

*Arlington Mills*  
*Treasurer's Office,*

*Franklin W. Hobbs,*  
*Treasurer.*

*78 Chauncy Street,*  
*Boston,* January 16, 1911.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

Your letter of the 9th was duly received and I have carefully considered the suggestion that I write a paper for the Congress of Technology, to be held in Boston on April 10th and 11th. While I appreciate very much the honor of your request, it really seems to me that it will be impossible for me to write such a paper with justice to myself or the subject with the short time intervening.

I am just arranging a conference between the officers of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, The American Cotton Manufacturers Association, the Arkwright Club and the Cotton Growers' Association, to be held in Washington on the second of February, and, as you know, the annual meeting of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers will be held early in April and probably at the time of the Congress of Technology. All of these matters will require a great deal of my time and attention, and I must write an Address in connection with the annual meeting of our association, of which, as you know, I am President. Taking all of these matters into consideration together with the urgent demands of my regular business, I think that it will be impossible to contribute the article that you suggest.

Dr. R.C.Maclaurin -2.

January 16, 1911.

Regretting that such is the case, but thanking you  
again for your kind suggestion, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

*Franklin W. Kelly*

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.



*after  
H*

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I regret very much that you do not see your way to contribute directly to the deliberations of the Congress of Technology, although I fully appreciate that you must have little time for anything outside the duties that you have already undertaken. I had hoped that we might have had something from you, however brief.

Yours sincerely,

January 17, 1911.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy St.,  
Boston, Mass.

ajm  
H

[3/23/11]

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I am troubling you once more with reference to our petition for increased state aid. The Senate Committee on Ways and Means reported favorably upon our petition, and things seemed to be progressing satisfactorily until about a week ago, when an amendment was introduced in the Senate that looked dangerous. This amendment had nothing to do with the main issue, but was concerned with the number of, and mode of election to, state scholarships. The increase in number would have very materially reduced the state grant, in fact would almost have wiped it out, and the mode of election was objectionable because it was so loosely worded as apparently to give the senator the power of nomination, whatever the educational qualifications of the candidate might be. I have, of course, been doing my utmost to remove these objectionable features, and have succeeded in every point but one. The number of scholars is not to be increased beyond the limit approved by the Committee on Ways and Means. As to the mode of election of scholars, the procedure is to be exactly as now, with only one modification of any importance. Candidates are to pass such examinations as the Institute may prescribe, and satisfy all its requirements on the side of



(2)

education. The appointment, as heretofore, is to be made by the State Board of Education. The only thing that is novel and that may appear objectionable is that each candidate has to forward to the Board of Education the approval in writing of the senator from the district in which the candidate resides. There is precedent for such practice in other educational institutions in the country, but I should rather have seen this condition removed. I have been advised, <sup>how</sup> however, by Senator Greenwood and other warm friends of our cause that I had better accept the resolve in this form, and rest content with having removed blemishes that would be infinitely more harmful.

An agreement on this matter has been come to within the last few minutes, and I expect that the whole resolve will pass immediately (perhaps this afternoon) to a third reading in the senate.

My object in troubling you about all this is that it seems to me eminently desirable that Mr. Norman White should be told frankly exactly what the situation is, as I recognize in him a real friend of our cause. Unless he is so informed, he may commit himself to some position from which it would be afterwards impossible to recede. Can you get in touch with Mr. White as soon as possible, and explain matters to him, or should I call upon him personally?

Yours very truly,

March 23, 1911.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncey St., Boston.

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

*after H.*

March 24, 1911.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

Your letter of the 23rd inst. received and I have communicated the contents to Mr. White in order that he may fully understand the situation.

As soon as the bill in question gets to his committee, I am sure it will receive prompt action. Meantime, I will keep track of the situation with him and advise you if any trouble arises.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

*after  
H's*

March 28, 1911.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

Mr. White informed me yesterday that the bill had not yet reached his Committee but that he understood the situation fully and would take it up as soon as it was given in his charge.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

In connection with the problem of re-building the Institute, I have been searching for some time for a man competent to undertake the work of studying the lay-out and arrangement of different educational institutions engaged in work similar to ours, and generally of helping the Executive Committee to form an intelligent opinion as to what should be done, and the general lines along which we should proceed, before we are turned over to the tender mercies of architects. In this connection, the name of Mr. William W. Crosby has been suggested, and I am writing to inquire whether you know anything of his capacity for such work. I understand that Mr. Crosby was at one time connected with the Lowell Textile School, and had something to do with building operations there, and it occurred to me that, as trustee of that institution, you may have had some opportunity of gauging Mr. Crosby's ability for work of this kind.

Yours sincerely,

February 7, 1912.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncey Street,  
Boston, Mass.



2A Park Street  
Boston, Massachusetts.

March 8, 1911.

Franklin W. Hobbs, Esq.,  
Arlington Mills,  
78 Chauncy Street, Boston, Mass.

Dear Frank:-

I enclose copy of the Tech resolve; and am convinced that the way to handle this matter is as follows:-

The resolve should be drafted so that the money expended should be for running expenses, and not for the purpose of buildings or land. The resolve as it now stands reads for "general purposes", which would include anything.

In talking with Dr. Maclaurin and the lawyer, I am convinced that there is nothing to do in the way of legislation to straighten out the land proposition. Dr. Maclaurin says distinctly that he would be in favor of the state giving \$1,000,000.00, and the Institute raising an equal amount. This would have a stimulating effect upon the graduates; and would also not embark the state on a wide policy of giving huge sums without having some reasonable answer that the public is giving as well.

I believe the resolve will pass if drafted in the following manner:

1. Change the words "general purposes" to "current expenses," or something of that sort.

2. See that the resolve is drafted so that the state shall give \$100,000.00 per annum for a period of five years, - making \$500,000.00.

3. If at the end of five years the Governor and Council are satisfied that the Institute has raised the sum of \$1,000,000.00 from subscription sources outside of the Institute's resources at the present time, the state shall give \$500,000.00 more in annual payments of \$100,000.00.

By this process the state gives \$500,000.00 anyway, and there is no need of worry for the next five years. During that time the Institute can raise \$1,000,000.00, which is only one half the sum Dr. Maclaurin says it can raise easily. I believe this is wise, and wish you would get hold of Dr. Maclaurin and the lawyer in question, and draft the resolve as soon as possible on the above lines. I could draft it myself, but I want them to do it, because there may be certain phases that I have not got time to work out for them.

There is another view-point of this situation which is well to remember. As the resolve now reads, the state can stop giving any time it wishes by the act of the legislature. If, however, the Trustees go out and raise funds it really commits the state, under a moral contract at least, to continue the payment year after year as stated above. For this reason, therefore, it is important, I think, to have some stipulation such as I have outlined.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Norman H. White.

Enc.



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

March 9, 1911.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

Enclosed herewith you will please find a copy of a letter that I have just received from Mr. Norman H. White with reference to the Tech resolve. It seems to me that the points that Mr. White makes are ones to which you cannot object; in fact, I believe that, as he states, it will put the Institute in a stronger position with the state.

If this meets with your approval, will you please have your counsel at once draw up a bill along the lines suggested by Mr. White and see him as soon as possible. If this is done, I am confident that the bill will be put through without further delay.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

March 24, 1914.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, President,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:

You remember that a year ago I tried to get you to speak at the Graduating Exercises of our High School in Brookline, but at that time you were planning to sail for Europe and could not come. The Head Master has put the matter before me again and we are all very anxious to have you speak to the class this year.

The Graduating Exercises will be held at eight o'clock on the evening of June 19th.

