



FACULTAD DE MEDICINA

Concepcion, 27 de Mayo de 1955.

Dr.
Benjamín G. Horning. M.D.
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, Michigan.
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Horning:

It was a pity Dr. Gunther didn't follow the sound advice of your friendly letter of May 10. Unfortunately he was adamant in spite of the efforts made by many people including the Rector. Be sure that the Faculty and the University made all kind of efforts to make Dr. Gunther change his mind.

I can't guess what were his motives. The only sure thing is that the reasons he gave and the incidents that preceded his resignation don't have a proportional relation with it. As a gossip I have heard that he was very ill advised by a group of his friends; maybe he has not the balance to measure his own value and so overestimated himself, to the point of challenging the University.

Your letters of May 10 and 17 have been received. Thank you for your frankness and your interest; be sure that I welcome your frankness and that never a word from you shall be misinterpreted by us.

I have tried to persuade Dr. Middleton to come but he has a good position in Santiago. We have tried to contact some of the people who work with Dr. Houssay. Some people have suggested to me to get in contact with Dr. Rosenbluth in Mexico; he might have a Spanish refugee to recommend; as you know them better than I do I offer the idea to you...

As I told you we are going to follow your suggestions and advice: you know us very well you know better than us the panorama of the physiologist in the Americas and last but not least we know that you are as interested as ourselves in bringing to our Institute of Physiology the best man available. All our letters to other people are without commitment and only tentatives. As soon as I receive any answer from them I am going to send you a copy of it.



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I am expecting your suggestions after your talk with Dr. Weir.

Language is not a major difficulty although we would prefer a spanish speaking person. But I would like to make clear to you that I would not sacrifice quality to language; after all any intelligent man can master spanish in a short time if he is surrounded by spanish speaking people.

Fortunately we are not in a very great hurry; I mean: we have two months before the begining of clases of Physiology (August) and we can do de job this year with our people and some help from Santiago. But of course if we can have the man here from the very begining of the semester so much the better.

Maybe you are going to be asked about the salary we offer. You can talk of something between \$90,000 and \$100,000 chilean pesos a month after deductions for social security, taxes etc. It is rather difficult to say exactly to what this amount corresponds in the States but my opinion is that one can live here with a salary of \$100,000 a month better than an american of say New York City with US \$400. I say better in a conditional sense knowing that you are acquainted with the shortcomings of life out of the States for a yankee

Mary and the children send you their best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Ignacio González G.

P.S. Dr. Gunther had a double appointment as Professor of Physiology and Professor of Physiopathology. Maybe the new man would be only a Physiologist; in that case he would be the Director of the Institute in charge of the teaching of Physiology, having an associate Professor in Physiopathology.