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August 1, 1956

Dr. Fred T. Haddock  
Department of Astronomy  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Fred:

Yesterday Dave Heeschen and I were in Washington and Chuck Rottenburg reported that everything went smoothly in Charleston on the 30th. He greatly appreciated your coming, to which I add my own thanks.

Navy Yards and Docks also raised the question of giving our three designs to private companies. I suggested to Mac that we get a ruling from NSF. The question will be brought to Dr. Waterman, and I have asked that the decision be sent directly to you. Assuming an affirmative decision, could you use immediately the sets of design material you already have as a Committee member? I have plenty of copies of the descriptive material, but will have to have more copies made of some of the drawings. Thus, I could replace your material in a relatively short time.

Dr. Feld is now much more optimistic about an equatorial in the 140-foot size. His present configuration could probably be made to work, with particular attention to details that could make the difference between just a telescope and a really good instrument. For example, Mike Karelitz thinks oil pad bearings are feasible and certainly the hour angle bearing should be of this type. Dave is very much concerned with provisions for aligning the telescope.

You may already know of tentative proposals for another equatorial design, in addition to the Tuve-Tatel effort with Blaw Knox and Dr. Feld's study. We would attempt to set up a group of objective consultants to meet with those who have designs in mind -- to consider ways of making reflectors, mounts, etc. -- and then to advise on which elements seem best. An engineering group would then be engaged to draw up a design on the basis of the above. Dave and I discussed this with Merle and Harold and they agreed to participate. I hope you will be willing to join in too, so that the "user" viewpoint

To: Dr. Fred T. Haddock

- 2 -

August 1, 1956

can be represented. I anticipate a meeting of a day or so in August or early September and again in October.

I mentioned to Dave that you would like to have him come to Ann Arbor. We assume there is no urgency and the visit can be put off until after the Berkeley meetings. We plan to go out and may see you there.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Emberson  
Assistant to the President

cc: Heeschen ← THIS COPY FOR  
McClain  
Rottenburg

Signed in Dr. Emberson's Absence