

August 14, 1945

Mr. Marion Smith, Chairman
Board of Regents
University System of Georgia
Hurt Building
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Smith:

Last Saturday, August 10, I had Mr. G. Lloyd Preacher, Jr., write you a letter in which he guaranteed that the alterations will not exceed the \$85,000, including his fees. This letter you probably have in your file.

For three days last week I contacted nearly everybody in Atlanta who are friends of the school and can give us a lead as to the approach through the personnel concerning surplus property now on hand or which might accumulate at the end of the war. In this I have been most successful, all the way from Harry Harmon, former football player and pitcher for the University of Georgia and in general charge of the surplus property for this region, to J. V. Yost, the active distributor for this region to state agencies, who has a daughter in our school, and Bill Clemens, a friend of mine of many years who is an active distributor to state agencies of building material. All of these men were very cooperative and showed a sincere desire to help us find the material. Everyone assured us that there would be much material to distribute as the weeks and months followed the Japanese surrender.

Jimmy Carmichael and about a dozen other acquaintances of mine in similar positions where surpluses may be had, are also on the lookout for the time when the government gives them the order to get rid of building material.

Doctor Sanford advised me over the telephone Monday to get rid of Tucker as soon as he completed the drawing that he has now been asked to do.

General Sandy Beaver telephoned me that he was asking his architect and engineer, Norman F. Stambaugh, to talk with us. But when I told him that Mr. Driftmier and others in the Regents' office had already gone so far with Mr. Tucker, he stated he could not ethically take on the conversion of the Ivy Street building. He did, however, give me some valuable

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information, especially as to building material, and a whispered admonition that Tucker already had grandiose ideas and was not the type of man we should have had at all. I thoroughly agreed and told him that I had found that out two months ago when I wrote a letter to Mr. Tucker dismissing him from further interest in the plan, but that I had later been over-ruled by the group including Mr. Driftmier, Mr. Cohan, and others in the Regents' office.

I recall, Mr. Smith, that you brought up the subject of the Walton Street building given to our school by Mr. Johnson, of the Campbell Coal Company. If it comes to having to use other money, this building might be ordered sold, and Mr. Wardlaw might be a tenant of the Ivy Street building.

Some of us worked pretty hard with Mr. Bulow Campbell and Mr. Johnson to keep their interest high in completing this building for us. They finally gave a check to the Regents' office for \$35,000 in payment of the balance due on the building. Mr. Bob Johnson said this was his responsibility because of his statement to us that he would see the building completed and our school located in it.

I believe from what Lloyd Preacher, Jr., has guaranteed, and from our conferences with the Georgia Tech mechanical engineers and others, we can proceed with the conversion of the Ivy Street building. Of course, we await your pleasure as to whether sufficient evidence is accumulated for the beginning of such a program.

Cordially yours

GEO. M. SPARKS
Director

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