

Wayne F. Gibbs

At the time of this interview , Wayne F. Gibbs was the senior emeritus professor at William and Mary. From 1926 to 1960 he taught accounting here as the business program went through various stages. During much of this time he also was financial advisor to the college publications and to the Lamda Chi Alpha social fraternity. After his retirement in 1960, Mr. Gibbs was honored by the renaming of the accounting club as the Wayne F. Gibbs Accounting Club.

In the following transcript, which contains only a few editorial changes made by Mr. Gibbs, he tells of his experiences in the business program and of life in Williamsburg in the 1920s.

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Interviewee Wayne F. Gibbs

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Interviewer Emily Williams

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Wayne F. Gibbs

The interview with Wayne F. Gibbs took place on March 14, 1975.

Emily: We had talked the other day (you had told me) about some of the people that had been in the business program when you came in 1926. What was the status of the business program at William and Mary when you came here?

Gibbs: The School of Economics and Business Administration, as I remember, was part of the Marshall-Wythe School of Government and Citizenship. I just don't remember, ^{too much} about the setup, except that Dr. ^[William A.] Hamilton had a very large part in the whole school at that time, but it didn't affect me, except that I was in economics and business administration. I don't think his title was dean of the Marshall-Wythe school, but he was known as dean of the School of Economics and Business Administration. Now we operated in the School of Business Administration with the men... ^{Well,} as I told you before our interview, I taught a large part (practically all) the accounting work at that time. We did have a professor by the name of ^{Coffman,} ~~Kauffman~~ who taught some courses in accounting and ~~some~~ other courses in the department, and we had a man by the name of Professor ^{Nilsson,} ~~Nelson~~, who was more in the economics field, and we had a man by the name of Dr. ^{at} Petillo, also Dr. Klamon who taught. Now we were attempting to be on the accredited list in our accounting work ^{with the states of} in New York and New Jersey, which have always been the leaders. We had to have some law taught, but all ^{of} the business law at that time

was taught in the law school, and our accounting majors all took Dr. Woodbridge's course in contracts, and I'm not sure who taught the course in negotiable instruments, and there was one other course that I don't remember which was taught in the law school and which was acceptable to the accounting boards in ^{states of} New York, ^{and New Jersey.} Now that is the way it was when I first came here.

Emily: You had said it was a very good, well-recognized school.

Gibbs: Well, a man by the name of A. F. Woke preceded me here, ^(just how many years he was here, I don't remember) but he had made some attempt to make contact with accountants throughout the state, but very little had been done toward placement, ^[of graduates] I began to discuss the matter of placement for my senior students with various accountants, and I think that the college catalog at that time will show, if you compare it with the University of Virginia and V. P. I., ^{in the state} which were two of the leading schools, teaching accounting (I don't remember whether Richmond had a course at that time or not), but I'm sure ours was as complete as any at that time.

Emily: Was business administration, accounting, ^{work} was this a particular interest of J. A. C. Chandler's?

Gibbs: Oh, yes. Of course, Dr. Chandler was a builder, and anything that would bring especially ^{men} new students here he was interested in. Of course, he was interested in the others, ^{too} he was interested in building the school, ^{people} and that was one complaint the faculty had: he was more interested in building than in other things. I think that is one of the primary reasons ^{why} he was much interested

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in economics and business administration. You see, we had a school ~~in it~~ at that time, but we lost it, along with the school of education, when Mr. Bryan came in. Of course, anything that even smelled of professionalism was done away with. Home economics went along with it. After Mr. Bryan came here we were not allowed to have a concentration or major in business administration at all, or as I remember it, in home economics. I guess they called the degree an A. B., like they had done all the time, until the new business school was started back in the '60s.

Emily: Well now, you say that J. A. C. Chandler was interested in this. Why was it that he had brought you here, or what attracted you to William and Mary, maybe I should phrase it that way?

Gibbs: I hold both my B.S. and M.S. from the University of Illinois. I had taught four years at Nebraska Wesleyan before I came here, and it was in 1926 that I obtained my master's degree at the University of Illinois. While Nebraska Wesleyan was the second largest college in the state of Nebraska, I realized that my future would be ^{definitely} hampered by staying ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ that school. So I applied to the placement bureau at the University of Illinois for another position, and it was through that connection ~~that~~ I came here. It's rather interesting! I signed the contract to teach here without having seen the school, and they signed the contract with me without ever having seen me.

