

# **Correspondence**

**Henry E. Sigerist – Chauncey D. Leake**

**1930–1955**

Edited and annotated by

**Marcel H. Bickel**

**Bern, 2012**

an online publication of the Institute of the History of Medicine,  
University of Bern, Switzerland

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Chauncey D. Leake (1896-1978)

Born and raised in Elizabeth, NJ, Chauncey Depew Leake graduated in 1917 from Princeton University after studies in philosophy and chemistry. He then underwent his Army training in Alabama after which the Chemical Warfare Service brought him to the University of Wisconsin in Madison where, in 1923, he earned his PhD in physiology and pharmacology. In the following seven years he did research and teaching and was promoted to become associate professor. Under the influence of William Snow Miller he also began writing and teaching in the history of medicine as early as 1921. In the same year he married microbiologist Elizabeth Wilson, who would give birth to two sons.

In 1928 Leake was called to the University of California in San Francisco to organize and head a department of pharmacology at its Medical School. There he had 14 successful years, becoming a pioneer of the new scientific pharmacology; and out of his laboratory came several new drugs like anesthetic agents, drugs against amebiasis, amphetamine, and the first morphine antagonist. However, Leake never made a penny from the development of these drugs. He also served as librarian to the Medical School and established the UCSF Department of the History of Health Sciences where he served as lecturer.

In 1942 he became executive vice-president of the University of Texas, where he established its Medical Branch at Galveston. He still taught pharmacology, yet his job as vice-president and dean was an administrative one. After WWII he suffered from and wrote about the McCarthy witch-hunting and as a result was denied clearance to go abroad for a survey of medical education. Also suffering from unhappy developments within his university's administration, he gladly accepted an offer from Ohio State University in 1955 to become organizer and professor of a department of pharmacology as well as assistant dean and lecturer in the history and philosophy of medicine.

After his retirement in 1962 he once more joined the UCSF Medical School where, as senior lecturer in pharmacology and medical history, he could do research, teaching and writing with a minimum of administrative obligations. He was active and in full vitality until his sudden death from a ruptured aortic aneurism at age 81 in 1978.

Leake had a wide range of interests; next to pharmacology the history of medicine and of science were closest to his heart. His aim was to base medicine on culture and humanism and to bridge the gap between science and the humanities. He wrote a dozen books on topics like medical ethics, William Harvey, the history of anesthesia, yellow fever, Egyptian medicine, the histories of physiology and pharmacology. In addition, he was the author of hundreds of scientific papers, he founded journals, and his peers elected him president of the nation's top scientific societies, among them the American Association of the History of Medicine (1960/1961). His enthusiasm was boundless.

For biographical information see (Leake 1976), (Brieger 1978), (Keys 1978).

## 1.2. The Correspondence

Spelling errors in the letters were transcribed as such, but are followed by the sign [sic], whereas the frequent errors in punctuation were left unchanged and unmarked as long as they did not distort the sense of a sentence. Literary works are given as, e.g., (Adams 1834) and listed in chapter 3.

The annotations are given in small print following each transcribed letter. They are meant to help understanding the contents of the letters rather than to interpret them and are therefore kept to a minimum. They also serve as links to former letters and annotations so that persons or things can be explained once only. Persons sufficiently characterized and explained in the letter may not appear in the annotations. The term „medical historian“ for the characterization of persons is used in a wide sense as, e.g., members of the American Association of the History of Medicine. A few persons, most of them mentioned only once, could not be identified and are marked as such in the annotation. However, all persons mentioned in the letters are listed in the name index (chapter 4). A bibliography of all literature mentioned in the letters and annotations is given in chapter 3.

Sigerist and Leake have exchanged letters without a major interruption over a period of 25 years. When in 1930 Leake in San Francisco sent his medico-historical works to Sigerist in Leipzig this may or may not have been at the origin of Sigerist’s attention of Leake. During Sigerist’s 1931 study tour in the U.S. he was Leake’s guest in San Francisco. From then on we can follow Leake from San Francisco to Galveston and Columbus, OH, and Sigerist from Leipzig throughout his Baltimore period to Pura, Switzerland. There are few personal encounters, but the colleagues become friends in the course of their correspondence.

There is a great variety of topics discussed, such as problems of medical history and its methodology, the correspondents’ work, meetings attended, books and many more. Sigerist is informative and provides insight into his plans and achievements. Leake, five years younger, admires Sigerist, over and over congratulates him on his achievements, makes proposals, not always as clear statements, so that the reader of his letters would often prefer more information on Leake’s own medico-historical projects and current work. Yet, Leake’s letters depict the great lines of his career and contain a host of details which reveal an interesting personality, congenial with Sigerist.

The correspondence shows occasional interruptions of a year or more, there are a few letters obviously missing, yet there is no evidence of real gaps. There is a total of 59 letters written by Sigerist and 83 written by Leake. The correspondence mentions 170 persons and more than 70 books and articles. Nearly all letters are typed, in good style, with very little mistakes, and all letters are dated. Three early letters are at the University Archive of Leipzig, the bulk of the letters at the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, and at the Yale University Library Archives..

## 2. The Letters

*Sigerist to Leake, Leipzig, 17 June 1930*

Hochgeehrter Herr Kollege,

Nehmen Sie verbindlichen Dank für die lebenswürdige Zusendung Ihrer Arbeiten, die eine sehr wertvolle Erweiterung unserer Institutsbibliothek bedeuten.

Mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung bin ich

Ihr ganz ergebener

[Henry E. Sigerist]

“Thank you for your letting us have your reprints which are a highly appreciated addition to the library of our department.”

S. is professor of the history of medicine in Leipzig; L. is professor of pharmacology at the University of California in San Francisco who had already published in the field of the history of medicine (Leake 1928a,b).

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*Sigerist to Leake, Leipzig, 11 January 1931*

Dear Dr. Leake,

I was very interested in the reprints you were good enough to send me and I wish to congratulate you on the excellent work done by your Medical History Seminar.

I shall spend the whole next winter in the United States lecturing at Johns Hopkins and several other places, but I don't know yet if I shall be able to go as far as California. If by chance you should come to the East at that time, please let me know. I would be delighted to meet you.

With kindest regards

Yours very sincerely

[Henry E. Sigerist]

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 12 October 1931*

Dear Professor Sigerist:

Welcome to America ! What a delightful series of lectures you are giving in Baltimore, and how dearly I would like to be permitted to listen to your lectures and seminars. You are making a very vivid and significant contribution to medical history in the program you have outlined, and I sincerely trust that it will come to print so that those of us not privileged to hear it first hand may enjoy reading it.

We are trying to arrange for a series of lectures for you here on your trip west. The details of the arrangement will probably be undertaken by Dr. Sanford V. Larkey, our Assistant

Professor of Medical History, and by Dean Langley Porter. I want you to know that we are anticipating with much pleasure indeed your visit out here.

With best wishes in every way that your trip to America will be happy, and with kindest regards to you all, I am

Cordially and sincerely yours

Chauncey Leake

L.'s letter-head reads: University of California. Medical School. Parnassus and Third Avenues. San Francisco, California.

S. is on his study tour of 1931/32 in the U.S. which resulted in the call to Johns Hopkins University, i.e., he was on leave from the University of Leipzig and due in California in January 1932.

Sanford V. Larkey (1898-1968) had studied medicine and history in San Francisco and Oxford, England; he was assistant professor of Medical History and librarian at the Medical School of UC San Francisco 1930-1935 and had worked on Galen, Medicine in Tudor England, and other topics. Langley Porter (1870-1965) psychiatrist UCSF.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 20 October 1931*

My dear Dr. Leake:

It was a great pleasure to read your letter of October 12 and I thank you for your cordial welcome. I have been in America three weeks and I enjoy my stay in Baltimore very much.

I am looking forward with great pleasure to spending sometime [sic] in California and would very much like to lecture at your university. I have written to Dr. Larkey about it.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours

[Henry E. Sigerist]

Larkey see L. to S. of 12 October 1931.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Minnesota ?, 2 January 1932*

My dear Dr. Leake,

It was very kind of you to send me a copy of your delightful book on Percival's Medical Ethics. I read it with the greatest pleasure and I certainly will refer to it in my lecture.

I had a very nice day in Madison with Dr. Bardeen and Dr. Miller and they told me what a good time they had while you were there.

I expect to arrive in San Francisco on Jan. 9th and I am looking forward with great pleasure to seeing you soon.

Yours very sincerely

[Henry E. Sigerist]

In the final months of 1931 S. had lectured in Baltimore, Boston, Rochester, New York, Cleveland, Detroit, and Madison. At a convention in Minneapolis at the end of December he received the news of a call to Hopkins as a result of a unanimous decision by the Faculty.

Book on Percival (Leake 1927). Thomas Percival (1740-1804) English physician. John Bardeen, physicist, and William Snow Miller, anatomist and medical historian, former teachers and colleagues of L. at the University of Wisconsin. L. had arranged that the privileges of the San Francisco Bohemian Club be extended to S. for his stay.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 18 February 1932*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Please forgive me for not only failing to see you when you came back through San Francisco but also for not getting in touch with you some how [sic] while you were in San Francisco. I had particularly desired to see you in order to tell you again how greatly we all enjoyed your visit with us and how much we profited by the inspiration you left with us. Unfortunately it was impossible for me to get in touch with you. I was in Berkeley for a meeting at noon and had to rush immediately to another from which I did not emerge until after six o'clock. It [was] impossible for me even to try to telephone you. I am truly sorry, but I must confess that my sorrow is tempered by the hope that we soon will have the pleasure of seeing you out here again with us.

With best wishes for your continued success and for the new work which we hope you will soon undertake among us, I am

Cordially yours,

Chauncey Leake

After his first visit to San Francisco S. left for Hawaii on 23 January and returned on 16 February (see S. to Harvey Cushing of 22 January 1932). L.'s letter went to an address in Los Angeles.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 10 May 1932*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Dr. Larkey has just told us the good news of your decision to come to the Johns Hopkins. We are most happy indeed and we hasten to welcome you most enthusiastically back with us again. Your coming to this country will mean more to medicine in its general humanitarian aspects than any other recent event. You will be a real stimulus and inspiration to all the young men of this country in the more cultural phases of their medical career and you will bring to us that synthetic and philosophical viewpoint in connection with medicine which we still need so badly.

Your influence, I think, will now be much wider than it ever was because in addition to your large following in Europe which will continue to be stirred by you, you will have the

new audience of the whole new world. You have also been pioneering enough to have looked well to the west so that your influence in the Orient will be sure to expand with years.

Altogether we are certainly most fortunate in having you come to Baltimore and we hope that your work there will always be pleasurable and profitable. We do hope that Mrs. Sigerist will enjoy this country as much as you seem to and we further hope that you both will find it possible to come out to California soon to make us another visit.

With every good wish,

Cordially yours,

Chauncey D. Leake

Larkey see L. to S. of 12 October 1931. S. returned to Leipzig for the summer term 1932 at the University. In spring he decided to accept the call to Hopkins and gave notice to his university. He settled in Baltimore in the fall of that year.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Leipzig,, 31 May 1932*

My dear Dr. Leake,

I received your very charming letter of May 10th and I thank you for your good wishes. I am looking forward with great pleasure to being in America soon and so is Mrs. Sigerist who had a very favorable impression in [sic] the country. We spent three weeks together in the East and I had a delightful time in Baltimore, New York, Boston and New Haven.

I gladly accepted Johns Hopkins [sic] offer because I feel that there is a great opportunity for developing an institute for the history of medicine. I was delighted to find such a keen interest in our studies all over the country and I am looking forward to collaborate with you all.

I remember with greatest pleasure the all too short time I spent with you in California and the delightful evening at your home.. I sincerely hope that we will meet soon again either in the East or in California.

Please remember me to Mrs. Leake.

With kindest regards, I am,

very sincerely,

Yours

[Henry E. Sigerist]

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 4 January 1933*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Let me thank you ever so much for your good wishes, and the delightful Christmas play which I read with great pleasure, and which my children are reading just now.

I was very much interested in seeing the program of your meeting on December 12. We had just a week later the celebration of Leeuwenhoek here in Baltimore, of which I enclose a program. With best wishes for a happy New Year, to Mrs. Leake and yourself, I am



Very sincerely yours,  
[Henry E. Sigerist]

L. had sent S. *The Night after Christmas. A Playlet*, possibly by L. and his wife, Elizabeth Wilson. Antony van Leeuwenhoek (1632-1723) Dutch scientific biologist, discoverer of microorganisms.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 13 March 1933*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Many thanks for the reprints you have just sent me but more especially many congratulations for the very auspicious inauguration of the Bulletin of the Institute of Medicine [sic]. It is most gratifying and also most astounding that you have been able within the short time that you have been in Baltimore to have organized so much excellent material and to have secured such hearty cooperation in your venture. The productiveness of your Institute is truly amazing and of the finest quality. Under your enthusiastic direction and Dr. Welch's inspiration it could hardly be otherwise.

We had a very delightful visit from Dr. Sarton and profited greatly by his series of lectures to us on Arabic science. There has been formed in Berkeley a history of science club that has been named in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Singer, and it has already held several interesting meetings.

Dr. Larkey arranged an interesting adaptation of Sacha Guitry's "Pasteur" in connection with a little evening we had commemorating the semicentennial of the inauguration of Pasteur's work on rabies. I am enclosing a couple of scenes from the play as we gave it which may be of interest to you. At this occasion Dr. K. F. Meyer presented some early photographs of Pasteur in his laboratory as well as a remarkable film showing rabies in humans.

I am very happy that you had such a delightful address from Dr. John Fulton. He is indeed a brilliant writer. Nothing pleases me more in connection with his writings than the bibliographical skill displayed in connection with his publications.

With best wishes again for the continued success of the Institute and with kindest regards from us all,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey D. Leake

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Correct designation: Bulletin of the Institute of the History of Medicine, later Bulletin of the History of Medicine, founded by S. in 1933. William H. Welch (1850-1934) pathologist, hygienist, medical historian; founder and first director of the Hopkins Institute of the History of Medicine 1929-1932. George Sarton (1884-1956) Belgian-American historian of science at Harvard University. Charles Singer (1876-1960) English historian of medicine in Oxford and London; his wife Dorothea. Larkey see L. to S. of 12 October 1931. Sacha Guitry (1885-1957) French actor. K. F. Meyer (1884-1974) microbiologist. John F. Fulton (1899-1960) physiologist and medical historian at Yale University.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 29 March 1933*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Thank you so much for the delightful photo. You look very much like Pasteur, and I am sure that you had a good time.

I was so glad to hear that you like our bulletin. It is the first and very modest attempt, but the work is started now and I hope that it will get on satisfactory [sic]. Through the bulletin, you will always hear what we are doing.

I shall sail for Europe on June 3rd and shall spend a couple of months, doing some work, in Italian libraries.

With kind regards to you and Larkey, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

“Bulletin“ of the History of Medicine, the journal founded by S.. Until 1939 S. used to spend every summer in Europe. Larkey see L. to S. of 12 October 1931.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 8 August 1933 (Postcard)*

Dear Doctor Sigerist,

Please congratulate your students for me [?] on the superb anatomical exhibit arranged by them, and described in your current Bulletin. Incidentally, many congratulations to you for your success with them ! How fortunate we all are to have you in this country !

Best wishes

Chauncey Leake

Anatomical exhibition (Sigerist 1933a)

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 7 November 1933*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

The arrival of the two volumes from you, Great Doctors and Amerika und die Medizin, was a great surprise and great joy to me. I am most happy indeed to have them, especially to have your inscription on the splendidly frank German volume.

You have, I think better than anyone else who has tried the popularization of medical biography, succeeded in presenting your material in such a manner as to inspire to the fullest your readers with the thrill that comes from great personal achievement in conquering the mysteries of the human body. I know this volume will be a great success in this country and I am confident that it will be much of a factor in promoting intelligent understanding of the great leaders of medicine and the tradition they have left to us to carry on.

The other volume, summing up your impressions of American medicine, is very thrilling to me. I am not amazed that you should have been able so promptly to evaluate clearly the contribution this country has made to medicine for I am aware of the almost intuitive skill with which you can put your finger on the dramatic highlight of any historical event. It is most interesting, however, to see how clearly you have picked out forces now in motion which may operate to our glory or to our disgrace.

We are making such extraordinary experiments in socialization that it is well for us to have the critical eye of an outsider appraise us occasionally in an impartial way. I regret, as do most of us I think, that so much of our effort in medicine as in all forms of science should go into monumental buildings and superb physical equipment rather than toward the support of men you [sic] have proved their worth. We are all so prone to do our thinking by visualization that great buildings are apt to attract great masses of moths much more than great men. Great men are in fact apt to be repellent to the common herd. Perhaps our huge buildings are one reason why so many mediocre people are flocking into medicine.

Dr. Warren Weaver, head of the Natural Science Division of the Rockefeller Foundation was visiting us recently. I discussed with him what I thought were two of the many important features of modern science which most desperately need support of such a Foundation as he represents. These are, first, the need for the attempt to synthesize broad principles from the tremendous body of factual data we have accumulated in the science and, second, the need for an historical understanding of the background of our present scientific conceptions. Both of these efforts are armchair and library problems. They would involve the support of very specially trained and qualified men. I think it is a shame that so much of our money is spent with the urge to rush into a laboratory to obtain still more factual data. The accumulation of this material is running far ahead of our ability to understand it or to coordinate it. Money spent in the support of the synthetic or historical work which I have suggested would give a few especially qualified individuals the opportunity to think in leisure. Leisure is perhaps more necessary in scientific endeavor than in any other. Unfortunately I gathered from Dr. Weaver that the Rockefeller Foundation was not interested in supporting leisure.

Many of these notions you seem to have put with much dramatic force in your Amerika und die Medizin. I hope that you may always continue to criticize us to our advantage in this way.

