

December 22, 1965

Dr. James H. Margerison
Department of Clinical Neurophysiology
Whittington Hospital
Highgate Wing
Dartmouth Park Hill
London N. 19, England

Dear Jim,

It is kind of you to write and to send me your reprints. Your criticism that the studies we have published are weak because of the lack of biochemistry is something with which I completely concur. You must know that for the past three and a half years I have tried (without success) to obtain the collaboration of a clinical neurochemist.

The work with Dr. Itil and the computer facility are both functioning very well. I believe we have been more productive in the past six months than any previous period in the Institute's history. Indeed, I have delayed answering your letter because I have been away many weeks studying at other units and presenting our data at various meetings. There is much that we have learned about cholinergic mechanisms and about psychotropic drugs. I believe that changes in the electroencephalogram do reflect the changes in biochemistry and that these indices are as sensitive as the early photometers. While they were very gross, they did provide approximations which were the bases for many of the clinical ideas in medicine today. A friend of yours, Dr. Serafitinides, visited the Institute last week and presented some of his observations on temporal lobe epilepsy. He apparently has joined the institution in Oklahoma City and seemed quite pleased with his opportunity and especially that he was able to leave England.

We did miss you in Vienna and this trip was too short to permit me time to stop over in London. The meetings in Salzburg were especially good and I most enjoyed the presentations by Mme. Bechtereva, who reported on the quantification methods in the Soviet Union. These are quite good and I hope that I will have an opportunity this summer to attend the International Psychology Meetings and perhaps get to know more about their techniques.

By now you probably know that having established these laboratories I am ready to move again. I have been invited and have accepted an appointment as Professor of Psychiatry at the New York Medical College. While it will mean that I will have to work very hard to establish a third laboratory, I believe that I can do so in much less time and with my present experiences, with much less travail.

Dr. Margerison

-2-

December 22, 1965

Martha joins me in sending you and Sheila our best regards and our wishes for a Very Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kp