

Centre College Board of Trustees Minutes (Vol. 6 - 1916)

[for the minutes of the February 2, 1916, meeting of the Board of Trustees, see Volume 5]

Danville, Kentucky, June 8, 1916

The Board of Trustees of Central University of Kentucky met pursuant to notice of the annual meeting of the Board, in the Library Building on Wednesday, June 8, 1916, at 9:00 a.m., and was called to order by the President of the Board of Trustees, Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, and was opened with prayer by Dr. Hugh Leith.

The roll was called and the following members found present: Charles R. Hemphill, Edward W.C. Humphrey, John W. Yerkes, David M. Sweets, Hugh Leith, John Barbour, A.J.A. Alexander, John G. Hunter, George W. Welsh, Charles C. Fox, Robert T. Quisenberry, Hugh B. Fleece, Rutherford E. Douglas, J.S. Lyons, Edward L. Warren, and John A. Cheek. President Ganfield being present was invited to sit with the Board.

The minutes of the last annual meeting of the board, and the called meeting of the Board held in Louisville, Kentucky, February 2, 1916, were read, and on motion, were approved as recorded.

The following trustees of the class expiring in 1919, viz. John Barbour, A.J.A. Alexander, J.G. Hunter and George W. Welsh, took the oath of office as prescribed by the charter before H.L. Briggs, Notary Public for Boyle County, Kentucky.

The minutes of the Executive Committee since the last annual meeting of the Board, were read to the Board of Trustees by the Secretary, and on motion approved.

The Treasurer of the Board, Mr. John A. Cheek, read his report, which on motion was approved, and his recommendation that the sum of \$8,664.87 be borrowed from the other funds of the College on account of the completion and equipment of the Gymnasium was approved, and the president of the Board of Trustees was authorized in connection with the Treasurer to make a note for the same, pledging as security on said note all unpaid subscriptions on account of the Gymnasium building and its equipment.

On motion duly carried, the Board expressed its cordial appreciation of the generosity of the Treasurer as shown in his report. The board also expressed its appreciation of the management of the institution by the President, Dr. William A. Ganfield, as exhibited in the financial report submitted by the Treasurer. On motion, the report of the Treasurer was approved as a whole.

The President made his annual report presenting the Faculty's recommendation as to degrees, which was as follows:

Master of Arts

Richard William Dunlap	Danville, Kentucky.
John Theobald Price	Paris, Kentucky.

Bachelor of Arts

Ewing Thomas Bole	Williamstown, Kentucky.
Paul B. Boyd	Louisville, Kentucky.
Vasilios Isadore Chebithes	Somerset, Kentucky.
Robert Burdette Dunn,	Danville, Kentucky.
Irving Fulton	Louisville, Kentucky.

Henry Clay Garrison, Jr.
Charles Morton Hanna
John Faulkner White

Danville, Kentucky.
Shelbyville, Kentucky.
Richmond, Kentucky.

Bachelor of Science

John Marshall Cloyd
Clem Dixon Johnston

Campbellsville, Kentucky.
Louisville, Kentucky.

On motion, the foregoing degrees were conferred as recommended by the Faculty.

The following resolution, presented by Hugh B. Fleece, was adopted:

Resolved that no honorary degree shall be conferred, except for achievement in some one or more particular lines of endeavor, and that a written statement of the basis for any such degree so conferred shall be incorporated in the minutes of the Board.

On motion of Dr. Rutherford E. Douglas, which was adopted, the Board ordered that the request of Dr. Jean, of New York, for the degree of M.A. was referred to the Executive Committee, with instructions to report at the next annual meeting of the Board of Trustees.

President Ganfield presented a condensed statement of the finances of the Athletic Board of Control, dated June 7, 1916, which on motion was filed among the records of the Board for future information.

On motion, the question of compensation of the athletic coach for the coming year was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act.

The application of the executor of John S. Van Winkle, deceased, for a new certificate representing the ownership of a scholarship in Centre College was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act.