I cannot close this long and rambling letter without a word of appreciation of the splendid work you are doing at the Institute as reflected by the splendid work in the Bulletin. I was particularly impressed by the success your students made of the exhibition of the history of anatomy. Dr. William Snow Miller at the University of Wisconsin did a similar thing several times with his students but unfortunately he had no particular organ in which he could describe his effort although he lacked none of the important material.

I rejoice that you had such a good vacation this summer although I appreciate that the events in Germany must have been more than distressing to you. We are all glad that you are back again with us and we hope that you [sic] work progresses happily this year.

With many thanks again for your kindness in thinking of me and with best wishes to you, I am

Sincerely yours,

Chauncey D. Leake

Dr. Larkey has gone to England. He is doing fine work.

*Great Doctors* and *Amerika und die Medizin* (Sigerist 1933b,c). “Bulletin“ of the History of Medicine. Anatomy exhibition see L. to S. of 8 August 1933. W. S. Miller see S. to L. of 2 January 1932. “Events in Germany“: The first year of Nazi rule. Larkey see L. to S. of 12 October 1931.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 14 November 1933*

Dear Dr. Leake:

I wish to thank you for your very encouraging letter. It was a great pleasure to read it and to see that you like my American book.

I was much interested in what you wrote, concerning the talk you had with Dr. Warren Weaver of the Rockefeller Foundation. I quite agree with you that we are doing too much and not thinking enough. You will be interested in hearing that another foundation, the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation in New York has begun financing research in that particular direction. A young philosopher of the University of Virginia, Prof. Buchanan, will join our Institute in the near future on a one year fellowship from that foundation. He will study the history of medicine with us, will attend courses in physiology, medicine, and psychiatry. The Foundation has conceived the idea that it would be interesting and important to see how a philosopher, a man coming from outside, will react to what he sees and hears. It is an experiment, but certainly a very promising one.

Dr. Larkey was here on his way to New York. His visit was, unfortunately, too short, but both of us certainly enjoyed the day immensely.

With kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

“American book“ (Sigerist 1933c). W. Weaver see L. to S. of 7 November 1933. Scott M. Buchanan (1895-1968) professor of philosophy and educator; the “experiment“ with him was not a succes for S., see (Sigerist 1935). Larkey would become S.’s coworker as director of the Welch Medical Library in 1935.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 26 February 1934*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Just a line to let you know that after a short interruption, due to financial difficulties, our Bulletin will resume its publication in March. From then on a number will be published every month.

We have enlarged the general scheme of the Bulletin, and are willing to accept some Mss. from outside. If you yourself or one of your group has a Ms. ready you may be assured that I would welcome it very warmly and publish it in the shortest possible time.

From January 1, 1935, on the Bulletin will appear as an independent publication. However, we have five hundred reprints of the whole supplement made this year and are accepting subscriptions to the historical bulletin independently of the Hospital bulletin. You, of course,

will receive a complimentary copy, but if you know of any one who would like to subscribe to the Bulletin I would appreciate their subscription, as it helps financing the whole undertaking.

I had a very good letter from Sanford Larkey. He seems to enjoy his stay in England immensely.

With kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

In 1933 and 1934 the Bulletin of the Institute of the History of Medicine was part of the Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. The San Francisco group had an article in the Bulletin (Larkey 1935).

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 5 March 1934*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

I am glad to know that your Bulletin will appear in 1935 as an independent publication. We appreciate very much your kindness in asking us to contribute to it. We have a great deal of translating work going forward and it may be that some of this may seem to you to be suitable for appearance in the Bulletin.

We are looking forward to a visit from Dr. Fulton the middle of April and there may be something from our seminar following his visit. We miss Dr. Larkey very much and our work will naturally be slight until he returns.

We are going to outfit a special medical history seminar room in our new Clinic Building. Dr. and Mrs. Crummer have very kindly given us quite a collection of medical prints and a number of valuable books which will serve as a nucleus for our teaching and research work. Mrs Crummer told us that you have very kindly offered to arrange for the publication of some of Dr. Crummer's manuscripts. These should be very interesting indeed. Mrs. Crummer was greatly inspired by her visit to you and we all rejoice that you are so kind to her. We are trying to complete satisfactory annotations on a translation of the Hearst Medical Papyrus which has been made by our Professor Lutz. We had arrived independently at the same conclusions reached by Professor Ranke as expressed in his splendid lecture recently published in your Bulletin. There is no doubt but that the common tendency of humanity to "rationalize" on the basis of insufficient data inevitably leads to "magic". One of the main obligations of the historian of science, it seems to me, must be to keep this tendency in abeyance.

With best wishes from us all and with kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

Chauncey D. Leake

No translating work of the San Francisco group was published in the Bulletin in 1934 or 1935. Fulton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. LeRoy Crummer (1872-1934) physician and medical historian in San Francisco; his wife Myrtle Ingram. Henry L. F. Lutz, egyptologist at UC Berkeley. Hermann Ranke (born 1878) egyptologist in Heidelberg, (Ranke 1933).

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 19 March 1934*

Dear Dr. Leake:

I was delighted to hear that you are establishing a medical history seminar in your new Clinic Building, and I would like to contribute towards it. I am sending you under separate cover some reprints. Then I have asked my publisher, Mr. Norton, to send you MAN AND MEDICINE and THE GREAT DOCTORS. And you will finally receive from Georg Thieme in Leipzig the 10 volumes, publications of the Leipzig Institute, that have been issued under my editorship between 1925 and 1932. Please accept these books for the library of your seminar.

With kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

W. W. Norton, publisher in New York. *Man and Medicine* (Sigerist 1932), *Great Doctors* (Sigerist 1933b). Georg Thieme, publisher in Leipzig.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 12 April 1934*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

I am sorry that my absence in the east has delayed for so long a [sic] answer to you [sic] kind letter of March 19th. The books and reprints which you sent have arrived and we are most happy indeed to have them for our medical history seminar room. It is so characteristic of you to be so generous in helping other institutions to develop the same sort of interest which you have created at Hopkins in medical history. You may be proud indeed of the enthusiasm which you have inspired among us. We are setting up a special room in the new fireproof clinical building which will serve as Larkey's office and which will house our collection of material relating to medical history. We hope that the next time you come out here you will favor us with a seminar to be held in it.

Geiling just [gave] me a copy of Castiglioni's Noguchi lecture, which I am very happy to have. Many congratulations on putting it out so attractively.

I am sorry not to have been able to run down to Baltimore to visit you when I was in New York. But I had neither the time nor the money to make the trip. I had much fun in stopping off at the University of Wisconsin and in Chicago to give an illustrated lecture on "The Relations of Medicine to Fine Art."

We are having Fulton here with us this week end and are trying to arrange a seminar luncheon at which time we hope to discuss Galen's theory of the circulation.

In June we are planning to have a special symposium on the Hearst Medical Papyrus at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Berkeley. Otherwise, everything is going along here quite as it was when you visited us. Except of course, that we are all the better for the stimulus of your visit. You were most kind indeed to Mrs. Crummer and I think there may be some of his unpublished manuscripts well worth issuing.

With many thanks and best wishes as always,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey Leake

Geiling, probably Eugene M. K. (1891-1971) pharmacologist. Arturo Castiglioni (1874-1953) Italian medical historian, 1939-1946 exiled in the U.S.. Noguchi Lectures, a series of guest lectures at S.'s Institute. Fulton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. Mrs. and Dr. Crummer see L. to S. of 5. March 1934.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 25 April 1934*

Dear Leake,

What a delightful program. You certainly know how to present things and to make them attractive. I wish I could have been with you on the occasion.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours  
[Henry E. Sigerist]

L. had sent S. the program of Fulton's seminar in San Francisco (L. to S. of 12 April 1934), made up in a funny way.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 5 June 1934*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Many congratulations on the increasing interest and importance of the Bulletin of the Institute of Medical History. You are certainly doing a splendid work and it is so good to have regular reports of your activities. I am enclosing a check so that I may be sure to receive the Bulletin regularly.

Dr Welch is, I am confident, one of those rare personages who are truly immortal and for whom death seems only to close the body away without in the least impairing the influence of the spirit. The fact is I think that his spirit will be more influential among us than if he had remained alive. When it is possible to write such a cheering and inspiring obituary as Dr. Garrison wrote in the Scientific Monthly then truly there has been no death of the spirit. We mourn only when we unconsciously feel that perhaps the spirit will not carry on.

Larkey is busy at the Huntington. We are having a symposium on the Hearst Medical Papyrus at the A.A.A.S. meeting in Berkeley in June, and we are also working up a program for a joint meeting for the History of Science Society on that occasion.

With best wishes as always.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey Leake

Welch (see L. to S. of 13 March 1933) had died on 30 April 1934. Fielding H. Garrison (1870-1935) medical historian, at that time librarian of the Welch Medical Library at Johns Hopkins (see correspondence Sigerist-

Garrison). “Huntington” Library in San Marino, CA. AAAS: American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 2 January 1935*

Dear Doctor Leake:

Your Christmas card was very delightful, and I wish to return your good wishes most heartily.

We are having a very good time with Sanford. He is speaking to us on “English Scientific Prose in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries” next Saturday, and we all are looking forward to hearing him.

We had an excellent meeting in Washington and very much regret that our First Vice-President was not with us. Sanford’s paper was very successful.

With kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

L.’s Christmas card of 22 December 1934 is illegible. “Sanford” V. Larkey. Washington meeting: Probably the History of Science Society.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 21 January 1935*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

We are all most grateful to you for your many kindnesses to Dr. Larkey on his recent trip east and especially for your courtesies to him in connection with the Institute. He had a great time and received, as always, much inspiration from you.

Many congratulations on – well there are so many things it will be better to list

them ! First, for the fine series of lectures you have just completed at Yale on the social problems of modern medicine, of which John Fulton wrote me most enthusiastically; second, on the great work you did this summer in European libraries as reported and illustrated so delightfully by you in the December Bulletin; third, on the realization of your plan to publish the Bulletin as a separate journal, and fourth, on the timeliness of the appearance of the English translation of your American Medicine. Certainly you have accomplished many things of great value and inspiring helpfulness to us all within the past few months.

Your lectures at Yale are of such significance that I hope you will assure their wide distribution. I know the problem is one on which you have very pronounced opinions, and from what I know of them I am convinced of their soundness. I only wish that you would take a little time to investigate at first hand some of the efforts being made in this country to handle some of the problems involved in social medicine. I do hope for your own sake that interested laymen will not take your volume on American Medicine as a comprehensive and complete picture. I realize, of course, that you never intended it to be taken for anything of that sort. Your reputation is growing very rapidly in this country and your influence can become very great. Your Hopkin’s [sic] association naturally gives your opinions extra



weight, and again for your personal reputation this may not be so fortunate. There is a very definite pattern already set up for American medical history and your volume on American Medicine fits easily into that pattern. The characteristic feature of the pattern is, of course, that the discussion is based almost exclusively on conditions east of the Alleghenies and north of the Potomac. It is my opinion that most important attempts are being made in Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois. To handle some of the current problems in medicine on a broad social scale. My own experiences in Wisconsin has [sic] convinced me that no commonwealth has approached as sincerely as Wisconsin the attempt to provide adequate medical education, research and service for its people, at minimum costs. You should really go to the University of Wisconsin and spend a little while there studying at first hand what its program it [sic]. There is, of course, a similar program at Michigan and Iowa. I hope you will have opportunity to do justice to these efforts. Unfortunately these institutions lack their own eulogizers. Even though the significance of Hopkins' in American medicine was already on the wane by 1910 it still remains the fashion for every writer on American medicine to consider it the unchallenged leader since 1895. Your effort may help to restore its prestige, but meanwhile it is to be remembered that other groups also have been helpful in building American medicine.

Please forgive me for speaking so frankly with you. It is because I admire you very greatly and because I know you are sincere in all your efforts that I presume to speak honestly with you. I have lived in all parts of this country, having been born and reared near New York, having lived in Alabama and Georgia during the War and having lived for ten years in Wisconsin and now having been in California for eight years. My opinion has been that the intellectual perspective is better the farther away one gets from New York City and the metropolitan groups near it.

Everything is going very nicely with us and we are all very busy. Dr. Larkey is getting after his Vesalius work and I am doing my best to prepare for publication a paper by LeRoy Crummer on Loys Vassé. It is a miserable job. We are getting the Hearst Medical Papyrus in fair shape and hope to have it ready some time this spring. I am most interested in your exhibits and studies on the history of pharmacology and therapeutics. Naturally I have been making studies on this line and I hope some time we can compare notes.

We all join in sending you our best wishes and regards. Please extend my greetings to the members of the Institute. How I do wish I could see you all.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey Leake

S. delivered three lectures at Yale University on the Social Aspects of Medicine; these were not the Terry Lectures (of 1938); the lectures in question as well as an answer to the main part of this letter are given in S. to L. of 5 February 1935. A report on S.'s work in France, Belgium and Italy (Sigerist 1934). *American Medicine* (Sigerist 1933c). Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564) Renaissance anatomist. Crummer see L. to S. of 5 March 1934. Loys Vassé (16th century) French anatomist, disciple of Vesalius. L. in later years was one of the few to treat the history of pharmacology at book-length (Leake 1975).

*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 5 February 1935*

Dear Dr. Leake:

I just came back from Boston where I had to attend a most inspiring meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies, representing our History of Science Society. On my

return I found your letter of January 21st, for which I want to thank you most cordially. Nothing pleases me more than frank criticism, and there is nothing I hate more than to be praised in general terms.

You, of course, realize that my task was extremely difficult. Before I came to America all the American physicians I knew were men trained in the East and most of them, Hopkins graduates, men like Cushing, Garrison, Klebs, and Dr. Welch whose influence nobody could escape. I then spent two months at the Hopkins and was tremendously impressed by what I saw. I, of course, knew that the real American is to be found west of the

Alleghanies [sic], and I spent several months travelling in the Middle West and West. If I failed to find many institutions fundamentally different from what I had seen in the East, it is probably because I could not stay long enough in the West and was not detached enough. I tried to do justice to the Mayo Clinic and to other private group clinics and similar institutions. However, I fully realize that the field is worth being surveyed once more in a more thorough way, and I shall be only too glad to do it if I find any opportunity. I think that a special study on medical attempts west of the Alleghanies [sic] would be very interesting.

Perhaps I may be able to do such a thing in connection with a scheme that we are developing now. Larkey may have told you that my aim at the present time is to establish a special division for medical sociology in our Institute. If I succeed in obtaining the funds required for such a plan, I shall appoint a sociologist, an economist, and a social worker on my staff so that we may be able to study medical history on a broader basis and into our own days.

My Yale lectures will not be published at the present time. What I said at Yale was merely an abstract of a course on “The Social Aspects of Medicine“ that I am giving to our students here every year. This may develop [sic] some day into a publication, but the time has not come yet.

I was greatly interested to hear about the work that you are doing in California at the present time. I asked Larkey to write me a paper on medical historical activities in California. I am most anxious to make the last section of our BULLETIN a panorama of medical history in this country.

I am sailing for Russia in May, where I intend to spend part of the next two summers, but I shall attend the International Congress for the History of Medicine in Madrid in September.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

Harvey Cushing (1869-1939) neurosurgeon and historian of medicine (see correspondence Sigerist-Cushing). Garrison see L. to S. of 5 June 1934. Klebs, Arnold C. (1870-1943) son of Edwin, physician and medical historian in the U.S. and Switzerland. Welch see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. S.’s Yale lectures see L. to S. of 21 January 1935. S. studied socialized medicine in Soviet Russia in 1935, 1936, and 1938.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 13 February 1935*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

It was a great joy for us all to have your long and interesting letter. You must have had a great time at New Haven from all that I hear from John Fulton and Cushing. We all admire

greatly your courageous approach to the most fundamental current medical problem. You are in a peculiarly strategic position to influence American medicine by virtue of your position and your deep scholarship. I sincerely hope that you may be able to develop your division of medical sociology. It may even be possible to obtain help from the American Medical Association, if you can get the ear of the proper people.

I am sorry that your Yale Lectures may not soon be published. It is wise, of course, to wait until you have in hand all the material you wish to discuss, but I am thinking of the influence you might have on the current scene when everything is influx [sic]. It is rather amusing to me to watch the present concern over medical economics and the confusion about it. In the introductory note to my Percival's Medical Ethics, I seemed to have anticipated a lot of this matter but I did not realize in 1927 that it would come to a head so quickly.

After I wrote you as I did, I had the wish to recall the letter because I realized how presumptuous it was of me to dare to offer even what I think is a just criticism of your survey of American medicine. I am fully aware that no one could have done as excellent a job as yourself, and perhaps my thoughts were tinged by a jealous regard for some phases of current American medical effort which is scarcely noticed by anyone. I know [sic] that you realize that institutions such as the University of Wisconsin does not have the same means of obtaining publicity, nor does it wish it, as is afforded to the more spectacular [sic] and well known American centers. Yet I doubt if a more successful effort is being made in this country for a commonwealth to obtain the expert services of its medical center in its own university, than there. Its actual contributions to scientific and clinical medicine should not be overlooked although, of course, there is no bally [sic] about them either. It was there, incidentally, that William Snow Miller, the great authority on lung, first inaugurated systematic undergraduate instruction and seminar work in medical history in this country. I know also that equally great things are to be found at the University of Michigan if one were willing to spend a little time there. After a little while in California I am now of the opinion that it is well worth careful study with regard to its medical efforts.

It is very interesting to know that you are going to Russia in May. You should have a grand time at the Physiological Congress, and in August I presume that Fulton will go with you from Russia to Spain for the History of Medicine Congress. I do wish that some of us could afford to get around to these important meetings.

