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Chicago, Ill., April 28th., 1890.

L.V. Buskirk, Esq.,

Bloomington, Ind.

Dear Sir:-

Following please find report of my Opt. J.H.S. whom I detailed to go to Bloomington to investigate certain circulars printed and distributed in that place, concerning some of the faculty and students of the Indiana College;

Friday, April 25th., 1890.

To-day in Chicago,

As per instructions from Supt. F.M. I left Chicago for Bloomington, Ind., at 8.05 P.M. via the L.N.A. & C. R.R., and arrived in Bloomington at 5.05 A.M. Saturday, April 26th.

Saturday, April 26th., 1890.

To-day in Bloomington,

I went to the National Hotel for breakfast and, not knowing how to reach Mr. Rouff without making an inquiry at the college, I dropped a note in the post office for him, asking for an interview. After dinner I received a reply from Mr. Rouff, and went to his room on College Ave., where I met and conferred with him in regard to the matter in hand. On last Friday or Saturday morning there was found, in many of the door yards of the residences and under the doors of the business houses of this village, a circular, which was evidently intended for a college bogus. This circular attacked some of the faculty and the most popular students of the college at this place, known as the Indi-

ana College, and was couched in language so filthy that, if such a thing were possible, it must have shamed even the depraved author. It seems that several hundred of these circulars were distributed, and in all probability every child in the village has read them. They even went so far as to adopt means to have them circulated out of town, by putting numbers of them in the cabooses of outgoing freight trains. The parties assailed held a meeting soon after, and adopted measures to bring the perpetrators to justice; first by doing all in their power to ferret out the guilty parties, and second by contributing a sum of money each, as a fund to employ a professional detective to work on the case. It was finally decided to put Mr. Buskirk in charge of the matter, and Mr. Rouff was appointed treasurer of the fund. Both of these gentlemen have been very zealous and have accumulated considerable information. They have endeavored to find the parties by making inquiries at the express and post offices, in order to determine whether or not the matter was shipped here, but an examination of the records at the express office has shown that it was not. The printers here have been interviewed, but have declared that the type used was not theirs. The editor of the "Telephone" is known to have made a remark which, I think, is significant. He said that when he first heard of the circular that the first thought that struck him was that his type ~~may~~<sup>might</sup> have been used, but when he examined the circular he found that such was not the case. Reference was made to the paper called the "Telephone" in the circular. The name of the editor, whom I spoke of, is Mr. Bradfute. I do not think that Mr. Bradfute has any guilty knowledge of this circular, but his remark leads me to believe that he thinks his employees could have been hired to do the work. Mr. Bradfute was absent from the village for two or three days about the time

the circular came out.

It is customary for college students when getting up a bogus, to employ an apprentice or office hand at a printing office, who sets up the type at night, and the authors of the joke will assist him in running the press; therefore, because this bogus is vile without parallel, it does not necessarily follow that it was printed out of town. Messrs Buskirk and Ruoff were satisfied with Mr. Bradfute's explanation and have made no effort in that direction, but I propose to get a number of copies of the "Telephone" and compare the print with that of the circular. It is very possible that old and unused type was used and the whole matter thrown together, regardless of spelling and composition, as a disguise, but it is also possible that in their haste they have used type, which is occasionally used in the paper. I will also investigate the possible connection of the employees of the other printing offices here, with the parties suspected. It is evident from the nature of this circular and the allusions made in it, that it is the result of Fraternity spitework.

There are several fraternities or secret societies here, the members of which are all students of the college. These secret societies are known as College Fraternities and their names are taken from the Greek. The names are as follows;

1st. Beta Theta Pi; 2nd. Phi Gamma Delta; 3rd. Phi Delta Theta; 4th. Sigma Chi; 5th. Phi Kappa Psi; 6th. Delta Tau Delta. For short these different societies are

called; 1st. Beta; 2nd. Gam; 3rd. Phi Delta; 4th. Sig.; 5th. Phi Psi; 6th. Delta Tau.. To be able to join most of these Fraternities, it is necessary to possess a certain amount of intellectual ability, good standing in college and society and moral worth, but to join the Beta one must have a certain number of good suits of clothes, must dissipate and in short, must be a hail fellow well met.

For several terms past there has been considerable enmity between the Beta's and the other Fraternities, particularly with certain members of the Phi Psi's and the Phi Del's, and certain allusions made in the circular can, to a reasonable degree of certainty, be traced to certain members of the Beta. The suspected members of the Beta are, Hal Read, C.W. Beard, Ike Loeb, W.H. Bloss, G.M. Howe and Roll Madison. These men are reasonably suspected as being the only ones who have a motive, and also for their depraved nature, but their motives, at least those of some of them, are so remote that it would be a waste of time and money to undertake to gain their confidence promiscuously, I have therefore, determined to go and see these men openly, after I have gotten all the information I can get on the matter, and investigate their movements on that particular night.

I shall see Mr. Ruoff again to-morrow and endeavor to get his aid in the matter of comparing the print of the "Telephone" with that of the circular.

I had a long interview with Mr. Buskirk this evening, and he has helped me very materially to get an insight into the case. It will be a hard matter to get at but I will do my best and make the cost as slight as possible.

Yours respectfully

Pinkerton's Nat. Det. Agency,

by *Wm. A. Pinkerton*

Gen'l. Supt. West'n. Div.