It is needless for me to add that it will be a very great personal pleasure to me, as Chairman of the School Committee of Brookline, to have you present and make an address on that occasion and I really hope that you may see your way clear to do so.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I appreciate the honor of your invitation to take part in the graduating exercises of the High School in Brookline, and I sincerely hope that you will not deem me ungracious in failing to accept it. My hesitancy springs from two causes. In the first place, I am uncertain whether I shall be here on June the 19th, and I shall not be here if I can possibly get away earlier. The year has been a trying one physically and there is a good deal ahead of me between now and our own graduation exercises on June the 9th. I shall leave for Europe as soon after that date as possible. The other cause for hesitancy is that if I take part in the exercises at the Brookline School, I shall be hard put to it to find reasonable excuse for declining similar invitations elsewhere. Each of these occasions imposes a light burden by itself, but the accumulation of small things amounts up surprisingly. I dislike to make so much fuss about a very simple and natural request.

Yours sincerely,

March 25, 1914.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
 78 Chauncey Street,  
 Boston

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Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I shall be much gratified if you will serve on the Committee on Nominations, under the chairmanship of Mr. Webster. The function of this Committee is a simple one, merely to bring in nominations for the office of Secretary and the various committees of the Corporation. The other member of the Committee is Mr. C. W. Hubbard. I enclose a card setting forth the members of the Corporation and the various committees.

Yours sincerely,

June 13, 1914.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I enclose a card setting forth the membership of the various committees appointed by the Corporation at its last meeting. From this card you will see that you are a member of the Visiting Committee of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, under the chairmanship of Mr. Tolman.

Yours sincerely,

October 29, 1914.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.

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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

February 10, 1915.

Mr. R.C. Maclaurin, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear President Maclaurin:-

Enclosed you will please find copy of a letter from Mr. C.R. Makepeace, who is a chemical engineer and who has done a good deal of work for us, and also copy of a memorandum Mr. Makepeace sent with reference to Mr. Fuller. I send it to you for what it may be worth and if you wish to see Mr. Fuller you can, of course, write him at Providence and he would be only too glad to come to Boston to see you at any time.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Enclosures.



*see folder 130*

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I must thank you for your note with regard to Mr. Fuller. There is no vacancy in our Department of Public Health at present, but it is always useful to know of the existence of good men, who are all too rare anyway and who are often specially difficult to find in an emergency.

Yours sincerely,

February 12, 1915.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.

[9/20/15]

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

At the last meeting of the Corporation I was authorized to appoint a committee of three to bring in nominations for officers and committees of the Corporation at the annual meeting on October the thirteenth. I write to express the hope that you will be good enough to serve on this committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Charles W. Hubbard. The positions to be filled are as follows:-

Secretary (Mr. James P. Munroe is eligible for re-election)  
 Member of the Executive Committee (Mr. Charles A. Stone's term expires; he is eligible for re-election for a period of five years)  
 Finance Committee, 5 members  
 Committee on the Society of Arts, 5 members  
 Auditing Committee, 3 members  
 Nominating Committee, 5 members  
 Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts, 3 members

In addition to these, the following visiting committees are to be appointed, the number of each committee being left to the discretion of your committee:-

Department of Civil Engineering  
 Department of Mechanical Engineering  
 Departments of Mining and Geology  
 Department of Architecture  
 Department of Physics  
 Department of Electrical Engineering  
 Departments of History, Political Economy, Modern Languages and English  
 Department of Mathematics  
 Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering  
 Department of Biology and Public Health  
 Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering



Mr. Hobbs - 2.

I suppose there is some advantage in keeping the Finance Committee reasonably permanent, and possibly also the trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts. In the case of the other committees, some re-arrangement might afford a little variety, but of course all this is a matter entirely for your committee to determine. I enclose a card giving a list of the members of the Corporation and of the various committees. It is not usual to nominate His Excellency the Governor, or His Honor the Chief Justice for membership of visiting committees, although this again is a matter within the discretion of your committee. Mr. William Endicott has asked to be relieved from the duty of service on committees.

Yours sincerely,

September 20, 1915.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.

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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

September 20, 1915.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

I have received your letter of the 20th requesting me to serve on the Committee of three to bring in nominations for officers and committees of the Corporation at the Annual Meeting on October thirteenth.

While I shall be very glad to serve on this committee, I really feel that as I served last year, it will be well to have someone else, possibly, serve this year.

I make this suggestion for whatever it may be worth and awaiting your advice, I am,

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I much appreciate your willingness to serve once more on the Committee on Nominations. It has been usual to impose this burden on members for two years in succession so as to preserve some continuity of policy.

Yours sincerely,

September 22, 1915.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I enclose a card setting forth the membership of the various committees appointed by the Corporation at its last meeting. From this card you will see that you are a member of the Visiting Committee of the Department of Mechanical Engineering under the chairmanship of Mr. Main.

Yours sincerely,

October 22, 1915.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.



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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

December 9, 1915.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

On account of a previous engagement I had to leave the Corporation Meeting yesterday immediately after Mr. Little finished reading the report in reference to the course in chemical engineering and I was, therefore, not able to hear the discussion that followed. Last evening, however, I talked with Mr. Little about the matter and pointed out to him what seemed to me some serious objections to the plan as proposed, and I take the liberty of writing you as briefly as I can along the lines of these ideas.

As I understand it, the suggestion is to allow a certain number of students of high standing who have completed three years in the course to spend the fourth year at the proposed stations in experimental and practical work in connection with various industries, with the understanding and agreement that they will return to the Institute to complete in a fifth year the work that is required of the other students in the regular fourth year. The objections that come to mind are as follows:-

First - the Institute of Technology has always given one degree without any gradations and any man who satisfactorily completed a course received that degree. The proposed plan would introduce at once a new element in this connection for certain students who graduate from that course in the regular way in four years would receive the degree and those who took the extra year would presumably receive the same degree. If the proposed plan is a good one, and it seems to me it has very much merit in it, the result

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin -2.

December 9th, 1915.

would be that the men who took the regular course would not have the same standing as those who took the extra course. In other words, this action would depreciate the value of the regular course and the regular degree granted for the completion of the course. I believe that this is a very serious objection to the plan.

Second - I doubt very much if in a practical way it would be found possible to get the students to return to the Institute after completing this fourth year of outside work. In many cases I am certain that splendid opportunities would be granted to these men to obtain positions and also it seems to me that after a year of broad outside practical work it would be very difficult to return to the Institute and carry on the routine laboratory and regular work there. I fear that the number who returned would be small and if the regular fourth year work which should be done in the fifth year by these students is essential in their education many would lose it.

Third - a man goes to the Institute, makes his plans to stay there, secures his rooms, etc. and then at the end of the third year he would have to give this all up for a year and come back again after a year's absence and settle down again. I believe that this will be a still more serious inconvenience under the new dormitory system than it would be at present.

I have very briefly tried to outline the objections that have come to my mind, and as a result of them, it seems to me very clear that this work, if it is decided that it is advantageous, ought to be carried on as a Post-Graduate work and not as a part of the regular fourth year work in the Institute. I believe that if it



Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin -3.

December 9th, 1915.

were carried on in that way and open to all men of a certain standing it would be of great value and would not in any way depreciate or lessen the value of the regular work as now carried on. It might possibly be well to give as an added incentive to students to take this Post-Graduate work the opportunity to take a Master's Degree on the completion of the so-called station work in the year after graduation, or it might be possible to run this station work as a special Post-Graduate School in Industrial Chemistry and allow any students, whether graduates of the Institute of Technology or not, to avail themselves of its advantages.

I offer these suggestions to you for what they may be worth and have only attempted to outline what is in my mind. If the idea commends itself to you I shall be very glad to talk with you further about the whole matter and I shall take the opportunity of talking to Mr. Little along these lines again as soon as possible.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Clark*

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,

Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

Boston, Mass.

