

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

Thomas Edward Lawrence, later known as “Lawrence of Arabia”, read Modern History at Jesus College in 1907-10. His first class degree was awarded largely on the strength of a thesis comparing French medieval castles, which he had visited as a bicycling schoolboy, with Crusader castles in Syria and Lebanon, which he had toured on foot during the Long Vacation of 1909. Lawrence then became a Senior Demy at Magdalen, from where he spent much time working on the archaeological excavations at Carchemish in Syria.

Lawrence’s later life, especially his remarkable exploits in the Middle East during the First World War, and his later retreat into the RAF, has been regularly retold elsewhere, and here is no need to say more here. The most comprehensive account of his life remains Jeremy Wilson, *Lawrence of Arabia: The Authorised Biography of T. E. Lawrence* (London, 1989).

Lawrence was not the only member of his family to come to Jesus College: his younger brother Frank, who was killed in action in 1915, came up to the College in 1913.

Since Lawrence’s death, various documents by or relating to him have been given to Jesus College. The most significant are Lawrence’s undergraduate thesis, given by his mother in 1939 (see **JC:P195/1**), and a collection of his letters from the 1920s and 1930s, mainly written to his friend and banker Robin Buxton, which were presented to the College in 1965 by Mary Wentworth Kelly, a Lawrence enthusiast (see **JC:P195/2**). The College has also been given various articles, reminiscences and pieces of ephemera, and the remarkable chronology of Lawrence’s life by Mrs. Lesley Brown (see **JC:P195/5**).

These papers had all been brought together by successive librarians and archivists, and it would be impractical to attempt to separate them by provenance. This collection of **JC:P195**, therefore, brings together what material about Lawrence has been given to the College over the years, and has subdivided into the following sections:

**JC:P195/1** – Papers on T. E. Lawrence’s Undergraduate Thesis

**JC:P195/2** – Letters from T. E. Lawrence to Robin Buxton and others

**JC:P195/3** – Correspondence between Principals of Jesus College and Members of the Lawrence Family

**JC:P195/4** – Press cuttings, articles and reminiscences about T. E. Lawrence

**JC:P195/5** – The T. E. Lawrence chronology of Mrs. Lesley Prendergast Brown

In addition, a collection of miscellaneous enquiries about Lawrence sent to the archives between 1968 and 2009 may be found at OM Enq I4 (a)-(b).

The following articles and notes about Lawrence (and, in one case, by Lawrence) have appeared in successive issues of the *Jesus College Magazine* and the *Jesus College Record*:

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

*Jesus College Magazine* Vol. I no. 2 (Jan 1913), pp. 37-9: article by T. E. Lawrence (under initials CJG), *The Kaer of Ibu Wardani*, [sic; the correct spelling should be “The Kasr of Ibn Wardani”].

*Jesus College Magazine*, Vol. I no. 6 (June 1914), pp. 144-5: two mentions of Lawrence: on p. 144 congratulations “on his splendid work in helping to unravel the tangled skein of Hittite history by his excavations at Carcemish [sic]”; and on p. 145 a note that he “has been excavating with Mr Wooley at Djerablus. His work is probably the most valuable that has been done in the Hittite country.”

*Jesus College Magazine*, Vol. II no. 6 (March 1921), p. 113: a report on Lawrence’s return to the Middle East on the staff of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Jesus College Magazine*, Vol. IV no. 49 (June 1935): has for a frontispiece, a photo of Lawrence (extracted from a group photo of members of Oxford High School when Lawrence was near the end of this time there), comments on his death in the Editorial on pp. 341-2, and an article about him by J. G. Edwards on pp 343-5.

*Jesus College Magazine* Vol. IV no. 52 (June 1936): has for a frontispiece a photo of a drawing of Lawrence made by James McBey, presented by the artist to the College, and a short article on p. 42, *Memorials to T E Lawrence*, with an illustration of a bronze tablet placed in the main entrance to the College on the facing page.

*Jesus College Magazine*, Vol. VI no. 84 (March 1947), pp. 19-21: “W.J.P.”, “Lawrence and Oxford”.

*Jesus College Record*, 1964: facing p. 18 is a photograph of the replica of the bust of Lawrence presented by his brother M. R. Lawrence.

*Jesus College Record*, 1965, p. 4 & 25-26: two reports on the donation of Lawrence letters to the Library by Miss Mary Wentworth Kelly, and of one Lawrence letter by M. R. Lawrence.

*Jesus College Record*, 1971, pp. 22-8: F. C. Lay, “Dr. Montagu Robert Lawrence”.

*Jesus College Record*, 1986: pp. 6-11: “Recollections of T. E. Lawrence by two of his Jesus College Contemporaries” [the two were Warren Ault (matr. 1907) and Arthur Prÿs-Jones (matr. 1908)].

**JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD****JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

*Jesus College Record*, 1989, pp. 15-16: D. A. Rees, "T.E. Lawrence Exhibition, 1988".

*Jesus College Record*, 1992/3, pp. 27-30: "Warren O. Ault 1907-1989: A Jesus College Centenarian" (Ault was a friend of TEL at College, and this article includes a reminiscence of him).

*Jesus College Record*, 2003, pp. 56-7: William J. Brice, "Ned Lawrence's Canoe".

*Jesus College Record*, 2011, pp. 64-8: Hugh Doherty, "Reginald Lane Poole and Lawrence of Arabia".

*Jesus College Record*, 2012, pp. 42-6: Hugh Doherty, "The Brass Rubbing of Thomas Cranley" (this is the brass rubbing created by TEL and Warren Ault).

*Jesus College Record*, 2017, pp. 90-3: Philip Legg, "Frank Helier: The Other Lawrence".

*Jesus College Record*, 2017, pp. 94-9: Victoria Stevens, "F For Facsimile: Lawrence's Undergraduate Thesis Reimagined."

Catalogued in May 2019.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

**JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

### **JC:P195/1 – PAPERS ON T. E. LAWRENCE’S UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

As part of his Finals examinations in History, Lawrence submitted an optional thesis titled *The Influence of the Crusades on European military architecture to the end of the XIIIth century*. It compared French medieval castles, which he had visited as a bicycling schoolboy, with Crusader castles in Syria and Lebanon, which he had toured on foot during the Long Vacation of 1909. The quality of the thesis undoubtedly contributed to Lawrence’s being awarded a First.

*Crusader Castles* (as it is usually called for short) was first published in a limited edition in 1936, and the first general edition published in 1986. The thesis itself was then presented to the College by Lawrence’s mother Sarah in 1939 (see **JC:P195/3/C1/7**), and may be consulted in the Fellows’ Library, where it bears the reference MS 181 (it did once bear the reference J.160/7). There are also two facsimiles of the thesis, one of which is usually on show there.

Information from Lawrence’s family at **JC:P195/1/C1/1** suggests that Jesus College holds the copy which was given to the examiners, and then returned to him. These letters also claim that a second copy of the thesis, used for the 1935 edition, was held in the Bodleian Library, but none currently is known to exist there, and the Jesus copy appears to be the only one extant. There are however, some notes and drafts relating to the thesis at the Bodleian. In addition, some of the maps drawn by Lawrence for his thesis are now kept at Magdalen College.