Emily: You signed it up in Illinois?

Gibbs: Yes. I never came to Williamsburg -- I don't know why I can remember the date so well--but I never came to Williams-

burg until August 26, 1926. My, it was hot! The apartment which I was supposed to have was not quite available (until the first of September), so President Chandler--and they used to have an old colored man by the name of Alec-- he got that colored man on a Sunday afternoon, I think, and he told him to fix--I had my wife's mother with me and my son, who was then three years old-- he told him to fix us beds out in the girls' dormitory, which was ^{located} down where old Tyler ~~Hall~~ is now, just beyond that, where the infirmary was. It was an old house ^{or} an old barracks, they had moved here from Penniman, and it was quite a place to stay. We went to bed that night, and maybe I shouldn't say it, but it's true, I felt something crawling all over me. That place was just loaded with cockroaches! Those girls had had food in there, of course, and had attracted those cockroaches. So that was my experience the first night I had in Williamsburg.

Emily: It's a wonder you didn't turn around and go back to Illinois after that!

Gibbs: When I discovered the conditions under which I was going to have ^{to} live in Williamsburg, I wished ^{that} I was back in Lincoln, Nebraska. I had not been used to living in a house that did ~~not~~ not have central heating, and while I had what they called an apartment here in town, ^{after I got into it,} it was very unsatisfactory. On a real cold day, if you'd spill any water on the kitchen floor, it would freeze. I put up with that the first year. Is ^{this} ~~that~~ important?

Emily: Yes, to know what Williamsburg was like back then.

Gibbs: Well, I'll be here all afternoon if you get me talking

the next year-- ^{during} about that. But anyway, I paid the rent, ~~in the~~ ~~in the~~ ~~in the~~ ~~in the~~ ~~in the~~ the first summer I was here in two places to get rid of that apartment I was in--I moved into a little house, ^{which was} down on Boundary Street, just below where the infirmary was. I fired stoves in that house, and ^{we} used kerosene, ^{to cook with} and certainly by the end of two years I ^{had} had about enough of ^{Williamsburg} this. So I wasn't able to find a nice house-- at least a nice house compared to Williamsburg at that time--up here at 721 Richmond Road. It has now been done over and is in much better shape now, and it's still owned by the Casey family (Carl Casey lives there now). I was pretty comfortable that year, but oh, I was paying an enormous rent (I thought) at that time, but you know it was only \$60 a month. I said, "I've got to do something better than that." I wasn't making any salary ~~that~~ like they're getting here now. And so, I began to look for ^{a lot,} work, and in the spring of '29 I bought this lot here and built this house, and I've been here ever since--moved here the first ^{of} September. I really had what I needed. ^{was} I used to ~~live~~ when I was in Lincoln, although] people thought it was Indian country--I was used to a decent place to live, and I didn't figure ^{that} I really had it, unless it was the house on Richmond Road, which as I say, is much better off now than it was when I lived there. Well, I had had about enough of ^{it} this. I told the president (President Chandler) I had enough of it. ^{In fact,} I had enough of it the first year, and I told the president I wanted to go. In fact, you may be interested in knowing that at the end of the first year, ^{and} everybody left the department except me. I was

looking myself. But the only place I could find was the University of Vermont. I had never had a course in statistics, and they ^{said,} ~~told me~~ "If you come up here you'll have to teach statistics." I knew how cold it was, and I didn't want to go up there.

Emily: Why had everyone left the department here?

Gibbs: Because the . . . I can't tell you exactly what it was, but it was just the general conditions that people didn't stay here long at the time. And of course, living conditions weren't what they should have been at that time. I don't know; I just couldn't say what it was. Anyway, I never signed my contract until well ^{over} ~~after~~ the time they called for the contracts. ^{Chandler} The ~~president~~ ^{president} called me in and he said, "I haven't received your signed contract." And I said, "Mr. President, if you have to have that contract today, it'll have to be no." Well, he said, "I've lost everyone ^{body} else in the department but you. I don't ^{want you to go} if I can possibly help ^{it}." He gave me a nice raise, and he said, "If anything ever happens ^{that} ~~and~~ you're not satisfied, I don't want you to quit; I want you to come tell me what it is." I suppose that's the reason why ^{Dr. Chandler and I became} ~~we were~~ such good friends. He was above-board with everybody. Well, that's the answer: I thought, "did I want to get away from here bad enough to teach a course I had never had?" I decided that wasn't so good, so I signed the contract and I stayed.

