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Letter to Professory Hammer from H.E. Ellis

H.E. Ellis
U.S. Army

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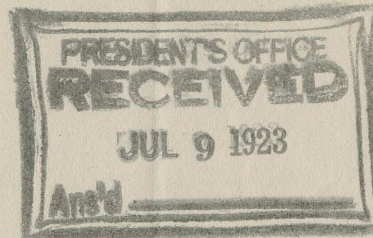
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C. W. DAVIS, Ph.D., Director

M. M. DAVIS, B.S.,
Laboratory Technician

July 5 1923

Prof. H A Morgan
University of Tenn
Knoxville, Tenn



Dear Prof. Morgan:

Inside information from members of the faculty of the University shows a rather grave condition there. If conditions are as bad as the reports shows things certainly are in a bad way. It is not my purpose to discuss or express an opinion on these conditions, but I shall write in a very frank manner with reference to another matter. What I shall say is not thru any antagonism to you, but with the best interest of the old school at heart. It is the consensus of opinion among all friends of the University with whom I have talked that it is a mistake for you to continue as Director of the Experiment Station and Dean of Agriculture while President of the University.

Many agricultural men, warm friends of yours, do not hesitate to say this is a mistake. It is thought that the duties of the office of President should fully occupy your time, and that you should relinquish the other two positions to Mooers and Wilson, if they are capable, if not new men should be found for these positions.

Sometime ago some one asked Bolton Smith why you held on to the two positions. He offered two explanations: (1) the University did not have sufficient funds to pay for the extra man, (2) a suitable man could not be found for this position. Each excuse seems to me a rather poor one.

If you continue to hold the agricultural jobs while president, there will be organized opposition soon, which will be embarrassing to you and the University as well. I do not know if it is your desire to direct the agricultural work while President. Perhaps the Board has forced this condition upon you. If so, I believe they are doing you and the University an injustice.

Only for the reason that I am deeply interested in the welfare of my Alma Mater ~~that~~ I have written this letter.

Very respectfully,

C. W. Davis