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January 9, 1956

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.
412 E. 47th Street
N. E. Co. S. Parkway
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Doctor Berry:

The Governing Board of The American Gastroscopic Society has met and decided that they would very much like to have a Clinical Session of gastroscopic technic demonstration combined with our anticipated meeting in June in Chicago. You will recall that you were kind enough to suggest that you could help us with providing facilities at the Cook County Hospital for such a meeting. I regret that there has been so much delay in confirming our plans in this regard but, I believe that you can understand the problems involved.

We would like very much to go ahead with these plans now and in general the thought would be that following the Scientific Session on Sunday, June 10 at which Dr. P. E. Thompson Hancock of England and Dr. John Tomenius of Sweden will speak in addition to others, we would like to have a Clinical Session at the Cook County Hospital on Monday, June 11.

For this clinical session I would like to invite Dr. Rudolph Schindler to demonstrate his technic of using general anesthesia for the performance of esophagosopic and gastroscopic examination and biopsy; Dr. John Tomenius to demonstrate his vacuum type attachment for biopsy for the flexible gastroscope and possibly Drs. Benedict and Palmer to demonstrate the Benedict instrument and vacuum tubes for biopsy respectively. In addition, Dr. Coleman Johnston of Kentucky has agreed to ship up his special rotating table for demonstration and use for gastroscopic examination.

I realize that this problem will entail a great deal of work if it is to be successfully accomplished but, I think the results should be very gratifying. I should mention that arrangements were made before writing you originally for the first day's session to be held at the Knickerbocker Hotel in Chicago and consequently, it will only be on Monday, June 11 that we would come to Cook County. However, you did mention the question of luncheon on that day and I suppose if we are not intruding too much that this would be an added feature of considerable interest. The number of speakers and exact times, I shall be glad to arrange with you if our plans are satisfactory to you. In the meantime, as soon as I hear from you, I shall write Dr. Schindler and get his final decision regarding the possibility of demonstrating this general anesthesia. Personally I would very much like to see the procedure and I shall be happy to assist in working this out in any way I can.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience because of the shortness of time in which we have to complete these arrangements.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

C. Wilmer Wirts, M.D.

*P.A. I have asked Dr. Stargaman
CWW:rj also to help with about*

CC: Donovan C. Browne, M.D.
and
Joseph B. Kirsner, M.D.