

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES,
BANGOR, CAERNS.,
GREAT BRITAIN,

7th January, 1930.

SIR,

Having heard that there are frequently changes in the Staff decided upon at this time of the year, I take the liberty of inquiring if possibly you desire to engage a new instructor in German at your College. If such is the case, I beg to offer my services, as I think I can fill such a post to your satisfaction.

At present I am engaged on the Staff of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, Great Britain, as a German Lektor for the Session 1929—30. My duties cover lecturing proper (Gothic, Old High German), the reading of literature, correction of essays and translations, grammar lessons, and conversational practice for all stages from the Elementary Class up to the Honours Class. Apart from my official appointment, I conduct one introductory and one fairly advanced class of (together) 14 Staff members of this College, and one class for the Chemistry Department (Staff and Research Students). Though it has been my aim to employ German as a medium for instruction throughout, I had to lecture a good deal in English for the benefit of beginners, and for making myself better understood in cases where it was found expedient.

I took up my philological studies in 1924 at Münster University (Westphalia), and continued them at the Universities of Munich, Berlin, Wales (Bangor), and Hamburg. I am greatly indebted to the teaching of Von Kraus (Munich), Roethe, Neckel (Berlin), Borchling and Agathe Lasch (Hamburg) in philology, and in German Literature to Robert Petsch and Meyer Benfey (Hamburg). I am keenly interested in comparative phonetics, and my liking was greatly fostered by the lectures and demonstrations of Forchhammer (Munich).

To sum up my academic record, I have to add that English and Philosophy are my other subjects. At present I am engaged in preparing a thesis for the Hamburg Ph.D. on "*Word Formation in Early Old High German.*" I confidently hope this will be out by the Summer or early Autumn of this year although naturally in research work like this a definite date of completion cannot be given in advance, and it might be unwise to forecast the success of the thesis. However, I want to make it clear that in the event of my getting a position at your College at the beginning of next Session, I hope to have obtained the degree of Ph.D., or at least to have my thesis near completion. In the latter case, if appointed, I should consider myself duty bound to present my thesis to a board of examiners at the earliest opportunity.

REFERENCES :

Dr. EDNA PURDIE, head of the German Department, University College of North Wales, of this City, will be good enough to give full particulars concerning my abilities. As for my proposed thesis I beg to refer you to Professor Dr. BORCHLING, Director des Deutschen Universitäts Seminars, Bornplatz, Hamburg. For any particulars concerning my character and integrity the following friends in the U.S.A. will be glad to give information: Mr. EDWARD E. LEONARD, 26, Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island; and Dr. FRITZ KOELLN, 75, Federal Street, Brunswick, Maine.

Further references may be obtained on application from Professor EDWARD ROBERTSON, M.A., B.D., D.Litt., Lluesty, Bangor, and Sir HARRY REICHEL, M.A., LL.D., Rector Emeritus of Bangor College, Bangor. Mr. JOHN GALSWORTHY (the Author), Grove Lodge, The Grove, Hampstead, London, N.W. 3, very kindly and on his own initiative promised me to write to you concerning me if you should want to ask him.

Should you desire to know about the efficiency of my teaching to Staff members, Dr. BRADFIELD, Department of Chemistry, University College of North Wales, Bangor, and Mr. A. K. STOUT, M.A., 24, College Road, Bangor will kindly give you all the information desired. In addition, Professor H. WRIGHT, M.A., head of the English Department of this College, will testify as to my proficiency in English and general character.

Awaiting the favour of an early reply seeing that I shall have to make definite plans for the next months according to the kind of answer you will give.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

Hermann Sewing