### **JC:P195/1/C1 - CORRESPONDENCE ON THE THESIS**

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>JC:P195/1/C1/1</b>  | <b>June 1955-Nov 1966</b> |
| Copies of letters from Lawrence’s brothers Montagu and Arnold Lawrence discussing the early history of the thesis, and the possible location of other copies, 1955 and 1966. [4 items] |                           |
| <b>JC: P195/1/C1/2</b>   | <b>17 Jan 1986</b>        |
| Letter on the possible publication of <i>Crusader Castles</i> by Oxford University Press.  |                           |
| <b>JC:P195/1/C1/3</b>  | <b>Oct 1987-Jan 1988</b>  |
| Correspondence with the Bodleian Library on the loan of Lawrence’s thesis there for an exhibition. [7 items]   |                           |
| <b>JC:P195/1/C1/4</b>  | <b>Jan 1988-Jun 1989</b>  |
| Correspondence with the National Portrait Gallery on the loan of Lawrence’s thesis there for another exhibition. [26 items]  |                           |

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:P195/1/C1/5**

**30 Mar 1999**

Note in the hand of Brigid Allen, then College Archivist, that the Bodleian does not hold a second copy of Lawrence's thesis.

**JC:P195/1/C1/6**

**May-Oct 2005**

Correspondence with the Imperial War Museum on the loan of Lawrence's thesis for an exhibition there. [7 items]

### **JC:P195/2 - LETTERS FROM T. E. LAWRENCE TO ROBIN BUXTON AND OTHERS**

Robin Buxton (1883-1953) was primarily a banker who joined Martins Bank just before the First World War, and who returned to his bank duties there after 1919. He had, however, also been a first-class cricketer.

Buxton first encountered Lawrence when he was serving with the Imperial Camel Corps in Palestine in the summer of 1918. After the war he became Lawrence's banker, trying to keep some control on Lawrence's chaotic finances. In particular, he played an important role in the financing of the limited edition of *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom* which came out in 1927.

**JC:P192/2/C1/1-103** were given to the College by arrangement with Miss Mary Wentworth Kelly, a lifelong enthusiast for Lawrence. The *Jesus College Record* of 1965 records that Miss Wentworth Kelly "has recently bought a very valuable collection of 101 letters in autograph and presented them to the College library" (p. 4). More information is given on pp. 25-6, which suggests that "Miss Kelly was able to obtain [the letters] for the College from the Lawrence Trustees." A letter in **JC:P195/2/C2/1** below, however, suggests that Miss Wentworth Kelly gave the College £2500, which the College paid the T. E. Lawrence Trustees for the letters. Miss Wentworth Kelly also bequeathed a fund to Jesus College to endow a T. E. Lawrence award for Medieval History, which today is intended to assist any Fellow, Lecturer, graduate or undergraduate of the College in research into the Mediaeval History of Western Europe, the Mediterranean or the territories of the Crusades.

**JC:P192/2/C1/104** was given to the College in 1965 by Lawrence's brother M. R. Lawrence (*Jesus College Record* 1965, p. 26).

**JC:P195/2/C1/1-95** are all letters from Lawrence to Buxton. **JC:P195/2/C1/96-104** are letters to various correspondents, including George Bernard Shaw, Lionel Curtis, Sir Herbert Baker, and a Mlle Ch. Schneegan.

This collection does not include every letter to Buxton from Lawrence which is known to have existed. **JC:P195/2/C2/3** is a photocopy of another letter, whose original is now lost, and there are few more letters in the Lawrence Papers in the Bodleian Library. There are some letters in private hands: five letters written from

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

Lawrence to Buxton between December 1923 and March 1929 have been published as *T.E.L.: Five hitherto unpublished letters*, ed. Sir Harry Michael Rex Newton (privately printed 1975). There is a copy of this rare text in the Bodleian Library.

A few of the letters in the Jesus collection have been published in the following collections of Lawrence correspondence:

D. Garnett (ed.), *The Letters of T. E. Lawrence* (London, 1938).

D. Garnett (ed.), *Selected Letters of T. E. Lawrence* (London, 1938).

M. Brown (ed.), *The Letters of T. E. Lawrence* (London, 1988).

Details are given below where appropriate.

### JC:P195/2/CI – LETTERS FROM T. E. LAWRENCE

#### JC:P195/2/CI/1

**28 Aug 1922**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, 14 Barton Street, SW) to Robin Buxton. He has finished his book on the Arab Revolt, pre tem. Final version will include short chapters about the Imperial Camel Corps “with some personal remarks upon yourself. These perhaps you won’t mind but if you do it can’t be helped. They are meant well and the whole book is shockingly personal”. Kennington has drawn about 20 Arabs to illustrate that side, and Lawrence is having a small batch of Englishmen drawn in London – Bartholomew, Alan Dawnay, Clayton, Newcombe, and he hopes Buxton. He would like William Roberts to draw Buxton: “He’s quite a kid, very decent in a hard-shelled way: was a cubist & is over it, and now does black and white of a monumental solidity.” He supplies details of sittings etc.

#### JC:P195/2/CI/2

**27 Oct 1922**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He expresses his pleasure at Roberts’ drawing of Buxton, and is grateful for agreeing to be drawn.

#### JC:P195/2/CI/3

**21 Dec 1922**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, 14 Barton Street) to Robin Buxton. He asks for advice. A while ago he changed his name and enlisted in the RAF. “The old name bo[red] me with its length & its associations: also – and this is a personal matter – it wasn’t my father’s.” He is now John Hume Ross, or could drop the ‘Hume’ in signing a book. He now seeks Buxton’s advice about how he should sign cheques. He has decided sell an abridgement of “my Arabian narrative” which might bring in £6,000. After that he may “chuck the RAF”.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 185 (pp. 388-9)]

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/C1/4**

**30 Jan 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He apologises for not replying sooner, but he has been “inconceivably bothered”. The signature has been cut away.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/5**

**11 May 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Brown's drawing is in London with other parcels; he won't be able to go there until after Whitsun. He hopes that it is good enough. He is not broke thanks to Buxton's overdraft and not hungry because he draws rations but the army a blank after the RAF. He hopes to get to India next year. He is amused that Buxton has come across “that book of mine”. What did he feel about the ICC part? He is now known as Private T E Shaw.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/6**

**27 June 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence is worried about his overdraft, and has heard a rumour that [Sir Ronald] Storrs is getting married.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/7**

**2 July 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He has written to Mrs [Winifred] Fontana, who has one of the three copies at Lawrence's disposal. It is so long everyone takes an age with it. The other copies are with [Sydney] Cockerell [curator] of the Fitzwilliam at Cambridge and with [JL] Garvin of the Observer. Brown's drawing is “not first class” but should be good enough.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/8**

**24 July 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. The book for Buxton arrived that morning but he has given it instead to [Thomas] “old Hardy”. “To have been desired by Hardy is an expanding of the chest & head.”

**JC:PI95/2/C1/9**

**15 Aug 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence is left both “proud & miserable” at Hardy's comments on his book. He will value Buxton's comments, especially on the Camel Corps march.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/10**

**22 Sept 1923**

Typescript of letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. The original is at **JC:PI95/2/C1/97** below, where there is a summary.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/11**

**4 Oct 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Buxton's idea of 120 copies at £25 is good; Lionel Curtis thought similarly. He would

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

like to make enough to settle his overdraft, which has enabled him to take a ruined cottage in a wood near camp.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 223, pp. 434-5, and in Garnett, *Selected Letters*, no. 99, pp. 196-7]

#### JC:PI95/2/CI/12

**5 Nov 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He agrees to what appears to be a suggestion to send a copy of his book to [Col Pierce] Joyce. He is glad that Buxton approves of his account of the Camel Corps. Lionel Curtis has bought his gold dagger. Lawrence would prefer to issue a few copies of his book rather than many.

