

Hold for answering

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

∴ Department of Zoology ∴  
HANOVER · NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Sept. 12, 1960

tape  
with  
Silen Croadale

Dear Leonard:

Before I opened your letter I thought that it might contain an extension of my sabbatical for another year. But no such luck.

Hannah  
The questions which you raise regarding/are interesting ones also asked by several of your predecessors. The responses given have been either unsatisfactory or profane depending upon the responder. I'll add my contributions for what they will be worth.

(1) "Toleration" is not the right word to use as regards Hannah's feeling towards her position. Within my memory it has been one of varying degrees of agitation and self-pity. Historically, this problem goes back quite a bit in time. Roy can give you a synopsis of the early part since he was chairman when she was promoted to the faculty "with the rank of". I believe she was content with her old status until the late forties when (a) Ellen Adams got faculty rank, (b) she bought a house, (c) her mother came to live with her and (d) she reached an age when security was a little more central in her thinking. I do not grant Hannah her argument that she has less time for research than the rest of us. In many respects she has more time since her responsibility for formal courses is less than that of most of us. Of course, she has more "busy-work" than most of us but in some respects she accumulates this like other people collect stamps---and then throws it back in your face as an imposition.

(2) Yes, the members of the department probably have taken advantage of her for some of the reasons above. Also, the department has to have someone like her around to operate successfully. They don't have to have a PhD to fill this job but such a person should be there as a back-stopper and a supervisor. I am fairly well convinced that Hannah could have moved to the faculty of any number of schools between 1940 and 1950 but she ~~unwillingly~~ chose to stay in Hanover knowing what the situation was. Consequently, I'm not too sympathetic with her feelings, as this letter implies.

(3) She is very good in small classes. She has not been used to the full extent in Zoo 3 or Life Science because (a) she has not too much patience with beginners and tends to be waspish and (b) she is refractory to suggestions that she teach in labs "about which she knows nothing" (her definition). In many such cases I'm quite sure that she knows more about it than most of us, but we have a hard time altering her position. I'm sure that we could get more such work out of her if we could flatter her fleeting mercurial vanity at the right time. When she tolerates the beginning student she is very good.



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(4) With the type of work that she does for the department, I don't see how she could be given "uninterrupted" time unless it were a term off. Even so, her nature is such that it would be satisfactory for her only if she removed herself from Silsby or probably Hanover.

(5) This appointment "with the rank of" was partially of Arthur's doing. When the Department of Zoology voted on her promotion we specifically voted to promote her to Assistant Professor. This was the way that I transmitted it to Arthur but when he informed me of the action of the CAP it was 'with the rank of' and there was nothing that I could do about it. I believe that you should consider changing her rank to Assistant Professor if some of the problems can be solved. My main concern about Hannah is that she wants the privileges of faculty rank without the obligations that go with it.

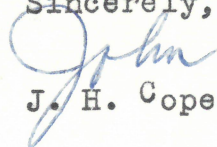
(6) Perhaps the fact that she is a woman has worked to her disadvantage, certainly in the earlier stages. However, most of the situation is of her own doing.

Enough of HTC. After a few days searching and camping on the Barratts in Palo Alto we finally located an unfurnished 4-bedroom house in a nice section of Berkeley. WE've been having a nice time touring the Goodwill Industries and auctions getting the minimum furniture. Now we are fairly well settled and the children started school today.

My work looks like it will be very nice. I feel that I am in touch with History. The lab I am using was recently the lab of H.O.L. Fischer who was the son of Emil Fischer and I, too, will be working on carbohydrate synthesis. In fact, some of the reference books I'm using belonged to Emil and HOL.

Have a good year and give my regards to the slaves.

Sincerely,



J. H. Copenhaver