

October 7, 1975

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Dear Jerry:

I am grateful for your sending me a copy of the CPEP summary paper. My first reaction is that it is highly readable and personal in style, and that it should be in Circulation, not in some obscure Spanish publication. I have very few comments or suggestions concerning the text. Obviously if you had a formal methods and materials section (as a Circulation format would require), you could explain some of the things that are left open in this conversational type presentation. The most glaring problem in understanding is whether the individuals beyond the sixth year are any sort of random subsample or just a gradual petering out of interest, in which case the results in the respondents could hardly be considered representative when you get down to 52 or 85 cases.

The other question is that you have purposely concentrated on eating habits and yet the title suggests that you're going to consider overall changes. The absence of information on blood pressure, smoking, etc. is thus a little glaring and maybe a line of explanation could be inserted. Perhaps the thing one misses the most is that you don't tell anything about how you did it, and that, of course, is the big question!

At any rate, it is marvelous to see how you are getting your data out which is very intriguing and useful for us all.

I have become the principal external adviser to the Stanford Heart Disease Prevention Project and must say that I am more excited by this approach than I am the CPEP, MRFIT approach. I recognize that social plus personal changes are required, and that one interacts with the other. But I am beginning to turn over in my mind whether Minnesota might not be a superb laboratory for pursuing things in the total community line, and in which our original contribution² modifying the food supply and food choices available. Conversations are going on with

Dr. Stamler (cont.)

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Humphrey, Mondale and Borlaug on another matter related to Minnesota's future role in nutrition and world health. Sometime in the next year I have to decide whether we should take this big step and whether we have the force and resources to do so. Needless to say, I would look forward very much to discussing these ideas and opportunities with you.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director

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