[12/13/15]

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I had to leave for New York very shortly after receiving your letter of December the 9th and so had no opportunity of acknowledging it. Your criticism seems to me to be very pertinent and of course we should scrutinize the scheme most carefully before adopting it. Of your three criticisms, I think that the second is the most serious. The first could be met, and indeed would have to be met, by recognising the new course as different from most of the others and as a five years' course leading to a Master's degree. Your third criticism presents an objection, but not perhaps a very grave one. Men would probably find it a little difficult at first to settle down to academic work during their fifth year, but I think that the great majority of them would settle down and settle down quite seriously, recognising more clearly than they would otherwise have done the practical value of really mastering certain principles. As regards your second criticism, it has been on such grounds that I have always opposed plans that have been put forward in other departments that bear some resemblance to Mr. Little's scheme. I think, however, that with some modifications and some safeguards that might be introduced, Mr. Little's plan is freer from defects of this kind than any other of which I have heard. Under the best of circumstances, we should be sure to lose some of



Mr. Hobbs - 2.

the men attracted by offers that would be made. Even if they went, however, without coming back for a fifth year here, it might well be that their four years' training would be at least as good as if it had all been obtained at the Institute. Of course, after some experience, it might be found advisable to put the practical work entirely into a fifth year or to make various other modifications that have already been suggested. I think, on the whole, that Mr. Little's suggestion is a good one and that if it could be carried out by the aid of reasonably good men as instructors at the different stations, it would be a most important step forward in the education of chemical engineers. The most serious difficulty is the financial one, but perhaps means will be found of overcoming this.

Yours sincerely,

December 13, 1915.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

At the meeting of the Corporation held yesterday when the report of the Visiting Committee on Chemical Engineering was under discussion reference was made to Mr. Eastman's conditional gift. I am writing to those members who had to leave the meeting before the adjournment to tell them what I told the Corporation after they had left, that Mr. Eastman had expressed a wish that publicity in the matter of his gift be avoided.

Yours sincerely,

March 9, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.



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*Arlington Mills*

*President's Office*

*78 Chauncy Street*

*Boston,* March 16, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, President,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

My Dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

Last evening I attended the meeting of the Massachusetts Trust Companies Association, and was especially interested in your address, so much so, that I write to congratulate you upon it. It seemed to me a very suggestive speech and one that received much favorable commendation from those I saw afterwards. You certainly made many new ideas and suggestions, especially that in connection with the unifying effect that the great schools and colleges ought to have in this country.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Kable*

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Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I am much gratified to learn from you that my speech at the Banquet of the Trust Companies Association impressed you favorable and met with commendation from others. I had had to speak at another banquet earlier in the evening, but it was a pleasure to be present at the second meeting and look into the faces of so many strong looking men. In these days when there is so much feebleness in action and so much foolishness in speech it is encouraging to have ocular demonstration that there is much first-class material in the community after all.

Yours sincerely,

March 17, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.



[3/28/16]

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Mr. Everett Morss mentioned to me the other day that you had some hesitancy in suggesting names of people to be invited to the opening exercises of the Institute, not knowing what limitations might be put regarding numbers. Perhaps I should say then that the view of the Committee in charge of the opening exercises is that there should be no limitation as to numbers, everybody being invited that is suggested. If the weather is fine the exercises will be held in the great Court where we could accommodate many thousands. If it is wet, everybody invited will have an opportunity of seeing the buildings, guides being provided to conduct them around. As, however, there is no large hall in which exercises can be held it will be necessary to provide special tickets for those that can be admitted to the formal exercises in case of rain. When seats have been provided for the members of the Corporation and their wives, the Faculty, official representatives of Harvard, city and state officials and a limited number of alumni, there would be no space available for others. As I have said, however, these others will have an opportunity in any case of seeing the buildings and this may prove at least as interest-

Mr. Hobbs - 2.

esting as listening to formal addresses.

Yours sincerely,

March 28, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.



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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

April 7, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, Pres.,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Doctor Maclaurin:-

As requested by you by telephone,  
I shall be very glad to do what I can to  
assist you in taking charge of the lunch  
to be given to the guests on June 14th.

I will see you very soon in order  
to talk over some matters in connection  
with this before taking up the subject  
with any of the caterers in Boston.

Assuring you of my desire to assist  
in any way that I can, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

At the special meeting of the Corporation held on Thursday last, I was empowered to appoint a committee to draft a resolution for presentation at the October meeting of the Corporation expressing appreciation of "Mr. Smith's" benefaction. I shall be much gratified if you can serve on this committee with Mr. F. P. Fish, under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Mr. Munroe.

Yours sincerely,

June 16, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

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June 19, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th inst. and it will give me much pleasure to serve on the Committee to draft a resolution for presentation at the October Meeting of the Corporation expressing appreciation of "Mr. Smith's" last gift.

I take this opportunity to congratulate you upon the most successful exercises in connection with the dedication of the new buildings. Everything went off in a most satisfactory and dignified manner - worthy of the Institute in every way.

Very truly yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

[6/21/16]

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

It is customary at this time for the President to appoint a Committee of three whose duty it is to bring in at the October meeting of the Corporation nominations for officers and Committees for the ensuing year. Will you be good enough to serve as Chairman of this Committee in cooperation with Messrs. Jasper Whiting and A. Farwell Bemis. The positions to be filled are as follows:-

Secretary (Mr. James P. Munroe is eligible for re-election)

Member of the Executive Committee (Mr. F. P. Fish's term expires; he is eligible for re-election for a period of five years)

Finance Committee, 5 members

Committee on the Society of Arts, 5 members

Auditing Committee, 3 members

Nominating Committee, 5 members

Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts, 3

In addition to these, the following visiting committees are to be appointed, the number of each committee being left to the discretion of your committee:-

- Department of Civil Engineering
- Department of Mechanical Engineering
- Departments of Mining and Geology
- Department of Architecture
- Department of Physics
- Department of Electrical Engineering

Departments of History and Political Economy



Mr. Hobbs - 2.

Departments of Modern Languages and English  
Department of Mathematics  
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering  
Department of Biology and Public Health  
Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

I suppose there is some advantage in keeping the Finance Committee reasonably permanent, and possibly also the trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts. In the case of the other committees some re-arrangement might afford a little variety, but of course all this is a matter entirely for your committee to determine. It is not usual to nominate His Excellency the Governor, or His Honor the Chief Justice for membership of visiting committees, although this again is a matter within the discretion of your committee. Mr. William Endicott has asked to be relieved from the duty of service on committees. As Mr. Pierre S. du Pont did not find it practicable to accept his last nomination, it would doubtless be well to communicate with him before presenting his name to the Corporation. Through the resignation of Mr. Robert S. Peabody, an opportunity is presented of nominating some other member of the Corporation for a Trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts, and I have reason to believe that the position would be acceptable to Mr. Desmond FitzGerald.

I enclose a card giving a list of the members of the Corporation and of the various committees.

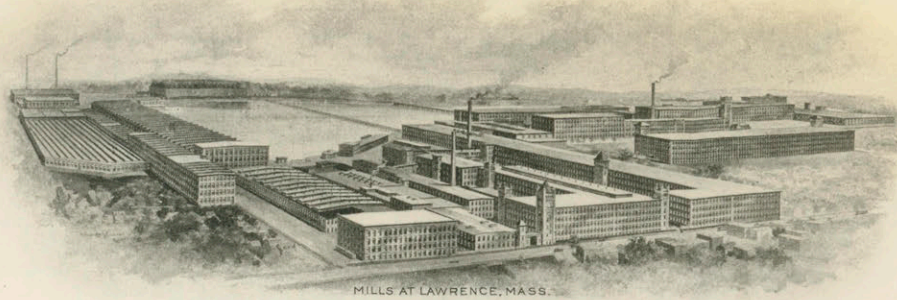
Yours sincerely,

June 21, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,



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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

MILLS AT LAWRENCE, MASS.

# ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

July 7, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,  
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

It was very kind of you to write to me with reference to the luncheon. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and I am very glad that you were so well pleased with the arrangements made for that occasion. It seemed to me that every part of the exercises was carried out in a most satisfactory manner and I think the whole affair will have a very far reaching effect on the future of the Institute. I congratulate you most heartily on the success of all the exercises.

Last Friday Mrs. Hobbs and I made a short trip by boat to Bar Harbor and on Saturday afternoon motored around the island going through Seal Harbor. If I had only known you were there we certainly would have taken great pleasure in calling on you.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Maclaurin and hoping that you will have a splendid rest, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



*ans*

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

476

July 12, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,  
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

The Committee on Nominations for Officers and Committee of the Corporation have had their first meeting and practically made up a list of recommendations for appointment. I would like, however, before submitting it to ask you once more about Mr. Edward J. Holmes, who is one of the Committee on the Trustees for Museum of Fine Arts. The matter came up last year, but Mr. Bemis is a new member of the Committee and wished to know more about the matter.

As I understood it, he is really a member of this committee on account of the interest some relative of his has in the Museum of Fine Arts, and I suppose that technically, or legally, he is not entitled to hold the position. On the other hand, there is no opposition on the part of the members of the Nominating Committee not to renominate him if you think it is advisable in spite of its irregularity. I would like to know, however, if there will be any objection on your part for me to see Mr. Morris Gray, the head of the Art Museum, and ask him if they could not take care of Mr. Holmes on the Board of Trustees of the Art Museum itself. If they are willing to do this, will it not solve the somewhat peculiar situation which exists as far as the Institute is concerned?

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin -2.

July 12th, 1916.

Trusting that you are not having the very hot and uncomfortable weather which we have been having in Boston and that you are getting well rested, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

476

July 18, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,  
Seal Harbor, Maine.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin,-

I have received your letter of the 14th inst., and I have also talked with Mr. Gray about the Art Museum representative. The matter is now entirely clear, but it was not before. In other words, I now understand that this Committee is not really a Committee of the Corporation but representatives of the Institute of Technology, appointed by the Corporation to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts. We had been told before that it was a Committee of the Corporation, and that was the cause of all the misunderstanding. I think myself that it would be as well to omit the names of these representatives from the printed list of the Committees of the Corporation. Under the circumstances there can be no question about the advisability of appointing Mr. Holmes, and the Committee will do so. Mr. Gray, however, stated that it was very likely that when they had another vacancy they might appoint Mr. Holmes directly on their Board. He explained to me, however, that the representatives of Harvard were not members of its Corporation or of its Board of Overseers, and his explanation and your letter have made the entire matter clear. I was always told before that it was a Committee of the Corporation. I am sorry to have bothered you about the matter, but I am very glad to have it cleared up.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



Dear Mr. Hobbs;

At the annual meeting of the Corporation held yesterday a discussion took place on the problem of securing half a million dollars for endowment before the 31st of December, in order to meet the needs of the Institute and secure the full amount of Mr. "Smith's" generous offer. In the discussion the following points were emphasized:-

1. The fact that the Institute has thus far carried through its building program without encroaching on its general funds. Mr. "Smith's" great gift could be used for no other purpose than building, as was the case also with the gifts from Messrs. Coleman du Pont, Pierre du Pont and Charles Hayden for a mining building. The expenditures on the objects very definitely prescribed by these benefactors have been kept within one per cent of the total amount of their gifts, namely, \$3,715,000. The expenditure would not have exceeded the gifts even by this amount had it not been for the phenomenal rise in prices, especially in the field of labor, during the last nine months.

2. The urgent need of greater endowment. See Appendix A.



Mr. Hobbs

-2-

3. The importance of proving to Mr. "Smith" and the other large benefactors of the Institute that others are ready to take their share of the burden.

4. To obtain the full benefit of Mr. "Smith's" offer to contribute five dollars for every three dollars otherwise obtained, subscriptions must be actually paid before the 31st of December and must be for an endowment fund. This does not exclude endowment for a special department or course.

5. The necessity of all taking a share in the burden of securing the needed \$500,000 within the time prescribed. In this connection the Corporation voted that it was the sense of the meeting that all past and present members of the Corporation should be asked to share in the work of securing endowment. More specifically it was agreed that members should be asked to do either one or both of the following: (a) Offer contributions themselves. (b) Undertake to use their best efforts to secure contributions from others. Four members present generously volunteered to make contributions with the condition that the total amount required should be obtained before the end of the year. A larger number undertook to try to secure contributions, specifying the sums that they would endeavor to raise, these sums being \$10,000 and upwards.

I should be glad to know, if possible, before Thursday next, October 19th, to what extent you can cooperate in this important undertaking. It must be unnecessary for me to emphasize the gravity of a failure to rise to the opportunity presented by Mr. "Smith's" offer. It was suggested at the meeting



Mr. Hobbs

-3-

of the Corporation that I should supply members with certain statements that might help them in their task of securing funds.

I accordingly enclose three appendices: appendix A, a statement regarding the Institute's need of further endowment; appendix B, some general considerations concerning the problem of endowment; appendix C, some opinions of impartial observers regarding the Institute of Technology.

Yours sincerely,

October 12, 1916

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Mass.



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

October 24, 1916.

Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:-

I have received your letter of the 12th and, of course, will do anything I can to assist you in securing the necessary funds. It will be impossible for me personally to make the contributions as suggested by you, but I will endeavor to secure contributions from others, but, of course, this is very problematical and I am not at all sanguine of the results. However, all anyone can do is to make the best effort they can and I hope I may be able to accomplish something.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

After the dinner to the past and present members of the Corporation on Thursday, November 2d, there will be an informal discussion of the problem of adding to the endowment of the Institute. You have generously offered to do your best to secure contributions from others and I should like to know either at the dinner or before it what success you have had. I hope <sup>that</sup> at the dinner ~~that~~ we can make a satisfactory report of progress.

Yours sincerely,

October 30, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I enclose a card setting forth the membership of the various committees appointed by the Corporation at its last meeting. From this card you will see that you are a member of the Visiting Committee of the Department of Mechanical Engineering under the chairmanship of Mr. Main; you are also a member of the Visiting Committee of the Department of Mathematics under the chairmanship of Mr. Putnam.

Yours sincerely,

November 7, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

COPY.

34 Oliver Street,  
Boston, Dec. 18, 1916

My dear Dr. Maclaurin:

I am just in receipt of yours of the 16th. Your previous letter I think I neglected to acknowledge, but it did not reach the waste basket, I assure you. It has been before me on my desk since it was received.

I am delighted for all that is being done for Tech. The institution deserves it. They are doing magnificent work. I have had a good many things on my hands of late, as you will understand, and I regret to say that I seem to be about the only chap who is willing to contribute much toward wiping out the saloons of Boston and to secure National Prohibition throughout the country.

Frankly, this is the thing uppermost in my mind and thoughts and is taking my efforts and tapping my pocket book. While I want to see the Institute get, and they must get, the money necessary to meet the conditions of Mr. "Smith", nevertheless, I had hoped that the need would appeal to others in Boston who are not moved by the things which have been moving me.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) E. N. Foss



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I enclose a copy of a letter just received from Mr. Foss. As the prohibition matter will, I suppose, be settled for the time being to-day, Mr. Foss may be able to think of the possibility of helping the Institute between now and the end of the year. As I told you confidentially over the telephone, a promise made within the time specified but to be performed later would meet the present requirements of the situation. Perhaps you will find an opportunity of taking the matter up again with Mr. Foss before the time limit expires.

