

To: President Buchanan

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

From: Lee Zimmerman

Inter-Office Memorandum

Subject: Psychiana material

Date: February 12, 1953

During the past few months, since receiving Robinson's Psychiana collection, I have perused his books for a better understanding of his movement and for the purpose of evaluating the probable historic significance of his influence upon society. After carefully examining this material, I am of the opinion that his impact upon society has wide implications and that, in the future, he is likely to be the object of study by social historians.

Because of these probabilities and because of the international character of his movement (600,000 students in 67 countries), I am suggesting that, while there is still time, every effort be made to bring together at the University, whatever may contribute to the needs of the scholars of tomorrow.

Last week I had occasion to call Mr. Kass at Psychiana (Alf Robinson is no longer there) to request another book which we discovered was not included in the collection given to us. I was also anxious to obtain advertising samples used in promoting the movement. It was discouraging to learn from him that all advertising copy, except one master file, had been thrown out. He reported that much of Psychiana odds and ends had been destroyed.

I am, therefore, making the following proposals:

1. That Mrs. Robinson or Alf be contacted at once and a request made for the master advertising file, and everything else of an archival nature which the Librarian believes should be preserved in the University Archives. *Mr Zimmerman please do*
2. That if they respond favorably, both Mr. Waldron and myself be authorized to go personally to Psychiana for the purpose of examining the material still available and selecting what we should preserve. *approved JMB*

Undoubtedly there are tons of correspondence and related material which we would not want here. We ought to take only that part of it which is significant, such as correspondence with his students and with his friend, Senator Borah, records of the deportation trial, also other representative materials. Otherwise, if we took everything, it would become necessary to find a building in which to store it. Certainly, the Library does not have that kind of space.

If we can obtain this historic material we will be the only library in the U.S. to have it. Those wanting to do research on Dr. Robinson will have to trek to Moscow.

LZ:mm

Lee Zimmerman

*approved JMB
14 Feb 53*

President Buchanan

Leo Zimmerman

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