



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TWIN CITIES

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COPIES - EPSTEIN

February 4, 1982

Frederick H. Epstein, M.D.  
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SWITZERLAND

Dear Fred:

Thanks for your good letter. I am not sure whether I have sent you a note that, due to the ravages of Reaganomics, I am staying on duty here and cancelling all travel including Erice. I am sure I've forever alienated Jan Kellerman as this is the second or third backing out of something he is responsible for. It can't be helped. I've also cancelled my mini-sabbatical for March and April to get on with the important work of the Lab and keeping our institution afloat here at the School. The State's billion-dollar deficit, plus the cutbacks and changed climate at NIH are hitting us this year, and I have over 400 "mouths to feed."

You misread the time of our merger with Epidemiology. That is only to take place in July, 1983, with the retirement of Len Schuman, and I will be the chairman.

I would be most grateful to have copies of your two manuscripts in press on primary prevention and the cancer review. They would surely be helpful for my present role chairing an advisory group to the Preventive Cardiology Branch. Many thanks.

I do appreciate your support. I am going through a period which it seems to me Jerry Stamler went through some time back in which many are saying Blackburn is an "evangelist" and has abandoned science. I remember some ten years ago that people said that sort of thing about Jerry but by dint of good work and sound judgment he seems to be in the highest scientific circles now. But between such attacks as in the enclosed by Mann and others from Carl Seltzer and Peter Kwiterovic, etc., my activities in prevention seem to have antaogized people's sensibilities.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.  
Professor and Director

HB/jml

Enclosure

HEALTH SCIENCES

ENC: DIED-HEART CONTROVERSY, LETTER TO EDITORS BY GEO. MANN, CARDIO-VASCULAR REVIEWS: HOSPITALS, VOL. 3, #1, 1982

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Zürich, 26 January 1982

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Dear Henry,

Many thanks for your personal words on your "New Year" card. Doris and I hope and wish you that 1982 may be a good year for Nelly and you. It would be enjoyable to see you both at the seminar in Erice. I am rather concerned about my contribution there, - I chose difficult subjects. I know that you'll help me there!

It sounds exciting that you have merged with the Department of Epidemiology. I assume that you are the new chairman. Whatever it is, you'll have an even bigger job. Having done as superbly as you did since taking over "The Lab", there is no doubt about the encouraging future of the newly constituted department ...

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your admirable review of Roy Dawber's book. We have talked about it already. I still think that Roy's view of the MLF is not justified; it has many important and useful attributes.

I was amazed about the news of Felix' divorce. These things are always sad, even if they bring relief from an unbearable burden. You will remember that we were almost next-door neighbours in Ann Arbor, with one house in between. One day, someone must sing Felix' praise. He mad Framingham what it became and he was the father of the "Pooling Project", apart from much else he did for the cause.

I've been busy as usual but I won't enumerate this, that and the other thing, except for two manuscripts which concerned me very much. One is on "Primary Prevention" for the new Denolin-Swan-Pisa book, the other for Atherosclerosis Reviews on Cholesterol, cancer, diet and all that. I tried to take as clear and straight a line as possible. Incidentally, I've only just now seen your chapter in John Last's book, - it really has the golden touch (I seem to be incapable of saying anything critical about anything you do or write ...).

Keep well and all good wishes from house to house, as always,

HC.

CONYERS-EDSTEIN

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