

October 17, 1966

Richard Nielsen
Breck School
4200 West River Road
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Nielsen:

The Sciences subscription was given not primarily for your enlightenment, though I find it useful myself, but for the topical, popular and short treatment of scientific topics for the students.

The Executive Board of the Minnesota Heart Association voted last week to sponsor a Minnesota-wide Science Fair Contest. You will hear about it soon, and the inducement for any good student is considerable.

I would like to suggest an exercise which should be useful in applying science and engineering principles to a biological problem. You might want to throw it out to a good class.
Develop The Specifications for a completely artificial heart.

The principles of a pump, cycle, stroke and displacement, power supply, etc. make a fascinating problem if the unit is to be compatible, in performance, size, ruggedness, and durability, with function a human heart. It should be implantable in the chest, and the power supply should thus last at least several years.

Regards,

Henry Blackburn, M. D.

HB/ljs
cc