

March 7, 1964

Mrs. Evelyn Somer
10 Carlton Road
Great Neck, Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Evelyn:

I very much appreciate your detailed letter, which has been most helpful to my associates and me. After reading the outline of the many steps that are necessary to accomplish even the inquiry regarding a use patent, we unanimously agreed that the best course for us was to describe our observations to one of the research directors of a pharmaceutical house of our acquaintance, with the intent of interesting him and in the project and letting their legal talents accomplish the necessary steps. I am most grateful for your help, for this is one of the less complex problems which I have been called upon to solve.

This past year and a half has been an extraordinary experience for me. Daily, I have been faced by many new problems which, as the research director of a small organization never occurred. Not only are the quantitative problems different, but the qualitative nature is so different that the potentialities of both success and failure appear very much greater.

We are now involved in an inquiry with Monsanto Chemicals regarding their agreement to the continued production of some compounds that are of unique interest to us. We have been given a large sum of money (\$30,000) to undertake the initial testing of these compounds. If our guesses are correct, we wish to be assured that the company will produce adequate supplies for clinical trial. They seem reluctant to give us this agreement.

Of course, I have had all the usual problems of working with contractors and their failure to deliver on time; the hiring and firing of new employees, running the gamut from professional

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scientists to animal handlers; and all the vicissitudes of budgets, funds, relations with the community, and all the complex installations of a private university and a public facility. It has been a facinating time, but now I find that I am becoming increasingly more interested in the actual research programs. I hope that as the months go on, the administrative burdens become less.

Everyone's adjustment seems to be very good, and yet there are times when we miss our friends in the East. I am planning to take Martha to Europe in late August and am encouraging her now to plan to be at her mother's home during the month of July. This will give her and the children an opportunity to attend the World's Fair. I can think of nothing more horrendous, but Jonathan and the girls are most enthusiastic. And so, I am encouraging her to spend a few weeks in the East, before joining me in Europe.

Again my thanks for your help, and I look forward to visiting with you and Rudy this summer.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Director

MF/jb