

March 4, 1969

Dr. Fritz A. Freyhan
St. Vincent's Hospital
153 West 11th Street
New York, New York 10011

Dear Fritz,

It was kind of you to participate in our resident training program. The residents, as well as my staff, enjoyed your discussion very much, and I hope that we will have an opportunity to continue this type of dialogue.

With reference to your letter about the APPA, I share your feelings. In addition to the suggestions in your letter, which are important procedural changes, I think we must re-appraise the role of the members. The younger members are discouraged from submitting titles, for they some know that the programs are dictated. Our sense of participation is frustrating and the only connection between ourselves and the society is an identification with the leaders. Since these change annually, there is little time for them (or ourselves) to develop the relationship which would encourage participation. No organization has ever succeeded in maintaining its membership when it has been autocratic.

Another aspect is exposure. The present ways of advertising the program seem to be inadequate to achieve the kind of attendance that we wish. This, despite the fact that we had more than 100 requests for programs prior to the meeting. The subject was an important one, the speakers were excellent and yet, as I look back I would admit that I contributed little to a successful public presentation.

Perhaps it would be useful to meet at your convenience to discuss these ideas. My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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