Emily: Now ^{did} he have you teaching in extension courses, too?

Gibbs: Oh, yes. The first two or three years--or ^{up} until 1931--

I taught ^{at least} two classes, and usually three, at night in Newport News or Norfolk. We were supposed to teach sixteen hours

a week before we left here. When I was going to Norfolk,

I used to leave here at 4:30 in the afternoon, ^{after I'd done a full day's work,} drive to

Newport News--at that time you had to take the ferry ^{across --}

and we had a place over there, a nice ~~xxxxxxxx~~ woman ^{who}

took boarders, and we'd get in there. . . . We'd leave

Newport News about 5:30--about a forty-five minute run over

to the naval base. And then we'd go ^{over} to this woman's place,

and she knew we were coming, and she'd serve us an awfully

nice meal. From about 6:30 until shortly after 7:00, we ate,

and then we ^{had to rush over to what is now} ~~went down to, present-day~~ Old Dominion and taught

^{from 7:30} classes until 9:30. Then we'd get in our car, catch the

10:00 ferry coming back. We'd leave the ferry dock down

there about 10:30, ^{and} you couldn't find a road that was as

crooked as that road was (between Williamsburg and Newport

News) at that time. ^{out} It's been straightened, now, but it was

old Route 60, and it took me just about an hour to drive ^{that thirty miles} it.

I mention this in particular . . . I ^{usually had} ~~used to have~~ another

professor with me, a man who was in the English department

here at that time by the name of Gregory. And of course,

Duke of Gloucester Street at that time was divided with

parking out in the center. And I'd open up and I'd be

coming up ^{40 miles per hour} forty, fifty, maybe even more. . . . Well,

there was a policeman waiting for me one night, and he

never did catch me until I got up to about Monroe Hall (I'd let the man out) ^[the policeman] And here he came up to me, and you won't remember his name (he's dead now) ^{he was Jack Saunders. He built the fraternity lodges over here.} He got up to the car, and he said, "Mr. Gibbs, if I had known it was you, I'd have never said a word." That was the end of that. ^{He was on the police force at that time.} Those were ~~the~~ ^{the} conditions we were ~~in~~ ^{operating} under.

No wonder we didn't have any time for research, but I managed to pass the C.P.A. examination in 1928. I hold certificate #118, and it was the largest number of certificates the state board had issued here in eighteen years. They were pretty stingy with them at that time.

Emily: Well ~~now~~ ^{about} you were talking how pretty soon after Dr. Chandler died the school of economics and business administration and the school of education, too, how they lost their status as ~~schools~~ and how they became submerged into the liberal arts program.

Gibbs: Well, of course that was due. . . Dr. Chandler died on May 31, 1934. I happened to be down at Buckroe Beach that weekend, and I remember saying to a couple ^{we were with} "Well, I've lost my best friend." And of course, Mr. Bryan came in here--a very fine man, but a liberal arts man, and he felt that there was no place ~~here~~ for any of the professional schools. Consequently our major, our concentration, ~~it~~ was taken away from us, and I guess ^{we retained our} ~~it then became an~~ economics concentration, I don't remember too much about that, but it was done. I was not allowed to offer any work in accounting ^{so sophomores}; I couldn't start until the junior year. I became so worried about that

situation^A I said, " New York and New Jersey will take ~~it~~ ^{us} off the accredited list^A -- that they opened the gates wide enough to allow me to give sufficient courses to meet these requirements. That was the situation we worked under under Mr. Bryan.

Emily: You spoke about how a good, strong business program and I know brought in male students, ^A Mr. Bryan was interested in building up the male enrollment. I understand that this was part of the ^{reason he brought in} Carl Voyles, to give the school a good football ^{program} ^[Bryan]. If he ^A was interested in it male enrollment from that standpoint, why do you think he wouldn't have supported a strong business program?

