



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
HOSPITAL
-----Sam Jackson Park-----
Portland 7, Oregon

December 13, 1955

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5077-10EB-P/mH

Henry W. Blackburn, Jr., M.D.
Ancker Hospital
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Blackburn:

Are you still interested in finding a position in the Northwest? It is possible that we may be adding another person to our staff in the near future. Recently, Dr. Wirtschafter, the Chief of Medicine, has been ill so that, at the present time, I am the Acting Chief of Medicine. We are contemplating adding two physicians to our full-time medical staff, probably one would be in Cardiology. Although our plans are now only in the making, we are thinking of establishing a cardio-respiratory laboratory. For that reason, another man in Cardiology should probably also be trained in the use of cardiac catheterization or other methods involved in cardio-respiratory investigation.

I am writing you at this time so that if you are still interested in applying for a position here, we would like to have more specific details about you, so that as our plans develop, we could have all the necessary data concerning you. Of course, we are greatly interested in your special qualifications so far as special training and interest in some form of research is concerned. You can obtain the necessary forms from your VA Hospital in case you are interested.

Perhaps you already know that Dr. Sowell was unable to begin his residency here because the service called him to duty. We hope to see him at the time he finishes his obligation.

Everything else here is doing well. We are anticipating a slight shortage in residents for the next year. If you by chance have someone at residence level who also wishes to come to the Northwest, we would appreciate their application too. As a matter of fact, two of our senior residents are leaving this coming January, so that we would even have positions open now, should you know of someone coming out of the Army and who is interested in residency training.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Very sincerely yours,

LEONARD W. RITZMANN, M. D.
Acting Chief, Medical Service

LWR/mmH