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Reports from Other Institutions on Integration, to Harley Fowler, December 8, 1955

Quill E. Cope

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TITE.

December 8, 1955

Mr. Harley Fowler, Attorney Fowler, Rowntree & Fowler Hamilton Mational Bank Building Knoxville 02, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Fowlers

I have your letter of December 2, 1955, concerning the position of the Board of Trustees on the admission of Negroes to the University of Tennessee and particularly to the Memphis Unit and Extension Division. I am enclosing a copy of the resolution which the State Board of Education adopted at its call meeting on June 15, 1955.

Since this matter has so many varied ramifications, it occurs to me that it is going to be difficult to work these out by correspondence. I would like to suggest that we have a meeting of the committee at the earliest opportunity that is convenient to the membership and try to iron out some of the apparent difficulties. I would further suggest that at this meeting we should have Dr. Brehm, Vice-President Waters, Vice-President Hyman, and such other officials as President Brehm would desire to have present. Since much of this problem will center in the Memphis area, I think it might be appropriate to invite Mr. Frank Ahlgren and Mr. Wassel Randolph to attend the meeting.

I would further suggest that such a meeting be held without any publicity so that we would have time to thoroughly investigate and consider this matter without publicity.

I agree with you that we should move rather rapidly toward agreement upon the policy in an effort to avoid litigation on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Quill E. Cope Commissioner

one.

oc: President C. E. Brehm Mr. Harry Laughlin

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER MEMORIAL BUILDING NASHVILLE 3

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Dr. C. E. Brehm, President The University of Tennessee Knoxville, Tennessee