

Smith, V.

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Dear Vernon,

I am very sorry that I missed contacting you recently in Baltimore. I was there in conference with the Social Security Administration with reference to "reimbursement" and "reasonableness" with reference to implementation of the medicare law. Incidentally, I had dinner at the White House with the President, members of his cabinet and about a hundred business and professional people from around the country. This occurred just two days before he entered the hospital, and it was a grand experience.

I am happy to accept your invitation to participate on the program of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy which will be held in Chicago next spring. I believe the question of positions is still a very important technique, even with the extensive use of the fibroscope. In my PG courses I still do 80% of the teaching with the lens instrument, because in my experience it would be next to impossible to teach orientation with the fibroscope.

For sometime now I have wanted to report to the Society my experiences of 20 years in the training of gastroscopists at the Cook County Graduate School. I believe that our experiences there have been quite unique. I have given the course two or three times a year. We limit the class to four post-graduate internists, meeting four or five hours every day for two weeks. During this period we look into fifty stomach, we show slides and movies and practice orientation on the phantom stomach. My students have come from all over the United States and many parts of the world. I have completed a questionnaire from a large number of these students, as well as a smaller number whom we have treated as part of their residency training the year round at County Hospital.

If a talk of this kind instead of the positions paper, or in addition to this paper, could be arranged I would appreciate

the opportunity to present it in a short discussion. I hope your total program is moving along to your satisfaction.

Sincerest regards and best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.

LHB/ld