Yours sincerely,

December 19, 1916.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts,

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Regarding the Technology Endowment  
Fund, will you be good enough to take care of  
Mr. F. C. Dumaine.

Yours sincerely,

November 24, 1916.

Mr. F. W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I enclose a card setting forth the membership of the various committees appointed by the Corporation at its last meeting. From this card you will see that you are a member of the Visiting Committee for the Department of Mechanical Engineering under the chairmanship of Mr. Main, and also a member of the Visiting Committee for the Department of Mathematics under the chairmanship of Mr. Putnam.

Yours sincerely,

October 30, 1917.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I have learned with great pleasure of your son's decoration. Please accept my most hearty congratulations on his brilliant accomplishments.

Yours sincerely,

May 1, 1918.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I enclose a card setting forth the membership of the various committees appointed by the Corporation at its last meeting. From this card you will see that you are chairman of the Visiting Committee for the Department of Mechanical Engineering your colleagues on that Committee being Messrs. Hubbard, Elliott, and Litchfield; you are also a member of the Visiting Committee for the Department of Mathematics under the chairmanship of Mr. Putnam. At an earlier meeting of the Corporation it was voted that the chairman of each Visiting Committee be requested to arrange for at least three meetings of his committee during the year, one meeting to be held before the Christmas holidays.

Since the enclosed list was set up, Mr. Hubbard has resigned and his resignation will be acted upon at the next meeting of the Corporation.

Yours sincerely,

November 11, 1918.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Please accept my thanks for the list that you have been good enough to send to me. I should be glad to confer with you at your convenience as to ways and means of approaching these men.

Yours sincerely,

August 22, 1919.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I am very glad to have the suggestions contained in your letter of August 19th. I should like to talk with you regarding the very important question of the expedient ways of approach of individuals that you name.

Is C. T. Plunkett a likely benefactor? I know him slightly and understand that Bemis knows him pretty well. How should he be approached?

There has been talk for years of Searle of Methuen, and I remember that on our last campaign it was understood that you were to see him. It seemed to be generally thought that he was hopeless, but I noted recently that he had given a large sum, I think a million dollars, to some western college. It is somewhat curious how many Massachusetts men seem <sup>more</sup> ready to support institutions outside this state than those within it. Perhaps it is a matter of education and we must see to it that we educate all that we can.

Yours sincerely,

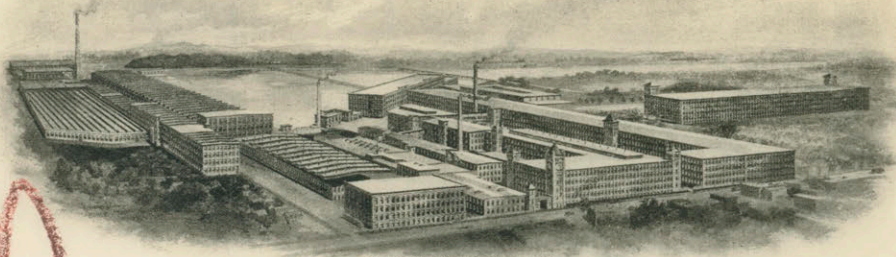
August 20, 1919.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,

78 Chauncy Street,

Boston, Massachusetts.





FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

*FM*

MILLS AT LAWRENCE, MASS.

## ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

March 8, 1923.

Mr. S. W. Stratton, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

Referring to our conversation last evening, I shall be very glad to go over to see you a little later when you have more time to talk over the suggestion that you made last evening - namely, what the Institute could do for the textile industries. It was a pleasure to hear you speak so strongly about their importance for I have found among most educators a very surprising lack of appreciation of this fact. Without the textile industries it would be hard to realize what would happen to New England and to its institutions of learning, which have been so largely built up and supported from the earnings of the industry.

Some years ago I had an opportunity to talk to the Boston Art Club and took advantage to tell them about "Textiles - The Backbone of New England". I am enclosing a copy of the address which received very wide circulation at that time, thinking that in this connection it may be of interest to you.

My telephone is Beach 1856 and I shall hope to hear from you before long. Perhaps it might be convenient for you to lunch with me at the Union Club some day.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Enclosure.



Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the copy of your address before the Boston Art Club which I have read with a great deal of interest.

I am indeed very greatly interested in the textile industry. We have a meeting of the Executive Committee and one of the Corporation this week which will keep me very busy during the first three days of the week. I should, however, be pleased to lunch with you at the Union Club on Thursday or Friday.

Yours sincerely,

March 13, 1923.

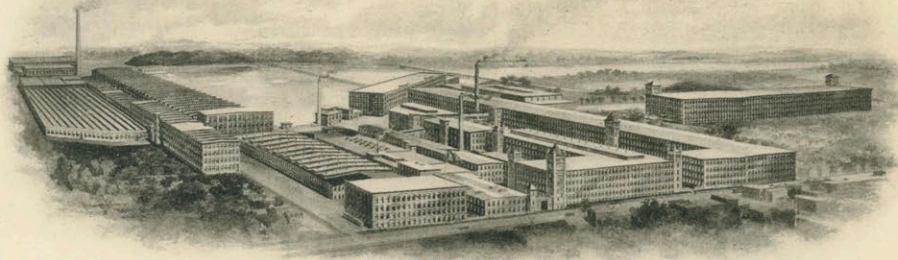
Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,

78 Chauncy Street,

Boston, Massachusetts.

*Beane 1856*

*Thursday March 22  
Union Club 1-6 o'clock*



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

MILLS AT LAWRENCE, MASS.

# ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

June 21, 1923.

Dr. S. W. Stratton, President,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

Referring to our conversation on Monday, I take pleasure in sending you herewith, with my compliments, five yards of the serge like my suit that you admired so much. I was very much pleased that you thought so well of the fabric and I trust that when this cloth is made up for you, you will be equally pleased with it yourself.

I was very glad to be in Lowell with you on Monday and enjoyed very much our conversation coming back.

Hoping that you will find your house in Washington in good condition when you go down the end of the week, and with very kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

*2nd of 46 by 40  
12 - 3 1/2 x 2 1/2  
13-7, 14-8*



June 22, 1923.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I received the package of cloth that you so kindly sent to me, and I am planning to have it made up. I shall take great pleasure in wearing the suit.

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in the fall on my return to Boston.

With best wishes for a restful and enjoyable summer, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs,  
78 Chauncy Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

October 26, 1923.

Mr. James P. Munroe, Secretary,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

My dear Mr. Munroe:-

It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 25 advising me that at a stated meeting of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, held on October 24, I was unanimously elected to Life Membership in the corporation.

I appreciate deeply the honor and I shall certainly do everything in my power to help the Institute in its work.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



## ARLINGTON HILLS

October 27, 1923.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

It gives me very great pleasure to inform you of your election as a Life Member of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, at the meeting held on October 24th.

I am greatly pleased to welcome you as a member of the Corporation knowing as I do your interest in making the Institute useful to the industries of New England, especially that of textiles.

I am looking forward to the development of an intimate contact between the textile industries and the Institute in which you have already expressed a desire to cooperate. It is a field in which I am especially interested.

Yours sincerely,

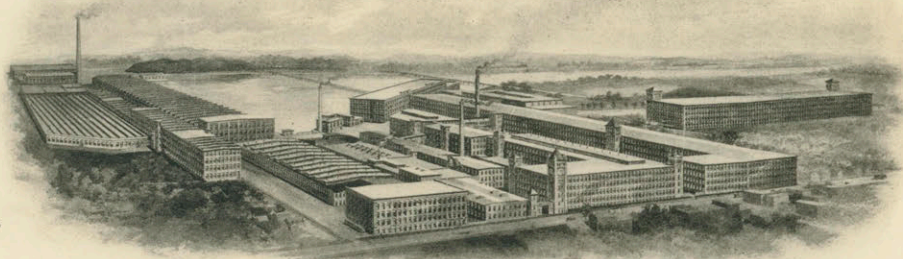
Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs

78 Chauncy Street

Boston, Massachusetts.

