

May 19, 1932

Dear Doctor Millikan:

At a meeting of the Members and Trustees of the General Education Board held April 14, 1932, a report was submitted covering the undertaking of the California Institute of Technology, through the Observatory Council, to construct a 200-inch reflecting telescope, involving the following:

- 1) a 200-inch reflecting telescope,
- 2) a site, including land and land improvements,
- 3) an observatory and other necessary buildings,
- 4) auxiliary apparatus, and
- 5) other expenses in connection with making the observatory available for use,

estimated to cost \$6,000,000.

The Board was informed that of the original estimate of \$6,000,000, as itemized below, \$1,390,201.08 had been provided from other sources, so that approximately \$4,609,800 would be needed to complete the undertaking:

I. Expenses of Committee	\$ 128,584.21
II. Expenses of experimentation and manufacture of reflectors, including \$450,000 for 17-foot grinding machine and other equipment for optical shop, if approved	2,066,106.22
III. Expenses of land and land improvements	350,000.00
IV. Expenses of buildings and telescope mountings	2,699,232.05
V. Expenses of other equipment	241,786.77
VI. Contingent expenses	<u>514,290.75</u>
	\$6,000,000.00.

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I desire to notify you that the General Education Board took formal action authorizing the Executive Committee in its discretion to commit the Board from time to time to appropriations to the Board of Trustees of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, of sums not exceeding in the aggregate \$4,609,800 for the purchase of a site and the construction of an observatory, including a 200-inch reflecting telescope with accessories, and any and all other expenses incurred in making the observatory available for use. This action was taken with the stipulation:

- 1) That the Trustees of the California Institute of Technology will provide the funds required for the upkeep and maintenance of the observatory, including the telescope, if constructed; and
- 2) That commitments by the Executive Committee of the General Education Board shall not be made more rapidly than developments justify.

It is expected that early in June the Executive Committee will authorize the executive officers to execute a formal agreement to cover the action of the Board herein reported.

A copy of this communication is being sent to Doctor Hale and Doctor Anderson for their information.

Very truly yours,

Doctor Robert A. Willikan
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California

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