

May 26, 1955.

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Mr. Buckminster Fuller,
6 Burns,
Forest Hills, Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Fuller:

I have completed reading with considerable interest a reprint from American Fabrics, Spring 1953 issue, the article entitled "The Dymaxion World of Buckminster Fuller". For some time we have been considering a new stadium for our Brooklyn Dodgers. More immediate is the problem of building one for our St. Paul club in Minnesota. My experience in operating a number of typical but antiquated stadia has convinced me that we lose a great deal of money each year because of inclement weather and for some time I have been talking about building a new stadium that, among other things, would have a dome over it of a translucent material. I appreciate that this could be done also with thin shell concrete. I believe that psychologically the material should be translucent. The average baseball park is used but 65 days a year. Closed-over it could be used, of course, many more times and for a variety of events.

The dome would possibly have to be tipped off a horizontal axis so that the maximum height was over home plate. The diameter would probably be 600 feet. Such a dome would permit a more satisfactory lighting effect for night games than we now enjoy from the traditional towers in that light fixtures could be placed more strategically. We also plan inverse hanging boxes instead of the usual upper tier and a dome structure would make this quite possible.

During this week I spoke to representatives of Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp. having in mind that some work might have been done with their rigid corrugated product. I was hoping that such a material would not have to be supported with too great a mass of structural members. I was also concerned as to the practicability of erecting the dome without costly interior scaffolding. I had hoped that panels framed with bevelled aluminum attached to each other could be erected and remain in place like a tile dome but I am afraid my house of cards idea is too amateurish because of weight and other factors.



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Baseball companies unfortunately, do not have the resources of the large industrial companies. Price would become an extremely important item. A dome such as I have in mind would have to be within the resources of a baseball company, say \$1,000,000. I believe this would open up a new horizon for baseball.

I am not interested in just building another baseball park.

Sincerely,

Walter F. O'Malley,
President.

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