Gibbs: It's just too bad that you never knew Mr. Bryan. Mr. Bryan had been brought up under the theory that college was not to teach a person to make a living; they ^[students] were to learn their arts and sciences, and if they wanted some of these professional courses (such as business ^{or} education), they should go to graduate school for that. ^{at least} That was my opinion. Some of the professional work was not questioned, but due to the fact that I was allowed to retain enough courses to meet the New York and New Jersey requirements, as well as the ^{Virginia requirements} ^A I don't think that hurt too much.

Emily: This was accounting that wasn't hurt, you mean.

Gibbs: Yes, ^{the accounting} ^A Until the veterans came along we never ^{run the advanced} had ~~enough~~ ^{students} ~~any advanced courses~~ we never had enough students ~~for~~ for that. When the veterans did come in, ^A we ran those advanced courses in two or three sections. We had a big enrollment at that time. It didn't seem to hurt the

~~enrollment~~

enrollment too much; I don't know if there was any reason
^{or not}
for it, (my being here), but I think my being here at that
time didn't lose it any students, and ^{the students} they must have thought
fairly well of me, anyway. And I think, although we were

] losing ground to Virginia and V.P.I. during that time, we always
had enough majors in accounting to carry the work. Now as
far as the enrollment was concerned, yes, we wanted men.
I don't ^{know} what ~~the situation would have been~~ ~~would have happened if~~ if the pressure
hadn't been placed on the president -- ^[+] pressure against the
business requirements hadn't been so bad ^{as it was} at that time.

You're known by what you turn out. ^{We had a pretty good reputation} During that time I

~~had~~ had not only Virginia accountants, but I had contacts
with (I did make contacts with) accounting firms which had their main
offices in the north. Now I went to the Virginia Society
of Public Accountants meeting one time, and heard Coleman
Andrews, Sr. (I don't know if you know who Coleman Andrews
was, ^{or not} but he was a prominent accountant in the state and
past president of the American Institute [?] of Accountants).

He made the statement, "We just can't hope to employ all
these boys ^(they were boys then because the girls didn't have much use for it -- they were few and far between) we just can't hope to employ all these
men ^{which} from these schools, I've just mentioned (Virginia, V.P.I.,
William and Mary)." I didn't say anything about it, but the
minute I ~~had~~ heard that, I knew I had to go elsewhere.

I moved on to the other big firms in New York; I had diffi-
culty there because these Virginia boys just didn't want to
go to New York. I'm not at liberty to tell you where the
"Wayne F. Gibbs prize is from, which I hope is still in
the catalog, but it was awarded by a friend of mine who

said, "I want my name not to be announced, but I want it to be in your name." Just about that time the Virginia Society issued its certificate to the outstanding young man in accounting, not only here, but at Virginia, V.P.I., and Richmond--Richmond was in at that time.

~~the outstanding young man in accounting, not only here, but at Virginia, V.P.I., and Richmond--Richmond~~
Emily: Now when Mr. Pomfret came, he was also from a liberal arts background. ~~Was~~ ^{Was} there any difference in his attitude toward the business work?

~~xxx~~ Gibbs: I don't think so. The real change, of course, came when A. D. Chandler came here.

Emily: Now you mentioned veterans. Did increased enrollment mean increased ^{the idea of} interest ~~interest~~ in a business school at that time?

Gibbs: Not to my knowledge. ~~xxxxxxx~~

Emily: It was when Chandler came, ~~then?~~ . . .

Gibbs: Every school at that time was getting all the men that they wanted, ^{because} They all came at ^{one time} ~~once~~. But the change came about when A. D. came. I think there was a distinct change at that time. Dr. Marsh, who was ^{head} ~~chairman~~ of the department ^{up to that time} and ^{and sometime after} ~~when~~ A. D. came here, was promoted to dean of the faculty, and the question came up as to who ^{sh} ~~sh~~ would become head of the department at that time. I don't know whether I should repeat it or not, but it's true: my being the oldest man I was naturally the ^{logical man} ~~one~~ to be considered for head of the department. He Marsh came ~~over~~ ^{one day} to my office, which was in what is now James Blair, and he sat down, and he said, "You know, I've prayed over this, ^{and thought it over} Wayne, in my opinion, you're just not the man to head the department. ^W Well, that takes the wind out of a person's sails. I knew my future was cut right there.

