

December 11, 1951

Agriculture

To: All Staff Members in Agricultural Operating Programs
From: Warren Weaver

At the recent meeting of The Rockefeller Foundation Trustees in Williamsburg, they created a Division of Natural Sciences and Agriculture, this being an expansion of the previous NS division, and constituting formal recognition of a program in agriculture. I am the Director of this Division, and JGH was appointed Deputy Director for Agriculture. At the same time EJW was appointed Local Director of the Agricultural Program in Mexico.

As far as "chain of command" is concerned, this means that the Mexican and Colombian staff members report to their Local Directors (EJW and LMR); they in turn report to JGH, he reports to me, and I report to the President and the Trustees.

Although JGH reports to me, although I have primary responsibility for the strategic aspects of the program, and although I am of course ultimately responsible for everything that happens in the new Division, it is the plan and expectation that JGH will have top responsibility for the technical aspects of the agriculture work; and that (especially outside of the offices) his title of Deputy Director for Agriculture will carry with it the professional status of a New York office directorship.

Additional funds have been made available for work in agriculture, and following the necessary studies, further operations and further grants are contemplated. The budgets approved for 1952 will provide for four regular additional staff members in Mexico (two in animal husbandry, one in soils, and one in genetics) and four additional members in Colombia (one each in soils, horticulture (potatoes), plant pathology, and entomology). In addition, further men, at various levels of maturity, are to be sent to Mexico for training periods ranging from a few months to a couple of years. These men will contribute to the work in Mexico, but they are being recruited and trained for probable later assignment elsewhere.

There will be later information concerning the way in which we will integrate the entire program of the Division (experimental biology - grants to institutions for agricultural work - fellowship activity - operations in agriculture).

This great opportunity which we all now have is the direct result of the energy, devotion to duty, and ability of the present staff, and to its wonderful record of accomplishment. I congratulate you all for your having made this new set-up possible.