

April 15, 1924.

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Dear Mrs. Denison,

I enjoyed your letter a lot. Let me hasten to say that I do not have such a gloomy idea of vacations. My appointment begins July 1, but that is a way of giving a person an allowance for moving because my salary runs from September to September here. I think that there are no stated times for vacations there but that they have them depending on the work and that I can arrange my own and I shall surely take them summers just as I have here.

I really think that it is the wise thing to do, that I can now make my best contribution by following this problem that our work here has opened up. Dr. Flexner says that less progress has been made with the anaemias and the leukemias than with any other branch and I am very keen to see what I can do. I shall miss the students but others in the department will start them off and I should not have stayed here very many years more at any rate because one's vitality for teaching certainly decreases as one gets older because it's very hard work carrying other people along. As I sit here now there are three of the students working in my room and the total group on hand is ^{seven} ~~six~~, quite a large group. Three of them were really started by Dr. Cunningham but we have taken them all over into the work on blood. We shall have to see this group thru before we leave.

In regard to special people who might be available for a grant, I know of two possibilities. Two years ago, Dr. Howell had a man in Physiology whom he considered very superior but he left to work for the General Electric Company, has special training having been in Physics. I think that he was from Denver originally. He became dissatisfied with that work and is now in the Department

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of Physiology at Harvard working to get further training to take a chair in Physiology. He is now on a grant from the National Research Council. I will find out more about him from Dr. Howell. He has recommended him already for a chair so he is nearly ready for a position.

The other person is one of my research students, a Dr. Traut, who is now taking an internship in surgery here. Dr. Traut has lots of ability for research. This year Mr. ^Bettrick of the Rockefeller Board came down here with a cancer of the face and after it had been treated with radium one of our men did a very remarkable piece of skin grafting. They realized that we do not know much about skin grafting, Dr. Halsted often talked to me about it so they began looking for a man with enough training to attack it and have spoken to Traut about working on it next year. As yet they have no grant for it but I imagine that Mr. ^Bettrick intends to put it before the Rockefeller Board. As you see both people have possible funds. All that I know about the matter of the skin grafts is that the grant has not yet been made. I will keep the thing in mind and let you know of anything especially that comes up.

To-night I am going to Buffalo for the Anatomical meetings, shall return Sunday morning and then get to work in earnest finishing up the work we have outlined for the year and helping with the papers. Dr. Cunningham is wonderful about writing the first draft of our stuff and then we all get busy polishing it up. I have written ^{one} one paper, Doan is writing _A and Dr. C. all the rest, some four or five falling to his share. I think that Dr. Flexner was pleased with our progress and we are going to send two of our papers to him for his journal.

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I worry a little bit for fear that I may not be able to keep my beloved Susan B, in other words my Franklin in New York. Its expensive keeping a car there and hard driving. I mean to try to keep it for getting out into the country on Sundays but I surely will not be able to use it as much as here. How glad I am to have had the pleasure here and have had the chance to get used to driving here. They go at a pace of 20 miles an hour in the down town district there and here about 12. I asked a taxi driver about it when I passed thru New York the other day and he said that one soon got used to the greater speed and that every one kept his breaks in awfully good shape in New York.

With much love,

Florence Sabin