

INTERVIEW WITH DR. R.K. LAMBERT.

4th July 1934.

Dr. Lambert pointed out that no promise of support was made by the Rockefeller Foundation after July 1st 1932 to July 1st 1933 until such time as the laboratories should be completed, and he stated that if the Chancellor would write a letter to Mr. Max Mason, President of the Foundation, stating the date on which the laboratories would be completed and accepted by the University, that the Foundation would then proceed to carry out their promise; namely, to transfer the capital sum of one million dollars to McGill University for scientific work in neurology.

He said that they might possibly continue to make annual donations of \$50,000 yearly in place of making the transfer but that in his opinion they would transfer the cash at once in Canadian currency.

He pointed out that it was anticipated that the Institute would have been finished a year earlier and in that case there would have been no debt. He questioned how it was that no inquiry was made by McGill at an earlier time concerning payments from the Foundation. He pointed out further that had the Bursar so desired he could have had the support until July 1st instead of June 1st 1933, as the terms of their donation for that year were good until July 1st, instead of June 1st which is the end of the University year.

He said that the question had come up as to whether the University was not saving money by not having the Institute open, because of the donations from City and Province which were thus unexpended, and queried whether or not this money could not be devoted to the scientific work. I pointed out that it was necessary to use this money toward the construction and equipment of the Institute and that even with its use it still was not certain that the whole of the Institute could be equipped, but that we hoped to equip all of the floors if sufficient savings were made in the present operations. I pointed out that for my own part it had not occurred to me that support was not forthcoming as I felt sure that the Foundation would not have wanted me to expand the scientific work as was done in 1932-33 thanks to their gift at that time, and to have it almost completely stop in the period of 1933-34. I told him that unless help was forthcoming from the Foundation that all of the Research Fund at my disposal would be used up without making up much more than one half the deficit.

I pointed out that ten thousand dollars had been promised from those funds toward the construction and equipment of the Institute if this should become necessary, and that fifteen hundred dollars had been set aside for the cost of the Foundation Lectures and the opening exercises.

Dr. Lambert stated that it was quite obvious that the whole difficulty was due to an unfortunate misunderstanding, that Dr. Gregg had not mentioned this before going abroad and that he had talked the matter over with Mr. Mason who had stated that the Finance Committee would be able to carry out the transfer of the capital sum to the University when notification was received as mentioned above, and that in order not to leave us too long in suspense he might circularize the trustees of the Foundation to obtain a ruling as to whether they would defray the cost of scientific work in neurology between July 1st 1933 and August 1st 1934 - assuming that August 1st was the date when the laboratories could be considered completed. It was agreed that the year 1933-34 could be considered to end on July 1st, thus more than using up the remaining funds in our budget.

WGP/HL

(Signed)

Wilder Penfield.