

Copy to Bill Starbuck

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



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Division of Nutrition • School of Medicine • Station 17

December 16, 1966

Dr. Henry L. Taylor
University of Minnesota
School of Public Health
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
Stadium Gate 27
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Henry:

I have mixed feelings about what I learned at your meeting in Chicago on Tuesday. This may all have been blighted a little by an interminable delay by Eastern Airlines which didn't get me home until noon on Wednesday. With a little more fitness I think I might have hiked it faster.

I am a little bit disillusioned to see your preoccupation with sociologists and the mechanics of sampling and response. I had hoped that you would be able to tell us a little more about physical regimens and the response of men to it. One of the major problems in recruitment is our ignorance about knowing what to tell men they can reasonably expect from this kind of an enterprise. I am quite sure that this field has been confused and delayed by the undocumented opinions of physical educators who tend to be more a cult than a clan of scientists.

My other reaction may surprise you. I view Sam Fox's role in this as kind of an overall manager and coordinator of research. It will be of considerable interest to see whether an administrator in the Federal Government can effectively carry on research in private institutions.

I assume from reading the ditto manuscript by your business administrator, Mr. C. S. Plank, that I should return my expense account to him. I think any university who has a business man with that name is to be commended. Accordingly, I send that directly to him.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

George V. Mann, M. D.
Career Research Professor

December 20, 1966

Dr. George V. Mann
Career Research Professor
Vanderbilt University
Division of Nutrition
School of Medicine
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear George:

The meeting on December 13, was the first occasion that psycho-social problems and approaches have been discussed in detail. Fox has a problem in trying to run a research oriented shop in an organization loaded with upper echelon personnel oriented to classical public health administration who understand "communications", "health education", etc., better than they do some other things. Heinzelmann then, this is my view, represents a bridge to the old guard.

You have sized up Sam's image of what he ought to be doing pretty well. He has too much enthusiasm for the physical educators as a group for his own good and has made the mistake of taking a rather evangelistic attitude when given a chance to speak at scientific meetings. But he is a man of good will and is really putting his back into the job. I hope he survives the counter attack which is going to come from within the Bureau.

Another two years of support for the committee is under review at N. I. H. and if the group is funded, I hope we can continue to exchange information as I believe that the active investigators in the field should keep in touch with one another.

Yours very truly,

Henry L. Taylor

HT/jea