



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY

SASKATOON, CANADA

October 7, 1970.

Dr. Viktor Hamburger,
Biology Department,
Washington University,
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63130
U.S.A.

Dear VH,

We were delighted to hear from you. Yes, we are enjoying the relative peace and quiet of Canada. When we hear of the problems in Lawrence, Kansas, both at the university and in the public schools, it seems as though it is news from another world. Life goes on here much as it used to at home. The children have enjoyed their new friends and experiences - two are in special classes for the gifted. They do miss life on the farm and there is much agitation to acquire one here so that they can bring up their horses from Wyoming. We do miss the contacts that we had with so many of you in St. Louis, both in the biology department and in the medical school - one does not quickly replace old friends and colleagues.

Our schedules are very busy - the teaching loads are heavy. I am in charge of the medical histology course but my commitments will be over by Christmas. Byron, on the other hand, is teaching medical embryology (without a lab until the last few weeks!), a graduate course in chemical embryology and helping with a course in cell biology. In the spring chemical embryology will be replaced by histochemistry - this in addition to the usual committee meetings, seminars, three graduate students, etc. Byron is working on the crooked neck dwarf chickens, though we have had many problems with avian diseases here to which our stock seems terribly susceptible. This year he has shifted his emphasis to the study of the microchemistry of the developing muscle in normal, genetic mutants and phenocopies. I have been continuing some work, with Max Cowan and am doing some midbrain reversals for him (in fact, I must send off the few cases that I have embedded). I have also begun a study of the development of the olfactory system in the chicken. Removal of the olfactory pit is very simple. Initial studies indicate normal development of the olfactory bulb for the first 7 days or so; obvious defects are present at 17 days.. and I am sure earlier. I am planning to follow up an observation that removal of the olfactory pit at stage 16 may result in presence of a normal bulb...so far I have been interpreting this as a regulation of the pit..though it needs much more work. In addition we have been

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collaborating with Dr. Kim (trained in Margaret Murray's Lab) on tissue culture of the early neural tube. I have been dissecting the neural tubes from stages 15-18. Our initial work is being presented at the Cell Biology meetings in November.

Toward the end of the month I am to give a seminar to the department - on the ontogeny of behavior. Would it be possible to obtain the film on early motility of the chick embryo? I would like very much to show it to the staff. I would also appreciate being able to present some of the unpublished work that you and CH have been doing recently with the chick embryo. Would it be possible to get some of the data from the work on the rat embryo? I would like to be able to counter the comments of Tryphena Humphrey who was a recent visitor here with Elizabeth Crosby. I gather that you and she do not see eye to eye - and I must admit that I refrained from arguing with her during lunch as it seemed sort of a hopeless thing to do. She certainly is not prepared to accept any of the data from the chick as even remotely applicable to the ontogeny of behavior in the human! The coming symposium in which you and she will be taking part should certainly be interesting.

Has CH settled on anything permanent? We still can't quite believe that Hamp will be leaving Washington University for good.

Do give our best to Rita, Florence, Harry, Tom and the rest.

Sincerely,



Eleanor Wenger.

EW/fn

P.S. You may remember "Dick and Chuck". A suitably framed copy of "Dick" now adorns the office of Dr. H.E. Taylor, Director of Personnel Support Programs of the Medical Research Council, Ottawa - at his request.

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