

July 30, 1965

Mr. Marc P. Marthaler
Information Scientist
12, rue de la Dole
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Marc:

I have read your progress report with ISIS as well as the list of suggested topics for future research. My associates and I are very much impressed with this report and believe that you are doing a commendable job.

The program here has taken a psychological twist and much emphasis is placed on the characteristics primarily psychological, of abstractors. The original intention of setting up a regional documentation center has been disbanded and in its stead, is a project to measure the ability of different classes of individuals to abstract scientific documents in the specialized field of psychotherapy.

These decisions have been painful to me for I believe that a documentation center using the best trained documentalists would be an asset to our community. Only after we have had extensive experience with a variety of abstractors would I be then interested in testing, perhaps, the psychological characteristics of those that do the best job. However, the Division Director has transferred the responsibilities for this program to a clinical psychologist, and that is that.

Perhaps I will be in Switzerland this fall, and if so, I would hope that I could call you and perhaps return your kindness last year and your patience during this exchange of letters.

Keep up the very fine work. My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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