Mrs. Myrtle [sic] Crummer Ingram returned from her wedding trip with the flu and is just recovering now. I understand that she is most anxious to get the material ready for the volume on Dr. Crummer and I hope to send her something this week. I am having a very difficult time attempting to put into shape Dr. Crummer's paper on Vasseus.

We all join in sending you our affectionate best wishes and kindest regards as always,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey D. Leake

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Cushing see S. to L. of 5 February 1935. *Percival's Medical Ethics* (Leake 1927). William S. Miller see S. to L. of 2 January 1932. Myrtle Crummer and Vesseus (Vessé) see L. to S. of 5 March 1934 and 21 January 1935, respectively.

*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 10 May 1935*

Dear Dr. Leake:

You have undoubtedly heard that Dr. Garrison has died recently. We are all very much upset about his unexpected death. It certainly is a great loss for the whole country.

The reason why I am writing you today is that we are most anxious to get a good successor to Colonel Garrison. I know that I can be quite frank with you. Garrison was a great scholar and a highly cultured man that we all venerated, but he was the poorest librarian that you can imagine. When he was called to be director of the Welch Library in 1930, he was facing a rather difficult administrative task. It was his job to incorporate several libraries; to fuse them into a unit and to make his library serve our medical group. He was perfectly helpless, and besides, was not interested at all in administrative matters. The result is that the library is in a regular mess today, and that all the departments are complaining about the service it gives.

Our chances have come now to straighten matters out and to make the Welch Medical Library one of the best medical libraries there is. What we need is a young, energetic librarian who would be devoted to the task. He certainly would have a splendid opportunity here. The library has about 125,000 volumes and is being increased through gifts and purchases very rapidly.

I happen to be a permanent member of the Library Committee and, of course am more interested in the welfare of the library than any other member of our faculty.

We have a list of men who might be considered for the position, and I can tell you quite frankly that there is nobody that I personally would like better than Sanford Larkey. He is my candidate and I will do whatever I can to bring him through. Dr. Marshall, who is also on the Committee, was very favorably impressed by Sanford and will write you in the matter too. Other members of the Committee were afraid that Sanford might be too much of a scholar and not enough of a librarian. His primary job, of course, would be to take care of the library, to make it run and to keep it going. However, I am convinced that once the library were in good shape, he would have plenty of time for his own research.

Nothing would give me more joy that [sic] to have Sanford here. The library and the Institute, although independent institutions, are so closely connected and have so many tasks in common that there must be a close cooperation between the two department heads. With Sanford I know that we could make the place a great success. I know not enough about Sanford's administrative activities, and I would greatly appreciate if you would let me know quite frankly what you think.

I do not know what Sanford's chances will be. All the members of the Committee greatly appreciate his research work, but are not sufficiently informed as to his ability to run a library; and after the experience we had with Garrison, the Committee wants first of all a librarian. Besides, there are a few other highly qualified candidates who will be very seriously considered. If you think that Sanford is the right man for the job and if you can convince Marshall, I believe that the two of us would carry some weight with the Committee.

I am sailing for Europe in two weeks and would therefore greatly appreciate an early answer. I do not think that the Committee will make any appointment before the fall, but I am most anxious to have things properly started before the vacation begins.

With kind regards, I am  
Very sincerely yours,  
[Henry E. Sigerist]

Garrison, see L. to S. of 5 June 1934, was the first director of the Welch Medical Library, founded in 1929; he had also a military career; see also the Sigerist-Garrison correspondence. Eli K. Marshall (1889-1966) professor of pharmacology at Johns Hopkins.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 15 May 1935*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Doctor Marshall, who is a good friend of mine, has written me about Sanford, and I have replied to him in the language used in the enclosed copy of my letter to him. My idea has been to give both you and him the best ammunition possible. Please know that I deeply appreciate your kindness in writing so frankly to me. I love you for it. You must know also that Sanford has the deepest affection and regard for you. In fact, we nearly came to blows over his resentment of the criticisms I presumed to make of your provocative “American Medicine“. Sanford has done grand work with us. You know, of course, that we have two major projects under way in connection with the Hearst Medical Papyrus and the “China Root“. Sanford is going this summer to continue his work at the Huntington on Tudor Medicine. He has so kindly a personality, is so tactful, so generous and is so clear-thinking that I am sure he would be an ideal man for you. I know too that he would leave here for no other place to work than to be near you.

Have a good time this summer. I am so glad that you finally have your bulletin on an independent basis. It is beautifully done and you may well be proud of it. If there is anything I can do in regard to this matter, please be free to call upon me.

With best wishes as always,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey Leake

Doctor Garrison’s loss is a terrible blow to us all. Did he have another revision of his book under way? I hope so. –

Marshall see S. to L. of 10 May 1935. *American Medicine* (Sigerist 1933c). China root, the rootstock of a species of Smilax (Smilax China) from the East Indies, formerly used as a drug. “Huntington“ Library in San Marino, CA. Garrison’s book (Garrison 1913); a fourth edition had appeared in 1929 and was reprinted in 1960.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 22 May 1935*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Thanks ever so much for your letter. It made an excellent impression on the Library Committee, and I am very hopeful that we shall be able to approach Sanford very soon.

I fully realize that it would be a great loss for California to have Sanford leave. He is doing such excellent work there and is arousing so much interest in our studies that his absence will be seriously felt. On the other hand, I think that for his own development and career the position at the Hopkins would be very valuable. And besides, he would be free during the summer months so that he could go to California and keep in touch with the work of your group.

With best wishes for the summer, I am

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 22 October 1935*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Thanks ever so much for the program of your Pharmacology Seminar as well as for the program of the luncheon in honor of Larkey. It was a great loss for you, but we are delighted to have him here. Everybody loves him and he is doing exceedingly well.

I had a most interesting summer travelling for three months in the Soviet Union and attending an International Medical History Congress in Spain.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

After being elected librarian of the Welch Library in Baltimore, Larkey was honored by a farewell seminar in San Francisco.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 28 October 1935*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Many congratulations on the well deserved honor and tribute which came to you at Madrid. We do hope that you had a good trip abroad and that you feel rested and refreshed for your fall work.

We miss Dr. Larkey very much. We are very glad that Jerry and he have found a nice home out of the city and we know that they will greatly enjoy all their new contacts and opportunities.

We are having quite an exciting time with the American College of Surgeons. We have finally arranged the Crummer Medical History Room in a fairly attractive manner and we are trying to arrange an exhibit of old surgical books and instruments today.

With best wishes as always from Elizabeth and myself,  
Cordially yours,  
Chauncey D. Leake

In Madrid 1935 S. was awarded his first honorary degree. Jerry Larkey, family member of Sanford Larkey. “Elizabeth“ Leake-Wilson.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 3 December 1935*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Many thanks and many congratulations on the magnificent set of reprints which came from your Institute today. Truly you may be very proud indeed of what you have accomplished and also for what you have inspired in your colleagues. The Institute under your direction is certainly becoming a powerful force throughout the world in behalf of cultural medicine. I rather expect that Dr. Sarton has a little touch of green-eye for I can't otherwise understand the basis of his recent preface in *Isis*.

It is most gratifying to learn of the many honors which came to you abroad this summer and particularly to hear of the success of your discussion of social medicine. The development of your Institute as a center for social medicine in the world would be a great achievement indeed.

We opened a special room devoted to the history of medicine and named in honor of LeRoy Crummer. It was first used when the American College of Surgeons met here the first of November. We had a special exhibit illustrating the development of surgical instruments. The room has been in almost continual use for teas and seminars since. Dean Porter has organized an evening seminar in the history of medicine which is very well attended. Naturally we miss Sanford very much. We know, however, that he is carrying along a much bigger work and we are glad that his influence is much wider than it could possibly be here.

With many thanks for your kindness and with every good wish, I am,

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey Leake

Sarton, historian of science see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. *Isis*, a journal of the history of science. S.'s reply to Sartons preface (Sigerist 1936a). Crummer and Porter see L. to S. of 5 March 1934 and 12 October 1931, respectively. “Sanford“ Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 17 January 1936*

Dear Doctor Sigerist,

Thanks for the copy of your interesting open letter to Doctor Sarton. You must have greatly enjoyed courting [?] what might very well be your *credo*. I am afraid Doctor Sarton was annoyed at some one when he wrote that article disparaging the history of medicine. It may very well have been some well-meaning but incompetent [?] amateur as myself. Your words make me very much ashamed of my disgraceful efforts to contribute to the history of

medicine. My only excuse is that they were honest efforts, - but that is no excuse for what our judges and critics may call “poor scholarship“ ! I guess I’ll quit !

Best wishes, & to San  
Chauncey Leake

A short letter in long-hand. Sarton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. S.’s open letter (Sigerist 1936a). “San“ford Larkey. The letter-head reads: Department of Pharmacology, University of California Medical School, San Francisco, Calif.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 3 February 1936*

Dear Dr. Leake:

I was very sorry for what you wrote. For goodness sake, don’t think of abandoning your historical studies. If any one has, you have demonstrated what excellent work an amateur can do; and in your cooperating with Larkey and Lutz, you have shown how exceedingly difficult historical problems can be solved through collective efforts. Besides, you are not an amateur at all, having mastered the methods of research long ago.

In my work here I come across so many papers and books that are so full of obvious errors that I feel some times quite depressed about it. However, there can be no doubt that the quality is improving steadily.

Very sincerely yours,  
[Henry E. Sigerist]

Lutz see L. to S. of 5 March 1934.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 13 February 1936*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Thanks ever so much for your reprints. I was particularly interested in the fine remarks you made about art and medicine as I am just finishing a paper on a similar subject. You will find it in the April number of the Bulletin. The medical murals in your School are quite remarkable and I hope that other institutions will follow your example.

We are buried in snow, and I begin to be sick of the winter and to make reservations on boats.

With kind regards, I am  
Yours ever,  
[Henry E. Sigerist]

S. on art and medicine (Sigerist 1936b).

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 12 March 1936*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Many thanks and congratulations, as always, on the most interesting bundle of reprints which arrived this morning. It is most gratifying to watch the tremendous amount of very valuable work the Institute is turning out and it must be a great source of satisfaction to you.

Your colleagues are certainly do [sic] great work, please congratulate Sanford for me on the rapidity with which he is putting out his studies in the Bulletin. You might also remind him to answer my last letter.

I like very much the feature of the Bulletin describing rare items of interest in the Welch Library. This is an excellent way to make a record of your treasures. I understand that Dr. Packard has a similar idea in mind for the annals.

With best wishes to you all, es ever,

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

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“Sanford“ Larkey. Francis R. Packard (1870-1950) physician and medical historian, editor of *Annals of Medical History* which was published from 1917 to 1942.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 23 March 1936*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

After hearing of the happy dinner you had with Dr. Sarton and after realizing that you and he really do have the same fundamental opinions about the history of science, I felt deeply ashamed of myself for having written to you as I did in Dr. Sarton’s defense. I really believe that you and he have common interests and similar grand ideals. However, I cannot refrain from asking about a little matter suggested by your recent review in Science. You state that a scholarly, systematic history of science is very badly needed. Might it not have been worth while to call attention to the fact that Dr. Sarton is most successfully carrying along the very effort that you suggest is so greatly needed ? I know that Dr. Sarton needs all the recognition and support of his work that is possible for us, who are his friends, to obtain for him. While it is true that his work is generally recognized and greatly appreciated by scholars interested in the history of science, it is by no means as widely known among scientists generally as it should be. Any comment regarding the history of science in such a widely read magazine as Science would afford an admirable opportunity, I think, to give a little publicity for Dr. Sarton’s work. I do wish that you had done so !

Please don’t think that I am attempting any criticism of you. I am so anxious to promote the work that Dr. Sarton is doing that I am trying to get all of his friends to remember wherever possible to make reference to it. In Alexis Carrel’s popularized sermon quite a bit of space is given to a plea for some scholar to renounce the world and devote himself to an attempted historical appreciation of science and its significance for culture and civilization generally. Since Dr. Carrel makes no mention of the fact that Dr. Sarton is trying to do this very thing, I assume that he is unfamiliar with Dr. Sarton’s work. While I think Dr. Sarton is

truly such a scholar that he is interested only in the ultimate value of his work, yet I think he is human enough to rejoice in some little appreciation from his contemporaries. Like all of us, his spirit needs it.

What a fine lot of work you all are doing. The Bulletin gains in interest and significance all the time. Please give my best wishes to Sanford and with the hope that everything continues to go happily and successfully, I am

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

Sarton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. S.'s review in "Science" (Sigerist 1936c). Alexis Carrel (1873-1944) French/American physician and Nobel Laureate in Medicine 1912. "Sanford" Larkey.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 30 March 1936*

Dear Leake:

I read your letter of March 23rd with great interest. I am afraid that you misunderstood my review in Science. What I was calling for was a synthesis, a history of science comparable to McCauley's [sic] History of England or Mommsen's Roman History. Sarton's book is something entirely different. It is an introduction to the history of science; as he calls it himself, a source and reference book.

You know that I have a profound admiration for Sarton and his work. Nobody in the world has even done more for the history of science than he. Yet frankly speaking, I think that his book is an unfortunate undertaking, and I am sorry that he started it. The book is apparently not written for the layman but for the researcher. However, whenever I consulted it on a special question, it regularly failed me. Just a few weeks ago, I looked up a definite problem and found that his data were either not correct or incomplete. The trouble is that no single individual in the world can possibly [sic] complete such a gigantic task satisfactorily. It just is not possible. You can not be an expert in all these various fields.

A synthesis has to be written by one man because it has to reflect the way one man looks at the past of science. A book like Sarton's, however, could be done infinitely better by a group of experts. I would have preferred to see an encyclopedia of the history of science written like Pauly-Wissowa's encyclopedia of classical antiquity in which each article is written by the one expert in the field.

I am sorry to see Sarton spend his whole life and energy on an undertaking that can not possibly succeed. Sarton's Introduction will never be completed; but should it be, the first volumes would be out of date before the last volumes had been published. The book, of course, has great merits, no doubt about that. It helps up to a certain point, but I am afraid that its usefulness is not in proportion with the amount of energy spent on it.

I would never mention in public what I just wrote you, but since you touched the question I thought I would tell you frankly what I think; and I know that many of my colleagues feel as I do.

Very sincerely yours,  
[Henry E. Sigerist]

*History of England* (Macaulay 1856). *The History of Rome* (Mommsen 1903). *Introduction to the History of Science* (Sarton 1927). *Encyclopedia of Classical Antiquity* (Wissowa 1893).

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 4 April 1936*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Your letter of March 30th has just arrived and I am hastening to reply in order that you may know how deeply I appreciate your friendly and generous response to my criticism of your review. I regret that I didn't understand what you had in mind. Perhaps it might have been wise for you to have been more specific. The analogy with Macaulay's History of England makes it quite clear. Of course, Dr. Sarton isn't attempting anything of that character. There are very few men who have the breadth of vision to attempt what you have in mind. Not only should one have the factual data which you acknowledge Dr. Sarton is trying to collect but one should also have the wisdom and perspective to synthesize it in the broad way you have in mind. This seems to me to be asking for even more of a genius than you suggest is necessary for carrying out what Dr. Sarton has in mind. But if there is anyone who could do it, I think you are that person. You do have the factual data at your disposal and you do have the broad appreciation of life and its problems, which is necessary for the orientation of what science has accomplished in the general picture of civilization. And what it may accomplish ! There seems to be many popular writers who seem to be trying to do this sort of thing in a small way. Their efforts are not very helpful.

I appreciate very deeply your frank opinion of the value of Dr. Sarton's work. I realize, of course, the justice of your criticisms. You may understand that I will hold them in confidence. Perhaps it may be possible, now that Dr. Sarton has made the start, to get together the group of experts you suggest to develop the authoritative encyclopedia you have in mind. Again there seems to be only you and your group in a position to undertake this stupendous task.

You and your group have certainly provided a tremendous stimulus to all of us who are interested in the history of science. Not the least important factor in this effort has been the cordial good friendship which you have cultivated. These are very precious for workers in such a new field. I am proud to have the loyal tolerance, comfort, and inspiration of such friends as Dr. Sarton and yourself and I think all your colleagues have very much the same good feeling about you. We all unite in hoping for the success of your efforts.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey Leake

S.'s review (Sigerist 1936c).

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 14 April 1936*

Dear Leake:

Thanks ever so much for your letter of April 4th. I am very glad that you saw my point.

Your letter is very encouraging; however, I am not the man to write a History of Science. My field is medicine and I do intend to write a history of medicine some day. It is just 15 years since one of the best German publishers offered me a very tempting contract for such a book. I was young at the time but wise enough not to accept the offer. If I had written the book then, it would have been one more text book following the traditional pattern, and it would have had no value whatever.

What I intend to write some day is a “History of Medicine“ and a “Sociology of Medicine“. All the research I did in the last 20 years, my teaching, my travelling, whatever I did was preparation for these two books.

In the “History of Medicine“ I will approach the subject from an entirely different angle as it was done before, and the “Sociology of Medicine“ is meant to establish a new field, to outline it, and to give the social sciences a definite place in medicine. Several volumes will be necessary to cover the whole field. The way I look at it today, it seems to me that the “History of Medicine“ will require about three, the “Sociology“ about two volumes.

I am well aware that this is a gigantic task and I am not ready to start yet, but I hope to be ready five years from now. In the meantime I have to complete three volumes on the early middle ages and a few other studies. And besides, I want to study the situation in China, the medical conditions in Scandinavia and in a few other countries.

I hope my health will last long enough so that I may write these two books, without which my whole life work would be a mere fragment. I have planned so as to start writing the “History of Medicine“ five years from now. I will then drop everything else and stick to the job until I am through with the two books. These will be my contribution to medicine.

It sounds ambitious but after all you have to have some goal in mind if your life is not to be wasted.

