

November 29th, 1923.

Dr. John S. Bates,  
Bathurst Company, Limited,  
Bathurst, N. B.

Dear Dr. Bates:-

Dr. R. F. Ruttan has written to me with reference to his conversation with you last Saturday regarding the possibility of getting a building presented to the University for the joint use of the Forest Products Laboratories and the Department of Chemistry. Dr. Ruttan has also given me a copy of your letter of November 1st last addressed to him.

I do not think that any good purpose would be served by approaching the Government before we could give them an assurance that a suitable building would be provided. As the matter stands with them they have promised us that the Forest Products Laboratories will not be removed from Montreal if suitable accommodation is provided here. The Minister has written to me that he would prefer that the work of the Laboratories be continued here. I feel that you can safely give Sir William Price the assurance that as far as the Government is concerned they would continue to spend on the work the amount they now provide.

On our part we would set aside the Eddy bequest for the purpose of establishing a research professorship in Chemistry and would secure a man specially qualified to deal with the problems of wood chemistry. On the part of both the Government and the University the assurance could be given that facilities would at all times be available for research work by any of the staff of the pulp and paper industry. I am quite sure no objection would be raised to members of such staff using the  
Laboratories