Havens, George R.

This report is intended to provide an opportunity to the Faculty member to suggest changes in his work and relationships that seem to him desirable and to record, for the period covered, his professional activities that seem to him most significant. It will be preserved as a part of his permanent personnel record in the University and will be used as one of the bases for the annual evaluation of faculty members required of Chairman of Departments.

I. What do you regard as the greatest handicaps or obstacles to your effectiveness and service during the period covered by this report?

Teaching schedules in our department have generally been too heavy for the best kind of university teaching and research and for the maximum individual service to students. I have noticed that our departmental schedules have often been higher than those of many other departments in this university and higher than in other leading universities where I have had first-hand experience. I do not think that they should exceed ten hours weekly when advanced work is taught, and especially when a large amount of committee work is expected. While work can be carried on under such a system, it is clear that the University suffers in the end, as well as the individual, and will have in the long run a less able and a less distinguished faculty.

II. What new or changed opportunities for service or development do you desire the University to provide for you in the immediate future?

1. Lower average teaching schedules.
2. Increased library facilities, building and books.
3. Facilities for obtaining and showing slides.
4. French phonograph records. (At present I am obliged to use my own.) Modern slow-turning long-playing records, such as are available in the Dept. of Teaching Aids in Page Hall, should be obtained in French, Portuguese, and other modern languages in addition to those now there in Spanish. These would be very valuable in connection with our advanced and semi-advanced teaching. Equipment for playing them should be available in Derby Hall.

III. Activities for the period........ to...................

Please arrange your report under such of the following headings as are applicable to your activities. Omit items that are not applicable. Number those used to correspond to the numbering in the list:

1. Teaching. (Do not list courses taught. Rather, report any experiments or noteworthy results in your teaching.)
2. Relationships to students and student activities.
3. Research Projects undertaken, underway, completed.

4. Productive and Creative Activities (other than those covered by Nos. 1 to 3 and not including publications).

5. Administrative and Committee Assignments and activities (Departmental, College, and University, but not extra-University services).

6. Professional activities and responsibilities outside the University.

7. Community and Public Relations (not included under No. 6).

8. Publications not elsewhere listed by this report.

9. Honors and distinctions received during the period, not covered by other sections of this report.

10. Other activities or accomplishments not covered by headings provided:

   1. Teaching. I do not know of anything outstanding to list. I have thoroughly enjoyed my teaching as I always do. I have taught with much pleasure a course in Contemporary French Literature during the absence of Professor Deprose and I have given twice a new course in Translating and Interpreting, which seemed to be valuable to our advanced students and brought about improvement in their knowledge and accuracy in use of detail. Much of the material for this course was especially selected and mimeographed in order to have the vocabulary and subject matter of the present day.

   2. Students. The latch string is always out for students and I am glad to see them. Particularly I try to have my classes for an afternoon or evening at home. This was done last summer, but I did not manage it during the other quarters of this year because of circumstances which prevented.

   3. I am now working on a book which is a critical edition of Rousseau's famous Discours sur les sciences et les arts. If nothing prevents during my present two quarters off duty, I hope to be able to complete this study which was started some years ago and which has been delayed by pressure of other work. It will consist of introduction, text, and extensive commentary, putting the work in its background of thought and ideas during the period in which it was written, showing how it developed out of the author's reading and experience, and how it contains in germ nearly all of his characteristic ideas and attitudes.

   5. College of Arts Committee on Post-War Planning for the College.

   7. Program Committee of the Modern Language Association of America.


   10. Last year, I attended Professor Schutz's class in Elementary Portuguese one quarter and enjoyed this as a fine piece of teaching technique, as well as from the point of view of acquiring myself some knowledge of another Romance language. I have since followed this with some further reading in this language.
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EVALUATION PROGRAM

BASIC WHO'S WHO
(Copies to Department Chairman, Dean and President)

Name: Havens, George R. ........................................... Department: Rom. Langs. Date: April 29, '44

1. Date of birth: August 25, 1890

2. Degrees and the institutions from which received:
   A. B., Amherst College, 1913
   Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, 1917

3. Academic Experience—Positions held:
   Teacher, Riverview Military Academy, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., 1913-14.
   Instructor in French, Indiana Univ., 1917-18.
   Ohio State University, since 1919.
   Summers: Johns Hopkins, Chicago, California (Berkeley), Penn.