With kind regards, I am

Yours ever,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

This letter shows S.’s outlook and motivation in 1936. S. was an indefatigable planner, but obviously many plans did not materialize. The “History“ and “Sociology“ were planned in 1934 and 1935, respectively (Bickel 1997), and the “History“ begun in 1945. Yet at S.’s death in 1957 only two volumes of the „History“ were written. The volumes on the early Middle Ages did not materialize in contrast to several other books and a great many articles. S. studied medical conditions in Russia, South Africa, Canada, and India rather than in Scandinavia and China.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 27 April 1936*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Your letter of April 14th has been thoroughly enjoyable, as always. While it may be that I have been able to see your point, I am not sure that I have been able to present mine clearly enough for you to get.

Your proposed volumes on the Sociology of Medicine strikes me as being tremendously important. I have known, of course, for some time of your interest in this field. Your hurried sketch of American Medicine clearly indicated your great interest in the subject. That is why I am so sorry that you published that book without making a careful study of the medical situation in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa, for example. At Wisconsin, particularly the medical School of the University is closely integrated into the whole profession of the state in such a way as to provide maximum scientific services for all the people of the state through the practicing physicians, with a minimum of expense. There isn't anything like it in this country. You do American medicine a grave injustice by basing all your conclusions on impressions you had gained from such relatively isolated centers as Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston, great though they are. Frequently, the very greatness of such centers breeds a peculiar provincialism.

I am very happy that you are planning to make a study of medicine in the Scandinavian countries. I think that there may be found an example worth careful study by all of us.

I have had a delightful letter by Sanford telling me of the work he is doing. How busy you all must be.

Please know that I have very deeply enjoyed this correspondence with you. We are all genuinely interested in the work you are doing and we are wishing every happiness and success for you.

Cordially yours,

Chauncey Leake

“Sanford“ Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Los Angeles, 18 May 1937 (postcard)*

Here's best wishes to you all, just as I land in L.A. Hope all your work goes well + that you are rested, take a good vacation this year + [?] come to see us.

Best to San

Chauncey

“San“ford Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 22 July 1937*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Thank you as always for sending me reports of recent interesting contributions from the Institute. We have put these in special slip covers in the Crummer Room where they form a rapidly growing collection of very valuable material. My congratulations to you as always. The contributions from your group always reveal effectively the broad scope of your activities.

We were hoping that Dr. Larkey would be out for a while this summer.

When you feel the need of a real vacation again we hope that you will come to visit us and just spend a little while with us in relaxation. You have been working very hard.

I sincerely hope that it may be possible for you to increase the scope of the Bulletin by renaming it The Bulletin of the History of Medicine. In this way you will, I think, get much more support from workers outside the Institute. The name now implies that the bulletin is restricted to the members of the Institute, and perhaps their friends, and thus suggests a proprietary affair, which I know you do not desire.

With every good wish to you all.

Cordially yours,

Chauncey Leake

Acting Dean

Letter-head: University of California. Medical School. Office of the Dean.

Renaming of the Bulletin see L. to S. of 13. March 1933.

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*Sigerist's secretary to Leake, Baltimore ?, 27 July 1937*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Thank you for your kind letter of July 22 to Dr. Sigerist. At present he and his family are in Switzerland and will not return to this country until the end of September. Your letter will be brought to his attention immediately at that time.

Sincerely yours,

[...]

Secretary to Dr. Sigerist

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 4 October 1937*

Dear Chauncey:

I returned from Europe a few days ago and found your letter of July 22.

I have discussed the idea of renaming the Bulletin in our last staff conference, and I think that we are going to follow your suggestion. The Bulletin was actually started as a house

organ but, as there was a real need for a scholarly journal in the field of medical history, it developed gradually into what it has become today. The time, therefore, has come to consider changing its name.

I spent a very quiet summer mostly in Switzerland and had the great pleasure of having the Larkeys visit with us. We met again in Paris and we expect him back in Baltimore in a couple of weeks.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

[Henry E. Sigerist]

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 28 October 1937*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Enclosed are some Garrison letters which I have deposited in the Crummer room for Medical History. It is very good to know that your group is preparing a biography.

Garrison always seemed to me to be a very tragic figure. I mean this only in the sense that he never, himself, seemed to reap the full reward of his genius. However, his work is of the character that will live for a long while. Once I suggested to him that he collect and edit his remarkable editorials in the Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine. I still think this should be done.

We have had a very busy time with the meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Alan Chesney makes an admirable president. Two delightful informal sessions were held in the Lane Library and the Crummer Room.

Best wishes and regards to you all as ever.

Cordially yours,

Chauncey Leake

Garrison see L. to S. of 5 June 1934; an edition of letters rather than a biography was planned by S.'s Institute, see S.'s correspondence with A. C. Klebs. Alan M. Chesney (1888-1964) professor and dean at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Lane Medical Library of Stanford University.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 3 November 1937*

Dear Leake:

Many thanks for the Garrison letters. We are receiving piles of letters from all over the country, and I am sure that this material will make it possible to work out Garrison's philosophy. He revealed his personality much better in letters than in papers.

I quite agree with you that his editorials in the Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine should be reprinted. There was some talk about it in New York once, but I do not know what came out of it.

The letters will be returned to you in a few weeks.

With kind regards, I am  
Very sincerely yours,  
[Henry]

Garrison see L. to S. of 5 June 1934; his letters see L. to S. of 28 October 1937.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 23 February 1938 (postcard)*

Dear Henry,

Hearty best wishes for the success of the Graduate Course in Medical History !  
Congratulations on the splendid program. The musical evening should be especially  
delightful. The whole session should be a glorious intellectual treat for doctor & historian  
alike. I wish I could come. How beautifully you do everything !

Best wishes to you all  
Chauncey Leake

L. refers to the program of the first Graduate Week in the History of Medicine, organized by S. and taking  
place in his Institute on 18-23 April 1938 with 33 participants from 16 states and Canada. There were lectures  
and seminars by members of the staff, an exhibit, receptions, and also a concert of “ music in medicine“ in which  
Emmy Sigerist sang.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 30 March 1938*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Thank you for your note of March 5th regarding Dr. Robert Alexander. We had a pleasant  
visit together. Dr. Alexander also had a conference with Dean Langley Porter regarding future  
opportunities.

Many congratulations on the Bulletin. You have every reason to be proud of what you  
have accomplished in developing this great periodical devoted to the history of medicine. I  
sincerely hope that your post-graduate study session will be pleasurable and successful for  
you. I know it will be inspiring to all those you [sic] may attend.

Cordial best wishes from us all,  
Faithfully yours  
Chauncey

S.'s note of 5 March is missing, as may be other notes or letters in 1937/38. Robert Alexander not identified.  
Langley Porter see L. to S. of 12 October 1931. Graduate Week see L. to S. of 23 February 1938.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 22 April 1938*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Congratulations on your great music night. What a joyful occasion you must have had. I suppose it was Mrs Sigerist who was the soprano soloist for you. You must have had lots of fun arranging the music and rehearsing it.

You have done a great job at the Institute in establishing a cultural standard for medicine which will be hard to surpass.

John Fulton has been here for a week and we have had a very delightful time.

Best wishes from us all and with regards to Sanford Larkey, I am

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey Leake

Music night and Emmy Sigerist see L. to S. of 23 February 1938. Fulton L. to S. of 13. March 1933.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 17 September 1938*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

I hope that you are happily home now and that your work is going well. It was good to see you even for a minute at John's party in Zurich. I wish we had seen more of you. We went to Nyon and had a delightful visit there with Dr. Klebs. As soon as I get an enlargement made of the picture I took of him I will send it to you for the Institute's collection.

We had a very good visit with Dr. Larkey out here and were very happy to have him with us again even for a little while. The Hearst Papyrus is coming along in good fashion, although slowly. We will appreciate your opinions regarding its organization. Sanford and Jerry had a very pleasant party for their friends before leaving. I wish we could have had them with us longer.

Many thanks as always for the reprints from the Institute and congratulations as usual. Sanford has certainly made some splendid exhibits recently. We are happy to have his excellent appreciation of Billings. We are also happy to have your recent notes especially on the founding of academies. Year by year the work of the Institute broadens and becomes more significant. It will be an ever increasing source of joy and situation to you to see its development move forward so happily. The report of the seminar activities is splendid, especially the pictures. What a grand lot of work you are doing. I do wish that I could some time spend a week with you at one of your post-graduate sessions where I might profitably learn something about the history of medicine.

Best wishes to you all,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey Leake

S., L., and Fulton met at the International Congress of Physiology in Zurich 1938. "John" Fulton, see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. Klebs, see S. to L. of 5 February 1935, was living in Nyon, Switzerland, see also Sigerist-

Klebs correspondence. Jerry Larkey see L. to S. of 28 October 1935. John S. Billings (1839-1913) medical historian, founder of *Index Medicus* and of what eventually became the National Library of Medicine. Larkey's Billings (Larkey 1938). "Founding of Academies" (Sigerist 1937). Graduate Week see L. to S. of 25 February 1938.

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*Sigerist's secretary to Leake, Baltimore ?, 21 September 1938*

Dear Dr. Leake:

I wish to thank you for your letter of September 17 to Dr. Sigerist. He will not return until the third of October, but your letter will be brought to his attention at that time.

Sincerely yours

[...]

Secretary to Dr. Sigerist

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 13 February 1939 (postcard)*

Dear Henry,

Thanks for your good letter of February 7. I am getting but [?] letters at once. There are about fifty out here who should join ! And they should also join the History of Science Society ! How about coming out this summer with Sanford, - and see what we're doing in "socialized medicine" !

Best wishes

Chauncey

S.'s letter of 7 February is missing. Apparently there is a campaign to recruit members for the American Association for the History of Medicine. "Sanford" Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 21 February 1939 (postcard)*

Dear Henry,

Hearty congratulations on your appointment to the African Lectureship ! What a grand time you'll have ! Now you must cover Asia, Australia & South America ! Maybe on your way to Australasia you'll visit us again ! Come to our Fair, - it's superb. We hope to see you this summer, - maybe we can arrange a history of medicine session. I'm getting [...] lined up for the [...]. Best wishes

Chauncey

Best wishes for the April Seminar. Swell program. Best to Sanford.

S. had an invitation for a lecture tour in South Africa. In 1939, the city of San Francisco was host of an international exhibition, named the Golden Gate Fair. April Seminar: Graduate Week in Baltimore 1939. “Sanford“ Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 28 February 1939 (postcard)*

Dear Henry,

Thanks for your brilliant and informative account of Jugoslavia [sic] and the XIth International Congress of the History of Medicine. It is a splendid story and I have enjoyed it greatly. You draw fascinating word pictures ! What a story you’ll have from Africa ! Come out to the fair ! Have a good time, as always, -

Chauncey

Account on Yugoslavia (Sigerist 1939). Africa and Fair see L. to S. of 21 February 1939.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 2 March 1939*

Dear Henry,

Professorship of Pharmacology at Wayne Univ. Detroit not yet filled. If you know Dean Allen, how about dropping him a note about Starkenstein. Oliver Kamm [?] of Parke-Davis is using his influence, but needs support.

Very busy as usual. Hope you can see our Fair before leaving for Africa. It’s swell ! Come out with Sanford ! Best wishes for the success of the April Seminar. The Bulletin is great.

Best as ever

Chauncey

Glad you’re giving Krauty [?] a hearing ! A C Reed’s article on Anghor [sic] in [....] is interesting

Long-hand letter with illegibilities. Dean Allen: possibly Hopkins’ Alan M. Chesney. Emil Starkenstein (1884-1942) pharmacologist. Parke-Davis: Pharmaceutical firm. Africa see L. to S. of 21 February 1939. “Sanford“ Larkey. April Seminar: The second graduate Week at S.’s Institute; on Renaissance medicine with a play on the plague, arranged by Sanford Larkey. Krauty [?] not identified. A. C. Reed on Ankhhor Wat not published in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 14 April 1939*

Dear Henry:

Dr. Juan Ramon Beltran, Florida 895, Buenos Aires, Argentina, the Director of the Institute for the History of Medicine of the University of Buenos Aires, has written to suggest that the American Association of the History of Medicine be given an international character.

He has asked specifically that his group be incorporated in the association. I think this is an admirable suggestion. It would make the word “American“ truly significant in including all the Americas. And I think it would be a splendid gesture of international good will. Dr. Beltran seems to have a very active group and they are making many excellent contributions. Please make this suggestion to the Association and urge its adoption.

Every good wish for the success of the Post-Graduate week. I wish I could be with you and I wish especially that I could see Sanford’s play. Also, please have a very good meeting at Atlantic City. Again, I wish I could be with you.

Elizabeth and I are wishing you a very happy journey to South Africa. Be sure to see Professor Farrington, in English, at Johannesburg. He has done some very excellent Vesalius translation as you know. We will be glad to have you back with us as soon as possible. Even in these exciting times we still preserve some hope for peace. I don’t think Hitler nor Mussolini will dare to fight. My English friends, however, tell me that they are all ready. They think that they may as well go through with it now as later.

With best wishes from us all,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

Graduate Week with Sanford Larkey’s play see L. to S. of 2 March 1939. Elizabeth Leake see S. to L. of 4 January 1933. Vesalius see L. to S. of 21 January 1935.

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*Sigerist’s secretary to Leake, Baltimore ?, 9 June 1939*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Dr. Sigerist has left for his long trip abroad but before leaving, he asked me to thank you most warmly for your kindness in sending him a copy of “California’s Medical Story in Fresno at the University of California Medical School“. He is delighted to have a copy of it and very much appreciates your thoughtfulness.

He asked me also to express his best wishes to you.

Very sincerely yours,

[...]

Secretary to Dr. Sigerist

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 19 February 1940*

Dear Chauncey:

Many thanks for your good letters. I very much hope to have a glimpse of you in California. I am lecturing in Kansas City on March 4 and expect to arrive in San Francisco in the evening of March 7. Lucia very kindly asked me to stay with him. We must meet on March 8. I am most anxious to discuss the affairs of the History of Science Society with you.

Thanks also for your check for the American Association of the History of Medicine. We are naturally more than delighted to have you on our official role. You will receive the Bulletin regularly beginning with the January number.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, I am

Yours very sincerely,  
[Henry]

Dr. Salvatore Lucia, a historian of science in San Francisco; see L. to S. of 26 February 1940.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 26 February 1940*

Dear Henry:

We are very glad to know from your letter of February 19th that you expect to arrive here on the evening of March 7th, coming from Kansas City. You will sure have a swell time there. Give our best to the Clendenings.

If you will let us know when you expect to come into town, we will be glad to meet you. It's great that you had a chance to talk things over with Sal Lucia. He is doing a swell job here. You will enjoy his beautiful home.

Since I will probably be leaving for the east on Friday, May 8th, it looks as though the best chance for us to get together will be at luncheon on that day. How about you coming out to our house for lunch, with Dr. and Mrs. Lucia. We could have a good visit, and try to work out some way by which the *Isis* can be carried along, and the Society kept together.

Have you considered at all the possibility of extending the Institute to include the history of science? This is practically what you are doing any way, but way [sic] not make it formal. The history of medicine is important, of course, and needs the systematic kind of cultivation that you are giving it, but why not expand to cover the field of science and to point toward Sarton's goal of the humanization of science. You have an admirable opportunity in organization, facilities, and support for bringing into being the sort of an institute that Sarton has visualized. I think it is one of the most important projects that could be possibly undertaken in these perilous times.

Here's to seeing you soon. With best wishes as ever,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Dorothy H. and Logan Clendening founded the History of Medicine Library at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Sal Lucia see S. to L. of 19 February 1940. Isis: A journal of the history of science. There seems to be some confusion as to 8 May and 8 March. Sarton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 2 March 1940*

Dear Chauncey:

Many thanks for your letter of February 26. It would be fine to have luncheon with you on Friday. Do arrange things with Lucia.

The possibility of extending the Institute to include the history of science has been considered for many years but the difficulty is that it would require about twice the budget that we have now. It is not so much the question of books, although a great many additional books would have to be acquired, as rather the question of personnel. In order to cover the history of science half way adequately, we should need at least three to four specialists. We also have not the room. At present every corner of the Institute is occupied and if we were to enlarge our staff and to admit more students, we should need a good deal of additional space. As conditions are today, I do not see where I could find the money.

Well, I am looking forward to discussing all these problems with you very soon.

Ever yours,  
[Henry]

Sal Lucia see S. to L. of 19 February 1940. The extension of the Hopkins Institute for the History of Medicine to include the history of science was realized after WWII.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 22 March 1940*

Dear Henry:

Congratulations on the splendid Arno [sic] Klebs number of the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. He should certainly rejoice at this tribute to his leadership and he should be especially grateful for the charming letter which you encribed to him.

Everyone here is most enthusiastic about your visit. I am very sorry that I didn't have the chance to listen to your discussion. We hope that you will soon return again.

Please tell San that we are getting a special stenographer to get some of the Hearst Medical Papyrus material whipped into shape for him.

Meanwhile, best wishes as always,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Arnold Klebs see S. to L. of 5 February 1935. Klebs number (Sigerist 1940a). “San“ford Larkey.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 1 April 1940*

Dear Chauncey:

It was such a pleasure to see you the other day in San Francisco, and I only regret that it was so short.

I am sending you enclosed the picture of a famous librarian and medical historian as he just hits the water in Switzerland.

With kind regards, I am  
Yours ever,  
[Henry]

The “famous librarian and medical historian“ is Larkey.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 9 April 1940*

Dear Chauncey:

Thanks ever so much for the Klebs pictures. They are very realistic and I am delighted to have them.

Yours ever,  
[Henry]

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 9 April 1940*

Dear Henry:

Thanks a lot for the swell picture of San. You sure have a fast camera to get him in such a clear way and such a splendid pose. Boy what form ! We’ll be happy to add this to our collection.

