

PROFESSOR AT PENN PERMITTED TO QUIT

Resignation of Dr. J. Russell Smith, Because of Low Wages of Aides, Accepted

REFUTE GERMAN CHARGES

Despite lack of any official announcement, it is understood that trustees of the University of Pennsylvania have accepted the resignation of A. J. Russell Smith, of the Wharton School, who will leave Penn on May 1 to go to Columbia University because of the "starvation wages" paid his ten assistants. The trustees met yesterday.

Nothing further was made known as to the trustees' attitude on the question of "German-trained" professors at the University. Samuel F. Houston, treasurer of the institution, brought forth this side of the issue just after Professor Smith announced his resignation.

Mr. Houston at that time said that "no tears would be shed" at the University at the resignation of any "German-trained" faculty member. Professor Smith spent two semesters in the University of Leipsic studying economics following his graduation from Wharton School. Later he returned to the University of Pennsylvania, where he became a fellow in economics and the degree of doctor of philosophy was conferred upon him.

Details Not Available
All three informants as to the proceedings of yesterday's meeting merely smiled when asked concerning the question. None would give his view of the subject.

Professor Smith admitted that the question probably concerned him more than if did Professor Smith, because he had spent three years in German Universities and received degrees there.

Comment of Samuel F. Houston, a trustee, that "the departure of a German-trained professor causes no tears of regret" prompted the Pennsylvanian, the student daily, to make a sharp answer in an editorial in yesterday's issue.

"It is regretted, indeed," says the publication, "that Mr. Houston has expressed himself so apparently without forethought regarding Doctor Smith's training in Germany. Most of the remarks made have been discounted because of their very nature. Doctor Smith should leave us enjoying the same amicable relations which have characterized his long term of service."

Editorial View
Regarding the salary question, the Pennsylvanian, in an editorial, said:

"What every one wants to see is a discontinuation of further resignations among faculty members. There is but one thing which will bring this about. That one thing is money. Not that our instructors are money mad; if such were the case we would have no faculty. Part of the reward for teaching comes from that indescribable something which we call 'love of profession.' This 'something' will always be a part of the compensation, but it cannot be made too large a part. Creditors do not accept it in payment of legitimately contracted debts. The recognized need, then, is for money.

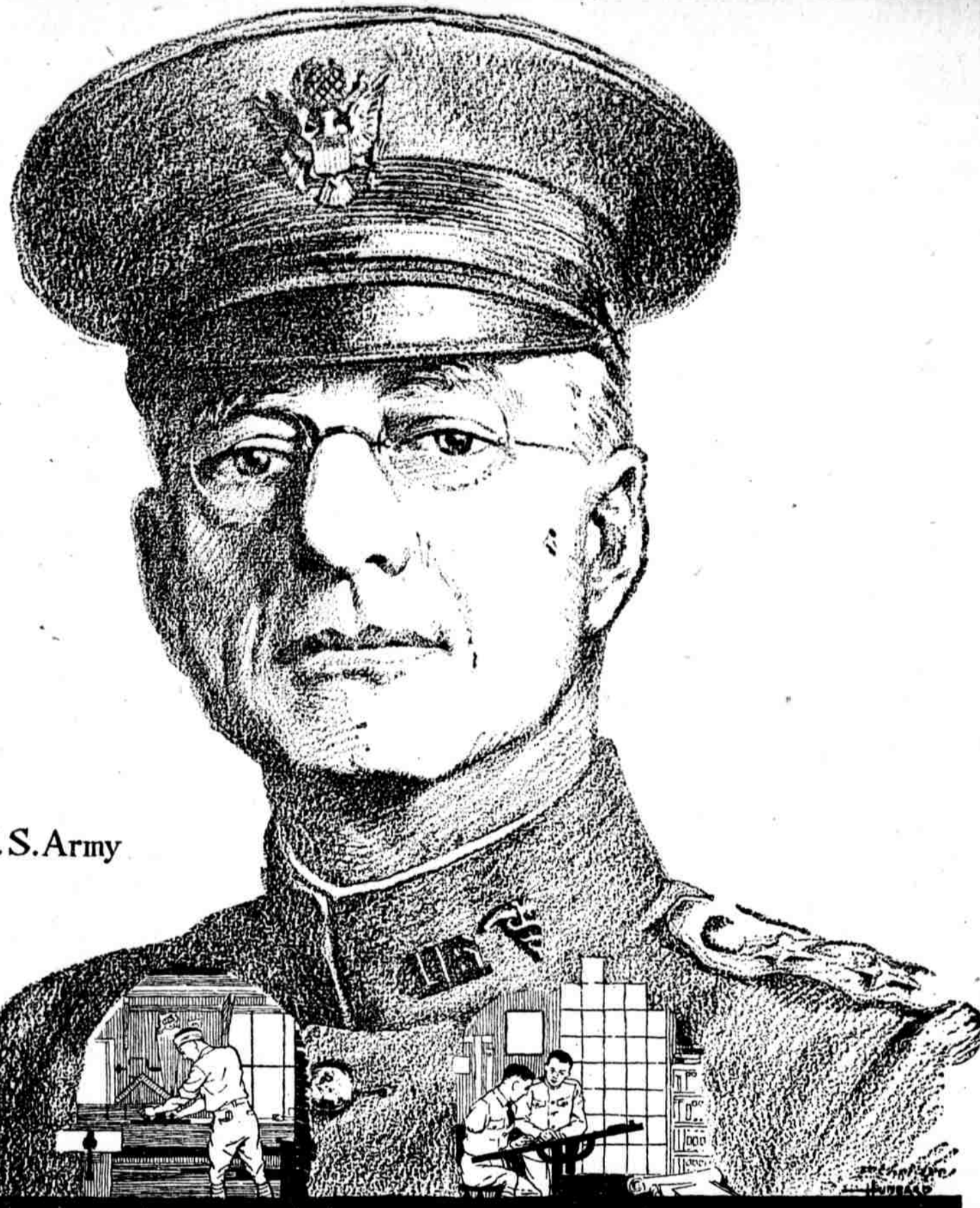
"This money may be gotten in one or three ways. Tuitions may be increased, endowment funds may be augmented or appeals may be made to the state for further support. The problem is a titanic one.

"Pennsylvania has been and is a great institution, chiefly because of her admirable faculty. The teaching staff, after all, is the determining factor in considering the worth of any educational institution, and no one appreciates more than the students themselves the inestimable value of our superb faculty as it now exists. Pennsylvania will not continue in her greatness, therefore, if one after another, these powerful minds are cut loose and drift away to business life or other universities. We have been so well cared for in the past that there is no reason to believe we will be neglected in the future; but it is just as well that those who control the University be alive to these large issues."

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W. M. Schindler

Surgeon General, U.S. Army



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