^{at that time} They brought in a man by the name of ^{Dr.} Thomas Luck as head

~~there~~

of the department. It was my intention to leave the college as ^{early} ~~soon~~ as possible, but I didn't want to leave Williamsburg.

I was doing some practical work, and I had quite a few accounts, ^{that I could depend on,} but I didn't have enough that I felt I could ^{afford to} do without my salary. I didn't ^{say anything to} tell anybody. I just told Dr.

Luck, "go ahead and run it any way you can. I'm going to ~~go out and~~ do the best job teaching that I can until such time as I can get ~~me~~ away." Dr. Luck-^{of} though I never treated him too well,

I was never disloyal to him--he and his family, ^{became members of the} ~~came to the~~ Presbyterian Church, ^{here,} where I was ^{still active} going and was an elder in the church ~~there~~ at that time. I don't remember just what year Dr. Luck

came here, but he and Dr. A. D. Chandler began to work on a school (of business), ^{during their regime. Now just} what happened then I had nothing ^{whatever} to do with, and you'll have to get what Dr. A. D. Chandler is willing to give you.

But he Dr. Luck stayed here until 1956. Although I can't mention anything in particular, Dr. Luck, ^{I think} was a professional man; he wanted to see a school, ^{started} So one day he walked into my office (boy, we had some ^{very} interesting conferences in there). He said, "Wayne, I'm leaving the college.

I have told no one, not even the president. I wanted ^{you} to know ~~it~~ tell you first." Now I should not have had that privilege, ^{because} ~~because~~ ~~though I had done everything I was supposed to, I was out~~ ~~of the administration at that time. I was fighting for just~~

as many ^{jobs} accounts as I could get so I could leave the college. So I was a busy man

~~He said, "I wanted you to know I'm leaving the college, and I wanted you to know it first."~~ And just what the story is here, ^(if he's willing to tell you) Dr. Luck told me you'll have to get from Dr. Chandler. He said, "I will

recommend you, and you can have the head of the department ^{and this} ~~and this~~ ~~should be part of Luck's conversation, or did Chandler say~~

I'm not sure what you meant here

Since this is repeated, can't it be taken out and this moved to be part of Luck's conversation, or did Chandler say

if you'll take it. Well, I had had such disagreeable experiences, I said, "I don't think I want it. I'll talk it over with my wife and ^{my} son ^{and see what they think} Well, they wanted me to take it.

There isn't much question ^{but what} ~~that~~ the problems that I had must have brought on the stroke which I mentioned that I had in 1960. I took over where Dr. Luck had left off, and Dr. Chandler and I worked out a program with the rest of my staff. ^{we} ~~They~~ all worked on it--on what ^{we thought} ought to be in the school of business administration. And I think he Chandler was satisfied with it; at least he was able to get me a conference with the Board of Visitors. But the Board of Visitors turned our request down. That's all I know about it; of course, I wasn't in the meeting, so I didn't know what they said.

Emily: Could you make a guess as to why they ^{would have} turned it down?

Gibbs: Yes, ^{I think so:} ~~By~~ that time the liberal arts were so established here, that there were ~~people~~ ^{many} people on the board, evidently, and ~~some~~ ^{many} alumni who felt that there was no place at William and Mary for education, ^{business administration?} home economics, and those professional courses. And if I remember correctly Dr. Chandler told me ~~there~~ at that time, "There's just too much opposition." So I dropped ~~it at~~ that.

I was working on my professional work; I was about as independent as anybody could be. ^{I had enough so} I could make a go with my savings. I got my fill finally.

Dr. Chandler and I had a conference, and I told him some of the things I've told you. I think that's as far

as I should go, because I ^{agreed with} ~~told~~ him at the time that all the papers in connection with that episode were to be torn up, ^{there'd be} no record made, no witness taken.

Emily: You mean about ^{trying to get} the school ~~getting~~ started ~~at that time?~~

Gibbs: Well, he knew I was quite dissatisfied, and more in connection with my leaving the college than that. Dr. Chandler can tell you anything he wants to ^{as far as I'm concerned;} I haven't any secrets, ^{to hide} I'm going to stand by my word.

Emily: What were the advantages of having a school of business administration ^{instead of} ~~rather than~~ a department of business administration?

