

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS
LAWRENCE

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 31, 1950

Mr. W. C. Simons
c/o Journal World
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Mr. Simons:

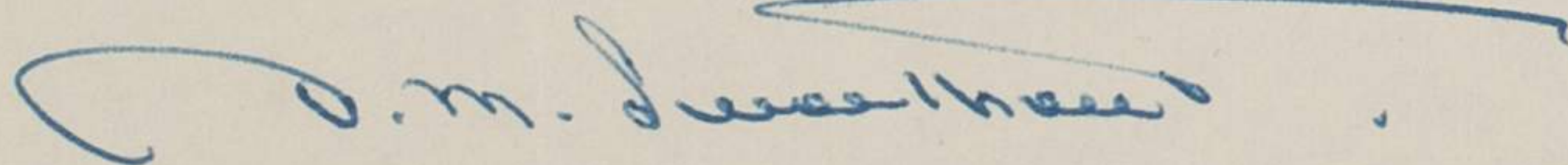
Through the many years we've been here, you have been always a true and loyal friend, and your recent cordial note pertaining to my retirement July 1st, was but another instance of your thoughtfulness. Many thanks for it. We have been honored by a goodly number of such letters, and all are greatly prized.

We know you will lend my successor, whoever he may be, the fine assistance and cooperation in the music and art program of the University that you've always accorded me.

In one paragraph you spoke of "the wonderful oratorios" that we produced and expressed the hope that at some time these might be revived. We have been offering again these large major choral works for chorus and orchestra, with what we feel is unusual success. The chorus had run always over 200 to 250, and our KU Symphony Orchestra of recent years is something we can be unusually proud of. You may have forgotten that within the past four or five years we have given what most of us felt to be outstanding presentations of the "Messiah", "Elijah", Brahms "Requiem", Randall Thompson's "The Peaceable Kingdom" and this year on April 30th, at 3:00 p. m., the great Verdi "Requiem", one of the most thrilling works in all choral literature, in a performance free to all of Lawrence and the University, which I most certainly hope you and others of your family may not miss. So the old program is to a considerable extent restored.

Again, sincere thanks for your kind letter. With every good wish,

Cordially yours,



D. M. Swarthout
Dean

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