We’re working hard on the Hearst Papyrus. I am making a final check over translations with Doctor Lutz. George de Santillana is out here on a little lecture jaunt. He is a very inspiring fellow.

I hope that we can begin to feel our way clearly to join the Allies. Looks as though neutrals will have to decide to take a stand somewhere. The harsh realities of life make war inevitable apparently, and we may as well get in and get it over with.

Best to you all as ever.

Faithfully yours

Chauncey

“Sanford“ Larkey. Lutz see S. to L. of 19 February 1940. George de Santillans (born 1902) historian of science. Whether to join the Allies in the early phase of WWII or to stay neutral was a major issue in the U.S. before Pearl Harbor (December 1941).

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 21 May 1940*

Dear Henry:

Hearty congratulations on the brilliance of the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine. I certainly wish I could have been there. Your program is most attractive. You’ve done a superb job in organizing sentiment in the field in this country. You may be proud indeed of what you have accomplished. Here’s to your continued success and happiness.

We’re busier than ever now that school work is over, and we can really get going. I am making a valiant effort to clear up the Hearst Papyrus business. We’re anxiously awaiting for Sanford’s return. I had hoped to arrange a symposium on “a biological basis for ethics“ at the Seattle meeting of the A.A.A.S. Unfortunately Moulton thought the idea good enough to attempt to put on a big show for Philadelphia in the winter, probably where more publicity could be obtained. I suppose it’s up to some of us to attempt to keep some ideals alive. This is a dark hour indeed for Sartor’s “new humanism“. There is a pregnant tragedy in being ahead of one’s time.

Best from us all. As ever,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

“Sanford“ Larkey. AAAS: American Association for the Advancement of Science. Forest Ray Moulton (1872-1952) astronomer, secretary of AAAS. Sartor see L. to S. of 13 March 1933.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 27 May 1940*

Dear Henry:

We have just received a copy of Emily Walcott Emmart’s study of “The Badianus Manuscript: An Aztec Herbal of 1552.“ Sincere and hearty congratulations on the magnificence with which this work has been published. It is just the sort of thing that we’ve had in mind with respect to the Hearst Medical Papyrus. I doubt very much that we will be able to do as beautiful a job as you have done, although you can bet that your effort has inspired us very greatly. I’d appreciate it very much if you would extend my sincere and hearty congratulations to Emily Walcott Emmart.

This morning I have just had the great pleasure of a visit from Dr. J. J. Izquierdo, Professor of Physiology at the University of Mexico. We are just looking at the copy of the Badianus



Manuscript and are both most enthusiastic about it. As you may probably suspect, Professor Izquierdo is very familiar with many of the Aztec plants which are pictured in the Manuscript. He is thoroughly familiar of course with the native use of these materials. I think it would be very appropriate for him to review this volume for *Isis*, and I have so suggested to him. I think that he would like to undertake this; and if it would be possible for you to send him a copy, I know that he would appreciate it very greatly.

I've just had a group of reprints of Nelson's item "The Tragedy of Errors" from the Baltimore Sun, sent to Sanford Larkey. I think the only thing we can do these days to keep our sanity is to continue to laugh. Please be sure to give our best to Sanford. Meanwhile hearty best wishes from Professor Izquierdo and myself for the successful and happy continuation of everything that you are undertaking.

With congratulations again for the appearance of this magnificent volume, I am as always,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

(Emmart 1940), with a foreword of S. (Sigerist 1940b). *Isis: A journal on the history of science*.

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*Leake to Sigerist's secretary, San Francisco, 16 November 1940*

Dear Miss Trebing:

Congratulations to you all on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of the Johns Hopkins Medical History Club. Here's sincere best wishes not only for the full enjoyment of the dinner, but for continued success and happiness in everything that you undertake. It is great to have Dr. Kelly, one of the founders of the Club with you, and I know you will all treasure his remarks, even as those he made at the first meeting were carefully recorded and preserved. Thanks greatly for inviting me to attend the occasion. I regret, of course, that I can't be with you.

My sincere best wishes and regards to you all.

Cordially [sic] yours,

Chauncey Leake

Hope Trebing was S.'s secretary for many years. Howard Kelly (1858-1943) professor of gynecology at Johns Hopkins.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 30 November 1940*

Dear Chauncey:

Just a line to tell you how much I am looking forward to seeing you in Philadelphia in December. I am sure that the symposium on ethics will be most interesting. I also hope that you can arrange to attend the meeting of the History of Science Society on December 27 in New York. Shryock got a good program together so that we can look forward to a few stimulating days.

I am so sorry that I did not see you in San Francisco last summer. I would have loved to have gone with you to the Grove but unfortunately time was all too short. We had a perfectly marvelous trip rolling all over the country for nine weeks.

I wished you could have been with us when we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Johns Hopkins Medical History Club. We had a most pleasant evening. Fifty years is quite a record for a society of that kind. I do not know of any other society of medical history that has had such a long life.

I have just spent three very delightful weeks at Cornell University in Ithaca where I gave the Messenger [sic] Lectures and now I am busy getting my regular courses started.

With kind regards, I am

Yours ever,

[Henry]

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On the Philadelphia meeting see L. to S. of 6 January 1941. Medical ethics was one of L.'s research topics. Shryock, Richard H. (1893-1972) medical historian, S.'s successor at Johns Hopkins in 1949. Due to war conditions, S. could not go to Europe this summer and instead explored the U.S. from coast to coast by car with his family. Medical History Club celebration see L. to S. of 16 November 1940. Cornell's Messenger Lectures were established in 1924 by Hiram Messenger.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 10 December 1940*

Dear Henry:

Enclosed is an account of the recent Hippocratic celebration we had here. We hope that you may find it suitable for inclusion in the notes or news section of the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. We wish that you could have been with us. It was a very delightful occasion.

I suppose Sanford is so busy with his preparedness work that he has little time for his historical interests. I'm trying to get him to let me go ahead with the Hearst Papyrus. He hasn't answered my recent letter on this point. I wish that he would have confidence in me and just let me go on.

Here's to seeing you soon.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

“Sanford“ Larkey.

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*Sigerist's secretary to Leake, Baltimore ?, 19 December 1940*

Dear Dr. Leake:

Dr. Sigerist has asked me to thank you for your letter of December 10 and also for the note on the Hippocrates celebration. He will be delighted to publish it in the Bulletin.

With season's greetings from Dr. Sigerist,

Sincerely yours,  
[...]  
Secretary to Dr. Sigerist

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 6 January 1941*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Sincere thanks for your generous contribution to the stimulating symposium on “A Scientific Basis for Ethics” at the Philadelphia meeting of the A.A.A.S. All who were present must have felt the same inspiring thrill of contributing specifically toward some appreciation of the limitations within which they may have to operate in order to develop a reasonable ethic. Your discussion, “Ethical Concepts in Medicine,” was beautifully integrated into the development of thought, and superbly delivered. Please accept my sincere thanks for your generous cooperation in limiting your remarks in time, so that there was ample opportunity for full open discussion. I think the general discussion added greatly to the interest of the symposium, and I think all that took part added greatly to an appreciation of the whole problem.

I sincerely hope that Dr. Moulton, Secretary of the A.A.A.S., will proceed rapidly with the recommendation of the Section that the symposium be published in conjunction with the other symposia on “Science and Value,” and “Science and Democracy.” To these might also be added the general addresses of Doctors Cannon, Day, Lippmann, and Carlson. Please be sure to send a manuscript of your remarks to Dr. Joseph Mayer, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts, so that he may arrange the series promptly and forward them to Dr. Moulton.

Here’s sincere best wishes for a thoroughly successful new year. I hope that at its end we may be able to have a more cheerful view of the state of humanity than is possible for us now. I hope also that we may continue to give serious consideration to “A Scientific Basis for Ethics,” and that we may continue to develop our thoughts along that line whenever we have an opportunity.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey Leake

S.’s contribution *Ethical Concepts in Medicine* has not been published according to (Miller 1966). Moulton see L. to S. of 21 May 1940. Walter B. Cannon (1871-1945) physiologist. Lippmann: Several biochemists carried this name. Anton J. Carlson (1875-1956) Swedish-American physiologist.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 13 January 1941*

Dear Chauncey:

It was so good to see you in Philadelphia and I only regretted that time was so very short. I had to attend three meetings in a few days so that I was rather rushed, but I was very glad that I had at least a chance to hear part of the symposium. It was really excellent, thanks to your inspiring leadership. I certainly shall send my manuscript to Mayer and I am sure that all these papers put together should make a very nice book.

And now I just received your perfectly delightful publication with the charming photos. Thanks ever so much. It is a great document and I shall always cherish it.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours ever,

[Henry]

Philadelphia meeting and Mayer see L. to S. of 6 January 1941. L.'s publication not identified.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 12 March 1941*

Dear Henry:

Thanks greatly for sending me reprints of your recent interesting publications. We're building up quite a file for the Crummer Room.

You may be interested in the report on the Crummer Room collections. A copy is enclosed.

I'm very glad to have your translation of J. P. Frank's "The People's Misery." You certainly did a fine job when you published this and I hope that you have widely distributed it. It seems that the ills of people are eternal.

I'm much interested in your program for a new medical school. I wish that you would have worked out some way a method whereby there might not be so great a degree of specialization and departmentalization. Enclosed are notes which I made on the Medical Education Congress recently held in Chicago. I proposed there that we have a series of preceptors responsible only to the dean who would coordinate at least clinical work so that the students might get the idea of the sick patient as a whole.

It is good to know that you are so actively enlarging the work of the Institute. Larkey must certainly have organized the library superbly so that it can run so smoothly in his prolonged absences.

Have you read Hewlett Johnson's "The Soviet Power?" Milton Silverman has just put out an admirable popularized history of recent pharmacology. This is a little different in that it is superbly accurate, even though it contains many imaginative conversational interludes. Furthermore it gives a splendid bibliography.

Here's best wishes from us all as ever. We hope maybe you'll be able to get out this way this summer. If so, be sure to let us know so that we can arrange something suitable for you.

Faithfully yours

Chauncey

*The People's Misery* (Sigerist 1941a). New medical school (Sigerist 1941b). *Soviet Power* (Johnson 1941). "Recent pharmacology" (Silverman 1941), with a dedication to L..

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 19 March 1941*

Dear Chauncey:

Many thanks for your good letter of March 12 and for your very interesting article from the Scientific Monthly. It interests me particularly now as I am planning to write a short paper on rationalism and mysticism in medicine.

I was also very glad to get your inventory of the Crummer Room and if you have no objection to it, I should like to make a note about it in the Bulletin. We have so many remarkable collections on medical history in the country and they are not sufficiently known. I am trying very hard to draw the attention of the people interested in these subjects to our resources. Dr. Robert E. Schlueter in St. Louis has assembled a Paracelsus collection that is perfectly amazing and second only to that of Sudhoff. We are going to exhibit part of it in Atlantic City on the occasion of the annual meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine and I intend to print a check-list of the whole collection which Schlueter has recently given to the St. Louis Medical Society. The purpose of the check-list again is to make the collection known so that it becomes available for research. It is really astounding how much material of extraordinary value is to be found in the various libraries of this country.

Shryock is very active preparing a most attractive program for the meeting of the History of Science Society in Chicago.

It is quite possible that we may be in California again in the summer. It is impossible to make definite plans at the present time but if nothing unforeseen happens, we intend to cross the continent again on a different route than last year and would probably arrive in California some time in July.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours ever,

[Henry]

L.'s article (Leake 1941). Crummer Room: Medico-historical collection at UC San Francisco; inventory of it in Bull. Hist. Med. 9, 483, 1941. Robert E. Schlueter Collection, St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society; S.'s check-list (Sigerist 1941c). Karl Sudhoff (1853-1938) medical historian in Leipzig, S.'s teacher. Shryock see S. to L. of 30 November 1940.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 31 March 1941*

Dear Henry:

Congratulations on your brilliant Terry Lectures, Medicine and Human Welfare, which the Yale Press has just published. I have enjoyed reading these greatly. You certainly need not feel under the necessity of justifying these lectures on the Terry foundation. You have designed them beautifully to show the significance of the major field of application of science to human welfare with practical, philosophical, and religious implications.

Your proposed solution to the problem, of abolishing private competitive medicine, is intellectually sound, like so many other proposals, but practically difficult if not impossible.

Why not advocate family practice on a retainer fee ? This would retain the individual character of medical practice which physicians insist on retaining, but it would also fit into your picture.

Foreign to your particular approach, but pertinent to the relations of medicine to philosophy and religion, is the interesting history of the anatomical site of the soul. I think you would have had much sport tracing this, and showing that popular ideas regarding the “soul“ still have significant medical barings [sic]. We’ll look forward to your volume on “Medical Economics“.

Here’s to the thorough success of the Association meeting in Atlantic City. I hope you have a grand time, and I wish I could be with you. I think it might be appropriate to suggest that the History of Science Society meet some time with the Association. It will be a great stimulus to Dr. Sarton, and I know that he appreciates your courtesy in inviting him to appear with you. Best wishes from us all as ever.

Sincerely yours,

Chauncey

Terry Lecture Foundation: Lectures on Religion in the Light of Science and Philosophy. *Medicine and Human Welfare* (Sigerist 1941d), the publication of S.’s Terry Lectures. S. has not published a book-length “Medical Economics“. Sarton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 31 July 1941*

Dear Henry:

Enclosed is a card received from the Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion, inviting the History of Science Society to appoint a delegate for the conference meeting at Columbia University, September 8-12, 1941.

I think the History of Science Society should be represented, and I think no one could represent it better than yourself. Why not plan to attend ? Urgent, I believe is the need to publicize to the fullest the “scientific spirit“ so that there may be some block to the totalitarian implications of the point of view represented by Mortimer J. Adler of Chicago and other authority lovers, like him.

Your proposal to publish the supplement to the Bulletin is an excellent one. I am glad that you referred to Sarton’s example. I do wish it might be possible for your Institute to be expanded to include Sarton’s idea. Perhaps, still it may be possible for you both to work together !

All goes well with us and we are busier than usual. We didn’t have much of a visit with Perry Long, but we were glad to see him. We would like to see San and yourself sometime again also.

Here's best as ever

Faithfully yours

Chauncey D. Leake

Mortimer J. Adler (1902-2001) philosopher and educator. Sarton see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. Perrin Long physician at Johns Hopkins. "San"ford Larkey.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 6 August 1941*

Dear Chauncey:

Many thanks for your letter of July 31. I received it in a cottage on the shores of Lake George, in northern New York State, where we are spending the summer. I agree with you that it would be important for the History of Science Society to be represented at the Conference of September 8-12, and I am very sorry that I shall not be able to be in New York at that time. I intend to spend three weeks in Saratoga Springs in September. I have nor [sic] had a regular vacation in many years and since I am going to have a very busy winter, I think that I need a complete relaxation for a few weeks, which I would like to combine with a treatment of my [xxxx] and of a few other minor ailments for which Saratoga is a very good place.

I think that Sarton could represent our Society much better than I, but I do not know what his plans for the fall are.

We had hoped to be able to go to the West Coast again this year, but I had to stick to my work and Lake George is a very delightful region and not too far from home, so that I can have books and other material sent to me.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours as ever,

[Henry]

[xxxx] Protected health information of the Alan M. Chesney Archive of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 18 August 1941*

Dear Henry:

We are glad to know that you have been having so pleasant a rest on the shores of Lake George. Some twenty-five years ago I recall with great joy a happy week I spent at Silver Bay. What wonderful water it is !

We hope that all goes well with you, and that you are continuing without let up your active opposition to the Nazi point of view. We have a grand opportunity now to unite on a program of broad social betterment and social co-operation. We must declare ourselves definitely and completely at war with all that Nazism represents. Let us then aim for a peace program that will enforce these principles of social justice and social coordination that are agreeable to us.

We must hold many conferences to determine the lowest common denominator of our potential agreement.

Best wishes to Sanford and regards to all your associates. We all join in sending best as ever to you all.

Sincerely yours,

Chauncey

“Sanford“ Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 18 September 1941*

Dear Henry:

Thanks greatly for sending reprints of recent contributions from your pen, interesting as always. I am especially happy to have them for your rapidly growing file in the Crummer Room for the History and Bibliography of Medicine.

Your survey of medical history in Central and South America is especially appropriate at this time. It should do lots to promote better cultural appreciation between the medical groups of the two parts of the continent. I hope you will make further surveys of that sort.

Congratulations on the superb work carried forward by your Institute during the past year. Your reports are snappy reading. I am always impressed by the tremendous amount of accomplishment you can, with such pride, report. It has bothered me that I have never been able to prepare a decent report. I have never been able to list with the proper degree of modesty what my associates and myself have done in a given period. Usually I omit about nine-tenths of what we have really done. We are glad to have a very characteristic picture of you, speaking at a meeting.

While I am at it, congratulations on the splendid meeting you arranged for the American Association of the History of Medicine at Atlantic City last May. You may be very proud of what you have accomplished with this organization and particularly for the brilliant addresses made at its meeting.

I am very happy to have your survey “Laudanum and the Works of Paracelsus.“ I always had the notion that Paracelsus was referring to “laudanum“ but I never had the wit to run the thing down as you have done so skillfully. In one of Paracelsus’ references to distillation I have the faint memory of some sort of alcoholic solution of opium.

Here’s best wishes for the continued success of all your work and that of your associates. Your work is particularly important these days in holding together the tough threads of our culture.

Best as ever to San, and with many thanks again,

Sincerely yours

Chauncey Leake

Central and South America (Sigerist 1941e). S. published informative and well-organized annual reports on the activities of his Institute in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. Laudanum (Sigerist 1941f). “San“ford Larkey.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 10 February 1942*

Dear Henry:

Congratulations on the announcement of the Third Graduate Week in Medical History. Here's sincere best wishes to your [sic] and your associates for the thorough success of your effort. It looks very interesting and I wish that I might be with you. Congratulations also on the continued success of the History of Medicine Club.