476

877



MILLS AT LAWRENCE, MASS.

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

# ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

October 29, 1923.

Dr. S. W. Stratton, President,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I thank you for your kind letter of October 27 and I appreciate very deeply the honor conferred on me by the election to life membership in the corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As you know, I am greatly interested in the Institution and its success and I shall be glad to assist in any way that I can.

Referring to the talk we had last year I hope that you will carry forward the suggestion and some time within the near future try to get together the textile men whose names I gave you and have a talk with them about the whole matter. I am confident that there is a field there that has not yet been touched, which may prove of great value to the industry.

Yours very truly,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

February 19, 1924.

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

Since our conference last week I have been thinking over the matter that you spoke about and I feel very strongly that some effort should be made to see one of the Houghtons, the Glass Manufacturers at Corning, N.Y. Mr. A.B.Houghton is at present the Ambassador or Minister to Germany, but the other Houghton I understand is in this country. They are both very wealthy and on account of their business ought to be interested in the Tech Institution.

I also spoke of Mr. Galen L. Stone, who was formerly a partner of Charles Hayden, in Hayden, Stone & Co. About a year ago he retired from active business and I think that he is at home at the present time.

The Borden family in Fall River are also reputed to have great wealth and on account of their long family connection with the textile business ought to be interested in the work at the Institute.

If I think of anyone else, I will communicate with you further.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

3 things

February 20, 1924.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 9th. I know the Ambassador to Germany, having met him several times in Washington. I have been planning for some time to go to Corning, and as I have an excuse that will take me to that part of the country, I will try to get in touch with Mr. Houghton. I don't think it can be managed in time to help on the land question, but he is the sort of man whom we ought to interest in the Institute.

In regard to Mr. Galen L. Stone, do you think he would look with favor upon our project? If so, I should be pleased to call upon him. *87 Milk Street.*

~~X~~ As to the Borden family in Fall River, I may be able to get access to them through some of our local people. A few weeks ago I gave a talk before the textile people of Fall River and there were a number of prominent men present, but I am not sure as to the Bordens.

Thanking you for your suggestions, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

*Helen  
New Bedford*



5173

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

October 9, 1924.

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, President,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I did not get a chance to speak to you last evening after the meeting to tell you how glad I was that you brought up the various matters that you did. I think one of the great dangers of an educational institution is to get into a frame of mind of security and superiority. A talk like yours is needed at times to wake a number of trustees up to the fact that an institution must keep in the forefront of everything it takes hold of if it is really to lead. I am sure that great good will result from the talk that you made yesterday.

There is one suggestion that I would like to make with reference to the so-called "All-Day Meeting" that Mr. Bemis suggested. It seems to me that if the corporation members meet at lunch time, then had an opportunity to look over the different parts of the building with a meeting later in the afternoon, dined together and had a meeting as long as necessary in the evening, it would meet the ideas that Mr. Bemis had in mind. I think this would be better than an attempt to meet at ten o'clock in the morning and take all day, and it certainly would tend to bring a larger attendance of the men in Boston. I also believe that actually more time would be put on it if the meeting was carried on along the lines suggested.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

October 22, 1924.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 9th containing suggestions for the "All-Day Meeting" which I think are excellent. I talked with Mr. Bemis this morning and he also is in favor of a meeting along your lines. I am greatly indebted to you for the suggestions. Mr. Humphreys has been to see me several times concerning the textile program, and I feel that we should be initiating some important work. I will see you about this in the near future. Why would it not be a good plan to have reports on a few matters of that sort, which are not as yet included in the regular departments as reported upon by the Visiting Committee? A report by you or Mr. Humphreys concerning the need for textile work and what the Institute should be doing would be enlightening to a large number of the members of the Corporation and would have the advantage of being something definite. I should be very glad to work with you and Mr. Humphreys in preparing such a report if you think the plan advisable.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

October 27, 1924.

Dr. S. W. Stratton, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I am glad that my suggestion with reference to the all-day meeting has met with your approval.

I have talked with Mr. Humphreys about the latter part of your letter and found that he was to see you today and I therefore asked him to take up the whole subject with you. I agree with you that it would be a wise thing to have a special report made to the Corporation on textile work and it would be a pleasure for me to unite with Mr. Humphreys in making such a report and to have your assistance along the lines you suggest.

Very truly yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

November 19, 1924.

Dr. S. W. Stratton, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

As you know, I had expected that the question of research work would come up with Mr. Bancroft and others at the time of the meeting of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers last week. As a matter of fact Mr. Bancroft could not come to the meeting and it therefore did not come up in the way I had expected. We have the whole matter, however, in mind and hope for a conference at an early date. I shall do all I can to see that this work is brought to the Institute if possible.

Very truly yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*





FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

## ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

October 14, 1925

Dr. S. W. Stratton,  
111 Charles River Road,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I have ordered sent to you a suit length of our Quality 2519, which is a good medium winter weight cloth in a basket weave which I think you might like as a change from the plain serge which you had before.

It gives me much pleasure to send this to you, with my compliments, and I trust that it will make a satisfactory suit.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

## ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

October 14, 1925.

*File  
map.*

Dr. S. W. Stratton,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I am glad that you are able to accept my invitation to lunch on Thursday, October 15, at 12:45 o'clock, at the Union Club, Park Street, Boston, and at that time to meet Colonel, the Honorable F. Vernon Willey.

Colonel Willey is visiting this country at this time in the interest of the Federated British Industries, of which he is the President. He is also a partner in the well-known Boston and English wool house of Francis Willey & Co.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

June 9, 1926.

Dr. S. W. Stratton, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I was extremely sorry not to be able to be at the Exercises yesterday afternoon as I had planned, but as Mr. Humphreys told you, I was called on the list for the Jury of the Comeau murder trial and was tied up in Court all day Monday and yesterday until noon, when it was too late to get out to the Exercises.

I had at first expected to serve if called, but you will remember that in March I had quite a serious time with my left eye and when my doctors heard of the jury call they objected to service and thought the confinement would be bad for me as my eye is still under careful observation and frequent treatment. On account of the letters from the doctors, the Judge excused me from service, but, as I said, it was too late to go over. I am glad that you had such a wonderful afternoon and that everything went off so well. I hope next year that I will be able to be present.

Can you tell me whether there is any other institution besides Technology (except West Point and Annapolis) where no honorary degrees have been given? I fully believe in the policy that we have had in this regard, but I wonder if any other institutions have followed it.

I was very glad to hear from Walter Humphreys that you have the new suit and was much amused at his statement that you had hurried home before the Corporation Meeting on Friday in order to wear it as you thought I was to be present. I hope to see it in the near future and trust that it will prove as satisfactory as the other one.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*



June 11, 1926.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Your letter of June 9 is at hand and I am indeed very sorry to hear of the trouble with your eye. The meeting of the Corporation went off as usual, but the June meeting is nearly always taken up with routine matters.

Our Commencement was the best we have had for some time; we were particularly fortunate in having good weather.

As <sup>to</sup> the honorary degrees, I cannot say off-hand whether there are institutions other than those you mention that give honorary degrees, but I am inclined to think there are several. ( I will look into the matter to see what institutions do not follow the practice. / On the whole, I believe in our own policy, but I do feel that it may be advisable to grant degrees to our students who practically finished the course, but were prevented at the last moment from graduating, by illness or otherwise, and who have made a marked success in life. I am of the opinion that it would be worth while to grant an occasional honorary degree under unusual circumstances. It is of course true that the custom has been somewhat frequent in recent years.



