

To *Scanned*
letter to M. P. P. for O.D.

December 22, 1967

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Dear Fred:

Excuse my inexcusable delay in reporting on the Central Committee Meeting, December 7. I'm still on 3 out of 4 cylinders from my Yugoslavian crud and also got in the W.H.O. book in galley proof, 2 years to the day after submitting the final manuscript!

I found the informal dinner meeting beforehand in New York City gave a few useful insights into the power structure, problems and personalities and you should plan to take it in next meeting.

The only thing requiring your fast action may be to solicit opinions from our council on the AHA structure which will be voted on at the New York City Board Meeting. I send you a copy of Dr. R. Page's approach to his committee which may help. Clearly the powers including recent, present and future Presidents are for. Scherlis speaks eloquently against interposing another administrative line. I, in ignorance, like the idea of trying it on in a couple of regions first.

I tried in my short informal report to give more the interests and flavor of the Council on Epidemiology than the official actions. I indicated our interest in methods, in risk factor interrelations, in the different manifestations of coronary disease, and the international interests of the Council of Epidemiology. I suggested we be represented on the Committee on International Program and complemented Wolf on their good work. I got an affirmatory nod, from him but didn't get to suggest you work through Wolf and think they should be ripe for it. We should be involved and informed in their program. I spoke of our interest in public and professional education on risk factors, providing guidelines for screening and programs for modifying risk, and in-personnel training programs. I invited them to Atlanta and th the Mayo Symposium.

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I am torn between duties to AHA, MHA, and the Department of Medicine here on January 12-13. I think I must cancel plans to attend the AHA Board Meeting unless there are overriding needs for it that you can see. We are just beginning to get on a good footing with Medicine here, after lean years, and are having a departmental retreat those two days. I will also have a part-time office in the department now, as associate editor of CIRCULATION for Howard Burchell who moves here soon. This must all remain quite confidential generally until he announces it, but I wanted you to know. Of course, it means I will lean on you and your contacts even more than he has done. But it is a real opportunity to work with a splendid person in a worthwhile effort.

Incidentally, I have most glowing reports from practicing cardiologists on your Hyperglycemia article. How can we get this idea most appropriately into the Mayo Program?

Best seasons wishes,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

HB/rk