Gibbs: Well, ^{when you are} ~~we were~~ competing in the state ~~of Virginia~~ with the University of Virginia, which has a school of ~~business~~ commerce and economics, and V. P. I. ~~(they have their own school up there, as I remember)~~, the University of Richmond I'm sure had one at that time, and with the other schools that you had to compete with ^{at that time?} you just can't compete, ^{with the other schools?} On top of that, ^{honorary fraternities} will not come to ~~any~~ school that does not have a school of business administration. And you're just ~~x~~looked upon better with a school. ^{And} on top of that the faculty was putting such degree requirements on us that it was affecting work we could give in our own field. The main reason was that I wanted to get out of the straightjacket I was in with the state of New York and the state of New Jersey. ^{These are} ~~That's~~ about the only reasons ^{for having a school.} Oh yes, ^{on top of that} I can give you can't be a member of the Association of Schools of Business without having your school. You're supposed to ~~They~~ have alot of other conditions that we couldn't meet as a department. I think ^{those are} ~~that's~~ the main reasons.

Emily: And then if you were a school~~ly~~ you wouldn't have to meet the requirements that the liberal arts curriculum had.

Gibbs: ^{When the school was formed,} We had our own B.S. in ^{business administration} and they still hav^e ~~it~~ - they don't give the B. A. any more, but we ^{always gave} had ~~it~~ the B.S. as long as we had the department, until the school was started, whatever year it was. *

Emily: ~~Then~~ ^{feel} did you ¹ that your work back in the '50s (the ^{is} proposal you put before the Board of Visitors ²) had ~~anything~~ ^{something} to do with the groundwork of what was eventually set up, or is this claiming too much?

Gibbs: The whole ^{framework} ~~thing~~ ¹ was set up by my staff ^{at that time} Algin B. King, who was on my staff at that time, did a good bit of that work. Someone told me (I believe it was my daughter-in-law) that ^{Dr.} ^{of} Quittmeyer told me that I had done all ¹ the basic work ^{in getting} and ~~then when~~ the thing started ³ it was already done for him. I just wasn't man enough to get it across.

Emily: Now you said to me when I was here last that you were a professional man. ^{Does} ^{feel} did you ¹ think that there was a place for the professional man ^{at William and Mary} speaking over the long term of your time here at William and Mary?

Gibbs: Well, I think the ^{development} ~~establishment~~ of the business school under Dr. Quittmeyer answers that question; ^{there must be,} but he should have the full credit because he's done a wonderful job. But I've had very little to do with the institution here since 1960. I was told by three local doctors that I should never work again. I had a ^{very} close call, and thank goodness, ^{with} ~~thanks to~~ ^{I was able to retire} my savings, ¹ I'm going quite well -- a few lucky breaks in the stock market, too.

Emily: ¹ While you were still teaching you had a couple of mis-

* Mr. Gibbs would refer any inquiries about the degrees conferred to the college catalog. It seems that both a B.A. and a B.S. were offered in business administration.

cellaneous jobs. I found in going back in my research, that at one time after the war you had charge of the Work-Study group. ^{Do you remember that?} It must have been right at the end of the program because I don't think it continued ^{too} much longer ~~after~~ after the war, did it? I know it was set up during the war with the boys working down at the Naval Mines Depot.

Gibbs: Yes. Dr. Sharvy Umbeck was a prime mover in getting that program started. ^{It was started during the war} to attempt to draw every boy who could stay out of the army to come. I travelled all over the state for that program--I don't know whether you know that or not. But during the war I travelled ^{extensively}; I brought quite a few boys in. Dr. Umbeck ^{along with} and Coach McCray and some of the rest of us, we brought boys in here ^{from all over.} If they'd tell us ^{wanted to come, if} they ~~had come, that~~ they could stay out of the army for one semester, we'd take them down here. We'd tell them, "We're glad to have you." We developed jobs at the King's Arms, ^{at that time,} and of course, I was in charge of that. Dr. Umbeck, when he became dean of the faculty ^{dean of the college, that is,} he turned that over to me ^{the work-study program,} and I did operate it until ^{such time as} I asked to be relieved of it because at that time, as I ^{ve already} told you, I was trying to develop this professional work so I could get away from the college.

~~I suppose~~ I had the publications, too, up to '56.

I asked to be relieved of that job. Now I can't remember what year I was relieved of ^{the work-study project,} that job, but it was probably in the very late '40s. Dr. Bright came here--have you had any contact with him?

