

# EXHIBIT 249

*Admission*

130 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET  
NEW YORK

November 10, 1925

President A. Lawrence Lowell,  
Harvard University,  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lowell:

Your note of the 6th regarding racial discrimination wasn't received here before I left New York last Friday, so that I've just read it. I am all for any reasonably sound and discerning "discrimination among individuals in accordance with the probable value of a college education to themselves, to the University and to the community." Also, I believe that such a discrimination would inevitably eliminate most of the Jewish element which is making trouble. I understand that this element now contributes a very excessive proportion of the cases requiring major discipline. Also, I don't think that all Jews are particularly intelligent by any means. What intelligence they have seems to ripen early. But apart from their precocity and a certain advantage it gives them in the way of a head start, I am not afraid of any competition. But the motion proposed at the autumn meeting of the Overseers named the Jews and was on its face a racial discrimination; and a good many of the men who share your concern about the increasing numbers are advocating what they call a candid regulation excluding all but so many or such a proportion of "Jews."

When I looked at my watch on leaving your office yesterday afternoon I realized that I had stayed very late and felt rather conscience stricken. But you kept asking me questions that were interesting and to that extent it was your own fault!

Sincerely yours,

*Henry James*