

The University of Chicago

Department of Zoölogy

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS PM

June 22, 1945

Dear Dr. Hamburger:

Your letter of June 17th has just arrived. Mrs. Allee had a talent for recognizing the quality of genuineness in people. Hence it would have been surprising if she had not enjoyed talking with you. It is difficult to go on from here even in a letter but going on is indicated.

You have done very well indeed with the Embryology Course and I am quite in agreement now with your decision to withdraw. I think you have done your share. Costello should do very well as your successor, and I hope it works out so.

I am not sure how much useful information I can give about Dr. Compton in relation to his new job. He seems to have been sound here in general orientation under conditions in which as a dean he might well have been tempted to be more diplomatic than sound. He does not leave a reputation on campus of having been a good administrator so far as looking out closely for administrative detail. Normally he leaves such matters to others. Although a very busy man I have found him essentially friendly in his attitudes towards his associates, and I should think Mrs. Compton would be a distinct asset in her new position. We are quite sorry to have the Comptons leave the University of Chicago and there has been a considerable amount of speculation concerning Compton's reactions to some of the educational changes on which President Hutchins has his mind set.

To my way of thinking the American college and university presidency has evolved into a situation that calls for an almost impossible amount of ability. I wish we could deflect the compass somewhat or get a new orientation by other means so that the president would become merely a chairman of his faculty.

It would be pleasant to talk with you about many matters. Perhaps you can return to St. Louis by way of Chicago.

Cordially yours,



W. C. Allee

Dr. Viktor Hamburger
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