4. Other significant experiences contributing to professional fitness. Include particularly, work experience in your field, such as practice of law, farming or employment in industry:
   Travel in Europe, five times; in Mexico, once
   Guggenheim Fellow, 1930

5. Research Experience:

6. Publications:
   The Abbé Prévost and English Literature, Princeton Press, 1921.
   Selections from Voltaire, N. Y., 1928, 1930, 1940.
   Selected Stories from Guy de Maupassant (with O. H. Moore), 1928.
   Voltaire's Candide, N. Y., 1934.
   Easy French Readings (with O. H. Moore), 1936

   A Travers les âges (with O. H. Moore), N. Y., 1943

   Some seventy articles and review in: Modern Lang. Notes, Romanic Review, PMLA., Modern Philology, etc.

   NOTE: Minor publications may be grouped e.g. "Eight articles in Journal of Science."
7. National, State, University and Special College Services:

Member Executive Council of Modern Language Assoc. of America, 1936-40; Program Committee, 1943-48.

8. Honors Received:

Phi Beta Kappa
Guggenheim Fellow

9. General Comment:

Since my field is French, particular importance is to be attached to residence, travel, and research in France and other European countries. We in the modern language field take this of course for granted, but it is not always realized outside of our field how essential this experience is, in addition to the usual graduate training, and how expensive. Repeated contacts of this kind are necessary to keep in touch with the language, the people, and the civilization with which one is constantly concerned in the classroom.

I think also that summer teaching in first-rank institutions like Johns Hopkins, Chicago, California, and the Univ. of Penn. has been particularly valuable and has given me the opportunity to see how these universities operate, to note the calibre of their students, to observe their methods of teaching, administration, etc. I think this background is valuable in judging our own problems here. It also leads to acquaintance with other men in the profession and is helpful in placing our own students, in securing men for our own staff, etc. This is all obvious enough no doubt, but, if not, should perhaps be mentioned for the record.

Note: Do not hesitate to include any other biographical data which seem important and do not hesitate to explain the importance or application of any points; frequently the bare statement of fact does not convey the full meaning.

This biographical blank does not duplicate or replace the more detailed personnel records maintained by the Bureau of Public Relations and the University Editor.
Dr. George R. Havens, professor in the department of Romance languages at Ohio State University, has been a member of the university faculty since 1919.

A native of New York, Dr. Havens received the bachelor of arts degree from Amherst College in 1913 and the Ph.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1917.

Dr. Havens taught at the Riverview Military Academy during the 1913-14 academic year and at the Mt. Vernon Collegiate Institute in Baltimore, Md., from 1914-16. He then served as an instructor at Indiana University during the 1917-18 academic year. He joined the Ohio State faculty as an assistant professor, a rank which he held until 1921 when he was elevated to his present rank.

Dr. Havens has conducted extensive research in Europe, including research in the private library of Voltaire at Leningrad in 1927 and 1930. In 1930, he was a Guggenheim Fellow.

A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Professor Havens is the author of numerous articles which have appeared in professional journals.

He is a member of the Modern Language Association of America and the American Association of University Professors, and is listed in "Who's Who in America."

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George Remington Havens

The Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University expresses its sorrow upon the death on September 28, 1977, of George Remington Havens, Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages. Professor Havens retired on June 30, 1961, following 42 years of distinguished service to the University.

Born in 1890, Professor Havens received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Amherst College in 1913 and his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1917. During World War I he served in the American Army in France. He joined the faculty of The Ohio State University as Assistant Professor in 1919 and became a Professor in 1921, a post which he held until his retirement.

Professor Havens was one of the most distinguished scholars the Department has ever had. Along with Professor Ira Wade of Princeton and Professor Norman Torrey of Columbia, he was a giant in the field of 18th century French literature, internationally famous through his numerous books and articles. During his sixteen years of retirement he continued his scholarly research as few others have done. At the time of his death he was awaiting the proof of three books, which had already gone through press. His most widely known work, The Age of Ideas, is a masterly account of French history and literature of the 18th century.

He was a very fine teacher and an excellent lecturer. The careful and thoughtful training he gave the graduate students who prepared M.A. theses and Ph.D. dissertations under his supervision made him numerous and firm friends among his former students, a number of whom, through his influence and inspiration, became very active in the field.

During his long years of service at Ohio State he was not only a great force in shaping the destinies of the Department but also of the University. As a member of the Library Committee, he was very influential in the building up of the University Library at a time when it was in its very early stages. He was instrumental in establishing the University Press. He was also one of the founders of the Faculty Club. On the national scene he was very active in the Modern Language Association of America.