

June 30, 1977

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Dear Jerry:

I've enjoyed reading your Copenhagen manuscript in which you discuss changes in eating patterns. I still feel uncomfortable in this area and don't think I am liable to get involved with discussions of these trends in relation to current nutrition and health. I am sure that the data are helpful as trends, but use of the food available for consumption figures in pounds (we all know that the carcass weight has little to do with finished weight or with cooked portion weight) and conversion therefrom to proportionate calories for use in the Keys equation are extrapolations that I do not feel comfortable about.

I have just spent a period of time in conversation with the Head of the Minnesota Beef and Livestock Society. He says that the soaring corn production and surpluses along with the fall in corn price virtually insures an improvement in his feedlot operation and a considerable increase in the fat of beef for this year's market. I thought you would like to know.

I hope you will send your thoughts by proxy or directly for the August Executive Committee Meeting of MRFIT.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

EB:lmb