The Treasurer presented to the Board the matter of the sale of the ground and building where the Centre College Academy was located, and on motion duly carried, the following resolution was adopted; a quorum of the Board being present and voting aye:

Resolved that Central University of Kentucky sell to the Board of Trustees of the Danville Graded Common School District, of Danville, Kentucky, for the sum of \$10,000 cash, the plot of ground and building thereon located in Danville, Boyle County, Kentucky, and known as the Centre College Academy lot, and being all of said Academy property situated on the southeast corner of Walnut and College or Sixth Street, and containing about two and 32/100 acres of ground, more or less, and being part of the ground conveyed to Centre College by W.I. Moore by deed dated September 23, 1867, and recorded in County Court. A.J.A. Alexander, President of this Board, is hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract for the sale of said property to said purchaser for and on behalf of this Board and of Central University of Kentucky, a deed conveying all of said property to said purchaser, and to do any and all things requisite and necessary to vest the purchaser with a full and absolute title to said property. Said deed shall reserve unto Central University of Kentucky, its successors or assigns, the right to perpetually maintain a sanitary sewer across the south end of the property sold, and which runs from the property of said University west of Sixth Street across said Academy property to the sewer system of the City of Danville, said reservation to be for the use and benefit of said Central University of Kentucky, with the provision that the said purchaser of said property, its successors and assigns, shall have the perpetual privilege of connecting with and using said sewer jointly with said Central University of Kentucky.

The committee heretofore appointed presented the following report and minute concerning the death of Dr. John C. Fales, which was adopted by a rising vote.

The Board took recess until 2:30 p.m.

The board met and resumed business at 2:30 p.m.

The President continued his report , and on motion, the matter touching Professor Clarence A. Nash [*professor of chemistry*] was referred to the Executive Committee.

As suggested by the President in his report, and on motion duly adopted, the method of the payment of the salaries of the President and professors was changed from quarterly payments to monthly payments beginning with October 1, 1916.

The resignation of Mr. O.M. Billings as trustee was accepted. Edward L. Warren, whose term as a trustee expires with this year, was elected by ballot as a trustee in the class expiring 1918. The following trustees whose terms expire in 1916 were duly elected by ballot to succeed themselves, viz., Charles R. Hemphill, W. Francis Irwin, J.S. Lyons, William L. Threlkeld, and John Stites. Dr. J. Rice Cowan, nominated to the Board of Trustees by the Alumni Association of Centre College, was on motion elected by ballot as trustee with his term of office expiring as a member of the class of 1920. On motion, Mr. Gibney Oscar Letcher was elected by ballot as a trustee with his term of office expiring with the class of 1918.

The following communication from the Executive Committee of Central University was, after discussion, referred by the Board to a committee consisting of Dr. Charles R. Hemphill, chairman, Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, President of the Board, with instructions to said committee to report to the Executive Committee, and they to communicate to the two Synods the reply to the question raised in the resolution of the Executive Committee referred to. The communication of the Executive Committee is as follows:

The Executive Committee of Central University of Kentucky, reporting to the Board of Trustees of this institution in regard to the communication to this Board from Dr. Henry Sweets under date of [*no date given*] touching the relation of this institution to the Presbyterian Church U.S., would respectfully submit that it finds from its interpretation of the language of Section III of the action of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S., that the ratification by the Synod of Kentucky U.S. of a majority of its duly elected qualified and acting trustees of Central University of Kentucky would cause said University to become an affiliated institution of said church. This committee takes pleasure in stating that twenty-two of the twenty-four duly elected, qualified and acting trustees are either ministers or members of the Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday, June 6, 1916, John A. Cheek, Secretary

Board adjourned.

The Board of Trustees of Centre College esteem it not only a duty, but a privilege, to place upon record some true conception of the career and character and service of one who for so long has been prominent in our college life.

John Cilley Fales born at Thomaston in the state of Maine on the 30th of December 1836, died at his home in Danville, Kentucky on the 28th of February 1916 in the 79th year of his age. Graduated at Colby (Waterville College) as valedictorian of his class in 1858. In that same year he followed in the footsteps of so many New England men, over the mountains and down the Ohio, until he halted at Lebanon, Kentucky, where he conducted the Lebanon Seminary until 1869. From that year until 1872 he taught in New Albany, Indiana. In the autumn of that year, he entered the faculty of Centre College, where he abided in the fullness of his strength and the completeness of his scientific and literary knowledge, until the spring of 1916, a period of 44 years. He was Dean of the Faculty from 1896; and twice acting President of the College 1896-1898, 1903-1904, and for a good long time prior to his death he was librarian of the College. He was chosen Professor of Natural Science when he entered the college, and when that chair was divided he became Professor of Biology and Geology.