#### JC:PI95/2/CI/13

**14 Nov 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He has sent him two John drawings. He discusses different views of subscription levels for book. When publication draws near the two drawings will be needed.

#### JC:PI95/2/CI/14

**23 Nov 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Glad he can "do the hundred at thirty". He also discusses [DG] Hogarth's portrait. He wants some cheap copies of the book. He thinks that revision of the text will take him nearly a year, which will prevent him doing his translating "which keeps me in luxuries like my motor bike". He is concerned about his overdraft. Augustus John had admired [William] Roberts' portraits and asked if the four soldiers could be persuaded to buy their portraits. They are actually Lawrence's but he has agreed Roberts (who is broke) can sell them if he can, provided Lawrence retains the copyright.

#### JC:PI95/2/CI/15

**13 Dec 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill, Moreton, Dorset) to Robin Buxton. It has been decided to print 100 copies at 30 guineas, and some 20 incomplete copies to be given away free to protagonists of the campaign. He is to be solely responsible for the printing, production & distribution of the book. Since the book may be libellous, Lawrence has no money, and so libel actions against him would fail. He gives details about proposals.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 232, pp. 442-3]

#### JC:PI95/2/CI/16

**23 Dec 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. He discusses printing and financial arrangements. Mrs G.B. Shaw has sent 30 guineas for a copy of *Seven Pillars* but he is reluctant to take her money and will hold the cheque until he has discussed it with her. He has tried for six weeks to do without a motor bike, and is going to get a new one. Allen Bennett will let him have it by instalments rather than a single sum of £150.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

- JC:PI95/2/CI/17** **27 Dec 1923**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. Encloses cheque from Mrs G. B. Shaw, though he did his best to deter her. His 4<sup>th</sup> Folio fetched £80 so he can get his motor bike.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/18** **no date [but soon after above]**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence, address, Clouds' Hill, Moreton, Dorset) to Robin Buxton. He discusses more subscriptions, including from Hugh Walpole, and "the unfortunate Grey". He is anxiously awaiting his new motor bike.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/19** **23 Jan 1924**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill, Moreton) to Robin Buxton. He discusses progress in raising subscriptions, preparing pictures, and making trial pages of his book. The railway strike has delayed his new bike.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/20** **25 Feb 1924**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill, Morton) to Robin Buxton. He has had a heavy ten days – much work in camp. "The bike has come (yesterday) and is a man-killer. Magnificent." A Chingford builder has offered him a land exchange.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/21** **23 March 1924**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence has estimates for his book: Pictures £2405; text and binding £970; cost of USA edition £200, total £3,575; so he must sell 120 copies. He needs a cheque for £300 to get Pike started with the printing.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/22** **31 March 1924**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. He discusses more subscribers. He also claims that the American edition will be a "spoof", only intended to ensure copyright.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/23** **3 May 1924**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks of Buxton likes the illustrations he has seen, and discusses details of typography and choice of paper.
- JC:PI95/2/CI/24** **about 27 June 1924**  
 Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill, Moreton) to Robin Buxton. Pike the printer is started now with machines and has asked for £100 more. He is making progress with maps, photographs etc.

**JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD**

**JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

**JC:PI95/2/C1/25**

**11 Aug 1924**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. He discusses more subscribers to his book. Whittingham and Griggs have finished the first five chromo-lithos.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/26**

**18 Aug 1924**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. He discusses other possible subscribers, noting that Harold Nicholson has withdrawn. He wishes to talk about a possible American edition.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/27**

**29 Aug 1924**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address Clouds' Hill, Moreton, Dorset) to Robin Buxton. He asks Buxton to return cheques to an unknown lady whose manner has displeased Lawrence. He discusses progress on the printing, and possible arrangements for an American edition, noting at eight copies must be printed in the USA.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 253, pp. 465-6]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/28**

**6 Oct 1924**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address Clouds' Hill, Moreton) to Robin Buxton. The list of subscribers now includes Compton Mackenzie Wells, Shaw, Walpole, Hardy, Lady Bute, and a "City sort of merchant called Grenfell". He has asked for a print run of 200. Kennington busy over his monument. He has been in dispute over giving copies of the book to the copyright libraries, which he does not wish to do.

[Published in part in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 256, p. 468]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/29**

**7 Oct 1924**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence discusses financial problems relating to the costs of pictures etc for the book.

[See **JC:PI95/2/C2/3** for a photocopy of a letter from Lawrence to Buxton dated 25 Nov 1924, original now missing; published in part in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 259, pp. 470-1]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/30**

**18 Dec 1924**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence has mislaid two conveyances. E. V. Lucas "all right, as a writer", and Lawrence is happy for him to see first few chapters.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/31**

**12 Jan 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He has tracked down a deed for Pole Hill as security for £250 mortgage. He now asks Buxton's advice on what to do next.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/C1/32**

**6 Feb 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He has more to report about the mortgage deeds. He is correcting a most difficult chapter on the march to Akaba and its capture. First section to be printed tomorrow; second just passed final proof; third and fourth in Madeira where G B Shaw is proof-reading them. Fifth section with Lawrence. This is half way through.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/33**

**18 Feb 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. E. M. Forster is staying at the cottage. He discusses money, and also the reprint of his book, which he thinks is almost a revision. He is managing a page a day. He discusses financial matters about the Pole Hill deed. He hopes that the book will be fully complete by December. He is prepared for a loss of about £1,000 on the edition. Will need to find £2,500 next Jan, as he aims to go abroad in Feb for remainder of his term. Chingford is up for sale and may raise the whole sum. If it has not been sold by Christmas, he will take offer of an abridgement of about half *The Seven Pillars* to Cape.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/34**

**26 March 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He has offered Cape 125,000 words ("about 43%") of *The Seven Pillars* for publication under another title in England and America in spring 1927. He agreed provisionally and is working out a contract. G. B. Shaw and others must see it before he commits himself. He has therefore cancelled the sale of his books. He has had an offer from a Chingford builder, and wonders what should he do. He is pondering whether to return to the RAF. He has also heard that Brough have brought out a new bike which can do 112 m.p.h.  
[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 261, p. 472]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/35**

**13 April 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds' Hill) to Robin Buxton. He discusses the value of serial rights in the USA, which are substantial. He described his new bike as "a private danger. Tremendous."

**JC:PI95/2/C1/36**

**16 May 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence discusses his finances, and the money he owes and is owed. He also has much to do on the book itself. The RAF has decided that he is not fit to serve in it, and so will buy himself out, to finish the book. He discusses some possible subscribers, including Philip Sassoon and his sister, Lady Cholmondeley if they apply, and people whom he has refused, including Winston [Churchill]. Each subscriber is to receive proof of first 40 pages of the book with apology for delay.

**JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD**

**JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

**JC:PI95/2/CI/37**

**18 May 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He discusses other possible subscribers: he does not wish to accept Lady Colefax, but will accept Sir Albert Stern and John Buchan. He also discusses some more financial matters, and asks himself to be put down for 50 copies of the reprint at 15 guineas each. His intent is to “tell the disgusting people of the future that the lists are closed; and decent people may go on a waiting list, which shall be a favour.”

