

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH
JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

CABLE ADDRESS: MONUMENTS

November 23rd, 1935

Dear Nelson:

A letter of November 8th from Burrows, received several days ago, reports the good news that you may come out on a three-year term as director here. I hesitated about writing you, not knowing how much of this, if any, might be confidential, but I have since reflected that it could hardly come as a real surprise to you, and that you probably knew much more about it than Burrows told me in his letter. I immediately wrote back a very enthusiastic letter to Burrows, and hoped that my latest previous suggestion of Olmstead for a year (as a desperate remedy) would be taken as a pis aller (not with respect to Olmstead, but with respect to the idea of a part-time director for one year).

If you can persuade Mr. Warburg to give you a big gift for the School and then come out for several years, there will be none of the deterioration in the scientific output, or in the physical plant that I have been apprehending. It is a marvelous idea, which I endorse with all my heart. Naturally I am keeping mum on the subject here, except to President Moulton. After the close of your term there may be first-rate younger blood available--or perhaps you can prolong your stay.

I think that this is the line along which we must strike out in our further work for raising endowment and developing and consolidating the School, viz., continuing the policy and the method of work which has brought us reputation and has yielded such remarkable archaeological results. You are the only man who can carry on along these lines at this emergency.

Yesterday Garstang, FitzGerald, and Rowe arrived, and will begin work on the new plan of Garstang at once: another campaign at Jericho and soundings or excavations in Galilee (Hazor, Tell Qisan, etc.).

With my best regards to Helen,

Very sincerely yours

W. F. Albright