

*per R
for SCS book letters -*

84060 Pioppi SA

Italy

1 November 1995

Professor Henry Blackburn MD
Division of Epidemiology, University of Minnesota
1300 South Second Street
Suite 300
Minneapolis MN 55454-1015

Dear Henry,

Thank you very much for your book on the "great and good times" - and also for your monumental contribution to their becoming so great and good.

The authentic pages of your diary bring us back to look with young eyes at a world much younger than today. The gallery of actors on the scene ~~some~~ presents their personalities and very essential contributions to the drama. Your sample exchange of letters involved in the coordination of the effort leads the reader also behind the scene, to the realities of the continuous fight for perfection in the very imperfect universe of communications. Nevertheless, we did it, and managed to leave a somewhat orderly playground for a generation of followers, to redo, modify and develop bits and pieces of it. Your chapter 9 sums up in a masterly way what the Seven Countries Study achieved in the realms of science as well as in the public health. Prevention of chronic diseases received a solid model to build upon.

Since a month I am in Pioppi, rehabilitating myself after a second angioplast in August by Juhani Heikkilä in Helsinki - he, too, a Seven Countries veteran!. So far my progress has been satisfactory. December and January we intend to spend in Helsinki.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Martti J. Karvonen MD, PhD