

US DOE ARCHIVES
326 US ATOMIC ENERGY
COMMISSION

RG _____

Collection _____

Box _____

Folder 4

Division of Biology Medicine

ROOM 5500
49 WEST 49TH STREET
NEW YORK 20

711650

October 14, 1947

Dear Mr. Lilienthal:

The Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine held its second meeting on Saturday, October 11, 1947. All the members were present. Our work was made much easier and quicker by the presence of yourself and Mr. Wilson, Mr. Derry, Dr. Bacher, Mr. Volpe, and Dr. Shields Warren, and we were glad that Mr. Waymack and Mr. Pike could also attend.

I believe, however, that more preparation must be given to our meetings, if they are to be thorough, decisive and not too long. I propose to put further emphasis on preparation of meetings and the more so since occasionally requirements of secrecy/put special limitations on the preparation and circulation of docket material.

The major subject of the meeting was the appointment of a medical director. After the initial disappointment of hearing Dr. Shields Warren say that he did not believe that the best of his knowledge and energies could be given if he were to become medical director, the Advisory Board unanimously urged Dr. Warren to accept a half time appointment for three months or more, and we were much relieved to learn from him that he would be willing to accept such an appointment, if his hospital will consent. The Board realizes none-the-less that though Dr. Warren's services will be valuable for even a short period of time, we must face the possibility that Dr. Warren will not be able to continue. It is clear that the Advisory Board considers Dr. Warren an excellent choice and that the sooner he can start work as Medical Director the better.

In connection with the post of Medical Director the Board heard with advantage and without any dissenting comment a draft statement of the functions and responsibilities of the Division of Biology and Medicine.

Inspection of a draft of the budgets for FY 1948 and FY 1949 and a realization of the extent to which these budgets would be affected by certain policies (e.g. for educational buildings at various universities) led to a long but not complete discussion of the training program the Board might be prepared

Received in Office of Chairman
Date: 10/15, Time: 3:45.

1072257

Mr. David Lilienthal

2. October 14, 1947

to recommend. We were reluctant to approve expenditures merely for buildings and equipment when such factors of recruitment as introductory courses in biophysics, advanced training opportunities and dependable careers are still seriously lacking and widely ignored. The Committee members agreed to send the chairman their considered views regarding a desirable training program. These views the chairman will collate for presentation at our next meeting on November 7.

The Board was informed of what measures are being taken to put the recommendations of the Medical Board of Review into effect, and of some other decisions currently taken by the AEC administration in the absence of a medical director.

The Board deferred action on a large number of inquiries, pending requests and matters of varying magnitude requiring further study. These matters can be handled only by a medical director working with the Advisory Board. The most important among them was a list submitted by Captain Shilling for the ONR of projects for which support from the AEC funds might be considered to be appropriate. It is quite evident that first steps in the working out of a clearly defined and practically applicable policy are already overdue. Indeed, throughout nearly every phase of the Committee we shall greet the services of Dr. Warren with a relief and enthusiasm that I hope he may be made to feel.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Gregg

Mr. David Lilienthal
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

AG:RE

1072258

DOE ARCHIVES