

P.O. Box 159  
Station H

28th September, 1945.

Dear Bob,

Thank you very much for your letter of September 21st. The position for which you are sounding me out looks so attractive from many points of view that I was tempted to say yes right away. (Although for the various reasons which I am going to explain below, I have already refused several other offers.)

The situation is very complicated. Here there is a lot of work still to do in connection with the heavy water pile. There is no question of my leaving this work within a year, as, having spent so much time on the design of the pile, I must be there during the testing, and use it for Physics experiments when the testing is finished.

In conclusion, my answer is that I would be extremely interested in an offer of the type you mention, but my feeling is that I would be unable to say yes for the next ten months at least.

I am sorry that my answer to your letter is so vague, but I imagine you were expecting after all an answer of such a degree of vagueness.

I hope we will be able to play tennis sometime in the future and even bet on the result!!!

Please give my regards to your wife, all the friends of Montreal, Italy, Weisskopf (whom I met for a few minutes in Rabi's office in 1940 at Columbia), and all the people I know over there.

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. R.E. Marshak,  
P.O. Box 1663,  
Santa Fe,  
New Mexico.

P.O. Box 159,  
Station H.

December 29, 1945.

L. A. Du Bridge,  
Director, Radiation Laboratory,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, 39, Mass.

Your File No. DC-LAD-121745

Dear Dr. Du Bridge:

I thank you very much for your letter in which you offer me a position as Associate Professor at the University of Rochester. I am sorry that I did not reply before, but I have been away and the letter reached me only this week.

I have been very impressed from what you write on the future research program at Rochester and on the facilities which will be available at your laboratory. I am very seriously considering your proposal although I am not prepared to decide now because I have several other offers. I would certainly be pleased to make a trip to Cambridge or to Rochester in order to discuss your proposal. Unfortunately I am tied up with some work which cannot be postponed at the Chalk River Laboratory (the Canadian Site of the heavy water pile) at least until the 10th of January. Since I understand that you will be back in Rochester about February 15th, I wonder if it would not be too late for me to visit Rochester in the last fortnight of February. If this date is too late, I might come to Cambridge around the 10th of January if this is convenient to you.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

B. Pontecorvo.

BP:EM

P. O. BOX 1663  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

September 21, 1945

Dr. Bruno Pontecorvo  
Montreal Laboratory  
P. O. Box 159, Station H  
Montreal, Canada

*Probs*

Dear Bruno:

Now that the war is over, many of us are making plans to return to academic life and to the leisure of pure research which is always so pleasant. I do not know what your future plans are but I should like to sound you out on how seriously you would consider accepting a professorial position at the University of Rochester.

The situation at Rochester is as follows: about a week ago the Trustees of the University of Rochester voted more than half million dollars for added physics building and equipment and tripled the pre-war departmental budget on condition that Lee A. DuBridge come back as chairman of the Physics Department. DuBridge has done some good experimental work and during the war was Director of the Radar Laboratory at M.I.T. which employed many thousands of scientists. Several days ago DuBridge definitely decided to return to Rochester and the physics department is now ready to add many good people to its staff and to become one of the leading research centers in the United States.

It seems to Weisskopf and myself--I guess you know who Weisskopf is; he is a colleague of mine at Rochester--that you would be an ideal experimental physicist to have at Rochester. You would almost certainly get all the equipment for research you need (the sum mentioned above is only a beginning since DuBridge has good contact with private and governmental sources of money and will bring a great deal more). If you wished to continue doing occasional work on the heavy water pile, I believe you could do so and the proximity of Rochester to Montreal and to the Ottawa River would be a great advantage. Moreover, if you accepted a job at Rochester, I am pretty sure you would not have to quit your present job until September 1946.

These are, of course, personal opinions and do not constitute an official offer which would have to come from DuBridge anyway. However, the point is that I think it would be fine if you could be induced to return to University life and in particular to the University of Rochester. Weisskopf too, has a high regard for you, and while he has just been offered a very attractive position at M.I.T., he would consider staying if you and others like you could be persuaded to come to Rochester. Since Weisskopf has to make a decision within two weeks, I would appreciate hearing from you before October 1st and having from you an expression of interest or lack of interest in a Rochester position. I am not asking you to make any commitments--which obviously cannot be made by you in view of the preliminary character of this inquiry--but I think it would be awfully nice if you would give me some inkling as to the seriousness with which you would consider an offer from Rochester. The information you send me will help Weisskopf make up his mind and if your reply is favorable, we shall immediately take steps to get an official offer for you.

