

*Italy Singapore*

October 2, 1972

MEMO TO: Henry L. Taylor

FROM: Henry Blackburn

The October 19 Hennepin County Medical Society meeting is cancelled and there is no need to hurry back for that.

Stan and Reuben fired Joanne Levin and I am thinking of hiring her. Stan is something else. I thought we were all supposed to get less uptight as we got older!

We had a good regional meeting of HDFUP here with John Napier in charge. Our center and our pre-trial was the star performance.

I will have Dave Fischer from Utah (works with CDP and RMP, trained with Tyroler) here on 22-23 October. He would be in line for Prineas job if Prineas doesn't come and I may try to get him here anyway. Our offer to Prineas helped precipitate government funds for a Hypertension Trial for him to head in Australia!

I hope you can arrange to have the "ancillary study" measurements made on CVD men and we will hold off the letter to them until your return. I hope you will write the new grant application on CVD before January 1 activities, along with finishing off the PA study monograph. I will stay on top of the trials to keep you somewhat freer for that.

In fact, if Ron or another epidemiologist comes I think I can see your being freed enough from direct trial operations to pursue our physiological interests in the ancillary study and in the lab. We run a real risk to lose our top lab-nutrition competence as Joe, Paco and Ancel's research efforts decline there and because of the first priority need for an M.D.-epidemiologist position to help us out. I don't want us to slip also in the physiological area where we still have good standing for support and are making useful contributions. I hope you will think hard about this. I know you have resisted the idea in the past.

We nursed Al Dawson through the grant application and it is fairly convincing. It should be replicated for NIH submission. It was interesting to work with him. As a result, I can't go along entirely with your leaving your grad students in such total freedom and isolation to pursue their projects. He doesn't know anybody, can't discuss civilly with people, and has not given much thought to the meaning of what he's doing, or any thought to his future career. Instead of trying to work in with Baeaner, which would be a more logical position than with us, he seeks his advice but doesn't follow it and is brash



Henry L. Taylor

October 2, 1972--Page 2

to the point of insulting in discussions with him. I am permitting myself, hoping you won't be upset, to point out some realities to him. He takes them well.

There has been a setback on the Prevention Centers. They will not be 10 separate centers, but will go into the 15 heart centers, with specific earmarked funds. This reduces our chances but doesn't defeat them. Tobian and Frantz are sold on a joint effort.

Did I tell you Sobel declined? He's a candidate for Connor's job.

We host the CDP data committee at Lowell Inn October 16-17; in case you are coming back by then, you are welcome on the 16th when natural history data are being discussed.

Hope you are enjoying Italian Fall. Here it is cool and pleasant. I begin to be optimistic about the Lab as I see the likelihood of getting good help and support.

HB/rs