

October 17, 1978

MEMO TO: Members of the Economics Department

FROM: N. J. Simler

I have prepared this memorandum to explain recent events. On Monday morning the Dean called on the phone to tell me that I had been placed on irrevocable waivers by the Central Administration. This means that if any Big 10 institution claims me, they can assume my contract by paying \$100 to the University of Minnesota. On Tuesday, I was claimed by Indiana. However, since I have had more than ten years service at Minnesota I have the option of declaring myself a free agent, and negotiating a new contract on my own with another University. I have had feelers from Iowa. They want me to teach public utility economics, and do not want me to serve as chairman. However, they offer a lower salary than I am currently receiving. Indiana wants me to be ready to assume the chairmanship when their current chairman resigns in two years. They want me to teach labor and mathematical economics. The Indiana alternative sounds desirable. They have a good roster, but I will not make a final decision until next week.

The Dean tells me that he recommended against this move, but was overridden from above. There is nothing personal about this move. It is simply necessary because the University must reduce its expenditures. My position in the department roster will be taken by a new assistant professor with the salary differential being used for a new position on the Duluth campus. They believe that this will make the Governor happy. They believe that Charlie Holt is now ready to take over as department chairman. I will soon call a departmental meeting to let you know my feelings in this matter.