Emily: I haven't met him yet.

Gibbs: Well Dr. ~~Bright~~ ^{is} Bright, now in charge of veterans ^{affairs?} programs.

in charge of the work-study program
 but he took over ~~from me~~. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ I had the scholarships,
 too, but he took over all ^{of} that work, was brought here
 primarily for that purpose.

Emily: You say ^{id} the scholarships program ~~was~~ ^{that just in relation to} ~~this the scholar-~~
~~ship for~~ the work-study program, ^{scholarships for} all the men, all the students?

Gibbs: All of them, all the students. I handled all the detailed
 work for that committee. I was on the scholarship committee
 for some time, but some ^{body} else was chairman.

Emily: Now the jobs you ^{would have administered when you had charge of the}
^{work-study} ~~the~~ program, ^{would have been} ~~were~~ they ^{jobs with Colonial Williamsburg?}

Gibbs: Anywhere we could get them. Boy or girl, either one,
 we were glad to have them. But Dr. Umbeck was the one who
 started the work with what was known as the Travis House
 at that time, (if you ^{happen to} run across that), and he is the man
 who turned that over to me, ^{and I kept it running} until the time when I ^{felt I}
 be relieved. Dr. Bright was brought here ~~at that time~~.

Emily: Another thing that you spoke of that you worked on for
 many years was publications.

Gibbs: Only the business end. I was known as the ^{faculty} financial
 advisor for publications, and I approved all the contracts.

Well, I ^{shouldn't} say I approved all the contracts--~~that's not so~~, ^{I didn't approve}
^{the contracts} because they had a student committee under Dean Lambert
 to approve the ^{case} contracts. ^{But as far as the bills were concerned,} No bill was paid for student
 publications unless it had been signed by me, and then
 they were paid through the college treasurer's office,
 through Mr. Nunn. If a student didn't like a contract, ^{that contract}
 it was worked out ^{by} ~~between~~ the editor, the business manager,
 and me, and then submitted to the ^{student publications} committee, ~~and they~~ of which
 I was a member, and they

actually approved the contract.

With

some time around

Emily: ~~Was~~ the establishment in--I think it was, 1968--of ~~at~~
the business school, ^{do} did you feel that ~~finally~~ after forty
years (over forty years) that the business program at the
College of William and Mary had finally achieved the level
which you hoped it would?

Gibbs: That's extremely hard to say, because I have no contact
with it. I probably have no more contact with ^{that school} ~~those people~~
than you do. And I don't know--I can see--I read in the
paper about the council, as Dean Quittmeyer calls it. He's
got some very influential businessmen back of the school.
I read in the paper where Anheuser-Busch has given them
\$10,000.

But just what has happened since that time ^{here} ~~at~~
Only people I knew ^{at} the time (~~maybe~~ I'd ^{rather} ~~better~~ not men-
tion their names). . . . I understand that ~~maybe~~ Dr.
Quittmeyer does have some problems, ^{which were the same as mine} but I'm not going to
tell you ^{how} ~~what~~ I know, and if he swears that he doesn't
I'll take it all back.

Emily: When you came here in '26 did you ever think that William
and Mary would grow to be what it is today?

Gibbs: Might I say ^{that} when I came here in '26, ~~I think~~ I had earlier
told you that I had not seen William and Mary ~~and~~ I didn't
think that William and Mary was quite as far down as William
and Mary was at that time. William and Mary was extremely
short of funds, and they owe it all to Dr. J. A. C. Eandler ^{that he got these}
~~funds~~ ^{them} Where he got ~~these funds~~ I don't know. But I found it a
very run ^{down}, a very run ^{down} school. I don't mind saying--

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

I don't know ^{whether} if you ever heard of the old Citizenship Building or not-- do you know where ^{it} ~~the old Citizenship Building~~ was?

Emily: No, I've never quite figured it out.

Gibbs: It was located between the ^{old Main} ~~Wren~~ Building and the old Phi Beta Kappa Hall ^{(they call it} ~~what's~~ ^{Ewell Hall now)}. That used to be the gymnasium before Blow Gymnasium was built. It had cracks all over the place where you could see the outside.

I taught many a class in that school with an overcoat on.

