

May 27, 1965

Harry Neubauer, M. D.
3 Aisgill Drive, West Denton
New Castle, Tyne England

Dear Harry:

I trust you are actively enjoying your work in Newcastle. As I have not heard otherwise, I assume you are still preparing the thesis for your doctorate, in addition to developing your new programs.

I am writing today with a sense of disappointment after reading your report "Ditran and its Antagonists in a Mixed Psychiatric Population." Disappointment, not with the text which is interesting, but with the discourtesy which you and Dr. Gershon have volitionally exhibited. One discourtesy has already been corrected, for I have written to Dr. Gershon expressing the disappointment of the Foundation that their support of this work was not acknowledged. In response to the Foundation's letter, he has indicated (in the copy sent to me) that the following acknowledgment will be inserted in the published text:

"We also wish to thank the Psychiatric Research Foundation of Missouri for their support."

I trust you will insert this acknowledgment in the galley proofs, and in any other reports of your work in St. Louis.

Much of the work in this program took place in the EEG laboratory utilizing the facilities and personnel supported by the USPHS grant "EEG and Human Psychopharmacology" (MH-07249). Insofar as the United States Public Health Service should be credited with their support in these studies, I am requesting that you acknowledge the support of MH-07249 in this report, even though the EEG data may be published separately.

But, there is another acknowledgment which appears to be omitted. This study was conceived and supported by Dr. Itil and myself. You know the early reports of our studies with anticholinergic drugs which provided the basis for the collaboration sought and developed by me in establishing the program on anticholinergic drugs. This collaboration was crystallized in a joint NIMH grant application with Dr. Gershon (MH-08597 — Antagonists to Anticholinergic Hallucinogens). The studies of Ditran and its antagonists, and the behavioral and EEG correlations were part of that program, and also of the project "EEG and Human Psychopharmacology."

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At this time, to publish the work as your own acknowledging only the "valued assistance of Miss Ballou" and Dr. Sundland, omitting references to myself and to Dr. Itil is a serious omission and a breach of tact and ethics.

Dr. Gershon indicated that this report has already been submitted for publication. Not to have sent a copy for my comments was also a breach of the agreement which we made before you left regarding prior review of all publications.

Integrity is a difficult spirit to maintain. Once lost, recapture is well nigh impossible. I will not detail Dr. Gershon's difficulties with his prior Chairman, for they are the same as he is having now. For you to emulate him as you are doing in the management of this report is to follow leadership which can only embarrass you in the future, as it is embarrassing you now.

Because I have faith in your integrity, I am taking this unusual expedient of writing directly to you, requesting you correct the omission of co-sponsorship of the project, while correction is still possible. I know you will provide the proper authorship acknowledgment in this report, but I also believe you should not repeat the omissions made in the procedures in the preparation and submission of this report in future reports of this work.

My best regards to Martin Roth and to Pat.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M. D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kp