

May 7, 1973

Professor Heinrich Klüver
Culver Hall
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Klüver,

It was most kind of you to send me a reprint of your introduction to the volume by Schultes and Hofmann. It is a delightful history, and your essay stimulated me to find the volume for my pleasure.

Since our last writing, I have devoted my time to the clinical problems of narcotic antagonists in the deconditioning of opiate drug-seeking behavior. One compound, cyclazocine, has been of special interest, because it is a most active antagonist to heroin, and yet, in its use, stimulates a variety of illusory sensations. These can be blocked by another antagonist, maloxone, and their interactions are of some interest. Unfortunately, most of our efforts have been focussed on clinical problems, on ways to affect a long term change in behavior, and not on the immediate psychological events accompanying these compounds. The study has permitted us, however, to explore the acute physiological effects of heroin and also of different forms of cannabis. It is important to realize that the drugs which are most commonly used are those whose effects on the brain are immediate and quite short-lived: the desynchronization of heroin is a matter of 2-4 minutes; the hypersynchronization of cannabis equally short.

It must be a most satisfying feeling for a teacher to realize that his students are productive, and that his ideas of been of influence, beyond the immediate perception in the classroom. My congratulations, and my thanks for your kind remembrance.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry