

AMERICAN  
SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH  
JERUSALEM AND BAGHDAD

409 PROSPECT ST., NEW HAVEN, CONN.

March 29, 1940.

Dear Nelson:

At the Spring Meeting of the Trustees in New York an appropriation of a sum not to exceed \$1000 was made from the Felix M. Warburg Fund for the completion of the excavation at Tell el-Kheléfeh. The budget which was submitted to the Smithsonian Institution called for \$2000, of which they are furnishing \$1500. We hope that this will be sufficient, but the Trustees felt that you should be allowed a little leeway.

The budget for 1940-41 was adopted also. This includes another appropriation of \$500 from the Felix M. Warburg Fund for your archaeological survey of Transjordan during the coming summer. This was the amount you mentioned to me just before you sailed. I am glad we were able to appropriate the full amount.

The Trustees voted also to cancel any obligation on your part to pay the excess in the cost of Annual XVIII-XIX over our appropriation. This amounted to something like \$900, but the bill has been paid, and fortunately we can get along now without the money, so we were unanimously agreed in releasing you from your generous promise to foot the bill.

Over against all this I have one piece of news which is not quite so favorable. Your request that the Schools pay your travelling expenses back to America was not granted. We can find no precedent for doing this. Our Directors hitherto have paid their own travel expenses to and from Jerusalem. It is true that we are making an appropriation of this sort for Engberg, but that is due to the fact that his salary will be considerably less than the Director has hitherto received. The Trustees felt sure that in view of the actions I have just reported to you, you would feel that it was only fair for us to expect you to pay your own expenses back to America.

Action was taken on several other matters, but you will soon be receiving the Minutes, so I need not go into these matters. In adopting the budget for next year we enjoyed to the full the fact that we no longer have to pinch and scrape to such an extent as has been necessary for the last several years.

Here's hoping that conditions will continue to be as favorable for archaeological work as they seem to be now, and that you will be able to finish your term as Director in a blaze of glory.

Sincerely,

*William F. Fowles*

P.S. Everybody is eager to get your book. I hope you can set the manuscript to us soon.