We are continuing to do our modest little best. Mrs. Gardner has a number of interesting new contributions about ready for press. John Saunders is contributing an interesting analysis of some of Vesalius' work to a volume being assembled to honor Herbert Evans.

Mrs. Gardner has arranged some interesting exhibits on surgical instruments from the Charles Brooks Brigham collection. We have made rather a striking exhibit of material relating to war wounds, including head injuries and bullet injuries to long bones. Most of this material was collected in the Franco-Prussian war.

We had a very excellent description of the improved methods of handling burns and wounds, as a result of the Pearl Harbor affair, from Perrin Long and Dr. Ravdin. The Honolulu physicians did magnificent work.

We are seeing Jerry Larkey and Sanford's mother tonight. We wish you all could be with us. Best as ever,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

3rd Graduate Week at S.'s Institute in spring 1942 on Greek and Roman medicine. Frances Tomlinson Gardner,

librarian of the History of Medicine Library UC San Francisco. John Saunders, professor of anatomy UCSF. Vesalius L. to S. of 21 January 1935. Herbert M. Evans (1882-1971) anatomist and historian of science. Charles Brook Brigham Collection at UCSF. Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871. Perrin Long see L. to S. of 31 July 1941. Isidor S. Ravdin (1894-1972) professor of surgery. Jerry Larkey see L. to S. of 28 October 1935.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 19 February 1942*

Dear Chauncey:

Thank you ever so much for your good letter and also for your splendid New Year's greetings [sic] which I read with the greatest pleasure.

We are carrying on at the Institute in spite of the war as well as we can because I feel very strongly that the cultural life of the nation is a potential force also in this emergency. How long we shall be able to go on like this nobody knows but at the moment the Institute is very active. We have two fellows in Graeco-Roman Science who are doing very good work. We have a social anthropologist on a fellowship here and my seminar in the Sociology of Medicine is developing beautifully. The essays that the students wrote for that Seminar are so good that I intend to publish them as a volume.

With all good wishes, I am  
Yours very cordially,  
[Henry]

L.'s New Year's greetings are missing. Fellows in Graeco-Roman science: Ludwug Edelstein and Israel E. Drabkin. Social anthropologist: Erwin H. Ackerknecht.

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 2 April 1942*

Dear Henry:

Thanks greatly for sending us reprints of recent interesting studies from you and your associates. You know that we are maintaining a complete file of your contributions and it is very gratifying to see it continue to grow. Here's to the continued success of all you undertake.

Congratulations particularly on your fine work in relation to Paracelsus. I enjoyed greatly your note on "Bombastic." I am also happy to have your appreciation of Paracelsus which appeared in The March of Medicine. We are also especially glad to have Dr. Otto Neustätter's discussion on the identification of bubonic plague. But most of all, congratulations on your essay "War and Culture."

Best from us all as ever,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

"Bombastic" (Sigerist 1941g). Paracelsus in "The March of Medicine" (Sigerist 1941h). Bubonic plague (Neustätter 1942). *War and Culture* (Sigerist 1942).

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*Leake to Sigerist, San Francisco, 23 April 1942*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Congratulations ! This is for two of your recent activities but also includes all that you are doing these busy days. Particularly, I am happy over the magnificent program for the Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine. I am sorry that I can't be with you. I wish that I could send you something to indicate the work we are doing out here. Second, congratulations on the superb translations of Paracelsus. This is a beautiful volume and a fine record of the recent splendid work which you and your group are doing.

Dr. Rosen's translation and comments on the diseases of miners is very appropriate these days. Dr. Zilboorg's translation and discussion of Paracelsus' work on mental diseases is also very enlightening and pertinent. It is all superbly done and you all may be extremely proud of the splendid manner in which it has been assembled and published.

John Saunders has been doing a lot of excellent work on Vesalius. We have had some interesting historical meetings in relation to the gold-headed cane. Dr. Kerr has been

promoting these for the past four years in connection with the fourth year students. He has also done a fine job with Dr. Salvatore Lucia and John Saunders on the Hippocratic Oath. Sanford Larkey would be very interested to see how this work has progressed.

Mrs. Frances Tomlinson Gardner, the librarian of the Crummer Room, has arranged some interesting exhibits recently. One deals with the centennial of Crawford W. Long's first use of ether as an inhalation anesthetic. Another very significant one deals with war wounds.

We are all extremely busy. We also feel rather badly that it is difficult for us to participate more actively in the research efforts associated with the war problem. It is unfortunate that distance remains such a factor.

Meanwhile, best from us all as ever,

Cordially yours,

Chauncey

Translations of Paracelsus: A Symposium on Paracelsus with the contributions of Rosen, Zilboorg and others was held at the AAHM meeting 1941 in Atlantic City (Bull. Hist. Med. 10, 116-118, 1941). George Rosen (1910-1977) medical historian and Gregory Zilboorg (1880-1951) psychiatrist in New York, friends of S.; Saunders see L. to S. of 10 February 1942. *Gold-headed Cane* (Macmichael 1828). William J. Kerr (1889-1965) professor of medicine UCSF. Lucia see S. to L. of 19 February 1940. Gardner see L. to S. of 10 February 1942. Crawford W. Long (1815-1878) physician.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 18 August 1943*

Dear Chauncey:

I meant to write you long ago, but was frightfully busy throughout the year. We have more students than ever at the Institute, and since San Larkey went into the army I had to take over his job also. I have half a dozen other war jobs in addition, so that I am terribly behind with my correspondence.

I have been following your work in Texas with keen interest, and I want to congratulate you and to tell you the profound admiration I have for all you have been doing.

Your monthly bulletin is always read very carefully at the Institute, and the new journal that recently came is one more manifestation of your untiring efforts. You certainly have done wonders in such a short time and have succeeded in giving your school a new status among the scientific institutions of the country.

More power to you and all good wishes.

Yours very cordially

[Henry]

The address reads University of Texas, School of Medicine, Galveston, Texas. In 1942 L. was appointed Executive Vice-President of The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX. S. had to take over Larkey's job as director of the Welch Medical Library. L. founded the Texas Reports on Biology & Medicine.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 24 August 1943*

Dear Henry:

Thanks for your friendly and cheering letter of August 18th. It helps a lot these days to have the support of one's friends. We need to give each other mutual encouragement, because there are plenty of hectic days ahead for all of us. It's going to take all our effort to keep our feet on the ground solidly.

Congratulations on the excellent work you are doing in the development of the American Soviet Medical Society. You probably know that we are sending a lot of material from here to the Soviet Embassy for transmission to Russia. Unfortunately we are not getting much in return. We are sending fifty copies of each issue of Texas Reports on Biology and Medicine and I am also sending fifty copies of the "Calling Attention To" each month.

While I'm not at all in favor of endless multiplication of medical periodicals, still I think there is much to be said for a local effort. Frankly, I am a little worried over the increasing tendency for the development of a scientific canon. It is becoming increasingly apparent under the stress of war, when it is necessary to centralize authority and direction. But I think we must remember that one of the essential features of scientific effort is freedom.

Here's hoping that your good work will continue in spite of all the increased burden upon you. You and your associates may be very proud of the splendid contributions you are continuing to make. Here's to you. May your joy continue.

Cordially yours,

Chauncey

What do you think of the Evans Festschrift? Saunders has a neat Vesalian article in it.

Also - what do you think of Karpinski? I'm sorry.

In 1943 S. helped to organize the American Soviet Medical Society. Texas Reports on Biology and Medicine see S. to L. of 18 August 1943. Evans and Saunders see L. to S. of 10 February 1942. Evans' Festschrift (N.N. 1943). Karpinski possibly author of an article of the Evans Festschrift.

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*Leake's secretary to Sigerist, Galveston, 22 October 1943*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Doctor Leake is out of the city for several days, but before he left he requested that I write to you to say that your article on the universities' dilemma in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine, greatly interests him, as well as many of the men at the Main University in Austin. If you will be good enough to send him a half dozen reprints, he will make good use of them.

Thanking you for your attention to this matter, I am

Yours sincerely  
Isabell Aicklen  
Secretary

*The University's Dilemma* (Sigerist 1943a).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 4 November 1943*

Dear Henry:

Thanks greatly for sending me reprints of your splendid article “The University’s Dilemma“. I can make very good use of these, as you may imagine.

Sincere congratulations on the excellence of the first issue of the American Review of Soviet Medicine. It contains highly informative articles, and I’m particularly interested in the abstracts and reviews. Glad to know that Michael Shimkin is working for you. He’s an excellent man and has an enormously broad background. I’m glad also to know that Percy Dawson is going to write for you. He’s a remarkable fellow as you probably know, and I’m glad that he’s back into harness again.

Here’s hoping everything continues to go well with you and your associates. It’s always amazing to me to appreciate how you’re able to do the many things that you accomplish. But then, you’re a trained editor and writing is easy for you. Keep it up.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

*The University's Dilemma* (Sigerist 1943a). S. was coeditor of the American Review of Soviet Medicine and contributed editorials and articles. Michael B. Shimkin (1912-1989) cancer researcher at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD, formerly a graduate student of L.. Percy M. Dawson, possibly the physiologist. The sender reads Chauncey D. Leake, Dean.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 9 March 1944*

Dear Henry:

Congratulations on the continued success of American Review of Soviet Medicine. It must be quite a chore to see to it that the articles are selected, translated, and carried through the press. You’re doing a fine job, and here’s to keeping it up.

Let me cordially suggest that you utilize as much as you can the services of Doctor Michael B. Shimkin, who has now returned to Bethesda after a trip to Moscow. I know that he’s very interested.

Your special note regarding antireticular cytotoxic serum is timely. However, we were rather annoyed to find that we could not obtain any further information on the matter, although your editorial note in the previous issue had indicated that we might have material sent to us if we wrote and asked for it. This we did, but nothing happened. We would certainly appreciate receiving the additional material to which reference was made.

Congratulations also on the excellent manner in which you are maintaining the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. I hope you aren't too sensitive about your name ! Of course it's important to be Ernest, but cheer up -- a lot worse could happen.

We're developing a surprisingly effective collection on the history of medicine. You would also be interested to know that the Bexar County Medical Society in San Antonio is very interested in the history of medicine and has started an admirable collection of real classics. In San Antonio there is an energetic group devoted to the history of medicine. This group has organized and calls itself the Celsus Society. One of the leading spirits in it is W. B. Russ. Doctor Pat Nixon of San Antonio has done very excellent work in writing about the development of medicine in the local community. The Celsus Society has an annual dinner which is really quite an affair.

We all join in sending our cordial best to you and yours as ever.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Shimkin and American Review of Soviet Medicine see L. to S. of 4 November 1943. S.'s "special note" in Am. Rev. Soviet Med.. "Ernest" (Sigerist 1943b). Aulus Cornelius Celsus (1st century AD) Greek author, wrote on medicine. Pat Ireland Nixon, physician and medical historian, founder of the P. I. Nixon Medical Historical Library in San Antonio, TX.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 16 March 1944*

Dear Chauncey:

Many thanks for your good letter of March 9. Dr. Shimkin has been working with us ever since we made the first plans for the journal, and I am in constant touch with him. You may have seen that he wrote a very good survey article on cancer research for our first number, contributing a very good review to the third number and there will be two articles by him in the near future.

You will be interested to hear that the journal already has 2000 subscribers. As you correctly guess, the editorial job is a very difficult one. The selection of articles is not easy, particularly since the material available is not unlimited. Then there is the problem of translation that caused a great many headaches. We made a number of mistakes in the beginning but I hope you will find that the journal improves with every number.

As to literature on the serum of Bogomolets, the chief trouble is that most of it is not in Russian but in Ukranian [sic]. We had it read and analyzed by a Ukranian [sic] but we found that it was not sufficient to get research on the subject properly started in this country. We therefore cabled to Moscow for additional literature and as soon as we receive it, we shall make a bibliography of all the literature available at our office. I hope that by this time we shall be able to serve you better but communication with the USSR is terribly slow at the moment and God only knows when we shall receive this literature.

I greatly appreciated your very kind comments on the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. My article on the spelling of proper names was a mere joke and nothing else but I wrote that little note because in my historical studies I often found it so difficult to ascertain a man's correct name. Like everybody, we have endless trouble with our printer. He has lost one-third of his highly skilled staff and is printing a good deal for the Government which badly delays our publications. At the moment he is pringing [sic] an islandic [sic] dictionary that will keep

the best typesetters busy for a number of weeks and this is the chief reason why the Bulletin is so much behind schedule. The December and January numbers should be out in the next few days.

I was delighted to hear that you are developing a good historical collection. I know of the Celsus Society in San Antonio and am in touch with them. I sent them a number of our publications some time ago.

With kind regards, I am

Yours very cordially,

[Henry]

Shimkin see L. to S. of 4 November 1943. “The journal“: American Review of Soviet Medicine. Serum of Bogomolets see L. to S. of 9 March 1944; Alexander A. Bogomolets (1881-1946) Ukrainian pathophysiologicalist. Article of spelling (Sigerist 1943b). Celsus Society see L. to S. of 9 March 1944.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 20 March 1944*

Dear Henry:

Thanks for your good letter of March 16th. I am glad that Mike Shimkin is working so closely with you now. He must have had an exciting trip to Moscow.

What do you think of Shimkin’s executive ability ? I am very impressed by his general ability, and I have him in mind for something that might be extremely worth while, if we can tell if he has powers of organization. I think he has.

It is good to know that the American Review of Soviet Medicine is going across so successfully. Of course, it is a tough job editorially, but that is why you enjoy it.

We have a couple of excellent men here who might be in a position to help you, if you wish to use them. One is Doctor Arthur Ruskin, who is an Associate Professor of Medicine, thoroughly familiar with Russian Medical Literature. We have a few items here, but unfortunately not nearly as many journals as we had in California. Also on our faculty is Doctor Ludwick Anigstein, Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine, and with special interest in tropical medicine and particularly Spotted Fever. Both these gentlemen are able to handle rush material for you, and might be willing to undertake reviews for you.

We will certainly be happy to have the Bogomolets serum literature when you are able to send it to us. We simply took you up on your editorial note.

You may be very proud of the work which you are so successfully carrying forward in relation to the Bulletin of History of Medicine. We are glad to know that supplements to the Bulletin are soon to appear.

Best wishes from us all as ever for the thorough success of all your good work and for your full satisfaction in it.

Cordially yours,

Chauncey

Shimkin see L. to S. of 4 November 1943. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, a rickettsial disease spread by ticks. Bogomolets serum see L. to S. of 9 March 1944.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 29 March 1944*

Dear Chauncey:

I really could not tell you how much executive ability Shimkin has because my dealings with him have always been on a different line. But he is an excellent man and my guess would be that he possesses executive ability and that he would grow with any job he was called upon to handle. At the moment he is writing two articles for our Review; one on medical education and one on research in the USSR. Both are very timely and will be very informative since they are based on first-hand evidence.

Thanks for giving me the names of Dr. Arthur Ruskin and Dr. Ludwick Anigstein. We shall certainly be glad to call upon them because we need such people.

Cordially as ever yours,

[Henry]

Shimkin see L. to S. of 4 November 1943. "Our Review": American Review of Soviet Medicine. Ruskin and Anigstein see L. to S. of 20 March 1944.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 12 June 1944*

Dear Henry:

Your note in the February issue of the Bulletin of the History of Medicine on Ambroise Paré's Onion Treatment of Burns (Bull. Hist. Med., 15; 143-149, 1944) suggests that Paré may have picked up the use of onions for the prevention of infections from earlier sources. This is not to detract for a moment from Paré's greatness as "a keen observer". He was, of course, but so were the ancient Egyptians.

Prescriptions 21 and 23 in the Hearst Medical Papyrus, which has been translated and annotated to a considerable extent by Doctor Henry Lutz, Doctor Sanford Larkey, and myself, deal with the treatment of infected bites. Such bites must have been as common in ancient Egypt as they are there now. While the old Egyptians differentiated the white garlic from green onions or leeks, they recommended salves and extracts of these plants for applications to bites and injuries.

As in the case of many other remedies developed from the experience of the Egyptians, these uses of garlicks, onions and leeks were taken over by the classical medical writers. Similar uses are recommended for them by Dioscorides (2: 179, 181-183), and these uses are discussed by Francis Adams in his famous commentary on the works of Paul of Aegina (3: 310).

It thus appears likely that the ancient Egyptian observation of the value of extracts of allium porrum and related species are useful in treating infected bites or injury, was carried over through Greco-Roman and later medieval period to the time of Ambroise Paré, to be revived by him and his followers, and finally to be put on what we call a "scientific basis" by B. Tokin and his associates at Tomsk (Amer. Rev. Sov. Med., 1: 236-250, 1944).

I am not so sure that empiricism should be differentiated from science, as you indicate in your closing comment. The empirical development of remedies by ancient or primitive



peoples involves many scientific principles. There is first the accurate observation of the activity of the material in general, and then the application of this knowledge to a particular condition. Trial of a remedy on this basis may be considered to be an experiment, the success of which results in the recommendation.

We're all following your work with great interest and hope that everything continues to go well with you and yours.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

Ambroise Paré (ca. 1510-1590) French surgeon; (Sigerist 1944a). Lutz see L. to S. of 5 March 1934. Pedanios Dioscorides (1st century AD) Greek botanist and pharmacologist. Francis Adams (1796-1861) translated and commented early medical literature (Adams 1834). Paul of Aegina (7th century) byzantine physician.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 22 June 1944*

Dear Chauncey:

I have to thank you for two very good letters and I cannot tell you how much I appreciated your comments. It is a great satisfaction to know that one is not writing in a vacuum and it means a great deal to have the moral support of a man such as you who combines scholarship with great administrative experience.

