



M. M. CHAMBERS (1966)

M. M. CHAMBERS, Visiting Professor of Higher Education at Indiana University since 1963, served in the same capacity at the University of Michigan for five years preceding that year. During 1961-62 he was Executive Director of the Michigan Council of State College Presidents, at the center of the nation's second largest statewide system of public higher education.

Earlier he had served for sixteen years in Washington, D. C. as a staff member of the American Council on Education, the well-known national organization of some 1,200 colleges and universities and related associations. This period was broken by four years of active duty in the United States Army Air Forces, in which he attained the rank of Major.

He has a B.A. degree from Ohio Wesleyan University (1922), an M.A. from Ohio State University (1927), and a Ph.D. from Ohio State University (1931). He is also a former student at the University of Florida (1920), the Harvard Summer Session (1920), and the University of Washington (1928). He was Instructor in Political Science at the University of North Dakota (1926-27), and Assistant Professor of Political Science at Oregon State College (1927-30).

He is best known for his authorship of many books, pamphlets, and articles, including some 25 titles listed in the Library of Congress card index, and some 300 articles published in more than forty journals of national circulation; and for his lifelong study of higher education, with concentration on its administrative, financial, and legal aspects.

He has published a series of five volumes on The Colleges and the Courts, the first of which appeared in 1936. The most recent volume in this series is The Colleges and the Courts Since 1950, published in 1964. A sixth volume is now in preparation. Others of his books are Charters of Philanthropies (1948); Universities of the World Outside U.S.A. (1950); The Campus and the People (1960); Voluntary Statewide Coordination in Public Higher Education (1961); Chance and Choice in Higher Education (1962); Financing Higher Education (1963); and Freedom and Repression in Higher Education (1965).

He has served as Consultant on higher education and member of survey teams in Rhode Island (1939); Massachusetts (1949); Wisconsin (1950); Connecticut (1950); Illinois (1949); Iowa (1950); New York City (1961); and Kentucky (1962). During 1965 and early 1966 he served as Chairman of the Survey Team for the Long-Range Study of Higher Education in Kentucky. In 1966 he was a consultant to Southern Illinois University; to the Iowa Co-operative Statewide Study of Education Beyond High School; and to the Michigan State Board of Education.

He is a member of the Committee on State Laws Affecting Higher Education, of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges; and has been an occasional consultant to the Association of State Colleges and Universities.

M. M. CHAMBERS is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; a life member of the National Education Association; a member of the American Association of School Administrators; the American Educational Research Association; the Association for Higher Education (Resolutions Committee, 1965); the American Society for Public Administration; the American Association of University Professors; History of Education Society; Comparative Education Society; National Organization on Legal Problems of Education (Executive Committee, 1963-65); honorary member of National Association of College and University Attorneys; Horace Mann League; former member American Political Science Association and American Sociological Society. Alpha Sigma Phi; Delta Sigma Rho; Phi Delta Kappa.

Since 1960 he has addressed 18 national and regional organizations and conferences:

