

October 3, 1945

Tucker & Howell
Rhodes-Haverty Building
Atlanta, Georgia

Gentlemen:

Attention of Mr. Tucker

When I read your letter of September 27, and a copy of a letter Mr. Siebert sent me which he had received from Mr. Driftmier, I was surprised to find that your plans are still based on some amount other than the \$85,000, all that we have to spend on the Ivy Street building. In fact, the sum set, by resolution of the Board of Regents, a Constitutional Body, and therefore the law, was \$85,000, the amount so many times reviewed to you by all the parties concerned as agents of this transaction. You evidently did not relay this to Mr. Driftmier, or else he would not have written the letter of September 24 to Mr. Siebert basing your executed plans on \$150,000.

The only time Mr. Driftmier was consulted in the matter was in the very beginning, in Dr. Sanford's office, and he understood such an amount, both before you arrived and while talking about the matter there. If you recall, Mr. Driftmier closed up the plans and said, "Go ahead and do what you can for that amount."

When I talked with you later in your office, I said that \$85,000 was all we had to spend.

Also, in Mr. Smith's office, when you stated the plans called for \$216,146 as read from the two yellow cost sheets, Mr. Smith said: "Gentlemen, we can't do the building then; we have only \$85,000, and no more." The matter of surplus property was brought up by Dr. Sanford, and your cost man, while there, considered what Dr. Sanford and I enumerated until he deducted on down to within striking distance of \$85,000 according to his penciled figures on the back of the sheet he gave me. I then added my pencil figures to bring it on down to \$75,990.

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Mr. Smith then told me I would have to find a contractor who could keep the figure on your preliminary plans to \$85,000. Such a person was found and wrote Mr. Smith a letter to that effect, so that it now seems most possible it can be done.

Now let me quote a paragraph from your letter to me dated August 21: "In our past conversation as to the construction cost, we have not been in a position to guarantee that the four floors can be built for \$85,000.00. However, it is our understanding that your investigations reveal that you are in a position to buy many items at considerably less than the open market value. This we hope may bring the major portion of the construction cost within your budget."

Mr. Tucker, I am not trying to be any more disagreeable than you were slow in executing plans, but it's just a case of being agent for funds which I am obligated to protect. I believe the various conversations and situations related, as well as your letter to me, prove the amount stated was \$85,000, and no more.

Yours truly

GEO. M. SPARKS, Director
University System Center

GMS:h

Copy to: Mr. L. R. Siebert
Mr. Marion Smith