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IOWA STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY

Ames, Iowa.

November 29, 1929.

President R. M. Hughes,  
Central Building,  
Campus.

Dear President Hughes:

As you know, we are very crowded for shelving space in the library. We have now packed up duplicates used for exchange purposes and some reports which we can obtain at the State Library in Des Moines for occasional use. A careful examination by several of us has failed to disclose any other books which could be safely packed for 4 years. Even with the volumes we have packed, our shelving space is so crowded that even with the expense of continual shifting we cannot find enough room for more than two or three months longer.

We have made a careful examination of space on the campus in which books could be stored for the next three or four years. The only suitable space we have been able to find is on the third floor of the Memorial Union which is not now in use. This space is dry and can be kept under lock and key. It will accommodate about 90,000 volumes if double tiers of stacks are used. Using single tiers it will accommodate about 45,000 volumes. We should have space for the next three years, as it is almost certain an additional library wing cannot possibly be built and ready for use before 1932. Our accessions are running close to 15,000 a year. The accessions for three years would therefore amount to 45,000 volumes which could be accommodated very nicely in the Memorial Union in one level of shelving.

It will be greatly appreciated if permission can be obtained to use the third floor for the storage of books until additional stack room can be provided as a wing to the library, and that funds be provided for the erection of shelves. We would not need shelves for 45,000 volumes immediately. Shelves could be erected for 15,000 volumes a year for the next three years. It is possible that shelving could be purchased which could later be used in a stack wing of the library.

Respectfully submitted,

CHB-b

Librarian.