January 29, 1956

Leanard W. Ritzmann, M.D. Chief, Bepartment of Medicine VA Hospital Portland, Oregon

Dear Doctor Ritzmann:

The possibility of a position on your service has precipitated decisions here with a resultant offer from Ancel Keys' Laboratory which it is difficult to reject. It appears probable that I will remain here, and thus must withdraw candidature for the Portland position.

I am most appreciative that you have kept me in mind in plans for expansion of your department. I hope to visit your center in future travels and look forward to seeing you again. An acquaintance here, Dr. H. Proud who was a surgery resident at Portland VA has painted a most attractive picture of the professional and social atmosphere there.

I am taking the liberty of telling several young cardiologists completing training in this area of a possible opening in Portland and you will hear from me or them whether their interest materializes.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry W. Blackburn, Jr. M.D.