



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

HARRIS HART,  
SUPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

W. R. SMITHEY,  
SECRETARY

JOHN CROSBY,  
AUDITOR-STATISTICIAN

January 23, 1919

Dear Mr. Burruss:

I value very highly your letter to me relative to the position at the University of Virginia. I have given much thought to this matter, and looking at the situation from the future, I believe that it would be wise for me to endeavor to secure the University place. I think that I could do a type of work there that would be worth while. In view of the fact that the University position will not be operative till the beginning of next session, I think that I will have time enough to be of service to the education commission.

Mr. Maphis told me when he was here last week that he would be very glad to do all he could to aid me in securing the position and that he had already spoken to Dr. Alderman about me. Dean Page told me this morning that he would be delighted to have me at the University, that he had spoken to Dr. Alderman about me, and that Dr. Alderman had my name under serious consideration. He said, however, that he did not know how the "cat would jump", but that if he had to decide that it would take him about two seconds.

Will you write Dr. Alderman about me? You know the type of letter that would be of service to me, and I will appreciate any help that you might give.

After getting your letter, I wrote Mr. H telling him that I had already made some effort to go to the University and that several of my friends had written letters for me, but that I wanted him to make every effort to secure the place if he wanted it. In reply to what I thought a very nice letter, I received a very curt answer. So there the matter ends between us so far as I am concerned.

With every good wish to you and all at your home, I am

Sincerely yours,

*W. R. Smithey*