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President Evan R. Collins

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A bid opening was conducted yesterday on the Atmospheric Science Research Laboratory on top of Whiteface Mountain. No bids were received. Consequently, no contract is in effect.

Conversations with the architect, Barker and Henry of Glens Falls, and with representatives of the Construction Fund indicate that there had been some interest shown on the part of two or three people. The common objection seemed to be the difficult location at the pinnacle for construction purposes.

One Company, Peru Associates, near Plattsburg, are known to have computed a submission but did not submit it. We suspect that their reason for non-submission was the fact that they also bid for a larger job at the Gore Mountain Ski Center earlier that day and were apparent low bidder. It is likely that they felt they could not do justice to the two jobs. This, however, will be verified by informal discussions with the firm.

Although this unfortunate development will probably preclude any construction this summer, we will be taking steps immediately to forward the project. First step will be to have the architect conduct informal discussions with all persons who signified any interest (and there were several), to determine what changes will have to be made in the contract provisions to make this a practical contract on which they will bid. After these features are determined, a discussion will be held, including Mr. Stevens of the Central Office, and we will take it from there. If all of the paper work can be accomplished this summer and a successful bidder nominated by Fall, he can be already to make an early start next Spring.

WMT

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