

March 14, 1970

Dr. Al DiMascio  
Director of Psychopharmacology  
Boston State Hospital  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Al,

It was kind of you to recommend that I review your *Clinical Handbook of Psychopharmacology*. I find it an excellent representation of prevailing opinions, and I am confident it will serve a most useful purpose. I particularly enjoyed the section by Sy Fisher, whose principles delighted me; and the reviews by Klerman, Cole, Kornetsky, Friend and Ching-Piao.

The section by Allen Mirsky, however, of particular interest to me, is out of keeping with the rest of the volume. His emphasis on animal data in a clinical volume allows the presentation of views that are irrelevant (at the least) and incorrect for man. I know that he knows better, and I am at a loss to understand why this material is included. A copy of my comments to him are enclosed.

Since neurophysiology represents my principal identification in this volume, I hesitate to recommend the whole (since I disagree strongly with this part), lest my approval be misinterpreted.

Alas, for the rest is well worthy of support.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

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