

MEMORANDUM

Bennington College

1-12-51
DATE
TB

Date January 12, 1951

To Mrs. Wills, Chairman
Building Committee

From Mr. Winslow

The following is a summary of data relative to some of the subjects that may be discussed at the Trustees' meeting on January 17th, 1951.

FARM

It is recommended that the College lease to the Fairdale Farms, Inc., our entire tillable acreage at not less than \$5.00 per acre. This lease would be for a term of years to be agreed upon. That the College agrees to furnish such labor and equipment as we have available at prevailing prices. The baler to be rented at a price per bale and the other equipment at an hourly rate, including operator.

For the College this would mean an assured revenue above all expense of \$600.00 per year from the rental of the farm. The amount received for baling hay will depend on the amount of acreage used for grain crops and the amount used for hay crop. Based on past experience, this could amount to \$480.00 per year, using a price of 12¢ per bale. There would be an estimated revenue of \$300.00 from the rental of other equipment.

These last two items are not all cash profit to the College as they would be at least partly offset by the cost of operation, including gas and oil, repairs, baling twine and wages of the operator.

In my memo of September 22nd, 1950, to Mr. Brookway and Mr. McCullough, I stated that the College had not actually made any profit on the haying for some years. Under the proposed plan the College is assured of \$600.00 per year cash income, a saving over past years of \$450.00 for fertilizer and a profit on the operation of equipment in addition to the wages of the operator who would be on the College payroll regardless of the farming operation.

In addition to any financial advantages the land will be improved and brought back to condition where a maximum yield can be expected, whereas we are now getting very nearly a minimum yield.

The plan has a further advantage in that the College will not have to spend money to purchase additional fertilizer and seed in order to restore the land to good condition.

Thirty (30) acres of the land under consideration is on the Jennings Estate.

STORM DAMAGE

The wind storm of November 25th, 1950, caused damage to buildings and trees estimated at \$1,500.00, in addition to the cost of College labor. A small part of this is covered by insurance. It is impossible to give an exact figure at this time as the work is not completed. The damage while costly, was not serious as regards the appearance of the Campus.

Appendix II

780
600
450
1830

Mrs. Wills, #2.

A detailed story of the storm and how we operated the emergency power plant was covered in my memo of December 11th, 1950, a copy of which is attached.

DYMAXION HOUSE

There is no definite plan to date for the use of the Dymaxion House. A tentative plan to use the larger of the two rooms as an observatory is under consideration by some of the Faculty members. From the information available it appears that this plan would mean moving the building to a new location, constructing a concrete base and installing suitable equipment so that the entire building could be revolved.

No estimate has been made as to the total cost as no plans have been made available. The cost of the foundation, which must be below frost level, and the concrete floor, including excavation for same, would be about \$800.00.

HOLT HOUSE

No work has been done on the Holt House. The heater - oil burner, pipes and fittings - have been purchased and are on hand. We had the radiation in stock. Work will be started on the installation of the heating system this winter. Other work will have to wait until the house is vacated.

FAIRVIEW COTTAGE (Formerly occupied by the Kesslers)

The possibility of installing a bathroom, or at least a toilet and lavatory, on the second floor of Fairview Cottage should be considered. This would mean a slight change in the roof to make room for such installation.

The possibility of raising the entire roof to make the second floor more livable should also be considered.

It is not practical to make a decision on these matters until we know the requirements of the future tenants.