**JC:PI95/2/CI/38**

**22 May 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He answers summarily various questions of Buxton about the book.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/39**

**20 June 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He thanks Buxton for pass books, and discusses proofs of illustrations for Whittingham and Griggs. He has heard hints that [Sir John] Salmond has said that he may get back to the air, and asks Buxton to find out more. He also discusses his finances once again. He also passes on his opinions on professional indexers: all right for names, and not for subject headings.  
[Portions of this published in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 267, pp. 477-8]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/40**

**25 June 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds Hill, Moreton, Dorset) to Robin Buxton. He encloses a “book” which appears to be a list of subscribers, with comments on some doubtful points. He would prefer to circulate a section of the book in advance, so that it will not make too much of a noise.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/41**

**after 20 Jul 1925**

Letter from Robin Buxton (address 68 Lombard Street, London EC3) to T. E. Lawrence. Buxton offers the names of more possible subscribers. On the back of this, Lawrence has written a reply (no address given). He is trying to complete proofs of his book before his recruit training for the RAF. He discusses subscribers, explaining that he does not want any more, unless they are “really decent people”. He expresses his dissatisfaction with his book – “rotten by far than I ever dreamed.”

**JC:PI95/2/CI/42**

**15 Aug 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds Hill, Moreton, Dorset) to Robin Buxton. He is joining the RAF on Monday, and in preparation for this sends Buxton thoughts on various business matters, including his finances, the proofs, the illustrations, and the subscribers.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/CI/43**

**16 Oct 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence discusses subscribers, and wonders about having up to 120 of them. He laments that the book is costing more and more.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/44**

**19 Oct 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Hut 105, RAF Cadet College, Cranwell, Lincs.) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks to come and see Buxton at Priors Hardwicke.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/45**

**28 Dec 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence agrees to accept Lord Verulam as a subscriber. The book is still not finished, as he has injured his knee and elbow thanks to his bike.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/46**

**4 Jan 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. There is more discussion of the book, and the number of copies (which he wishes to keep secret to annoy the bibliophile). He is hoping to get some more money from Cape to reduce his overdraft. He also asks for Buxton's help in sorting out his income tax. He reports on his progress with the proofs, and also with his work on the abridged version of the book.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/47**

**20 March 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Hut 105, RAF Cadet College, Cranwell) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence has broken his right arm, and is writing this in pencil. He discusses some more subscribers, and some details about bills.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/48**

**21 June 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. There is more discussion of subscribers. He is going to India in November. He hates doing it, but hopes that it will let him escape Cape's publicity campaign. He would like to see Buxton to talk business, and the possible creation of a trust to handle his money in his absence.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/49**

**15 Sept 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence wants to sign only copies of *The Seven Pillars* for people who helped produce it. The *Daily Telegraph* and an American paper have offered just over £2,000 for serial rights; he will probably accept.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/50**

**14 Oct 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence encloses a proof for Lee Warner. The final edition is held up because of a muddle over two coloured plates, and because he does not want it to come

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

out before 5 December when his boat sails. He also laments how much else there is to pay for with the book.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/51**

**26 Oct 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He discusses arrangements for the Trust, dealing with a journalist from the *Evening Standard*, and news about binding the book.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/52**

**1 Nov 1926**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence advises against accepting any more subscribers, or else there will not be enough copies to go round.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/53**

**11 Jan 1927**

Letter (written in pencil) from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Depot, Drigh Road, Karachi) to Robin Buxton. He hopes not to stay in India for more than five years. The trip out was "ghastly". He discusses some final arrangements about the book, including selling some of the original pictures.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/54**

**16 Feb 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence discusses his dealings with Raymond Savage, apparently about the *Daily Telegraph* serialisation. He also discusses what to do with the pictures, noting that August John's head of Feisal is probably the only one worth very much. He notes that the book has not been noticed much, now that it is out. There are a few more discussions of spare copies, and Lawrence's reflections on what he has done ("I know it is a wash-out").

**JC:PI95/2/CI/55**

**4 March 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence describes his life in Karachi. He discusses his financial affairs, and the sale of the Feisal portrait. He expresses pleasure at Kennington's bust of him. He also discusses how many copies were printed. Robert Graves was meant to have a copy, and so Lawrence arranges for him to collect an incomplete one from D.G. Hogarth in Oxford. He reflects on his future life, now that his book is finished. He would lie to come back from India when the fuss over his book has died down, and retire into private life.  
[Published in part in Brown, *Letters*, pp. 318-19]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/56**

**25 March 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence praises Buxton for selling a copy of *Seven Pillars* for a copy of Kennington's bust and a car, observing that he could have got a Bough bike for that. He is sorry to hear of Manning Pike's problems, and thanks Buxton for helping him. He expresses his dislike for the abridged version (*Revolt in the Desert*). He

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

asks how distribution of the copies is going, and asks that film rights should not be sold without his being consulted.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/57**

**21 April 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Mrs Shaw has sent him some cuttings with reviews of *Revolt in the Desert*. *Revolt* is in its fourth impression, and the royalties go to the RAF Memorial Fund, but Lawrence insists that they must not know its source. He discusses translations: he does not want a French edition because of their cruelty in Syria. Lawrence now has a copy of the Cape £5 edition, and dislikes it. He continues to think about what to do with the pictures, which he had commissioned for *Seven Pillars*, and about copies which have not reached their owners, and whether he would like a copy for himself to sell for a new Brough Superior. Lawrence also discusses film rights, and asks Buxton to keep close watch on any scenario or depiction of himself.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/58**

**12 May 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence suggests, that, if *Revolt in the Desert* has swept away the overdraft, might they now use the clause in the contract with Cape to bring the edition to an end? This is now for the trustees to decide. There are arguments on both sides.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/59**

**10 June 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He discusses alleged sales at Harrods and Minneapolis of copies of *Seven Pillars* at greatly inflated sums. He also urges Buxton not to let the RAF Fund know about his links to Lawrence. He is delighted that his overdraft is smaller. He suggests that half of the money raised from the sale of his pictures should be used for Pike, and for "a poor little thing called [Private 'Posh'] Palmer". He asks that Edward Grey, Allenby, and H G Wells should be given complimentary copies, but Mrs. Colin Campbell should do so. He has received a copy of the £5 Cape edition, which he refuses to sign – he will never sign the name "Lawrence" again. He discusses arrangements for *Revolt in the Desert*, and problems with film rights. He discusses Karachi, and reports on receiving a letter from Winston Churchill.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/60**

**23 June 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence is delighted with Buxton's latest letter, which reports that the Trustees have resolved to end the agreement with Cape. He confirms that the some of the proceeds of the picture sales should go to Pike and Palmer. He is buying gramophone records of Beethoven quartets. He has promised himself not to make money out of the Arab campaign. Film rights are discussed once more. He is glad that the Ashmolean have taken the John drawing of D.G. H[ogarth]. Kennington has done four busts and says that Buxton's is the best.

**JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD**

**JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

He gives Buxton suggested reasons to pass on to Cape for withdrawing *Revolt in the Desert*.