[6/11/26]

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs - 2

The suit is very satisfactory. I am leaving for Europe on the 29th of this month and hope to see you before I go. Perhaps we can lunch together some time in town.

Yours sincerely,



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

April 23, 1928

Dr. Samuel S. Stratton, President  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Stratton:-

Mrs. Hobbs, my daughter and I went on Saturday evening to see the Tech Show. You may think I am a little critical to write you about it, but it did seem to all of us that the whole tone of the play was poor and decidedly below the standard of other years. As you know, the entire play centered around "rum", hip flasks, violation of the Prohibition Act, caricature of a Prohibition Agent and there was really nothing else to the play.

I feel very strongly that it was most unwise for the students of a great institution like ours to use this particular subject at this time as a theme or plot (if there was a plot) in a play of this sort. I realize fully the troubles and objections to the Prohibition Act, but, after all, it is a law of the country and it does not seem to me very good taste or good policy for a great student body to proclaim to their audiences in a play of this sort that this law should be held up to ridicule and the violation of it made the basis of a play. No matter what our personal opinions may be about Prohibition - after all - it is a law of the land and I feel that such a play should not have been allowed and that its whole tone was low and unworthy of a great institution like ours.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Referred to:

\_\_\_\_\_

For his information

For comment

For reply direct

For preparation of reply for

President's signature

Further reference to

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President



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April 27, 1928

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 23d regarding the Tech Show. I will take this up with the managers. I attended the Show on the same evening and enjoyed it very much. On the whole I thought it quite up to the standard of previous years, with the exception of the things you mentioned. I, too, disliked that part of it very much and can assure you that I will make known to the authorities the fact that the Show has been criticized from that point of view, without, of course, giving any names.

I am strongly of the opinion that we ought to devise some plan whereby the character of the Show could be passed upon by a competent committee. Of course, the Institute prides itself on the fact that the activities run themselves, and that this is a part of their experience here. However, in an important matter like the Show, which is so intimately in touch with the public,

[4/27/28]

Mr. F. W. Hobbs - 2

we should be most careful.

Again thanking you for calling this to my  
attention, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

President



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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

May 29, 1929

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, President,  
Mass. Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I thank you for your letter of May 27  
with reference to Miss Birge. The matter is  
just as I supposed it was but I am glad to  
have the facts.

I hope to see you at the Corporation  
Meeting on Friday next.

Very sincerely yours,

Referred to:

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

For his information

For comment

~~For reply direct~~

For preparation of reply for

President's signature

For further reference to

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT

MILLS AT LAWRENCE, MASS.

# ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

June 12, 1929

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I take pleasure in sending you under separate cover enough serge for a suit with double breasted coat if you prefer.

I think you will be interested to know that this is one of the finest serges we have ever made at the Arlington Mills. The yarn is a 2/45s made from a 66/70s Australian Merino wool, spun on a French spinning frame. The finished fabric has 81 ends, 74 picks per inch and weighs 13½ ounces.

I think you will agree with me that this is a very splendid fabric and I hope that you will enjoy wearing it as much as I do sending the cloth to you.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

*Schaft  
Rice  
Alex Macomber*



June 12, 1929

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I returned this morning from a trip to Washington, and found at the house the piece of serge you so kindly sent to me. It is fine piece of goods and I appreciate your thought of me very much indeed. Hereafter I can attend the Corporation meetings feeling that I am properly dressed.

With sincerest thanks, I remain,

Yours very truly,

[Nov. 1929]

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FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
192 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE  
BOSTON, MASS.

Sunday.

Dear Dr. Stratton:

If you have not  
already read "Putting it  
up to the College" in the  
November Atlantic I suggest  
you do so. In view of the  
discussion at the last  
Corporation meeting you will  
be interested about tuition  
and especially the moral  
obligations to donors of  
funds given for the  
general benefit of the



public at large.

It is full of thought  
not generally understood.

Sincerely

Franklin W. Hally

January

Commercial Arithmetic

---



November 26, 1929

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
192 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

Thank you very much for calling my attention to the article in the November Atlantic Monthly, which I have read with interest. I should have answered your note sooner, but have just found an opportunity to read the article.

Yours sincerely,



Founder and Honorary President  
MRS. CHARLES SUMNER BIRD



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MRS. WILLIAM MORTON WHEELER

January 3 1930,

My dear Dr. Stratton: —  
I am sorry that you were  
Some what hurried in your ab-  
sence on Thursday but as was  
due to the unexpected arrival  
of the Secretary half an hour  
early - I it had not been  
for this you would have had  
ample time to deliver your  
remarks in full. These present  
were interesting and enlightening  
May we have a copy because





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 B. H. BRISTOW DRAPER ELIOT WADSWORTH  
 MRS. LOUIS A. FROTHINGHAM ROBERT M. WASHBURN  
 MRS. WILLIAM MORTON WHEELER

*Our four thousand members are scattered throughout the State and I should like if possible to print an extract in our next Bulletin which is mailed to all members. You appreciated very much your kindness in coming to us -*  
 Sincerely yours  
 Jane W. Hobbs



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January 8, 1930

Mrs. Franklin W. Hobbs  
~~Mrs. Jane W. Hobbs~~  
46 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

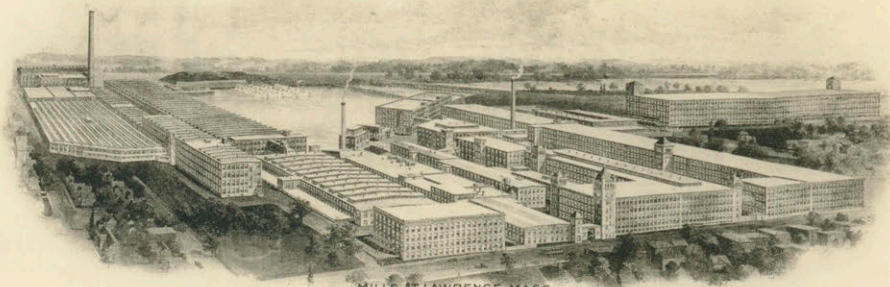
Dear Mrs. Hobbs:

Thank you for your note of January 3d. I regret that my address was more or less given from an outline and I am therefore unable to give you a copy for publication.

Yours sincerely,



FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
PRESIDENT



MILLS AT LAWRENCE, MASS.

## ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

April 11, 1930.

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Charles River Road,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I am very glad to send you with this a suit length of our serge like the one that I had on at the last Corporation Meeting.

This is delivered London shrunk, ready for the tailor with a finished weight of 13 ounces per yard, running 56/57 inches in width. You will be interested to know that the yarn in this fabric is a 2/45s made of 66/70s Australian Merino wool. The yarn is French spun and made in the Spinning Mill of the Monomac Spinning Co. at Lawrence and woven, dyed and finished in our mill. We are just getting out a line of these super serges made in this way as we have no French spinning in the Arlington Mills but, as you know, the Monomac Spinning Co. is a close associate of ours and both mills are under the same general management. You may also like to know that the finished fabric has 81 ends of warp and 74 picks of filling. We believe it is a particularly fine piece of goods and are very proud to have it worn by any of our friends. I can assure you there is no better serge made anywhere in the world!

This is our super serge and is known as Quality 3044 and I think you will find that it will wear better than any other for as the yarn is French spun it is a little softer and the fabric will not get shiny so soon or so easily.

Very truly yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

April 15, 1930

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

On my return last evening from a short visit to Washington, I found the piece of goods you so kindly sent me. It is certainly very splendid material and I am proud that we can make such fine goods in this country. It will give me much pleasure to wear this suit.

I do appreciate the many kindnesses you have shown me.

