

March 4, 1946

Mr. F. A. Patty
Research Laboratories Division
General Motors Corporation
P. O. Box 188
Detroit 2, Michigan

Dear Frank:

I read with interest what you had to say about our Journal, and I assure you I am well aware of the existence of the new A.M.A. Journal and its possible competition. I do not fear in the least competition by Mr. Cloud and his Journal, but I told the A.M.A. long ago that if their new Journal did what their plans indicated they were going to do, it certainly would cut down on our usefulness, and we might consider withdrawing entirely.

We have no intention whatever of withdrawing at the present time, although we did consider it some time back. We have gone over to six issues a year, instead of ten, but there is no cut down in the actual amount of pages and, I hope, no reduction in abstracts. This change is for purely editing reasons, and it will make it easier for our publishers as well as for ourselves. A reduction to six issues will not materially affect advertising. We are not a good medium for advertising, and probably never will be, but at any rate, we have never been very successful at getting advertisements.

We are thoroughly ready to consider a proposition from the A.I.H.A. which would insure our financial position. We could easily enlarge our staff and editorial board.

As the situation now stands, we get some financial help from the Industrial Hygiene Foundation, but the bulk of the costs are borne by Harvard. The Journal is not self-supporting, and never has been. The chief operating expense is the abstract section. That can easily be expanded, but not without an increase in the budget.

It is perfectly true that I felt maybe we had outgrown the job. I disbelieve strongly in too many Journals, and if the A.M.A. Journal will really do what it set out to do, including abstracts, then I think we could drop out, but I assure you I have no fixed convictions one way or the other, and I would be very glad to listen to any propositions from the A.I.H.A., or from individuals such as you and Yant.

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I expect to attend the meetings on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, but could stay over for Thursday as well, if necessary. I have to be here on Friday morning. I would, therefore, be glad to meet with a small group from the A.I.H.A., and would not mind in the least if Peterson from the A.M.A. and Sappington from Industrial Medicine attended, but that would be up to you. With the idea that you might want to show this letter to others, I am enclosing some extra copies.

Sincerely yours,

PD:gf

Philip Trinker

cc: Mr. W. P. Yant