Published in part in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 313, pp. 524-5, and also, again in part, in *Garnett Selected Letters*, no. 142 pp. 241-3]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/61**

**15 Sep 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence encloses some cheques from writing unsigned reviews 'for a queer little weekly called the *Spectator*'. He may be home in 1930, and will rely on a spare copy of *Seven Pillars* to provide him with price of a bike, but he will need double his RAF pay as running expenses. He is still in debt. If., however, there is a large balance in the *Seven Pillars* fund, he suggests giving money to the RAF Fund, and the RAF people are planning a swimming bath.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/62**

**22 Sep 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. The swimming bath idea is likely to fall through as the estimated cost is over £2000.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/63**

**[Undated; autumn 1927?]**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence is delighted to hear about the "death" of *Revolt in the Desert*. He thinks that Fleet Street will not understand why he only published to pay off an overdraft. He is, though, enclosing some cheques from his *Spectator* earnings, which he wants to give to his "little brother". Robert Graves's book about him is due out soon, and hopes it will be forgotten by the spring. He also wonders whether someone may write a book attacking him. He discusses the sales of his books, and a possible German edition. For the future, he would like to work as a night-watchman or a caretaker, and has no wish to marry. He suggests that John Buchan might be able to advise on film rights, and expresses concern on D. G. Hogarth's health.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/64**

**10 Nov 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He has received Buxton's wire telling him of the death of Hogarth. Will Buxton and Eliot choose another trustee?

**JC:PI95/2/CI/65**

**22 Dec 1927**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks Buxton to send £10 to his brother A. W. Lawrence to repay a loan. He urges Buxton not to invest in Pike. He reflects on the German translation of *Revolt* and on Robert Graves's biography of him (he thinks it "silly" to write about him while he's still alive). He discusses his financial position. He declares that he prefers being in the RAF to being King, or Premier, or Bank Manager, or Museum Keeper.

**JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD**

**JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

**JC:P195/2/C1/66**

**18 Jan 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence has not written letters lately as nothing to say. He hears that Buxton has passed some £4,000 to the RAF Fund. There may be a little more from USA and Germany but he hopes that Graves's book has killed his boom. He discusses unsold copies of *Seven Pillars*, one of which should get him another Brough Superior. He asks about replacing Hogarth as a Trustee, and reflects on the death of Thomas Hardy.

**JC:P195/2/C1/67**

**14 April 1928**

Letter (written in pencil) from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. For the last six months he has worked 11-12 hours a day, eight on RAF work and four on his own, transcribing a diary for Edward Garnett [this is an early version of *The Mint*]. He now feels "pumpkin-witted". He wants to help his brother (who tore up the last cheque he sent him), and he asks after Pike the publisher. He has heard from Lionel Curtis that Barclay's Bank employed a watchman-caretaker-charman in the London office and wonders whether he might have the job in 1935. Thanks to Eliot, he now has Dutch, German, and Swedish versions of *Revolt in the Desert*. Comments on them. Mrs Shaw has sent him German press cuttings. Graves sold nearly 60,000 copies of his biography in England. He discusses the costs of the production of *Seven Pillars*. He would like to see a scenario of the proposed film, although he thinks that it will be "a proper mess".

**JC:P195/2/C1/68**

**10 May 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton [2 sheets]. He has not been enjoying Karachi, and has been asked to be moved to a squadron up-country. He does not enjoy the attention given him in his new base, and has had to leave his books and his electric bath-heater behind. He asks after Guy Dawney, and after plans for the rebuilding of Martin's Bank by Herbert Baker. He resumes discussions about a possible job at Barclay's Bank in 1935. He hears that Kennington is in France working on a war memorial. He hopes that the film project may fail. He discusses the aftermath of Graves's book, and the money made from it for himself and the RAF Fund. He understands that the portrait of Hogarth has now been rejected because C. F. Bell, the Art Keeper at Oxford, disliked it (Lawrence disagrees). [The first part published both in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 358, p. 607, and in Garnett, *Selected Letters*, no. 165, pp. 282-3]

**JC:P195/2/C1/69**

**11 Sep 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Miranshah) to Robin Buxton. He is doing a translation (of Homer's *Odyssey*) for an "innocent Yank". He asks that Buxton £25 to his brother, who tore up the last cheque.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/CI/70**

**17 Oct 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Miranshah) to Robin Buxton. He encloses a cheque he received from Captain Liddell Hart. He had been asked to write an article on guerrilla war for the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, but refused but said he could compile one from Lawrence's writings in print provided he paid him. Apparently Peter Rodd is due to play Lawrence in the film. There is £15,000 for the RAF Fund.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/71**

**14 June 1929**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, A/C Shaw, RAF Cattewater, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. He is probably to be divested of Pole Hill. He hopes to get near the £4,000 it has cost. RB's bank holds the deeds.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/72**

**17 Feb 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He had called on the bank to draw a new cheque book, and discusses his finances. He explains how to get a copy of his translation of the *Odyssey*, and advised the Persian Minister to come to tea with him when he is next in London. He is alarmed to hear about a new film proposal.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/73**

**25 Feb 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Mount Batten, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks whether Buxton has got his "bawdy book" [i.e. *The Mint*]. He sees it as "a bit of a come down after the Seven Pillars." [Published in full in Brown, *Letters*, p. 439]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/74**

**9 April 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. The "little people" [sic] have bought a house near Newbury. He is sorry to hear bad news about Pike. He hears that Chingford have got leave from the Ministry of Health to purchase a hill, which should help his finances.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/75**    **n.d. (written before CI/74; dated to 1930 in Garnett's edition of the letters)**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Mount Batten, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. His young brother has just visited; he is house hunting for his family. Lawrence wonders if RB's cottage farm is tenantless. St Andrew's University has offered him an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. [Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 412, pp. 687-8, and in Garnett, *Selected Letters*, no. 193, pp. 319-20]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/76**

**n.d. (1930?)**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Mount Batten, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. He reports on heavy winds, while he is translating Homer. He has signed a contract to sell Pole Hill for £4,450 but delays continue. Can he borrow another £50?

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/CI/77**

**1 July 1930**

Letter (written in pencil) from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence thanks Buxton for sending an unspecified book or text. Major [Colin] Cooper has given him a speed boat, which pleases him.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/78**

**10 Sep 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Mount Batten, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence reports that Chingford was bought yesterday, and discusses ensuing financial matters.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/79**

**5 Oct 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He was sorry to miss Buxton when he visited the bank. He regrets losing the Hill, but is falling in love with Clouds Hill. He discusses his investments, and advises on getting a copy of the *Odyssey*. He has just bought a new bike.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/80**

**12 Nov 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. He discusses financial matters, including large bills for his bike and speed boat.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/81**

**29 Dec 1930**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence hopes that Buxton is hunting. Meanwhile, all Lawrence's non-RAF hours go on *Odysseus*. His speed boat has broken some parts, and he asks about arranging to pay for repairs.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 429, p. 708]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/82**

**9 Feb 1931**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks Buxton to send money on his behalf to a someone he knows who is in trouble in the Straits Settlements. He is very busy after a flying boat crash at Plymouth.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/83**

**6 July 1931**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence's next leave will be coming up, when he plans to finish the *Odyssey*. It has been held up by the testing of RAF motor boats. The book should appear next spring.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/84**

