



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA

Alfred Stengel, M. D.

*Vice-President in Charge of Medical Affairs
Maloney Clinic*

November 9, 1931

Dr. Wilder Penfield
Department of Neurosurgery
McGill University
Montreal, Quebec
Canada

Dear Dr. Penfield:

I wrote you recently to let you know that we are actively at work on our neurological plans, and in particular to determine what funds we shall have for building and endowment. As matters now stand, I am informed that the Orthopedic Hospital group will have something approaching \$650,000 that may be used for building purposes, leaving an endowment of about \$650,000. This, with our own endowment of \$200,000 for Neurology and \$150,000 for Orthopedics, begins to look like nearly enough to set up a respectable organization, especially if one of the Foundations will help us out to some extent. We have, of course, other promising expectations which may or may not eventuate, but Judge Sinkler, President of the Orthopedic Board, seems to have under cover some promise of a notable addition to our available funds. The Orthopedic Board is keen to have us carry out our program of affiliation and Judge Sinkler has asked me to let him know if we are prepared to take them now into the University Hospital closing their own and releasing funds so as to be prepared at an earlier date to enter on new building operations. I am not quite clear that we have space enough to carry out this program immediately, but it is at least an indication of their desire to make our arrangements binding. He asks me to keep this proposal confidential as he has told none of the staff that their Board contemplates such an immediate action. I am now surveying our possibilities to see if we can do this.

Another angle of our plan has just developed. Dr. Turnbull, the Medical Director of the Philadelphia General Hospital (Blockley), has just sent me word that he is holding back arrangements concerning their

Dr. Wilder Penfield

Chief at
Rocky

Neurological staff in the hope that our selection of a neurological head will soon be decided, as he wishes to have our new chief in charge of neurological developments there. He knew of your name in connection with our intentions and is in a quite definite way holding things back hoping that you are coming here and will be available to head this work in the Philadelphia Hospital. You, of course, are familiar with the wealth of material they have and how much it will contribute to making our whole neurological program a brilliant one.

I have no knowledge of Dr. Gregg's intentions in the way of a recommendation to the Rockefeller Board but he seems to be interested in aiding our project but expresses himself as unwilling to declare his intentions so far as you and we are concerned lest it appear that his act might seem to be the deciding point in your decision. I, of course, agree fully with him, and would be the last to expect him to advise his Board to give us a donation if this were to be the means of influencing your decision. I am confident of our assembling the facilities for a great department whether we obtain the aid of the Foundation or not and I should not wish to have your decision influenced by what they may or may not do. I am continuing to work on our local problem with the expectation of accomplishing what we hope for but, of course, if we then obtain an additional grant from the Foundation we shall be just that much better off.

I am sure you will realize that merging or affiliating institutions requires much negotiation and that the task I have cannot be advanced as rapidly as I myself would wish. However, each step brings us nearer a completely satisfactory arrangement.

Sincerely,

AS:ECS