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FOLDER NAME	650 - Contracts (#1 of 2)
NOTES	UCSF "Radio-Biological Laboratory" 1947-48
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BERKELEY: OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER  
OF THE REGENTS

June 17, 1948

## PRESIDENT SPROUL:

At the time of negotiations in connection with various Atomic Energy Commission projects in Chicago and Washington last week and this week, I obtained certain information which will be of interest to you. And I have some questions on which answers must be received in time to discuss the matter with the Finance Committee at the meeting on the 21st. Two copies of this letter are enclosed so that you may indicate in the spaces provided what you wish done or if there is any doubt in your mind as to the letter reaching me by the 23rd, please telegraph me referring to the items by number.

(1) Continuation of Dean Stafford Warren's biomedical research. The Regents on May 21st approved a contract for \$1,500,000. I believe this may be cut to \$750,000, but since Dr. Warren is on a basis of an annual expenditure of about \$250,000 this year, I can see no difficulty in his operating next year on a budget of \$750,000. He simply would have to reduce his work, and it seems to me necessary to continue even on the reduced basis. I should report this situation to the Finance Committee and ask for approval to accept the contract in this lesser amount. Do you approve? *See*

*RSB*  
6/21/48

(2) A building to house Dr. Warren's activities. This was approved in the amount of \$1,500,000 at The Regents' meeting on May 21st, but I am informed that no such sum will be available in this fiscal year and that perhaps only \$500,000 will be available. Possibly additional monies might be available next year, but there is no promise. Mr. Corley will consider with Dr. Warren and Mr. Weaver whether any kind of a building to house satisfactorily these activities can be constructed for approximately \$500,000. Presuming the answer is in the affirmative, do you approve having the Finance Committee direct me to accept the contract in the lesser amount?

*See*  
*RSB*  
6/21/48

(3) Fission products studies by the College of Agriculture. The Regents on May 21st approved the execution of the contract for this work, to be carried on by the College of Agriculture by Drs. Cverstreet and Jacobson at \$259,450, of which \$147,400 was to be used for buildings and equipment. The Commission is unwilling to go forward on as large a scale, and it has suggested that Dr. Cverstreet submit a revised budget for \$50,000 to carry on the most likely investigations; for this purpose the construction would have to be very definitely limited. Dr. Cverstreet is now working on this matter, and I am

Copy signed & returned  
air mail 6/21/48

*RSB*

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BANCROFT/UA/ARC ID NO.	114-5
CARTON NO.	730
FOLDER NAME	0150 CONTRACTS (1-12)
NOTES	UCSF "Radio-Biological Laboratory" 700170
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inclined to believe that he and the Dean will be much happier under the reduced appropriation, since this project was really brought up by Dr. Warren, and the College of Agriculture has never been tremendously enthusiastic. Presuming that Dr. Overstreet and Dean Hutchison have a plan for a \$50,000 project, do you approve of my requesting the Finance Committee to amend its directions in this respect?

*I do.* *[Signature]*  
6/21/48

Some of these reductions were made because of lack of definiteness of projects submitted by the individuals and further that there is not sufficient money available. The Commission, however, is anxious to commit all of its 1948 money before June 30th and must have acceptances of commitments before that date. We have no Regents' meeting before June 30th and only the Finance Committee meeting of the 21st. The Finance Committee has power to act in this matter, but if I do not have your opinions and directions to the Finance Committee, we will not be able to accept these reductions.

As a matter of general information on which you might not have time even to read with the rush now at hand, this is to inform you that the building and betatron for Dr. Robert S. Stone, which The Regents approved on the basis of \$400,000, has been contracted on the basis of \$350,000, which Dr. Stone says will allow him to complete the project, although not in as good a way as he desires. I have indications that the additional \$50,000 may be here before June 30th, and I have already power to sign for it. The engineering research for Dean Boelter amounting to approximately \$130,000 and approximately the same amount for Professor Dorn at Berkeley were approved and will be financed at approximately the sums recommended.

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I have executed an amendment to the cyclotron contract which provides for the first \$5,000,000 of the \$9,000,000 bevatron, but the Commission has indicated that it will be necessary to cut down the operations of the cyclotron from the present scale by the amount of approximately \$100,000 a month unless new money is forthcoming after September 30th. I obtained enough money to keep going at the present rate of expenditure until that date. The reduction by Congress of \$48,000,000 of the Atomic Energy Commission's money, as indicated by Congress, is not to be applied to medical or biological work or production but to town operations, buildings, and general research. This means that projects like Los Alamos, Hanford, and Oak Ridge will be operated largely as at present and that money will be forthcoming for activities such as Dean Warren's in the field of medicine, but possibly not in the field of agriculture, and that research work at the National Laboratories and at the cyclotron may be expected to be on the decline. It is interesting to report that the Commission has to date provided nothing for the agricultural-biological study proposed by Dr. Warren, on which you got the teletype the night before the last Board meeting, and will not do so during the present fiscal year.

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RMU:jer  
cc: Mr. J. H. Corley

*[Signature]*  
Robert M. Underhill