**11 Sep 1931**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Mount Batten) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence wonders how best to help Pike, perhaps financially.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/85**

**7 Dec 1931**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Myrtle Cottage, John Street, Hyde, Southampton) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence thanks Buxton for help with

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

investments. He reports on a new and good dinghy engine for the RAF, which has been working very well.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/86**

**16 Dec 1932**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence thanks Buxton again for his 'investing kindness'. He has read that the *Odyssey* has been published commercially in the States under his name. He agreed to his name being used, as USA is so foreign and remote.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/87**

**9 Feb 1933**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Mount Batten) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks Buxton to give £200 to help a retired RAF Group Captain Marson, a friend of his who is in financial trouble. The *Odyssey* is selling well in USA.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 481, pp. 760-1, save that Marson's name is omitted]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/88**

**16 Feb 1933**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Plymouth) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence asks about income tax issues. His Group Captain is delighted (presumably at Lawrence's gift – see the previous letter). The USA *Odyssey* has sold 11,000 copies. He is repairing and altering his cottage, in readiness for retirement.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/89**

**7 April 1933**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Mount Batten) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence reports that the RAF will "own" him until 1935, and then he plans not to take another job. Meanwhile he is working on his cottage, using profits from the *Odyssey*. He is sorry to hear that Geoffrey Salmond is dying.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/90**

**3 May 1933**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, MAEE, Felixstowe) to Robin Buxton. He reports on attending a funeral (Salmond's?), and encloses two cheques from OUP in New York.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/91**

**12 Aug 1933**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, 13 Birmingham Street, Southampton) to Robin Buxton. He discusses the affairs of Salmond's widow and son. He hears of problems at Martin's Bank, and discusses his cottage. He hopes to have his own bath soon – the first one he has ever owned all for himself.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/92**

**18 Oct 1933**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence gives Buxton all his various addresses. He reports that he is spending much money, but hopes to finish his cottage by October 31.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/CI/93**

**'Tuesday night' [1933/4?]**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds Hill) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence gives directions on how to find Clouds Hill and how to contact him: telegrams take too long, and he has no telephone.

**JC:PI95/2/CI/94**

**4 Jan 1934**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address 13 Birmingham Street, Southampton) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence has now finished paying for the final changes to his cottage, and asks Buxton to let him know the size of his overdraft, so he can take stock of his finances.

[Brown, *Letters* pp. 490-1 and 493 printed parts of two letters not in this collection from T. E. Lawrence to Buxton, respectively dated 7 June 1934 and 14 July 1934, which he says comes from "Bodleian Reserve". Curiously, the letters he prints which do come the Jesus collection are also described as coming from "Bodleian Reserve".

**JC:PI95/2/CI/95**

**13 April 1935**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Clouds Hill, Morton, Dorset) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence reports that the press have not troubled him for two weeks. He calls his life "pottery". He discusses financial matters. He asks about sending the portrait of Hogarth back to Oxford. He enjoys his cottage, but he is unsettled about his future.

[Published in part in Brown, *Letters*, pp. 531-2]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/96**

**30 Nov 1922 & 7 Jul 1940**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, 14 Barton Street, SW1) to George Bernard Shaw. Lawrence asks Shaw's opinion on "it". Shaw has added a note in his own hand, dated 7 Jul 1940, that "it" was an early copy of *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, and that he had to rewrite some libellous passages.

[Both the letter and Shaw's note are published in full in Brown, *Letters*, pp. 214-15]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/97**

**22 Sep 1923**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Robin Buxton. Lawrence is glad that Buxton is reading *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, and is very grateful for his criticisms. He explains the meaning of the title, and speaks enigmatically of "SA". He then discusses arrangements for printing it. He especially asks Buxton for his thoughts on Lawrence's account of the ICC march.

There is a typescript of this letter up at **JC:PI95/2/CI/10** above.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 219, pp. 431-2; also in part in Brown, *Letters*, p. 245]

**JC:PI95/2/CI/98**

**n.d.**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address Cranwell) to Lionel Curtis. He expresses doubts about his book. But he also says that he likes the RAF very

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

much, as he feels claim there. He notes a December number of *Blackwoods* which has “poured butter and a flood of sugared light” on his character.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/99**

**14 Dec 1925**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address not given) to Lionel Curtis. Lawrence thanks Curtis for the gift of a Canadian sweater.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 277, pp. 487-8]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/100**

**17 July 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Detachment, Miranshah Fort, Wagerista) to Sir Herbert Baker. He heartily thanks Baker for a possible plan involving the Bank of England for what he could do after his discharge from the RAF, which could be in 1930 or 1935. He reflects on his life to date, and on how tired he now is. He describes Miranshah.

[Published in full in Brown, *Letters*, pp. 379-80]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/101**

**29 Oct 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Miranshah) to Sir Herbert Baker [2 sheets]. Lawrence expresses his pleasure in meeting Baker and Trenchard. He has asked the RAF to prolong his service to the limit of his engagement, 1935, as he likes being with them. He is happy to risk a permanency in the Bank, for he wants to enjoy himself while he is still physically able to do so. Lawrence discusses the so-called “Uxbridge Notes” he wrote in 1922 [the first version of *The Mint*]. He has no intention of publishing them, and only wants to review books anonymously or translate them under a pseudonym. He reflects more on the “Uxbridge Notes”, and tells Baker how to get them if he wants. He would like to meet Baker in Delhi, although he can’t get there under his own steam.

[Published in part in Brown, *Letters*, p. 385]

**JC:PI95/2/C1/102**

**6 Nov 1928**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Miranshah) to Sir Herbert Baker. He thanks him for his offer to come to the Bank, but he has just put in an application to be allowed to stay in RAF until 1935. He defends his choice at some length, saying that he likes the RAF better than anything he has done since the war.

**JC:PI95/2/C1/103**

**19 March 1934**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, Union Jack Club, 91 Waterloo Road, London) to Lionel Curtis (called here ‘My Lord Prophet’) [2 sheets]. Lawrence thinks that the defence question (unspecified) is full of snags and being ineptly handled by Lords Rothermere and Beaverbrook. The balance of expenditure between Navy, Army and RAF is wrong, and Lawrence sets out his own views on the subject, especially the size of the RAF.

[Published in full in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 513, pp. 792-4, in Garnett, *Selected Letters*, no. 228, pp. 353-5, and in Brown, *Letters*, pp. 482-3]

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/2/C1/104**

**26 Nov 1934**

Letter from T. E. Lawrence (address, RAF Felixstowe) to Mlle Ch. Schneegan. He has been asked about the genealogy of the Schneegans family, and admitted that he cannot help her very much. He does, however, offer some suggestions about the origins of the surname.  
[Published in full in Brown, *Letters*, pp. 503-4]

### JC:PI95/2/C2 - PAPERS ABOUT THE LAWRENCE LETTERS AT JESUS COLLEGE

**JC:PI95/2/C2/1**

**Mar 1964-Mar 1965**

Correspondence between Jesus College and Mary Wentworth Kelly, about possible donations of Lawrence material, 1964-5 [5 items].

**JC:PI95/2/C2/2**

**1967**

A typed list of the Lawrence letters which were bound by the Bodleian Library in the Summer of 1967 (two copies).

