmed with work.

I believe that I may say that the object of my work at the University was accomplished. The period of residence required for the doctorate in history was completed; examinations were passed; and I was admitted to candidacy for the degree on August 22. When I last inquired at the registrar's office, my record showed all A's. There remains to be completed my dissertation dealing with the South Carolina rice plantation, a project which was fully described in my application for a fellowship. A considerable part of this was presented in the seminar of Professor Avery Craven, under whose direction the dissertation is being prepared, and one chapter was read two weeks ago before the Southern Historical Association at Lexington, Kentucky. As stated in my original description of this study, the documents upon which it is to be based are to be published by the American Historical Association. Professor Craven has suggested, however, that the dissertation be an extended commentary upon the documents rather than the edited documents themselves. It is my plan to have the work in both forms completed by next summer.

At the opening of the present session of the College of Charleston I returned to essentially the same duties which



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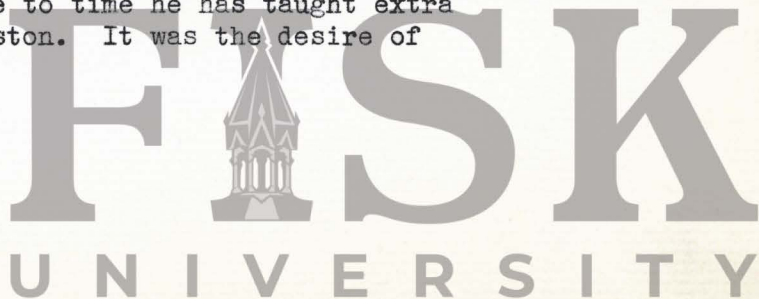
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I had had prior to my appointment to the fellowship. Instead, however, of giving the greater part of my time to the Library as I did during the session 1937-1938 when the library policy of the College was being revised and strengthened, I now give more time to teaching (twelve hours per week to teaching and the equivalent of three hours to the Library). I understand that I am to be made one of the two representatives of the College in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. ||

In addition to College duties I have returned to those associated with membership on the board of trustees of the Charleston Free Library and of the Charleston Historical Commission and with a vice-presidency of the South Carolina Historical Society.

It is pleasant to be back in familiar surroundings and at old tasks, but I must confess that I had never realized how many and how heavy these tasks were. I am afraid that while in Chicago I indulged myself too much in thoughts of the better teaching and the greater amount of research that I would do on returning to Charleston. To find that there is little time for either has been disheartening to say the least. Whether well prepared or not one can really accomplish very little in the frenzy of moving from one task to another. If my case is typical, I am inclined to believe that college teaching in the South will continue to be a sorry business as long as the duties of the teacher continue to be so burdensome.

I wanted before leaving Chicago to introduce personally to you and Mr. Embree my friend, Alfred E. Dufour of the South Carolina Military College. Mr. Dufour is a native of Charleston who lived for many years in Switzerland, receiving his undergraduate training at the College of Geneva. He has been a member of the Citadel faculty since 1920 (assistant professor 1920-1924 and associated professor since 1925), and summer before last he received the master's degree in French from the University of Chicago. From time to time he has taught extra classes at the College of Charleston. It was the desire of



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the late Professor Algernon Coleman of the University that an arrangement should be made for Mr. Dufour to go on toward the doctorate, continuing the excellent work which he had begun on American criticism of Flaubert. Just before his death Professor Coleman wrote either to you or to Mr. Embree recommending Mr. Dufour for a Rosenwald fellowship and stating, I believe, that I, as a fellow at that time, would introduce him to you. This was prevented for reasons which I have stated above, and I now take this means of presenting Mr. Dufour. I have known him for many years, and I believe that he is the kind of teacher and scholar that the Rosenwald Fund would desire to assist. It is my understanding that the death of Professor Coleman has in no way altered his status at the University of Chicago.

In retrospect my year at the University (or I should say our year, for my family shared in all the benefits) is beginning to take rank as one of the happiest and most profitable of my life. For the many benefits derived I shall always be grateful to the Rosenwald Fund.

Sincerely yours,

J. H. Easterby

Mr. George M. Reynolds
Julius Rosenwald Fund
Chicago, Illinois

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