

To Peckers

November 14, 1975

Leon Roizin, M.D.
Chairman, Organizing Committee
1st International Symposium on Neurotoxicology
N.Y.S. Psychiatric Institute
722 West 168th Street
New York, N. Y. 10032

Dear Dr. Roizin,

It is indeed an honor to have your invitation to participate in the International Symposium on Neurotoxicology.

Since the beneficial effects of most psychoactive substances depend on the effects that these substances have on brain function, it is difficult for me, as a scientist who has endeavored to identify the CNS effects of these compounds because I believe the effects to be therapeutic, to invert my findings and view them as "toxicology." Indeed, to review these findings as neurotoxicology would be very difficult. I am reminded of the pharmacologic adage that one man's poison may be another man's medicine.

I thank you for the invitation but regret that such an effort would be very difficult for me.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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