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FILE I. S. C. Research Committee
10-DAY SEMINARS

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH • LABORATORY OF PHYSIOLOGICAL HYGIENE
STADIUM GATE 27 • MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

April 6, 1965

MEMO

To: Dr. Keys
From: Henry Blackburn
Subject: Field Training Programs

There is a great need for field training programs in cardiovascular epidemiology. The London School of Hygiene is the notable exception to a general lack of training facilities in the mechanics of carrying out a cardiovascular epidemiological study. Even in their excellent programs, the short course now discontinued, conditions are not identical to those which are obtained in the field.

It has been a common experience that advanced planning rarely accounts for all the many problems encountered in the field. Due to the tremendous effort, expense, and inconvenience of a field examination it hardly seems justified on any grounds to impose an inexperienced team on the experimental population, and it is too much to expect valid and consistent results from a team which is actually developing its techniques during the period of data collection.

Provision should be made for meetings of an international school on field methods. The need is clear, the students available and the faculty experienced. A number of members of the Research Committee of the I. S. C. and many of the guests invited to its Venice meeting of April 1965 are actually involved in population studies on cardiovascular diseases. The active interest of that Committee in forwarding this approach to cardiovascular investigation, the excellent cooperation between it and other interested groups and individual experts, and the international character of the Committee further act to produce this proposal.