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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR

President's Room

January 12, 1933

The Senate,
University of London,
South Kensington, London, S. W. 7,
England

Gentlemen:

I am informed that Professor John W. Eaton of this University is a candidate for a ~~position in the University of London~~ *Chair of German.*

Professor Eaton is Chairman of the Department of German in the University of Michigan. He has held the position since 1929. His work has been entirely satisfactory in every way. When he came to his present position, he encountered a difficult and delicate situation. The department had become disorganized during a period when it was without a head. Naturally, several members of the staff did not approve of bringing in a man from another university. Mr. Eaton has succeeded in adjusting the difficulties and differences of opinion in the department and has proved himself an efficient leader and able administrator. He has succeeded in organizing his department by a combination of firmness and tact which has earned the general approval of the Michigan faculty.

Professor Eaton is not only an able administrator and excellent teacher but also a man of great personal charm. He has made many friends on the Michigan faculty and, in the short time that he has been in the University, has become an integral part of the University group. He speaks fluently and ably and has made a favorable impression on every public occasion on which he has appeared.

The University of Michigan would deeply regret his loss. In fact, his departure would leave a gap in the University faculty which would be very difficult to fill. In fairness to him, however, it must be said that the University which acquires his services will be very fortunate.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Alexander G. Ruthven.

AGR:S