^{They} ~~You~~ couldn't heat it; it just wasn't tight enough. The

chemistry department was located ^{just toward} ~~just~~ down ^{this} ~~west~~ end of the Sunken Garden at that time, located in an old army barracks that had been moved here from Penniman. I give you those two as an illustration.

[Also,]

¹ We had a very small library at that time. As I recall the school consisted of the three buildings of the old campus inside the wall, Jefferson had been completed, Monroe had been completed. ^{I think} ~~They~~ laid the cornerstone for Rogers

Hall a few days after I got in town. This school was making rapid progress under President Chandler, but he had a long

way to go. Now if I had known the school. . . . ^{I thought from the} ~~it had a~~

reputation ^{and its history} that William and Mary was a much better school

than I found when I came here. Yes, I wanted to turn ^{around} ~~my~~

~~car back around~~ and head ^{my car} ~~back~~ toward Richmond and Washington.

Do you realize that when I drove down here in 1926 that I

~~had to~~ ^{ed} detour ~~practically~~ all the way from Washington to Richmond?

~~Richmond?~~ ~~/Route/~~

The road had just been completed; ^{even}
 /Route 7 I had not even been completed then. ^{They tell me}
~~it had just been completed~~ from here to Richmond. ^{and it was in pretty good}
^{shape} The ^{farther} I got south at that time, I thought, "Oh, why am
 I moving my family to Williamsburg?" Have you seen the
 old buildings of Williamsburg? Oh, I've lived among them.
 Duke of Gloucester Street when I got here, oh, telephone
 lines, electric lines, ^{poles} ~~they~~ ran right down the middle of the
 street. Oh, it was backwards, no question.

Emily: Was the street paved?

Gibbs: Oh yes, it was concrete, ^{pavement—at least when}
~~by the time~~ I got here. They
 tell me that a few years before there was a pig wallow right
 across from Chowning's Tavern, what used to be the old
 Colonial Hotel. I came along in good times. I came along
 after the worst. ^{of course, what} ^{developed} ~~made~~ this section, ~~as far~~
 as the roads were concerned, ~~was~~ the first World War, and
 they had to have them to get transportation then. ~~And~~ ^{when}
 you next see the pictures of those buildings, I wish you'd
 think, "Those are the ones that man Gibbs talked about; he
 used to live among them."

/Mr. Gibbs then discussed building of his house in Williamsburg. 7

Emily: I wonder ^{if}, before we turn this ~~thing~~ off, you would tell ^{again}
 about when you first came and your reception at the A.A.U.P.?

Gibbs: I don't want to give ~~xxx~~ you all the names involved, ^{only trouble is they can't defend themselves.}
~~they're~~ all dead, though. ^{There was a man in the mathe-}
^{by the} ^{of} matics department, ^{named} C. D. Gregory. He was the man that
 took me down for ^{the} ^{meeting} ^{as a prospective member of A.A.U.P.} I didn't know I was in a place
 where I shouldn't be, and I don't think he did, either.

But anyway, I went down there, and they had their meeting.
 But I didn't know. . . anyway I soon found out, ^{Some way} that I was
 somewhere where I shouldn't be.

Emily: Because you were new?

Gibbs: No, because I was a Chandler man, and most of the faculty was opposed
 to Dr. J.A.C.

Emily: And they tried to keep the A.A.U.P.'s existence from him, didn't they?

~~Gibbs: And most of the faculty was opposed to J. A. C. Chandler.~~

Gibbs: Oh, yes. Nobody who was a Chandler man should be in
 A.A.U.P. ^{While} Well, A.A.U.P. is not supposed to be a blackballing
 organization, this one ^{here} was. I think
 it's just as well that I not mention ^{the} any names, but there
 were two heads of departments who were very rabid on the
 situation, one especially, and I just know from what I
 heard by the grapevine that they weren't getting along
 with Dr. Chandler, and the minute I was hired by the pres-
 ident and ^{especially} by Dr. Hamilton, they didn't want me around. For
 years they wouldn't have anything to do with me. Then Dean
 Cox became dean of the law school, and I don't know how much
 he knew about my situation, but shortly after ^{that} he was able
 to get the chapter here to change their arrangement by which there was no
 more blackballing was done. Immediately I was sent an invitation.

~~[By that time I had about had it.]~~