- 1 Annual Legislative Work Conference of the Southern Regional Education Board, Asheville, North Carolina, July 30, 1966. "Financing Student Costs."
- 2 Annual National Conference on School Finance (N E A), Chicago, April 4, 1966. "Federal Financing of Student Costs in Higher Education."
- 3 Conference on "The College Price-Tag: Who Pays?" at Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, March 24, 1966. "Higher Education: Who Should Pay?"
- 4 Conference on the Future Role of Berea College, Berea, Kentucky, December 20, 1965. "Higher Education in Kentucky."
- 5 Annual meeting of Section "Q" (Education) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, December 27, 1964. "State Tax Support of Higher Education in the United States, 1960-1965."
- 6 Symposium of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, Boulder, Colorado, August 8, 1964. "The Future Financing of Public Higher Education in the West." Published in proceedings, The Changing West: Implications for Higher Education, pp. 53-62. Boulder, 1965. 86 pp.
- 7 Conference on The Educated Man-- The Purposes of Higher Education, organized by the Student Government at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, April 17, 1964. "The Purposes of Higher Education."
- 8 Annual Pennsylvania Schoolmen's Week at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, October 11, 1963. "The Courts and the Colleges Since Midcentury." Published in Freedom and Education (Edited by Helen Huus) pp. 182-195. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1965. 274 pp.
- 9 Annual Legislative Work Conference of the New England Board of Higher Education, Wentworth-by-the-Sea, New Hampshire, October 10, 1963. "Coordination in Higher Education on the State and Regional Levels."
- 10 Annual Legislative Work Conference of the Southern Regional Education Board, Biloxi, Mississippi, August 17, 1962. "Seventeen State Systems in the South."
- 11 Annual meeting of the Association of College and University Housing Officers, at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, July 30, 1962. "Some Comments on the Housing of Students."
- 12 Annual Institute on College and University Administration, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, June 26, 1962. "Legal Trends that Influence College Administration."
- 13 Biennial five-state convention of the American Association of University Women, Detroit, April 27, 1962. "The Shape of Things to Come in Higher Education." Published in Journal of Higher Education, December 1962.
- 14 Annual Maryland Conference on Secondary Education, Baltimore, March 22, 1962. "Freedom of Choice and Breadth of Opportunity." Published in Educational Record 43: 280-288 (October 1962).
- 15 Fifteenth Annual Michigan Conference on Higher Education, Ann Arbor, November 14, 1961. "Public Policy and the Support of Higher Education." Published in Proceedings (University of Michigan Press).
- 16 Annual meeting of Association of Governing Boards of State Universities and Allied Institutions, Lincoln, Nebraska, October 13, 1961. "Relations Between Public and Private Institutions."
- 17 Annual National Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments, Philadelphia, September 6, 1961. "State Systems of Higher Education for the Future."
- 18 The National Conference on School Finance (N E A), St. Louis, April 5, 1960. Published in Proceedings. Washington: National Education Association, 1960.

Since January 1959 Mr. Chambers has prepared and circulated a small monthly mimeographed newsletter known as GRAPEVINE, dealing chiefly with state financing of higher education. About 500 copies go regularly to key persons in all of the 50 states. Additional hundreds are reproduced and distributed by the American College Public Relations Association, and also by the National Association of State Colleges and Universities. The file of back numbers (over more than 8 years) approaches 100 issues, aggregating some 300,000 words, and is valued highly by its recipients, among whom are many university and college presidents and other administrators, members of institutional governing boards, and state legislators and fiscal officers.

# Grapevine

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MERRITT MADISON CHAMBERS  
January 26, 1899 - November 15, 1985



Merritt Madison Chambers passed away on November 15 after a short illness. "M.M." Chambers, as he came to be known, was Professor of Educational Administration at Illinois State University from 1969 to 1985. Born January 26, 1899, in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Dr. Chambers earned a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1922, and a M.A. and Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1927 and 1931, respectively. Dr. Chambers received two honorary doctoral degrees from Eastern Kentucky University (1969) and Illinois State University (1985). In 1981, fifty years after receiving his first Ph. D., he returned to Ohio State to receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

M. M. Chambers' career spanned more than five decades in higher education. He was a faculty member at North Dakota and Oregon State, a researcher at Purdue and the Brookings Institution, and a staff member for 15 years at the American Council on Education. He was a World War II veteran and for seven years managed the family farm in Ohio. Dr. Chambers served as a Professor of Higher Education at the University of Michigan where he started GRAPEVINE in 1958. He also was a higher education professor at Indiana University prior to joining the ISU faculty.

A prodigious writer and champion of students, Dr. Chambers was perhaps best known for his accomplishments in the law and financing of higher education. In a recent issue of THE REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION, Dr. Chambers was called "the undisputed leader in the field of law and higher education."

M. M. Chambers did not hesitate to offer his own philosophy about the value of higher education. Affirming "The pinnacle has not yet been reached; the pendulum will continue to swing; the curve will move upward to a better-educated people," Dr. Chambers observed, "As soon as the nation begins to struggle out of the cynical, under-confident mood that has afflicted it for some five years, there will be a restoration of faith in the expansion and improvement of public higher education as the best possible investment of tax funds for the long future." (HIGHER EDUCATION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS, 1974)

Dr. Chambers' work on GRAPEVINE will be continued by Edward R. Hines and Gwen B. Pruyne. Dr. Hines has worked closely with Dr. Chambers in recent years. Gwen Pruyne will continue as Managing Editor. The M. M. Chambers Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established at the Illinois State University Foundation, ISU, Normal, Illinois 61761-6901.