

American Public  
Health Association  
65

January 4, 1965

E. L. Stebbins, M.D.  
President-elect  
American Public Health Association  
Department of Public Health  
Johns Hopkins University Medical School  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Doctor Stebbins:

Accept my congratulations on being the president-elect of the American Public Health Association. I saw this announcement with your photo in the Medical Tribune. While I have not seen you since the days at Rush, I somehow recognized your picture — and then I went to the class photograph hanging on my office wall and confirmed that you are the person who was a member of the class of 1929-30. It is very nice to know something of your outstanding career which you have had.

As president-elect of the National Medical Association, I am having several men who were with us at Rush to appear on the program of our national convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 9-14, 1965. As you may or may not know, the National Medical Association is an organization of more than 5,000 physicians, covering all of the fields of medicine, the great majority of whom are Negroes — and it has existed since 1895.

Among the men who will appear on our program are Dr. Henry Harkins, presently chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Washington — who, incidentally, had me out as guest gastroenterologist to the Department of Surgery, University of Washington, in 1963. Also, we plan to have Major General O.O. Benson, who was also a classmate and recently retired from a very brilliant career in aero-space medicine — and, of course, there will be others.

I am wondering if it would suit your fancy, or if it is possible for you to appear on our program, bringing us a talk which you may consider appropriate in the field of public health. I do not know whether you have a budget as president-elect for such trips. We have a small budget from which we could allow an honorarium to defray some expense. It would be a pleasure to me to have you with us, and to see you again. I think you could make a fine contribution in this regard. Please let me

know your thinking about this at your earliest convenience.

I trust that you had a very enjoyable holiday, and may I wish for you and family a very healthful and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.

LHB/ld