I did not feel too easy when I wrote my last editorial, "The University at the Crossroads", but I am so deeply concerned about the future of our universities that I just had to unload my mind and from the many letters I received from all over the country, I am glad to see that I am not alone. In my own University, there are unfortunately many people in high and influential positions whose general attitude is: "To hell with scholarship ! We are at war; let's drop everything and win the war. Later we can resume our normal activities." My own dean said to me the other day: "Why should not professors peel potatoes if it helps the war effort ?" This attitude explains why we lost the last war in spite of military victory and why there are chances of our losing the peace again. Many people still have the naïve view that war is a kind of natural catastrophe that comes nobody knows how; instead of realizing that wars, like economic depressions, are man-made and that we should learn how to prevent them.

I think the university has an extraordinary responsibility. If, after the last war, we marched merrily into the depression and from there into another war, it was largely due to the fact that the universities had failed to train the right leaders and had failed to awaken public opinion.

You are certainly right in what you say about philosophy. At the University of Leipzig where Hans Driesch was head of the Philosophy Department, no graduate student was admitted by the Department before he had spent several years in some other field, chemistry, physics, medicine, engineering, or any other field. The idea was certainly good and Driesch, whom I knew personally very well, made a great effort to stem the tide that was coming over Germany; unfortunately it was too late.

I have not yet read Somerset Maugham's new novel but have the book on my shelf. Aldous Huxley has escaped into mysticism also. It is tempting, of course, but we must resist the temptation and remain with both feet on the earth.

I was also very interested in what you wrote about the use of onions and this reminded me that one of my old students had once written a paper on the use of onions in Western medicine. I just found that I have a reprint left and am sending it enclosed together with another paper that discusses the medicinal use of a few other plants. By the way, when will the new edition of the Hearst medical papyrus be published ? It will be a great contribution.

With kind regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

[Henry]

One of L.'s two letters mentioned is missing. *The University at the Crossroads* was published in 1944 and became part and title of a book (Sigerist 1946). Dean of the Hopkins Medical School was Alan Mason Chesney see L. to S. of 28. October 1937. Hans Driesch 1867-1941) German biologist and philosopher. Somerset Maugham (1874-1965) British novelist. Aldous Huxley (1894-1963) British writer. "Use of onions" see L. to S. of 12 June 1944.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 26 June 1944*

Dear Henry:

Thank you for your stimulating and helpful letter of June 22nd, and particularly for the article by Kurt Heyser on onions. This is an excellent review, and I had a note of it for use in connection with our studies of the Hearst papyrus. I also had a note of Maria Tscholakowa's studies on the history of medicinal plants. Hirschfeld's work on scilla was also noted. However, I am glad to have the reprints so that they are available for immediate reference use.

It may be a long while before the Hearst medical papyrus appears. We're trying to do the job properly, and believe me it's a tough one. We don't want to go off any deep end and with a lot of unfortunate adverse criticism. But I suppose sometime we'll have to step out and say what we've got to say.

Keep up your hammering at the door of the university, so as to keep our university authorities aware of their grave responsibilities these days. Know that we're behind you, and that we're all concerned over the same problems that are worrying you.

Mostly I despair of the philosophers ! They have so completely lost touch with the realities of the current world that when they speak it is as from a tomb. I'm just engaging in a debate with Peter Carmichael of Louisiana State, who takes exception to my review of Conklin's book "Man: Real and Ideal" which appeared last January in Science. I don't know what is worrying Carmichael, but he certainly takes me for a pedantic loop ! Maybe a little continued prodding will get something out of philosophers. I'm struggling with Niebuhr's Gifford lectures, and in spite of his erudition, I still despair !

I hope that you and George Sarton will be able to work together in promoting the common interests that you have. I think it is shameful the way his efforts have been neglected and frequently inhibited.

We all join in sending our best to you and yours as ever.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Onions see L. to S. of 12 June 1944. Maria Tscholakowa and Robert Hirschfeld, writers on medicinal plants. L.'s Hearst Medical Papyri were published in 1952 only (Leake 1952). Edwin G. Conkling, biologist and philosopher, his book (Conkling 1943). L.'s positive review of Conkling's book (Leake 1944). Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971) theologian; his Gifford lectures (Niebuhr 1941).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 31 July 1944*

Dear Henry:

Enclosed are copies of letters which may interest, and, I hope amuse you !

It appears that we have a long way to go if we are to get aid from the philosophers in our effort to promote the ideals and implications of science ! Perhaps our professional thinkers have all the answers thought out !

With best wishes for a restful and happy summer, I am

As ever yours,  
Chauncey

“Enclosed letters“ see S. to L. of 14 August 1944.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 14 August 1944*

Dear Chauncey:

I was most interested in your correspondence with Carmichael. It really seems that we cannot expect much help from professional philosophers and we will have to develop our own philosophy from the experience of science.

Are you familiar with the writings of M. C. Otto who is professor of philosophy at the University of Wisconsin. He is a pragmatist and takes a very sound position. I just received the enclosed reprint which I am sure will interest you.

With kind regards, I am,  
Yours very cordially,  
[Henry]

Carmichael, probably Peter, see L. to S. of 26 June 1944. Max C. Otto (1876-1968) philosopher.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 21 August 1944*

Dear Henry:

Thanks for your letter of August 14th. Max Otto at the University of Wisconsin is an old friend of mine and always a helpful one. He is one of the few philosophers in this country who keep their feet solidly on the ground, and who do know and appreciate something of what science is about. Thanks for letting me see his interesting article on scientific humanism, which I am returning to you since you may want it.

If you are interested in provoking a reaction from our professional philosophers, why not write an editorial for the Bulletin of the History of Medicine on “The Failure of Professional Philosophers“ ? I think it would be well worthwhile and I think it would have a healthy effect.

Philosophy should really be the keystone of the university’s educational effort. I’m afraid it has become sterile through teaching as though all those being taught were expecting to become professional philosophers ! Its business remains the “love of knowledge“ and the derivation of principles and implications of our scientific knowledge of ourselves and our environment.

Congratulations on the continued high excellence of the Bulletin. You can look back with rich satisfaction over the fifteen volumes that have appeared and take great pride in what you have accomplished for the promotion of sound historical work in the field of the history of medicine and indeed of the history of science generally.

Here’s hoping you have a restful and happy summer. We want you to come down to visit us.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

Max C. Otto; see S. to L. of 14 August 1944.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 6 September 1944*

Dear Henry:

It’s good to know that you are not discouraged by the lack of sale of your superb Medical Classics series. It is very hard for me to understand why the people in this country are so slow to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities we have accumulating so thickly about us. Perhaps that’s the trouble ! For so long there was nothing in Russia. Perhaps the accumulated desires of centuries led the Soviets now to snap up eagerly and immediately anything that they can lay their hands upon.

But the matter is much deeper. In a single generation it’s been possible to condition the Russians away from the emotional sentimentality of our unfortunate religious traditions. The Soviets have been trained to scientific thought and scientific interests. They appreciate the real religious value that there is in science, and perhaps that’s why they’re so hungry to eat it up. I’m afraid we’ll be inhibited on that score for a long while in this country.

By the way, be sure to change my address on the Bulletin, so that it will come here. And I think we'll put in an order for some extra copies of the Medical Classics right now.

We all join in sending you our best as ever.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Medical Classic series (Sigerist 1944b).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 20 September 1944*

Dear Henry:

We certainly missed you at the Cleveland meeting of the AAAS. The section on the history and philosophy of science was well attended and discussion was vigorous. I had the pleasure of reading part of your paper, taking over when Ned Krumbhaar got a little hoarse. He made an eloquent plea for incorporating the history of science as a significant part of our educational program. Of course we are all with you. Why not play up George Sarton's efforts? I think he needs plenty of encouragement, as all of us do.

Congratulations on the successful completion of the first year of publication of the American Review of Soviet Medicine. You may be very proud of your achievement, and particularly of the very warm reception it has received since it has been published. Let's hope the effort remains as successful in the future. I think it is one of the most significant attempts to bring a better understanding between nations that has ever been undertaken in this country. We simply must know more about what our Russian colleagues are doing if we are to judge at all sensibly. There's so much prejudice to be overcome!

Let me suggest that you make contact promptly with Doctor Michael Shimkin, in order to have him send material regularly to you from Russia. He is being assigned as Medical Liaison Officer for the U. S. Public Health Service to Russia. His fine background in science and medicine, and his thorough appreciation of Russia, will make him most valuable to us in this regard. I'm confident that he can send you regular notes on what is going on.

You'll be interested to know that we are working in the laboratory on the antireticular antitoxic serum. There is certainly something it does to tissue culture, but we haven't quite analyzed what. We all join in sending you and your associates our cordial best wishes as ever,

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

AAAS: American Association for the Advancement of Science. Ned Krumbhaar, physician, not identical with Edward B. Krumbhaar (1882-1966) pathologist in Philadelphia and founder of the American Association for the History of Medicine in 1925. Shimkin see L. to S. of 4 November 1943. "Antireticular antitoxic serum" in L. to S. of 9 March 1944 was (erroneously?) called antireticular cytotoxic serum.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 12 January 1945*

Dear Henry:

It's good to know you're back home after so exciting a trip. We hope that you had a fine time and we know that you learned a lot. We are expecting a full report !

Miss Konjias wrote me that you were impressed by the provisions for medical care and prevention in Canada. We have been urging that general practitioners make preventive medicine their specialty, and that they try the proposition of practicing on a retainer fee basis. I think that this deserves a lot of consideration.

Have you seen the rather excellent summary of "U. S. Medicine in Transition" in the December Fortune ? I'm surprised that this does not consider the possibility of practicing preventive medicine on a retainer fee basis.

For many years I have been preaching that doctrine in California and have made some headway particularly in obstetrics and pediatrics. I'm recently trying to develop the same idea in this part of the country, but it's slow work, as you know.

Here's hoping that the New Year will be thoroughly satisfying to you. With best wishes from us all,

Cordially yours,

Chauncey

In 1944 S. was invited to Canada and India to study aspects of the organization of medical care; in Saskatchewan he was actively involved in the introduction of a new system. Helen Konjias worked in S.'s Institute.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 15 January 1945*

Dear Henry:

Thanks greatly for your letter of January 11th. It's good to know that you're back safely and that you had so fine a time.

I'm very grateful for your word regarding Colonel Bhatia. We have a very high regard for him as you may imagine. I have been corresponding with him for many years and had the pleasure of meeting him in San Francisco and London.

Here's hoping everything continues to go well with you. You'll be very interested in hearing the other side of the story of the University of Texas mess. So far the publicity has been only one sided. We regret very much that this controversy should have occurred since we all feel that we've got a real job to do in our part in helping in the war effort. We feel that controversies don't help at all !

With best from us all,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

S.'s letter of 11 January is missing. "Back safely": from India. Colonel Bhatia and "University of Texas mess" not identified.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 20 February 1945*

Dear Chauncey:

Thanks for recommending Dr. Arthur Ruskin. We already have his name on our list but had no opportunity so far to make use of his services. I have no doubt, however, that we shall need him in the near future.

Yours very cordially,  
[Henry]

Ruskin see S. to L. of 29 March 1944. "Services" for the American Review of Soviet Medicine.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 27 February 1946*

Dear Chauncey:

Thank you ever so much for your splendid "Allergy ,45" that I have just read with the greatest pleasure and also for your letter of February 21 and your reprints.

I fully agree with you that it would be highly desirable to resume international conventions as soon as possible but I am afraid that it will not be too easy. It will take some time to restore international organizations and another difficulty that I anticipate is that the university people who used to attend such meetings are greatly impoverished as a result of the war. This applies not only to the European colleagues where it is perfectly obvious but also to us whose salaries remain the same while taxes increased 6 times and the general cost of living went up considerably. In other words, unless international conventions are heavily subsidized by governments, few people will be able to attend them. It is to be hoped that the Cultural Division of the State Department will be interested in such matters.

I will present your letter at the Atlantic City meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine that will take place on May 26 to 27, and I hope that something will come out of it.

With all good wishes, I am  
Yours very cordially  
[Henry]

L.'s letter of 21 February is missing, possibly because S. took it to the Atlantic City meeting and did not put it back into his correspondence files.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 4 March 1946*

Dear Henry:

Thanks a lot for your letter of February 27th. I am glad that you feel that there is some hope for promoting an international scientific organization. Of course, it will need UNO support. That is what the United Nations Council on Education, Science, and Culture is for. But I think we should start an international association for the advancement of science. It will be a long while bringing up, but eventually it may help greatly.

We are having an interesting session on physical medicine with much historical material in exhibit and in discussion.

With best wishes as always to you all, I am

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 19 March 1946*

Dear Henry:

Mr. S. R. Schapiro [sic] writes me that he is proposing some sort of a celebration for Charles Singer's 70th birthday. This strikes me as being definitely in order, and something which the Medical History Association might sponsor. It might be appropriate to prepare a bibliography of Singer's writings for publication in the Bulletin. It's amazing the number of odd articles which Charles has written in very out of the way places. I think it would be very helpful to have a record of his contributions.

B. A. Houssay, the great Argentine physiologist, writes me that most of the two-hundred professors of the Faculty of Medicine have expressed their democratic ideas. "Only five or six of them have demonstrated their tendencies to dictatorship and Colonel Peron. Between them, as was easy to see, is Doctor Juan Ramon Beltran". I am sorry !

Here's hoping that Sanford Larkey is back on the job and that everything is going well and to your full satisfaction. I am sorry not to be able to get to the library meeting in New Haven. John will have a grand time showing the proofs of the Cushing biography.

With best wishes as always, I am

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

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S. R. Shapiro, a non identified correspondent of L.. Charles Singer see L. to S. of 13 March 1933. Bernardo A. Houssay (1887-1971) Argentine physiologist and Nobel laureate. Juan Peron, Argentine dictator 1946-1955. Beltran see L. to S. of 14 April 1939. Sanford Larkey was in the Army during WWII. "John" F. Fulton, wrote a biography of Harvey Cushing (Fulton 1946).

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*Sigerist to Leake, Baltimore ?, 26 March 1946*

Dear Chauncey:

A Festschrift for Charles Singer's 70th birthday is being prepared in England. The editor is Ashworth Underwood, the director of the Wellcome Medical Historical Museum. I feel pretty sure that he will include into this Festschrift a bibliography of Singer's but I will inquire and should it not be the case, I would be only too glad to publish such a bibliography in the Bulletin.

I am not astonished to hear that Beltran in Buenos Aires is on the fascist side. He is a militant catholic and South American fascism is a clerico-fascism. I am afraid to see that something similar is happening in Europe where the Catholic Church is becoming the crystallization point of all the reactionary activities.

Sanford Larkey is back on the job, much to our delight. This relieves the Institute of a tremendous burden and we are all glad to be able to go back to our historical studies.

With kind regards, I am

Yours very cordially,  
[Henry]

Singer see L. to S. of 13 March 1933; a Festschrift in his honor appeared in 1953 only (Underwood 1953). A bibliography of Singer's works has been published in the Festschrift. Beltran see L. to S. of 14 April 1939.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 29 May 1946*

Dear Henry:

It is very good of Henry Schuman to collect your recent essays on university and medical training. The editors of Science have asked me to review it. I am enjoying the opportunity to reread the bulk of the essays which I recall having read with pleasure when they appeared. You may recall some of my correspondence with you on some of them. I am glad that you added the new essays at the beginning and the end. These are very provocative, and should result in a lot of helpful thought. The most significant essays, I still think, is the one entitled "The University's Dilemma". Here's hoping that you will continue to write more and thus to enjoy life.

You will be interested to know that I have a very high regard for the standard of medical practice in Hawaii. I think it is superior to any in this country. The hospitals are superbly organized and while at first blush much of the practice may seem paternalistic, it is in reality more socialistic. The workman really contributes significantly.

We all join in sending you and yours our best. Here's to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,  
Chauncey

Henry Schuman, publisher in New York. Collection of S. essays (Sigerist 1946); L.'s review of it (Leake 1946). *The University's Dilemma* (Sigerist 1943a).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 7 March 1947*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Yesterday morning I received a delightful letter from Professor Hans Fischer of Zurich saying that he had seen you last summer, and that he thought you were soon to return to your Zurich home in order to devote yourself to the writing of your great history of medicine. And then last night after I got back from a meeting of our postgraduate session on physical medicine, I read in Time of your decision to leave Hopkins, and to return to Switzerland. In many ways I think you are wise, but I want you to know that we will all miss you very much indeed. However, our sincerest best wishes will go with you, for the full success and satisfaction in your great work.

You have been a tremendous stimulus to us all in this country, and you have made a lasting contribution toward the maintenance of the finest cultural traditions of medicine. We have needed you greatly. You came to us in our time of need, and you gave us inspiring leadership. You may be proud indeed of all that you have accomplished. In particular, you may rejoice in the great host of devoted pupils who will now have the responsibility of carrying on your work.

It will not be easy to carry along as you would wish. We all recognize the exceptionally fine standards of scholarly achievement on which you so properly insist. It will be impossible for anyone to show the remarkable intellectual leadership which you have given us. But we will try ! And so you may rejoice that your influence has been so widespread among us.

You may rejoice further in having been so significant a factor in welding together the intellectual forces throughout the world. Perhaps from the vantage point of central Europe this influence may gain steadily in importance.

Elizabeth joins me in wishing you and yours every joy. Be sure to let us have your address !

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Hans Fischer (1892-1976) at the University of Zurich, like L. a pharmacologist and medical historian, see Sigerist-Fischer correspondence. S. was not to return to Zurich, but rather to settle in the village of Pura in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland (see S. to L. of 23 February 1948). "Our time of need": The 1930s, when medical history except for Baltimore was not yet institutionalized and largely a matter of amateurs. "Host of devoted pupils": L. as someone who devoured S.'s writings and kept in constant contact will have rightfully considered himself a pupil of S.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, Switzerland, 23 February 1948*

Dear Chauncey,

It was ever so good of you to send us a copy of your beautiful cadenzed [sic] story of anesthesia. You gave us a sample of it at Cleveland, and I have just read the whole story with the greatest enjoyment. With the verses in the first part and the chronology in the second, you have combined poetry, history and science in a most fortunate way.

