

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DIVISION OF GENETICS
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

June 20, 1957

Dear Joshua:

I have been slow in answering your letter of May 16 first because I was in Los Angeles when it arrived, and subsequently I have been hoping that I could report something definite. However, nothing new has developed, but I gather that in the near future a clearer picture will emerge.

The State-wide office building is about to go to bid on a year's contract. When work is actually started then we can have a firmer date for the completion of the laboratory. Fifteen months later would be the first possible date, which places it in the fall of 1958.

I see no reason why you should have to make a formal commitment, that is sign a contract, more than six months prior to your arrival on this campus. What is aimed at here is an appointment that is authorized by the Regents for July 1, 1958, but that can be taken up any time during the academic year 1958-59. Vice-president Wellman proposes to request Regent's approval of: (1) your appointment, (2) Esther's appointment, and (3) funds for the laboratory, all at once so that he can make you a firm offer. The first two are going forward nicely; but, very little has been done about the last. By the time you arrive in August, however, I hope that we can settle the details of laboratory planning.

The future of Agriculture on the Berkeley Campus will not be solved until some time next fall. Nevertheless, some decisions have been made, tentatively at least. The college at Berkeley will be somewhat

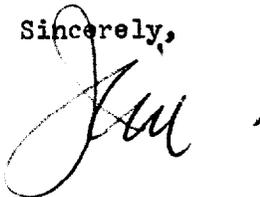
smaller than it is now, but not much. Only the basic science aspects of agriculture will remain. That is, departments and parts of departments that are complementary to those in Letters and Science.

We are very happy that Genetics is to remain in Agriculture. There are a number of distinct advantages to this: Experiment Station appointments, funds, facilities and a light teaching schedule. The disadvantages are intangible and have to do with such things as prestige. The disadvantages have never struck me as being important and certainly nothing that a strong department can't overcome.

We located the indigo all right, but like many things Mexican, getting it from Mexico to you involves no end of delays. Unless you have lived there and have become accustomed to the mamana attitude the reasons for delay seem trivial. However, I hope that you will have received it by this time. If you haven't, let me know. Kay will write again to Mrs Johnson.

On reading over the above answers to your questions, I am sure that you must find them fragmentary and frustratingly unclear. Apparently there is no substitute for discussion, at least letters are not. Your trip will be an excellent opportunity to clear up all the details. By the way, we would be happy to meet you both at the San Francisco Airport on August 3 at 5:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim", with a small dot at the end.