**JC:PI95/2/C2/3**

**Nov 1924-Aug 1975**

Correspondence with P. L. Bradfer-Lawrence about a letter from Lawrence to Buxton, dated 25 November 1924, which was not among the letters purchased for Jesus College in 1964/5. Bradfer-Lawrence encloses a xerox of the letter which had been given to him in 1965. In the letter, Lawrence discusses drawing up deeds to assign rights to his work on his death, and the complexity of his family names and his birth (which is probably why the letter was extracted from the main sequence). This letter published in part in Garnett, *Letters*, no. 259, pp. 470-1. Bradfer-Lawrence also enclosed a xerox of letter from Herbert Baker to Buxton, 25 Jul 1933, with a sketch of suggested statue of Lawrence cut out of the rock, drawn by Charles Wheeler. [5 items in all]

**JC:PI95/2/C2/4**

**Feb-May 1976**

Correspondence about making photocopies of the Lawrence letters for Jeremy Wilson, Lawrence's official biographer, 1976. [6 items]

**JC:PI95/2/C2/5**

**Sep 1988-Dec 1989**

Correspondence about making photographic copies of the Lawrence letters for Clifford Irwin, who was making a biographical checklist of Lawrence's work, 1988-9 [10 items].

**JC:PI95/2/C2/6**

**1 Oct 1925**

Photocopy of a letter from Lawrence (address, Hut 105, RAF Cadet College, Cranwell) to John Rothenstein (address, 13 Airlie Gardens, Campden Hill, London), 1 Oct 1925. Rothenstein has sent Lawrence a biographical account of him, which Lawrence takes pains to correct. It is not known when or how this copy came to the College.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

**JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

### **JC:P195/3 - CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PRINCIPALS OF JESUS COLLEGE AND MEMBERS OF THE LAWRENCE FAMILY**

These papers were once presumably filed among the working papers of successive Principals of Jesus College, and then transferred to the Library at an unknown date. The papers were evidently once in an actual file, but they were taken out of the file some time after their arrival in the Library. Most of the letters are to and from Alfred Hazel (Pr. 1925-44).

#### **JC:P195/3/CI - CORRESPONDENCE**

**JC:P195/3/CI/1**

**20 May 1935**

A letter from the BBC to the Principal of Jesus College, enclosing transcripts of the BBC news item about T. E. Lawrence's death, and appreciations by Sir Herbert Baker and Field Marshal Viscount Allenby [4 items].

**JC:P195/3/CI/2**

**Jan 1936**

Correspondence between Alfred Hazel, Principal of Jesus College, and Montagu Lawrence, Lawrence's brother, about arrangements for obtaining tickets for representatives of Jesus College for a service at St. Paul's Cathedral for the dedication of memorial to T. E. Lawrence, Jan 1936. These are accompanied by a selection of press cuttings about the service, and a copy of the order of service [6 items].

**JC:P195/3/CI/3**

**21 May 1936**

Sheet with two press cuttings from the *Oxford Mail* about the institution of the Lawrence Brothers Memorial Scholarships at Jesus College.

**JC:P195/3/CI/4**

**July-August 1936**

Correspondence between Alfred Hazel and Montagu Lawrence about arranging for Jesus College to have a copy of a portrait of T. E. Lawrence by Eric Kennington [4 items].

**JC:P195/3/CI/5**

**Sep 1936**

Correspondence between Alfred Hazel and Montagu Lawrence about arrangements for him and his mother to stay with Hazel and his wife before an unveiling of a memorial plaque for T. E. Lawrence at Oxford High School.

**JC:P195/3/CI/6**

**Nov 1936**

Correspondence between Alfred Hazel and Montague Lawrence about the latter sending Jesus College a copy of speeches about T. E. Lawrence by Liddell Hart and Sir Ronald Storrs.

**JC:P195/3/CI/7**

**28 Dec 1939**

Copy of letter from Alfred Hazel to Claud Hurst (then Fellow Librarian) about the presentation of T. E. Lawrence's thesis to Jesus College by his

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

mother. Hazel says that he encloses correspondence about it, which is not in this folder. These documents (including letters from Montagu Lawrence) are preserved among library correspondence files from the 1930s.

#### JC:PI95/3/CI/8 Oct 1945

Correspondence between Sir Frederick Ogilvie (Pr. 1944-9) and Mrs. M. E. Lawrence, in which Ogilvie recommends to her Ernest Thurkle's *Time's Winged Chariot*, which include a chapter on T. E. Lawrence, [2 items].

### JC:PI95/4 – PRESS CUTTINGS, ARTICLES, REMINISCENCES AND IMAGES ABOUT T. E. LAWRENCE

Various press cuttings, articles, and reminiscences have been given to Jesus College about T. E. Lawrence at various times. They are all catalogued here.

### JC:PI95/4/MSI - PAPERS RELATING TO LAWRENCE AND JESUS COLLEGE

#### JC:PI95/4/MSI/1 n.d. (1980s?)

Extracts copied out by David Rees from Governing Body minutes of 1907 and 1910 which mention Lawrence.

#### JC:PI95/4/MSI/2 19 May 1985

Photocopy of published version of address given by John Griffith (F. 1938-80) at St Nicholas' Church Moreton, 19 May 1985, to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lawrence's death.

#### JC:PI95/4/MSI/3 Dec 1985

Typescript memoir of Lawrence as an undergraduate by Arthur Glyn Prys-Jones (matr. 1908), with a note from Sir Peter North (Pr. 1984-2005, dated 6 Dec 1985). Extracts from this memoir were published in the 1986 issue of the *Jesus College Record*.

#### JC:PI95/4/MSI/4 1987

Works by, or including material by, Lawrence, and works relating to him in Jesus College Library, 1987 (with additions).

#### JC:PI95/4/MSI/5 June 1988

Catalogue of an exhibition on T. E. Lawrence prepared in the Fellows' Library at Jesus College to commemorate the centenary of his birth [this was transferred to the archives from the Library in April 2019 as Accession No. 548].

#### JC:PI95/4/MSI/6 Dec 1986-Mar 1987

Material on T. E. Lawrence sent to Jesus College by Albert Hubert "Joe" Pengelly (matr. 1947). This comprises a photograph of his Brough Superior

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

motorbike and photocopies of letters responding to an article in the *Western Morning News*, 1974, with recollections from airmen of Lawrence and his time serving with the RAF at Mount Batten. [8 items]

**JC:PI95/4/MS1/7**

**21 May 1989**

Photocopy from the *Washington Post*, with a review of Malcolm Brown's edition of selected letters of T. E. Lawrence by Warren O. Ault (matr. 1907), who knew Lawrence at Oxford. Below the review is an article reporting on Ault's death.

### JC:PI95/4/MS2 - OTHER PAPERS ABOUT LAWRENCE

**JC:PI95/4/MS2/1**

**1985**

Letters from George Greening with 'tentative script' for television programme or other commemoration of Lawrence's life, 1985.

**JC:PI95/4/MS2/2**

**Apr 1991**

Typescript article, *T E Lawrence and F Nietzsche*, by Marita Knodgen.

### JC:PI95/4/NI - PRESS CUTTINGS ON LAWRENCE

**JC:PI95/4/NI/1**

**20 May 1935**

Page from *The Times*, 20 May 1935 (the day after Lawrence's death), with a special article by B. H. Liddell Hart about Lawrence.

**JC:PI95/4/NI/2**

**14 Jun 1997**

Cutting from *The Independent*, 14 Jun 1997, on the sale of Lawrence's Brough 1000 motorbike.

