

**SIXTEEN YEARS AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS,
A STATISTICAL STUDY OF
THE ADMINISTRATION**

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Sixteen Years at the University of Illinois, a Statistical Study of the Administration by Edmund J. James

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EDMUND J. JAMES

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SIXTEEN YEARS
AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

A Statistical Study of the Administration

of

PRESIDENT EDMUND J. JAMES

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1920

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter I	The Income of the University.....	7
Chapter II	Land	41
Chapter III	Buildings and Equipment.....	77
Chapter IV	Libraries and Museums.....	100
Chapter V	The Faculty	128
Chapter VI	The Student Body.....	154
Chapter VII	Student Organizations and Activities.....	178
Chapter VIII	Campus Plans	193
Chapter IX	Colleges and Schools.....	199
Chapter X	Summary and Conclusion.....	256

ILLUSTRATIONS

President Edmund Janes James.....	Frontispiece
	(TO FACE PAGE)
Administration and Commerce Buildings.....	16
Natural History and Lincoln Hall.....	32
The Campus in 1870.....	44
Agricultural Buildings	48
Agricultural Experiment Fields.....	53
Agricultural Buildings	64
Chemistry Laboratory	80
Scientific Laboratories	96
Physics, Ceramics, and Transportation Buildings.....	112
Engineering Laboratories	128
Power House and other buildings.....	144
Education and Music Buildings.....	160
Woman's Building and Residence Hall.....	176
Campus and Farms, 1920.....	192
The Campus in 1920.....	194
A Plan for Campus Development.....	196
Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy Buildings.....	208
Auditorium, Armory, and other buildings.....	224
(All the buildings shown were erected, remodelled, or acquired in the period from 1904 to 1920.)	

PREFACE

The text of the following study was prepared by my secretaries beginning with Dr. E. J. Filbey and ending with Mr. Gerald D. Stopp. Dr. V. V. Phelps worked over portions of it very carefully and aside from those already mentioned I am under deep obligations to Mr. L. J. Heath and to Miss Anna V. Whitson for their unwearied attention to detail and their care for accuracy in the figures given.

After all, there will be found many inaccuracies and inconsistencies. In many cases, the university figures do not harmonize and there is no method of making them agree, which shows the necessity of a closer supervision of university accounts. The figures of attendance as kept by the different authorities and even the accounts of monies expended do not harmonize. It is believed that the present method of accounting will secure substantial agreement.

This book will serve as the starting point of a new and better system of keeping accounts of all sorts relating to the University and it is to be hoped that the next statistical volume will be a marked improvement over this one.

EDMUND J. JAMES.

April 2, 1920.

INTRODUCTION

The following pages contain a brief account of the progress of the University of Illinois during the period from 1904 to 1920—the years of the administration of its fourth president, Dr. Edmund Janes James.

The general plan of the Report will be clear from an examination of the Table of Contents. In the first six chapters an account is given of the growth of the University in financial resources, land, buildings, equipment, libraries, museums, faculty, and students. The seventh chapter summarizes the increase in student organizations and activities. A chapter is added outlining the plans at present under consideration for the future development of the campus; and a brief statement is presented regarding the changes which have taken place during this period in each of the various colleges and schools which constitute the University. Finally a brief summary is appended, recapitulating the outstanding facts contained in the preceding chapters.

In an endeavor to attain some degree of conciseness, facts have been presented through the medium of statistics whenever possible, and comment upon the tables has been reduced to a minimum.

It will of course be recognized that the progress which is after all the most vital in the life of an institution, cannot be expressed in mathematical terms. The real life of a university is something too intangible to grasp and portray. It can be felt rather than seen. We see the manifestations of life as we note changes in the material elements which form the flesh and bones of a living being, and we know that life is there.

It will be observed that in the majority of chapters the account of the period under consideration has been prefaced with a brief statement of the events pertaining to the earlier years of the University, from 1867 to 1904. Essentially, however, the Report is limited to the sixteen years from 1904 to 1920.

CHAPTER I

THE INCOME OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Income of the University of Illinois is derived chiefly from three sources: various appropriations made by the United States Government; appropriations made biennially by the State of Illinois; and the fees paid by students of the University. Within recent years considerable sums have been received also from miscellaneous sources, the most important of which are sales of various products resulting from the regular work of the University, either of experimentation or of instruction. Then, too, several noteworthy gifts have recently been made to the University.

The various appropriations which have been made to the University are as follows:

1. Appropriations by the Federal Government

By the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862 the national government donated to the State of Illinois scrip for 480,000 acres of public land for the endowment and support of a College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts—30,000 acres for each of its senators and representatives in Congress. The sale of this land has brought to the University an endowment fund of approximately \$650,000.

The Hatch Act, approved March 2, 1887, provided for an appropriation of \$15,000 per annum to each state for the purpose of establishing and maintaining agricultural experiment stations in connection with the colleges founded under the act of 1862.

In 1890 a second Morrill Act was passed by Congress, by which there was appropriated for the support of each of the land-grant colleges the sum of \$15,000 for the year ending June 30, 1890, and in each succeeding year a sum larger by \$1000 than the amount of the preceding year until the amount should reach \$25,000 a year. Thereafter \$25,000 was to be paid annually. The sum of \$25,000 has been received by the University each year since 1900.