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### June 4, 1937 Letter From Spencer Shank to President Clippinger

Archives

*Otterbein University*, [archives@otterbein.edu](mailto:archives@otterbein.edu)

Spencer Shank

*University of Cincinnati*

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UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI  
TEACHERS COLLEGE

June 4, 1937

Mr. W. G. Clippinger  
President of Otterbein College  
Westerville, Ohio

My dear President Clippinger:

I have heard informally and yet I believe authoritatively that Mr. William H. Fouse of Lexington, Kentucky is to receive an honorary degree of Doctor of Pedagogy from Otterbein College at the coming Commencement. This is a most singular recognition that the College is bestowing, and I sincerely believe that it is deserved by Mr. Fouse in terms of his own integrity, professional ability, and wide influence in his state.

You may also be interested in knowing that Mr. Fouse is to receive the degree of Master of Education from the Teachers College, University of Cincinnati, on Friday, June 11. Mr. Fouse, interestingly enough, had as his adviser myself -- a graduate of Otterbein. His thesis is entitled "A History of Negro Education in Lexington, Kentucky." I do not hesitate to say that it is one of the most complete studies of its type which I have ever seen. I think this is largely true, because he alone of all men living was peculiarly fitted to do this job. By this I mean that he knew personally the older people who were prominent in effecting an adequate system of education for the Negroes in Lexington and in turn was the spearhead of the modern development, particularly that period of expansion following the World War.

I think herein is an interesting news item for the alumnal bulletin. I would appreciate having you pass it on to Mr. Earhart.

With best personal wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

*Spencer Shank*

Spencer Shank  
Assistant Dean

41-111 Fouse, William H.