With cordial best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Bob Marshak*

R. E. Marshak

REM:jsh

GBR/0014/PNVO - Churchill Archives Centre

19.XI.45

Caro Bruno,

non ho mai avuto risposta alla mia della  
fine di ottobre <sup>(25)</sup> in cui ti parlavo delle possi-  
bilità di Berkeley.

Nel frattempo Lawrence mi ha doman-  
dato informazioni sul tuo <sup>avuto</sup> e io na-  
turalmente ti ho raccomandato molto cal-  
damente.

Si sentono rumors in giro che tu abbia  
varie offerte. Io desidererei molto sapere,  
per mio uso personale, come stanno le cose.  
Se sei interessato a Berkeley, che paga e  
rank vuoi (Radiation Lab.) ecc. ecc.

Non capisco perché non hai risposto  
alla mia precedente e ti prego di  
farmi sapere qualcosa subito.

Io naturalmente sarei felicissimo che  
tu venissi a Berkeley e sossopra pronto a  
lavorare in quella direzione, ma pri-  
z

ma vorrei sapere che ne pensi tu.

Affettuosi saluti tuo

Enrico Segre.

GBR/0014/PNVO - Churchill Archives Centre

RADIATION LABORATORY  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

OPERATING UNDER THE SUPERVISION  
OF THE  
NATIONAL DEFENSE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

December 17, 1945

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
DO-LAD-121745  
REPLYING TO YOUR REFERENCE:

Dr. Bruno Pontecorvo  
Montreal Laboratories  
Montreal, Canada

Dear Dr. Pontecorvo:

I think Dr. Marshak has talked with you from time to time about the University of Rochester. He has strongly urged, as others have, that if a vacancy should arise there, we should attempt to persuade you to join the staff of the Physics Department.

We now have such a vacancy, and I am happy to ask you if you would consider accepting a position as Associate Professor at a salary of \$6,000 per year, beginning any time at your convenience or availability between now and September, 1946.

We expect to have a very excellent, though not enormously large, program in research in physics at the University of Rochester. We expect to have three good theoretical men on the staff and five or six experimental men. We already have a small cyclotron in operation, and are planning the purchase or building of at least one more major piece of equipment yet to be decided upon. Because of the extensive interest in nuclear physics, both at the University and at the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, and at the University of Rochester Medical School, we have hopes that we may be able to secure, either in Rochester or in that area, a uranium neutron reactor as soon as they become available. We are now seriously considering either purchasing from the General Electric Company or building a 100-mev betatron or at least some device for studying the very high energy field. We are adding a new wing to our physics building to give us more space for research, and our budget for the Physics Department has been set at nearly three times its pre-war level. We are only 90 miles from Cornell University, where Drs. Bethe and Bacher, plus a strong group of younger men, are located. We are making plans for intimate collaboration with the Cornell group. We will also have collaboration with the Eastman Kodak Company, the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, the Stromberg-Carlson Company, and other industrial laboratories in the Rochester area who have interests in various branches of physics.

Dr. Marshak has agreed to write to you, telling you a little more about the Department, and I would, of course, be glad to furnish any additional information you would like.

I would be particularly pleased if you could make a trip to Cambridge at our expense in the near future to discuss this whole program with me. Alternatively, we might arrange to meet in Rochester sometime during the next two or three weeks so that you can see at first hand what kind of a place it is.

RADIATION LABORATORY

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SHEET NO. - 2 - to Dr. Bruno Pontecorvo

December 17, 1945

I very much hope that you will give serious consideration to this proposal, and I should like to hear from you at your early convenience as to whether you would be interested in coming to Rochester. All the members of our Department are very anxious to have you join us, and we would certainly be happy to welcome you as a member of a very congenial group.

I plan to remain in Cambridge until about January 15, 1946. I am then going to take a four weeks' vacation in Florida and return to Rochester permanently about February 15.

Hoping to hear from you favorably, I am

Sincerely yours,

*V. A. DuBridge*  
V. A. DuBridge,  
Director

LAD/emv

GBR/0014/PNVO - Churchill Archives Centre

TRATHMORE BOND

RAG CONTENTS A.