**JC:PI95/4/NI/3**

**Sep 1996-Jan 1999**

Copy of *National Geographic*, January 1999, with (pp 38-61) article "Lawrence of Arabia, A Hero's Journey", by Don Belt, and related correspondence with Dr. Brigid Allen, the then Archivist of Jesus College. She was not impressed with the article [12 items].

**JC:PI95/4/NI/4**

**15 Mar 2003**

Extract from *Toronto Star* with a substantial article on Lawrence by K., Robert Morris and Lawrence Raskin. With it is a letter from Peter Weygang (matr. 1953) sending it to the Principal.

### JC:PI95/4/PI - IMAGES OF T. E. LAWRENCE

**JC:PI95/4/PI/1-2**

**1919**

Photographs of two sketches of T. E. Lawrence by Augustus John (copyright: the Warden and Fellows of All Souls College).

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

**JC:PI95/4/PI/3**

**n.d.**

Photograph of print of T. E. Lawrence by Eric Kennington (copyright: the Warden and Fellows of All Souls College).

**JC:PI94/5/PI/4**

**1935**

Negative of photograph of the young Lawrence taken from the group photo at Oxford High School, which was used as the frontispiece for the *Jesus College Magazine* of June 1935.

### JC:PI95/4/AUI – VIDEO RECORDING

**JC:PI95/4/AUI/1**

**1987**

Video of “The Shadow of Failure”, a Television South West programme on Lawrence, especially his time in the RAF and the circumstances of his death, produced in 1987, with a note from Sir Peter North to the Archivist.

### JC:PI95/5 – THE T. E. LAWRENCE CHRONOLOGY OF MRS. LESLIE PRENDERGAST BROWN

Leslie Prendergast Brown (née Philpot) lived in Hastings with her husband Peter. Not much is known of their lives, save that they were among the first Britons successfully to breed basenjis. At least as early as the 1960s, Mrs. Brown took a great interest in the life of T. E. Lawrence: she and her husband collected many books by and about him, and she devoted herself to compiling a major day-by-day chronology of his life.

In later years, the Browns divorced: Mr. Brown retained the books, while Mrs. Brown retained the papers. However, they both lived in Hastings and remained in daily contact. Mrs. Brown reverted to using her maiden name of Philpot. Peter Brown died on 24 April 2018 aged 84, and Leslie Philpot on 4 August 2018. There were no children of the marriage.

Quite independently of each other, both of the Browns’ executors contacted the College, the one to offer Mr. Brown’s books, the other to offer Ms Philpot’s papers. The papers were collected from Hastings in November 2018, and the books (with a few extra papers) in February 2019. Neither of them had any prior connection with Jesus College, and both collections were offered because this was Lawrence’s undergraduate College.

The papers were placed in the archives and assigned the Accession Number 549. The books proved to be an extensive and important collection, and are now held in the Library of Jesus College. Some duplicate copies are held in the Archivist’s office, and others have been given to other Colleges and institutions in Oxford.

The chronology begins in 1846, with the birth of Lawrence’s father, and ends with his death in 1935. At the start of each year, Mrs. Brown prefaced her chronology

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:P195 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)

with a list of quotations, two or three pages long, summing up that year's events. In the chronology proper, Mrs. Brown aimed to compile a full day-by-day account of Lawrence's life, recording where he was, what he was doing, and even what letters he is known to have written then. She used a series of abbreviations to refer to the books from which she quoted (see below).

The chronology was mainly compiled during the 1960s and 1970s, although some notes were added later. It is all written using a typewriter. Mrs. Brown seems to have compiled this chronology continuously, adding fresh material according to her latest reading.

The chronology shows that Mrs. Brown was extremely well read in Lawrence literature, and this is reflected in the quality of Mr. Brown's books, which include several very rare items. The Browns clearly knew where to find good material: with the books and papers were found catalogues from booksellers such as Joppa Books, which specialised in literature on the history of the Middle East. They were also longtime members of the T. E. Lawrence Society. The books themselves show how extensively Mrs. Brown quarried them for material. Some of them contain notes in her hand, with references to show that they had been fully read, and their contents noted in the chronology.

It is not known whether Mrs. Brown ever intended to publish her research: it certainly remains unpublished.

Mrs. Brown's chronology (listed below as **JC:P195/5/MSI/1**) was accompanied by a card index of names (listed as **JC:P195/5/MSI/2**). Each card gives a name with a list of dates, which should be used to cross-refer to the relevant entry in the chronology. Unfortunately, Mrs. Brown does not always seem to have updated the card index every time that she updated the chronology, and the index cannot therefore be fully trusted to be complete.

There are two other card indexes supplementary to the chronology. The first (at **JC:P195/5/MSI/3**) is a key to the bibliographical abbreviations used in the chronology. It is arranged alphabetically by abbreviation. Thus "Friends" as above is revealed by the card index (under "F") to be A. W. Lawrence (ed.), *T. E. Lawrence by his Friends* (1937).

The second (at **JC:P195/4/MSI/4**) contains a bibliography of works consulted by Mrs. Brown. Here the cards are arranged alphabetically by author. Some of the cards are typed out by Mrs. Brown; but quite a lot of them are cards sent to her from Hastings Public Library to report that this particular book has reached her. She seems to have used this index to note which books she has read, whether or not she found material of use to her. At the front of the index are some cards which appear to contain some notes on Lawrence's ancestors.

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

**JC:PI95 MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS CONCERNING T. E. LAWRENCE (MATR. 1907)**

### **JC:PI95/5/MSI – THE LAWRENCE CHRONOLOGY AND ASSOCIATED INDEXES**

**JC:PI95/5/MSI/1** **1960s-2000s**  
 The T. E. Lawrence chronology of Leslie Prendergast Brown. This is currently stored in eight boxes, which respectively cover the years 1846-1911, 1912-15, 1916-Jun 1918, July 1918-1920, 1921-3, 1924-7, 1928-31, and 1932-5. The paper used for typing the entries is fragile, and some pages have been torn.

**JC:PI95/5/MSI/2** **1960s-2000s**  
 Card index of names to accompany the above chronology of T. E. Lawrence. The card index box also includes a list of cards with biographical notes about members of Lawrence's family.

**JC:PI95/5/MSI/3** **1960s-2000s**  
 Card index providing a key to the bibliographical abbreviations used in Mrs. Brown's chronology.

**JC:PI95/5/MSI/4** **1960s-2000s**  
 Card index providing a complete bibliography of books consulted by Mrs. Brown for her chronology.

### **JC:PI95/5/MS2 – OTHER PAPERS**

**JC:PI95/5/MS2/1-2** **1969**  
 Two notebooks compiled by Mrs. Brown, each with the inscription "Gramophone Records At Clouds Hill Lists of ... Their Meaning?" The recordings are arranged by alphabetical order of composer, with A-P in the first notebook, and R-W in the second. Mrs. Brown includes notes on composers, and her own reflections on the music, and its relationship with Lawrence.

**JC:PI95/5/MS2/3** **Jun-Jul 1997**  
 Typed notes about radio talk show programmes on Radio Southern Counties which discussed Lawrence, and in particular the circumstances of his death, and some miscellaneous handwritten notes by Mrs. Brown, again in part summarising radio programmes discussing Lawrence [4 items].