Corres - Nelson, Kennad

Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health

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Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
School of Public Health
University of Minnesota
Stadium Gate 27
611 Beacon Street, S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Henry:

I really enjoyed your lecture, the music and the dinner in Atlanta last week. I think yours was the best Langmuir Lecture I have heard and I have only missed two in the past 12-15 years or so. The careful studies of the interactional distribution of cardiovascular diseases and risk factors are of tremendous interest and importance in understanding mass diseases, such as coronary heart disease. You really did a beautiful job of presenting these important data and of the more recent results of the application of this knowledge in the United States.

After I left CDC, I went to a meeting at NIH in Bethesda. One evening I went to Charlie Byrd's Place in Washington and heard a very good concert with his group which included Red Norvo on vibes, Tal Farlow on guitar and Bud Shank on Saxophone. I ran into a fellow who works at the Kennan Institute for Russian Studies at the Smithsonian Institute. He suggested two names of people to contact who might have suggestions about getting together a jazz group while you are in Moscow in June. One is Fred Starr from Tulane University, who I guess has just written a book about jazz in the Soviet Union. The other is Willis Connover from the Voice of America. I suspect you may have already contacted these people, but thought I would pass the information along just in case it might be helpful. I believe my wife's father mentioned that it was Rimsky-Korsahoff's grandson who was a very active jazz musician in Moscow when my father-in-law was on a trip to Moscow for a physics meeting.

I heard your comment on the Prairie Home Companion last week about the Norwegian bachelor farmers being in good condition from jogging behind their horses. I couldn't help but remembering the slide you showed of the wisey Korelian Finnish farmer when I heard that. As I mentioned, we are planning to visit the Garrison Keillor Show on Saturday, May 1, for our 20th Anniversary.

I have enclosed a check from the EIS Alumni Association, which is half of your honorarium for the Langmuir Lecture. The other half of your honorarium will be sent to you from the Sigma Zi Chapter of CDC. Your other expenses; travel, hotel, per diem, etc. will be covered by CDC. Please send your itemized expenses and receipts for these expenses to Phil Brachman at CDC.

Thanks again for a thoroughly delightful afternoon and evening last week. I hope to see you again soon.

Best regards,

Kenrad E. Nelson, M.D. Professor and President EIS Alumni Association

KEN:map Enclosure