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September 11, 1974

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

Dear Henry:

I am very grateful to you for the reprint from "Progress in Cardiology". I have read it carefully and feel that your points of view have been carefully made. It should prove to be of value to many of us with an interest in CND epidemiology - especially in regard to dietary factors. It gains focus by your reference to the "pragmatic" and the "academic".

You probably are correct in indicating that AHA committees (including the Nutrition Committee) tend toward the "academic". However, the positions you reach in your evaluations of the effects of saturated fat, cholesterol and polyunsaturates are not at large variance with that of the committee or most of its members. A new ad hoc committee is currently dealing with dietary recommendations for the young in the U.S. My hope is that it will involve somewhat more of pragmatism than some earlier reports. For this purpose it would be helpful to have other copies of your paper to distribute to this committee. Could you provide me with an additional five or ten copies? If not, could I have your permission to distribute it in copies prepared here in my office?

Again my thanks to you for expressing your opinions so clearly and sending me the reprint.

Very sincerely,

Robert E. Shank, M. D.

Dictated but not read.