Very sincerely,



Referred to:

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For his information

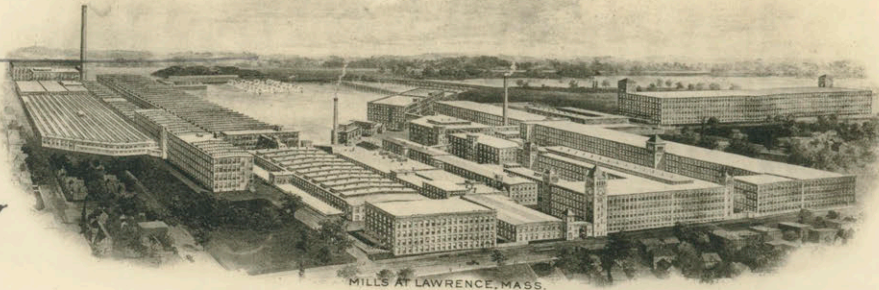
For comment

For reply direct

For preparation of reply for

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
President's signature

Further reference to



## ARLINGTON MILLS

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

President

78 CHAUNCY ST.

BOSTON

June 27, 1930.

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, President,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

Enclosed you will please find a copy of a letter dated June 26 from Mr. Alvin A. Claflin of The L. B. Fortner Company, with reference to Dr. Walter M. Scott.

As you know, he recommends him for a position in the Textile Research Department. I know nothing of Dr. Scott personally, but I should say he had quite an experience along chemical and dyestuff lines. I do not know whether that is the line you wish to take up or not. I think Mr. Claflin's judgment is good.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

Enclosure.



[encl 6/27/30]

THE L. B. FORTNER COMPANY  
88 Broad St.,

Boston, Mass., June 26, 1930.

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy St.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Hobbs:-

You doubtless know that President, or perhaps I should say Chairman Stratton, has been looking for a man suitable to head a textile research department at Technology, particularly along chemical lines.

Dr. Walter M. Scott is now available and has been recommended to Dr. Stratton by Dr. W. K. Lewis. As I have very extensive acquaintance among textile chemists and recognize the much superior qualifications Dr. Scott has for the position, I will appreciate your speaking a word to Dr. Stratton, assuming of course you have some confidence in my opinion.

I summarize Dr. Scott's career briefly:

Academic degree at Yale 1912, PHD at Yale 1915 - from 1915-1926, less one year out in Chemical Warfare Service, with Cheney Brothers. In this period he rose to be chief chemist and was such from 1920 to 1926, resigned to do special research work with National Aniline Company, resigned 1928 to do special scientific and demonstration work with Munsell Color Service.

One particular advantage Dr. Scott has is that at Cheney Bros. he had to do with all kinds of fibres silk, wool, cotton, rayon, both dyeing and printing.

When Dr. Scott has changed his associations it has been in the direction of acquiring more knowledge and experience.

I believe it would be a splendid thing for Technology to secure Dr. Scott, and also of much benefit to the New England Textile industry.

Trusting you will pardon any presumption I have in bringing this matter to your attention, for while I believe you have met Dr. Scott, I do not know if you are as familiar with his particular qualifications for this position as I am, and of his availability at the present time.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Alvin A. Claflin.

*Alvin A. Claflin*



File  
4 1027

June 28, 1930

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I have your letter of June 27th with reference to the Textile Alliance Inc. In reply I would say that this question, and the documents connected with it, were placed before the Executive Committee at the first meeting after the receipt of the fund. The fund was gratefully accepted under the conditions suggested, and the Treasurer was authorized to execute the documents. I understand from the Treasurer that this has been done.

I acknowledge also the receipt of your letter enclosing one from Mr. Claflin with reference to Dr. Scott. I have just had a long interview with him. His academic training is entirely satisfactory and his experience in certain lines has been very good, but of course we cannot tell about his personality. I am very anxious to put in a good textile chemist and will give his case a thorough investigation. I do not believe we can give him a definite

Mr. F. W. Hobbs - 2

answer before September, as the question of funds is a very serious one. We are now carrying practically all of the textile work out of General Funds of the Institute. I am hoping that the recent donation of the Textile Alliance will serve as a nucleus, and it is my intention to take up an active campaign next fall to supplement that fund. While the amount of the donation was not large viewed from the point of income, it will be exceedingly important as an example. The income from this will also enable us to select one or two able graduate scholars.

I am leaving for Europe on July 8th, but will be here during the coming week. If I can be of any service, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

President

SWS/ARM



Referred to:

476

For his information  
For comment  
For reply direct  
For preparation of reply for  
President's signature  
Further reference to

FRANKLIN W. HOBBS  
78 CHAUNCY STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

July 1, 1930.

<sup>President</sup>  
Dr. Samuel W. Stratton,  
Mass. Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

Your letter of June 28 was received and I thank you for writing me so fully with reference to the fund and also with reference to Dr. Scott. You understand I know nothing whatever about Dr. Scott, myself but simply forwarded to you the letter from Mr. Claflin.

I am sure that you will have a well earned rest on your trip to Europe and I hope that it will be successful in every way. I shall look forward to seeing you on your return in the Fall.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin W. Hobbs

No reply



HOTEL WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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My dear Dr Stratton:

Your letter of the  
14<sup>th</sup> with enclosures came  
here this morning and  
I thank you. The in-  
formation is just what  
I wanted and I shall be  
glad to transmit to the  
Board of The Sexton Foundation  
at its meeting tomorrow.  
The situation as stated.

Sincerely

Franklin W. Halsey

Feb 15. 1931



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SECRETARY AND ASST. TREAS.

THE TEXTILE FOUNDATION

COMMERCE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

78 Chauncy St.,  
Boston, Mass.

March 27, 1931.

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, President,  
United States Institute for  
Textile Research, Inc.  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr. Stratton:-

I thank you for your letter of March 24 and I am very glad to know that the work that you are doing at the request of the Textile Foundation is coming on so well. I shall look forward to a further report in time for me to take it to Washington when I go to attend our annual meeting on April 15.

I have today written Mr. Pickard, the Assistant Treasurer requesting him to send check to Mr. Ernest N. Hood, Treasurer, Pequot Mills, Salem, Mass. for \$500. on account of the work that you have already done. When you need a further amount please advise me.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*

*Referred to:*

\_\_\_\_\_

*For his information*

*For comment*

*For reply direct*

*For preparation of reply for*

*President's signature*

*Further reference to*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*President*

March 28, 1931

Mr. Franklin W. Hobbs  
78 Chauncy Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 27th to Dr. Stratton with reference to the work of the Textile Research Institute. Dr. Stratton sails today from New York for Europe, where he is to attend an important meeting in Paris, returning to Cambridge on May first. I think the Secretary of the Textile Research Institute, Mr. C. H. Clark, 65 Franklin Street, Boston, is in charge of matters connected with the Textile Institute during Dr. Stratton's absence. If you wish me to send a copy of your letter to Mr. Clark, I shall be glad to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary to the President

MRM



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SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
HENRY B. THOMPSON  
EDWARD T. PICKARD  
SECRETARY AND ASST. TREAS.

THE TEXTILE FOUNDATION

COMMERCE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*No reply*

78 Chauncy St.,  
Boston, Mass.

June 13, 1931

Dr. Samuel W. Stratton,  
370 Beacon St.  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Stratton:-

I thank you for your kind letter of June 12. I had in mind the meeting on Tuesday afternoon but it will be impossible for me to attend the meeting Tuesday morning. I will, however, try to get to the luncheon at the University Club. I assume it will be at 12:30 or 1:00 o'clock. Will you kindly have your Secretary let me know the hour? I can then go over to the afternoon meeting for I am anxious to inspect the work that is now being done at the Institute.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin W. Hobbs*