

CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLICATION

May 30, 1975

Orlin E. Johnson, Publisher
Medical Counterpoint
3 Far Hills Mall
Far Hills, New Jersey 07931

Dear Sir:

I have no desire to undertake correspondence with Dr. Oster on any subject, least of all on his hostile, unprofessional and contemptuous public utterances in regard to myself and my views in your publication. I do question the appropriateness as a publisher, of your forwarding on to him my letter to the editors for his reply.

My point in the letter addressed incorrectly to Dr. Altschule was that a certain minimum standard of editorial constraint, scientific criticism, and simple taste had perhaps not been exercised in publishing the letter of Dr. Oster's directed at me. It was his out-of-the-blue, gratuitous and vicious maunderings with no prior relation to statements by me in your publication. I still feel this is so.

Because my point did not seem to get across, I should let you know now that I will very carefully consider, in the future, with legal help, the nature and detail of Dr. Oster's or others' unseemly and defamatory language in any public statements he or you make in my regard.

Sincerely,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

HB/kn

*signed
& sent*

MEDICAL
Counterpoint

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(201) 234-1300

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MAY 22 1975

LAB OF PHYSIOLOGICAL
HYGIENE

May 20, 1975

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Concep*

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
University of Minnesota
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
School of Public Health
Stadium Gate 27
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Dr. Blackburn:

Dr. Altschule is no longer editor-in-chief of Medical Counterpoint and has not been since December 1973. Therefore, he is not responsible for any articles which appeared in the journal during 1974. As publisher, I assume full responsibility for the articles which appear.

Dr. Oster has written a number of articles for Medical Counterpoint and he is quite concerned about the current treatments and therapies which are often prescribed for patients who have heart conditions. He also is vitally concerned about the matters of diet and nutrition, having been involved in both of these fields for many years as a practicing physician and as a researcher. Occasionally, he might use terminology which is somewhat strong, but he is highly regarded by a number of people who believe as he does in regard to matters of diet and the use of that diet in the treatment of heart conditions.

I regret that you feel as you do about Dr. Oster's comments and I shall refer them to him for such remarks as he might wish to make to you on the matter.

Very truly yours,



Orlin E. Johnson
Publisher

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