

CAMPUS MEMORANDUM

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVER

From: Richard D. Poll To: President Ernest I. Wilkinson

Date: 1/31/55

Subject: Man, His Origin and Destiny

FEB 1 1955

Real

You may be interested in President Smith's comment to me at the close of last Tuesday's assembly when my wife and I went up to greet him and Sister Smith. His words were, "there is no turning to the right or turning to the left, as what I said today." We, of course, offered no argument. In fact, except for a couple of quite unimportant and "anous" were sincere, and the greetings were cordial.

You may also be interested in the attached letters, both of which came to me through underground channels. The first is the one which I mentioned to you as being distributed in some of the Religion classes. The second was, as I understand, written by Gerry Spring at the suggestion of Elder Adam S. Bennion.

At the risk of being charged with tale-bearing, and realizing the shortcomings of hearsay evidence, I would like to add one more point, because I feel strongly that the agitation of the subject of evolution and creation by some members of the faculty is not helpful either to the University or to the Church. A student reported to Brother John Hale Gardner that a member of the Religion faculty had made substantially this statement: "The fundamentalist position gives no trouble to really great scientists; it is only pip-squeaks like we have here at the BYU who cause trouble."

As I suggested in our evening conversation, which both Gene and I enjoyed very much, if the folks who subscribe to the literalist position will stop making an issue of it, there will be no difficulty whatever with the faculty members of the Mittsco-Talage persuasion.

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