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PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL MEDICINE
HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

June 17, 1966

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.
412 E. 47th Street, No. 26
Chicago, Illinois 60653

Dear Leonidas:

Please accept my expression of sincere personal appreciation for your outstanding contribution as a member of the faculty of the recent Postgraduate Course in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. I have heard only laudatory comments about the faculty, the material covered, and the manner in which the material was presented. Full credit for the success of this program rests with you and the other faculty members who responded so wholeheartedly and enthusiastically to the challenge.

As you probably already know, the Board of the Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy has decided to sponsor publication of a book on gastrointestinal endoscopy. I have been appointed editor-in-chief of this project. It is felt that the basic structure and organization of the book would best derive from the proceedings of the Course. It is my view that it would not be sufficient simply to collect and publish the manuscripts as they were presented in Chicago. This would amount to no more than a "publication of proceedings" which, although probably a contribution to the literature, would not be as worthwhile a product as would a definitive and integrated textbook on the subject. Each lecturer, therefore, is being requested to review and extensively re-work, if necessary, his writeup from this standpoint so as to provide a definitive and authoritative discussion of the subject assigned to him. It appears desirable, when doing this, to view the ultimate product as a solid work of reference, current to the time of publication, and enduringly basic in fundamental content. It is expected that the manuscripts will be more complete and detailed than simply transcriptions of the lectures delivered during the Course. Illustrative material should be of the highest quality; and selected key references should be annotated.

If the faculty respond to this "call to action" it is expected that some degree of interchange, merging, and fill-in writing will be required. It might also be desirable to invite outside authors to contribute additional material.

As you can readily see, this is another ambitious undertaking. Its success, as on the previous occasion, will depend in greatest measure upon your individual participation, enthusiasm and effort.

Again, it was a pleasure to work with you in connection with the Endoscopy Course. Please contact me regarding any questions or suggestions you may have regarding the book project. In any event, send your manuscript by yesterday at the very latest.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Vernon".

Vernon M. Smith, M.D.

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