APPENDIX A

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of Biochemistry

February 20, 1958

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: WARF - U. W. Relations on Patent Matters

WARF has advertised* for years, officially and unofficially, that there are no strings attached to the monies it gives to the University, and that no control is exercised by it on how, where, when and by whom the money is used - as long as it is for the advancement of science. (See WARF's charter, Palmer reports.)

The University, in turn, has advertised equally long that its scientists are free to patent inventions stemming from funds given by WARF. The faculty is free to assign to WARF or to anyone else or not to assign at all. This is as it should be. (See various University documents.)

It appears to me that the advertising done independently by both parties has essentially achieved the objective inherent in their respective charters. Why change the formula?

The margin between trying to educate and solicit on patentable discoveries can be paper-thin. The margin between counseling and soliciting on patentable discoveries is equally thin.

Any official brochure by WARF and/or the University on patent matters designed to augment assignments by the faculty would, in my opinion, be vulnerable - and subject to misinterpretation. WARF should not go beyond factual news releases on what is being done with discoveries taken to it for patent development. (See Capital Times, December 14 and 16, 1957.)

It is not the province of WARF to attempt, officially, to educate the faculty

*Webster's Collegiate Dictionary 3rd edition (1929) on page 17 indicates that the word advertise is from F. and L. advertere - to turn to - and gives the following meanings:

1. To notify: hence, to warn: as, he was advertised of his loss.
2. To make known: give public notice of: announce publicly.
   Syn. Proclaim, promulgate, publish.

on patentable matters. If a faculty member does not know that WARF exists he ought to have his head examined. To be sure WARF should try when asked to educate the University administrators, etc. on such non-existent matters as so-called "Public Service Patents" etc. But WARF should not knowingly be party to the current disease of building up the University's bureaucracy by suggesting that either a coordinator or advisor on patent matters be appointed. This would create the erroneous impression that WARF is the patent division of the University.

I do not look upon WARF as a perfect instrument to aid the University faculty on patent matters - but considering the jealousies and human frailties of small and great alike, WARF should "keep on doing what it's doing." It works.

Respectfully submitted,

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