

5th March 1965

Greetings Jennie:

Thank you for your letter of 10th February and enclosures which arrived on the 15th. The article entitled "Grants for Staff in Small Colleges" was clear and informative. The stock form is filled in and I am returning it to you herewith. Please find the necessary certificates and send them to exchange agent. The discussion about Union National Bank and Central Aguirre is very good. You know more about that than I do. Thanks.

The package of reprints "Hectometer Cosmic Static" arrived on the 15th also. This article must have been of some interest because I've received two requests for reprints. I suggest that you attach one reprint to the long report on my operations here which I sent to Mr. Schauer at the end of last year. The two are complimentary.

The ink tubing arrived via air parcel post on the 18th from Brush. It fits O.K.

Some excess charcoal has probably been sent to you by Geochron. There may be some more in a small carton in the file which was returned from Isotopes. Please put all the small containers together in a carton and send by sea to me. Mark it "Scientific specimens- No commercial value". I may wish to have some of the Isotopes and Geochron dates checked by other organizations in New Zealand or Japan.

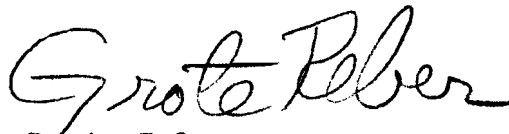
The roll of maps arrived on the 12th from Geological Survey. I've examined them in a rather cursory manner. Some of the general coverage maps are rather old and give very little cultural detail. Large flat areas are shown vacant which cannot be true today. The detail maps on Michigan are better. Wisconsin is much more rough than Michigan, as I expected. According to your letter of 15/12/64, you have map indexes of Wisconsin and Illinois. Please enclose these with your next envelope by sea. I may want to get some detail maps at a future date. The Michigan aerial fotos should be interesting when they arrive.

A professional archeologist from University of Sydney has been working with a crew at sites in northwestern Tasmania for three months. He is a Welshman named Rhys Jones who got a degree from Cambridge a few years ago. I have been up to see what they are doing twice for one week periods near the end of January and end of February. Two of the middens he elected to work on were my discovery three years ago. I was much impressed by the thorough manner he has done the job. According to him, these sites are by far the richest in Australia and among the richest paleolithic middens in the world. At West Point, ^{North} ~~South~~ he cut two trenches at right angles. Each was five feet wide, eight feet deep and 45 feet long. Over 20,000 worked stones, 25,000 animal bones plus assorted human bones, etc. were secured. Only token samples of the countless shells were saved. Everything was carefully labeled according to position and depth and bagged. Copious fotos were taken and drawings made. A survey of shape and size of mound was carried out. Apparently only about 5% of the volume had been excavated. Thus the mound probably has a half million bones in it.

The other site at Rocky Cape was quite different but equally rich. One of those carbon dates from Geochron turned out to be very important at the second site. All this material (a couple of tons) is on its way to Sydney where it will be cleaned, examined and organized during this coming winter. I think he will be back next summer with another crew. He helped me write up my results and provided suggestions on suitable places of publication. This will complete my efforts on archeology.

Cosmic static observations have gotten off to a poor start this year. No useful data was secured during January and only a few scraps and bits during February. This month should be better.

Best regards,


Grote Reber

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GRANTS FOR STAFF IN SMALL COLLEGES

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Several years ago Research Corporation initiated a program of grants intended to help strengthen research-oriented science departments at liberal arts colleges and smaller universities. During the past two years, the mathematics departments of two liberal arts colleges (Bowdoin and Knox) and of one smaller university (Idaho State College) have received departmental grants under the program, and mathematics has participated in grants of broader scope at several other colleges.

Research Corporation's all-too-finite resources have dictated the necessity of a high degree of selectivity even in the consideration of proposals for these grants. Accordingly, proposals are accepted only on invitation by a staff member of the foundation, usually after he has visited the campus and discussed the possibility with the faculty members involved and with college administrators.

A primary consideration is evidence of existing strength and research inter-

est in the department or departments concerned, together with plans and a determination to strengthen them further. The Research Corporation program does not contemplate assistance to a distressed department to possibly help elevate it to mediocrity, nor even to help raise a mediocre department to a higher level of mediocrity. Rather, its aim is to help already good departments cross the threshold that leads to excellence (if this word has not become hackneyed). In this context, it should be clear, too, that the institution's interest lies in a permanent strengthening of a department and not merely helping it hold its own in the face of rising enrollments.

To encompass the possible requirements of so nebulous a purpose as helping to strengthen a department, the scope of the program is broad, excluding only bricks and mortar. Provision has been made for such various things as scholarships, fellowships, visiting lecturers, library acquisitions, special equipment and supplies, travel, etc., and, for a specified period of time, full or partial salaries of additional permanent faculty.

All three of the mathematics departmental grants made thus far have involved only faculty salaries. Each of the two liberal arts colleges was planning an additional faculty appointment in mathematics and asked Research Corporation to underwrite for a few years the salary of a second, concurrent appointment. In this manner, the departments were strengthened in terms of manpower with research interests and time to pursue them. Beyond this, however, the positions themselves were made highly attractive to really competent young mathematicians who could be assured not only of time for personal research but of the opportunity for discussion and interplay with a contemporary of similar interests.

The colleges themselves contribute the atmosphere in which this program can work effectively, furnish the teaching opportunity with the stimulus of students, and provide for summer stipends either "at home" or at research centers at the choice of the young professors. Last but not least, the colleges undertake the responsibility for maintenance of these conditions upon termination of the Research Corporation grant.

Mathematicians have had little cause to be familiar with the activities of this foundation in the past. With few exceptions, Research Corporation's project grants for the most part supported experimental work. On a few occasions, grants for mathematics provided for fellowships or, indirectly, for released time. Prior to the inception of the departmental program, the largest grants made for mathematics were given to the Canadian Mathematical Congress to initiate its Summer Research Institute. The 1963 Research Corporation Award, however, an annual award first given in 1925 to recognize outstanding scientific achievement, was formally presented to two young mathematicians on January 30, 1964. Paul J. Cohen of Stanford University and Heisuke Hironaka of Brandeis University shared the honors and the \$10,000 honorarium of the Award for their respective unique contributions to mathematics.