

SERV. NAC. DE SALUD
HOSPITAL REGIONAL DE CONCEPCION
SERVICIO DE CIRUGIA
JEFE Dr. IGNACIO GONZALEZ G.

IGG/evo

September 11, 1954.-

Dr.
Benjamin G. Horning,
Battle Creek,
MICHIGAN.-

Dear Dr. Horning:

I have two letters from you without an answer; certainly not because I don't like to write to you, but because I have been very busy traveling to Santiago in order to secure the succes of a law whose objetive is to liberalyze our Medical studies.

As you know, we had to conform our curriculum to the one of the University of Chile Medical School in its capacity as State University.- But we have grown quite a bit since 1925 when the University Law was dictated and we actually need more liberty in order to develop our own initiatives an resources.- Actually we have a lot of freedom thanks to my very friendly relation with the people of the Medical School in Santiago, but that is friendly, not legal.

With Dr. Garretón, the dean in the University of Chile and Dr. Rencoret, the dean in the Catholic University, we have presented the House a project that is going to be of - real significanse in the progress of our medical studies.

Thank you very much for your very nice letter of July 28.- It really did a lot of good to me and to the people here that appreciate your friendship above all interest and that were rather depressed for what we considered a certain failure of our efforts to gain your considered appreciation.- I hope to come back to some points of it in a future letter.

We shall regret very much if you don't come to see us next year.- Any representative of the W.K.Kellog Foundation is very welcomed here in Cobcepcion, but are the man who has made a friend from everyone of us and we like to have you visiting us.- This year, everypeople regreted your staying in Santiago.

As I told you in a former letter, we are here

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trying to change our curriculum on the light of what I saw in my very interesting trip to the USA in 1952.- With due consideration of what we used to do and of what is our tradition, we studied last year a very complete reshape of our medical courses. Our faculty accepted gladly all the changes we proposed and in due time we hope to begin a rich harvest of betterment on our graduates.- Furthermore since last year we have completed our courses, and our students are not going to Santiago for the 6th and 7th years.

Last month Dr. Alessandri, whom you know very well, was here on a visit for week.- He had been here a few years ago.- We had a long and sincere talk and he told me that his impression was that we were ahead of the other schools in the basic sciences, being equal in the clinical field.- I could not but tell him how much we ought to the W.K.Kellog Foundation and to your personal feelings in the improvement of our basic science personnel and laboratories.

We expect with interest the visit of the representative of the foundation next summer in order to discuss with him our needs and the possibility of the continuous help from the foundation.

In your recent letter you give me very good news about our request for a grant with which to purchase some additional equipment for the Institute of Physiology and the Clinical Diagnostic laboratory in the Hospital.- This very valuable gift from the Foundation is a renewed manifestation of its cooperation with our University and an added gesture that we appreciate very deeply.- We know also, that your personal feelings and interest in our improvement has been paramount in securing the approval of the Board of Trustees.

I remember with real pleasure my two visit to the W.K.Kellog Foundation in Battle Creek, in 1946 and in 1952.- It is really easy to make friends when one meets so nice a people like you are in the Foundation.- Maybe sometime in the future I am going to be able to pay you a visit again.

Please give my best regards to Andy, Dr. Blackerby and Dr. Kinde.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Ignacio González G.

P.S.- In your letter of May 10, you announce a volume entitled "Medical Schools in the USA at Mid-Century".- I am deeply interested on it but unfortunately it has not arrived yet.