When we look back into the years now past gone, and observe to what extent scientific knowledge and research has broadened and expanded until it has filled the earth, and call to mind that in our modern universities, the chair of natural science has been divided into more than a dozen chairs, filled by more than a dozen men, does it not mark out the wide difference between the past and the present that for so many years in Centre College, two men, Ormond Beatty and John Cilley Fales, the one after the other, filled the one chair of natural science throughout all its wide domain.

As our Presidents and professors, one by one, pass on over the Silent River into the great beyond, we the living would fain recall and rescue from oblivion that which made John Cilley Fales a power in his day, and that which made him so much trusted and beloved.

In the first place his intellectual perceptions were singularly strong and powerful; his mental grasp of any subject which he chose to investigate was so clear and vivid that he never failed to master the whole thing from end to end.

In the next place, no man comprehended more fully than he the ever widening circle of science in all its branches. He saw that the stream of scientific knowledge had become a great river, and in the process of time the river would empty into the ocean; and that investigators must aspire to ride upon its waves, to fathom its depths, and to take a far view over its ever extending limits.

So with that unwearied industry, so characteristic of him, he sought to keep abreast of his age, and to gather in by study and experiment the fruitage of the best results of the labors of the ablest men.

He knew so well the difference between the true and the false, between scientific speculation and the assured results as they mature into scientific facts. And he realized in his modest way that no man could survey more than a limited portion of that vast ocean of scientific knowledge upon which he had embarked. And unlike so many men of science, he was never contented to travel always along one narrow path. His mind sought relief in the study of pure literature, in Dante, and in the best of English and American poetry, and in languages other than his own.

How fortunate is the man who can go outside of his own profession to the other branches of learning, which will throw a burning light along his pathway, as his mental foresight travelled far and wide over the earth

And now over and above the scholar the teacher, the investigator, what shall we say concerning the person and character of this man?

It has been most truly said, although he was a man of active and enlightened intellect, he was even greater of heart than of mind. He did not love books more than people, nor knowledge more than life. A devoted student, he was still more devoted husband, father, and friend. There are some men who live in the sunlight of public life, there are others, who like Professor Fales "along the quiet vale of life keep a noiseless tenor of their way." And in the unsullied record of his life and reputation, and in the nobility of his intercourse with other men, so manly, yet so full of human kindness. We realize the true meaning of the word, "Only the waters which in perfect stillness lie, give back an undistorted image of the sky."

His first wife Margaret Cleland died in early life before he came among us. But his second wife, Amanda Helm, (who died three years before), was so well known to us all, that it would be most fit and becoming for us to give expression to our recollection of that which was so charming in her life and character. Her innate refinement, her handsome person, her gracious manner, her abounding hospitality, and her good sense and judgment, qualities so often denied to men and women.

Danville, Kentucky, November 9, 1916

The Executive Committee of Central University of Kentucky met at the Library Building. Present, Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, Robert T. Quisenberry, Charles C. Fox, C.R. Hemphill, George W. Welsh, David M. Sweets, John A. Cheek, and William A. Ganfield.

On motion, the closing of the tower of Breckinridge Hall was referred to the Building Committee.

On motion, Dr. Ganfield, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Quisenberry were appointed a committee on degrees.

Rev. David M. Sweets, Stated Clerk of the Synod U.S., called attention of the committee to the action of that Synod in regard to the Workman Fund, and action concerning the selection of trustees, etc. (See minutes of Synod U.S.) The action of the Synod U.S. referred to is as follows:

Workman Fund

The undersigned member of the ad interim committee, appointed to consider all matters pertaining to the Workman Fund, would recommend in view of the provisions contained in the report of the Executive Committee of Schools and Orphanages already adopted, that the Synod refer all matters concerning the Workman Fund to said Committee on Conference and direct that Centre College of Central University shall continue to enjoy the benefits of the income from the Workman Fund for the Chair of Christian Ethics pending further action on the part of the Synod.

Signed: David M. Sweets

Resolution Bennett H. Young

Whereas, resolved that a committee of three be appointed by the Moderator to examine the provisions of the will concerning the said church and burying ground, and take the necessary steps to comply with the requirements of said will, and to make any needed repairs of the fence, church, and grave of William Workman, and if funds cannot be otherwise obtained, may use not exceeding on \$100 from the income of said fund during the year 1916, now held as aforesaid by the trustees of the Presbyterian in the U.S., and the Synod authorizes the Treasurer of the Assembly to pay on the order of the committee herein designated not exceeding \$100.

Committee adjourned.