Meeting with Sir William Slater, 29.9.55

Future plans

Suggests move to Cambridge to join Kenneth Smith's unit in, say, 2 yrs' time

but 1. Envisages, apparently, a single move of 1 person + 1 X-ray tube

had not considered necessity of having a group on X-ray work, and necessity for workshop & other facilities

2. Has no appreciation of time required to order, design, obtain & set up necessary apparatus (impressed by possibility of obtaining new Hilger tube in October, & assumes all can go as quickly). Reluctant to believe my ~~[illegible]~~ statement that things should be set moving 1½ to 2 yrs before actual move

Possibility of working on permanent basis in London considered slight because ARC wd not sanction permanent appointment when provision of lab space depends on goodwill of professor.

Appears to have been badly upset by suggestion that ARC should provide lab space for work in London University, this being university's business.

Continuation in London considered impossible ∵ lack of

space, but doesn't realize their lack of workshop & general assistance and be much more serious.

Establishment of an ARC Unit seems to be v difficult but I have the impression that if we insist a lot it might not be impossible.

Programme

~~Considers that~~
Strong disapproval of working on "second-hand material," and considers that if attached to KS Unit no work should be done on material from Berkeley, Tubingen etc. This I strongly ~~ob~~ object to. Presumably somebody has protested about my working with Commoner.

General

Considers I should work under constant guidance of biochemist (presumably Markham) because otherwise I can't hope to understand the biological aspect of my work. Regrets reply that frequent discussion with as many people as possible can keep me adequately informed.

Dr Klug

Refused to discuss, saying there is "plenty of time"
But Dr Klug must ~~a~~ start now to make alternative arrangements if ARC won't take him. ARC is his first choice

Personal

Have been given in SSO grade, although could well have been PSO 4 years ago! In this has clearly been influenced by my v low salary before joining ARC. Says PSO or 31 is only for the v exceptionally distinguished, which isn't true.

Action to be taken

Proposes to ask only for X-ray tube at October meeting!

The rest of my report & requests is ignored.

Spinner might be included if we insist, but believes there is serious risk of refusal

Biochemist, Geiger counter apparatus & Dr Klug not to be considered