We like it here very much, but of course miss our friends in America, and I very much hope that you will come and visit us some day. The house is quite in the country in midst of vineyards. I have vines myself and last year's wine that I made turned out to be very good, so you must come and taste it.

My book is progressing very satisfactorily, and I enjoy tremendously being able to work without being interrupted all the time. Did you hear that Jonckheere has just published a 3-volume book on Egyptian medicine:

P. Jonckheere, *La médecine égyptienne*, 3 vols., Ed. de la fondation Egyptologique Reine Elisabeth, Palais du Cinquantenaire, Bruxelles.

I have not seen it yet, but he is a very good Egyptologist, so that I expect a lot from this book.

There is a tremendous activity in medical history all over Europe. Italy, for instance, has flourishing schools in a number of places and is publishing a great many books. I am going to review some of them in the *Bulletin* and I am trying to act as liaison man between the two continents. The chief trouble with many European scholars is that they have been cut off from the rest of the world for such a long time that they do not know what had been done in other countries, particularly in America.

With warm regards to you and Elizabeth I am

Yours as ever,

[Henry]

S.s address is given as: Casa Serena. Pura, Ticino. Switzerland.

Story of anesthesia (Leake 1947). "Cleveland": Site of the annual meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine in May 1947. "My book": S. had planned a multi-volume History of Medicine for years; it was the reason of his retreat to Pura, however, the first volume appeared only in 1951 (Sigerist 1951). Frans Jonckheere (1903-1956); S.'s citation is not quite correct, see (Jonckheere 1944).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 1 March 1948*

Dear Henry:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to your good friend, Reinhard Lier. We are glad to know that he is getting back into business again. I think the University of Washington in Seattle might be very interested in the collection to which Lier refers. You probably could use your influence out there to get the proposal favorably considered.

It is very interesting to know that you are turning out some good wine. That goes best with old friends and old books. Certainly we will lift a glass with you, and in fondest memory.

Thanks for giving me the reference to Jonckheere. The work sounds very important, and we will look forward to reading it with much interest. I am glad to know that work is going forward so well with you. You can do a lot for us all.

Elizabeth joins me in sending affectionate best to you all.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Reinhard Lier, publisher in Milan and Florence. (Jonckheere 1944).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 4 May 1948*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

You may have further interest in some of my impressions regarding the development of opinion in this country regarding the world situation. We are greatly concerned over our failure to obtain a truce in Palestine. The point, of course, is that we don't want to fight unless we have to. There is a great deal of sentiment among our women. They do not want our young men to be exposed to death ! We don't realize fully that we have to be prepared to make every possible sacrifice if we are to be effective in this complex world.

There is increasing support for the Marshall Plan. This is resulting, however, in further inflationary trend. The rising spiral of prices is forcing further demands from labor, with further difficulties due to strikes. We are now trying to work out some way by which we can control credit, so that the inflationary trend may be stopped. It's a difficult problem.

Many of you think, of course, that we are rolling in wealth, that we have every possible convenience and all sorts of food and clothing. The fact is in our own home, for example, we haven't had a piece of meat for the last year and a half, except perhaps some liver. We can get poultry and fish alright, but there is no meat. Food in general is extremely high, so that we are all curtailing what we are eating. We are finally learning that we can do without luxury things, and except for the inevitable "show offs" we are learning to leave luxury items alone.

Shipment of wheat continues at an all record high from Galveston, chiefly for European ports. Our harbor is filled with ships ready to be loaded, and long trains keep rumbling in from the wheat lands. It looks, however, that we will have a dry year.

There is great discussion regarding the method of control of atomic energy. We are participating in all kinds of committees for various aspects of scientific study of atomic energy problems. We are doing everything we can to promote scientific conferences, so as to break down the tendency toward secrecy which was so marked during the war.

We all join in sending our cordial best wishes to you all.

Sincerely yours,  
Chauncey

Palestine: The war between Jews and Arabs before and after the establishment of the state of Israel on 14 May 1948. Marshall Plan: Secretary of State George C. Marshall's proposal in 1947 of a European Recovery Program.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura 19 May 1948*

My dear Chauncey,

Thanks ever so much for your very informative letter of May 4. It confirms what all my American friends write me and what we read in the papers and journals. We have TIME magazine the European edition of which is issued almost simultaneously with the American edition. We have the New Republic, the Saturday Review of Literature, the New Yorker and a dozen other American journals so that we keep informed. Let me be very frank. Although foreign born I am an American citizen and feel deeply attached to America. I always try to explain American policy to my European friends but find it sometimes very difficult.

First of all I find that American propaganda is extraordinarily poor. Happenings like the reception of Madame Joliot-Curie have tremendous repercussions in Europe. The State Department and the American Embassy in Paris are perfectly justified in refusing her a visa if they think that her philosophy is not orthodox but once a visa has been granted she should not be taken to Ellis Island. She is a scientist who is worshipped in Europe as much as Einstein is in America. The refusal of a passport to Congressman Isaacson at the very moment when freedom of the press was being discussed in Geneva undid all the efforts of the American delegation. The passport was granted later under pressure but it was too late. All I know about Isaacson is that he was elected to Congress in the democratic way and that he intended to go abroad on a journalistic mission and this just at the moment when the American delegation in Geneva was pressing the point that reporters should be permitted to do their work freely. The smearing of Dr. Condon, a man who is universally respected was another such happening that was widely discussed in Europe. I have a great admiration for all scientists who are still willing to serve the government. They have poor salaries and always run the risk of being smeared in a disgusting way. The passport policy of the U.S. is very hard to explain here because in Switzerland a passport is not a document that is granted or refused according to a man's philosophy but one to which every citizen is entitled.

As to the Marshall Plan I confess that I am very sceptical as to its result. I believe that the countries that stay out of it will be better off in the long run. They will have very hard years but will reconstruct their economy through their own efforts. We live less than 2 miles from the Italian border and see Italians coming over every day. You very frequently hear the view that now that the Italians have voted the American-Vatican ticket it is America's duty to feed and support them. Just as the Greeks are not fighting their Communists. They hope to please America by executing prisoners but the civil war is considered America's business.

You hear very often that the primary purpose of the Marshall Plan is to postpone an economic crisis in America by pumping billions into an over-expanded industry and agriculture. The rising spiral of prices is hard to explain in a country where there is complete price control. Whether I buy an egg in my village, in Lugano or in Zurich makes no difference. The price is the one set by the government and when I buy an egg directly from the farmer he takes his paper to find out what the price is. Another purpose attributed to the Marshall Plan is to influence elections (if you vote for the Pope, the King or any capitalist party will feed you, or else -). Please do not misunderstand me, I am merely reporting what I hear because I think it may interest you. I see very many people, from many countries and from all walks of life, doctors, farmers, cabinet ministers, workers, scholars and students.

The Palestine affair was mismanaged from beginning to end. There is no point in U.N. making decisions if the organization is not willing or able to enforce them with troops. I also

think that the American policy in China is utterly futile. Recently I had the visit of an Austrian doctor and his Chinese wife who just spent 8 years in the Communist section of China. They gave me an enthusiastic account of the land reform program, one that a few hundred million dollars will never undo. Nor is there any point in training and arming a few crack divisions that will desert to the Communists at the first opportunity. It is very easy to fight the Communists in any country but as far as I can see there is only one method namely to take the wind out of their sails.

Of course, I know that very few people in America are rolling in wealth and certainly no university people. When I left Hopkins a year ago not one professor had had a salary rise but many still had the salary cuts from the depression years. Years ago I wrote in an essay that the war would impoverish victor and victim and this certainly proved to be true. Money is only a symbol and one cannot produce for destruction and increase wealth at the same time. Who cares for luxuries? During the last 25 years I always had a car. Now I cannot afford one and I find that I can do without one just as well. Actually if I should ever again buy a means of locomotion I would much rather buy a donkey. Meat, I think, is disappearing as a source of protein in human nutrition because we are unable to produce it at a price that people can afford. But who cares for meat? Most of mankind never has any. We have electricity in our house and, of course, find it convenient but I would be just as happy and would be able to do my work just as well with candles. All these technical matters are so utterly unimportant. Here in Europe very few people are interested in atomic energy. So far we have not been able to use the sources of energy we already possess. It takes me 6-8 weeks to get a book from New York, about the same time as in the 18th century in the days of the sailing vessels. I also think that the atom bomb is greatly overrated as a war weapon. You can destroy cities with it but people will take to the woods, and it would take an enormous amount of bombs to wipe out the population of one-sixth of the inhabited earth.

I began my career in Oriental studies and again I am increasingly interested in Asia and I believe that the future of civilization lies with the people of India, China, Indochina, Indonesia etc. because they have a much better sense of value than we have. They will have to develop some industries by necessity but will never forget that a good poem is infinitely more important than a Diesel engine just as I know that the roses that are in full bloom in my garden just now are an infinitely greater miracle and a much greater source of happiness than the electricity in the house.

Chauncey, we are old friends and this is why I wrote you so frankly. I love America and believe in its future but these are difficult days.

Yours as ever

[Henry]

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Irène Joliot-Curie (1897-1956) French chemist and physicist. Ellis Island, New York: Former main entry facility and hospital for immigrants. Isaacson, probably Leo (1910-1996), leftist congressman, New York. Edward U. Condon (1902-1974) nuclear physicist, discredited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in the late 1940s. Marshall Plan and Palestine affair see L. to S. of 4 May 1948. Indochina comprised Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 25 May 1948*

Dear Henry:

It is very helpful to have your fine letter of May 19th. As usual you analyze the situation clearly and succinctly. How I wish that our political leaders had the experience and vision of the English statesmen. Churchill's Memoirs are being published serially in Life and are attracting much attention. They are superbly done, and they might help enormously, if some of our political leaders would read them !

We are much concerned over the silly bureaucratic nonsense involving visas, passports, and "loyalty tests". These are examples at high levels of what occurs generally in American communities in ordinary police work.

We are currently having a V.D. drive in Galveston, which is running into enormous political repercussions. This is the same sort of a picture that occurs in most American cities, and it is generally one of officiousness, literal interpretation of foolish regulations, graft, personal prejudices, and abuse of authority and responsibility. We have a long way to go ! It is peculiarly interesting to observe the exaggeration of these common American tendencies, in Texas. There is here a greater degree of political sophistication with emotional immaturity than almost anywhere else in this country.

Our thinking is very confused regarding the Marshall Plan. We want to do everything we can to help the democratic nations of Europe. No matter how we try it, it is bound to maintain inflation in this country. It is my opinion that a much more effective program would be firm military assurance for support of a united western Europe. For many years I have been interested in a genuine political union among the democracies of the world. Perhaps this is the time to move forward.

The Palestine problem has generally annoyed us. It has been handled merely by expediency. Most of this is political. We are hopeful that something specific and worthwhile can develop now that the new nation is established, even under warfare conditions.

You are so wise regarding value judgements. You are aware, of course, of the great amount of philosophical study on this problem which is now going forward in this country. An excellent volume is Ray Lepley's "Verifiability of Value" (Columbia Univ. Press, New York, 1944, \$ 2.25). We have developed by unfortunate conditioning a wholly false set of values with respect to technological improvement. The discussion in the recent issue of Time on "Television" is a case in point. The effort being made by F. S. C. Northrop ("The Meeting of East and West", MacMillan, 1946, \$ 6.00) is helpful, but unfortunately it does not reach the lower levels where it might be really effective. The values you suggest regarding a poem, or a blooming rose, simply has no significant value for the mass of our people. They are still too emotionally immature. We tend wholly to over-rate such things as atomic energy, radioactive isotopes, and the atomic bomb. I think that we will learn much to our disappointment !

Elizabeth joins me in affectionate regards to you both. We are meeting in Philadelphia this week, and we will be thinking of you.

With best as ever,

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

P.S. Would you give me permission to send the general parts of your letter to the New York Times ? It is peculiarly important in my opinion to have these clear statements of yours published in this country, and I am confident that Times would do so. If you feel inclined to write a letter directly, why not do so ?

CDL

Winston Churchill (1874-1965) (Churchill 1959). V.D. venereal diseases. Marshall Plan, Palestine problem, new nation (Israel) see L. to S. of 4 May 1948. Filmer S. C. Northrop (1893-1992) philosopher at Yale University and author. Television became widespread in the 1940s.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 2 June 1948*

Dear Chauncey,

Just a line to thank you for your very interesting letter of May 25 which explains a great deal, and to tell you to feel free to make any use of my letter that you may wish to make.

From John Fulton I heard that you had a good meeting in Philadelphia, and I am only sorry that there are difficulties with the Bulletin. I always experienced that the best method of solving such problems was to invite all parties involved to a good dinner with good wine, whereupon a solution was usually found. If I had been on the spot I would have done this weeks ahead of the meeting. I feel confident, however, that the difficulties will be straightened out and that the Bulletin will remain the organ of the Association.

I deeply appreciated it that you made me an Honorary Member. Nothing could have pleased me more because the Association was and always will be very close to my heart.

With kind regards I am

Yours very cordially,

[Henry]

Meeting in Philadelphia, of the American Association of the History of Medicine, at which S. was made an Honorary Member.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 8 June 1948*

Dear Henry:

It is very interesting to realize that a letter from you posted June 2nd can reach me in Galveston five days later. I presume it was already here on the week-end, but wasn't delivered to me until Monday. What a world !

Here is a value that has its compensation, even in respect to the blooming rose. It is important for friends to be able to keep in touch with each other, and time is an important biological function. Thoroughly do I agree with you that it is necessary for us to reorient ourselves with regard to value. In this country, F. S. C. Northrup [sic] has done much to call our attention to the importance of the aesthetic values so highly regarded in the Orient. He uses Mexico as an example of how the scientific interests of the West may be blended with the aesthetic interests of the East. We are very interested in this matter because of our



proximity to Mexico. Many of us go down there regularly for study, and always come away refreshed.

Doctor Charles M. Pomerat, in charge of our Tissue Culture Laboratory, is a scientist with whom you would have much sympathy. He is a splendid artist, enjoying his own etching and lithography, and he makes the most delightful architectural sketches. He is fascinated by the developments in Mexico, and we are urging him to write about it.

We did miss you greatly at the meeting of the Medical History Association and also of the Medical Library Association. Under Doctor Shryock's genial leadership, we all rose at the dinner to drink cordially to the good health of you and your family. Another surprise was sprung on me this year: on an hours [sic] notice I had to give the talk of the evening. Thanks to Thomas Percival and his medical ethics, I could keep them quiet for a little while !

The most important project which the Honorary Consultants of the Army Medical Library are supporting is a joint effort between the Army Medical Library and the American Medical Association to prepare and publish a comprehensive cumulative monthly index to world medical literature. This is a tremendous undertaking as you can imagine, but I think it will go through.

Be sure to see Doctor Hans Fischer, the pharmacologist at Zurich. He is a delightful and genial man, and he has interests very similar to yours. You will like him greatly.

Of course, The Bulletin will get in difficulty with you away. Genevieve Miller is foolish I think to take time out to get a doctorate, but I suppose she realizes the necessity of joining the union. Doctor Tenkin [sic] should be able to carry The Bulletin with the assistance of Sanford Larkey, but it cannot be the same without your rich wisdom and judgement.

With cordial best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Chauncey

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Northrop see L. to S. of 25 May 1948. Charles M. Pomerat (1905-1964) cytologist; L. wrote about him (Leake 1965). Shryock and Thomas Percival see S. to L. of 30 November 1940 and 2 January 1932, respectively. Hans Fischer see L. to S. of 7 March 1947; S. knew him quite well, see correspondence Sigerist-Fischer. Genevieve Miller (born 1914) medical historian; S.'s pupil, obtained her Ph.D. at Cornell University. Owsei Temkin (1902-2002) medical historian; S.'s pupil in Leipzig and associate in Baltimore. The editor of the Bulletin of the History of Medicine after Sigerist's departure was Genevieve Miller (1947-1948) followed by Owsei Temkin.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 16 June 1948*

Dear Chauncey,

Many thanks for your letter of June 8. I heard from at least half a dozen sides what a splendid improvised address you gave after the dinner, probably a much better one than the official invited speaker would have made.

Genevieve Miller's leaving Hopkins will be a great loss to the Bulletin, because she was an extremely able editor, but I cannot blame her for wishing to complete her historical studies. She should have done it long ago, and I suppose it was my fault that she did not, because I needed her services so badly. We all know how difficult it is to get jobs without the orthodox degrees.

I have known Hans Fischer for the last 25 years and saw him in Zurich last January, and I am very fond of him also. His wife is a class mate of my wife and with her brother I served in the Swiss army during the first World War. Switzerland is so small that practically everybody knows everybody else.

George Sarton and his wife were here a few days ago, and now we expect the Shryocks and Charles and Dorothea Singer.

With all good wishes I am

Yours as ever,

[Henry]

Genevieve Miller and Hans Fischer see L. to S. of 8 June 1948. “Switzerland is so small ....: 5 million inhabitants at the time. Shryock and Singer see S. to L. of 30 November 1940.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 23 June 1948*

Dear Henry:

The A.M.A. meeting in Chicago is terrific. There must be some 20,000 physicians in attendance. The exhibits are overwhelming. It seemed to me to be quite significant that I was asked to keynote from the standpoint of the practical applications of current pharmacology. It is good to realize that the A.M.A. officials still retain some consideration for the pre-clinical sciences.

Of course, I might have known that you would know the Fischers. What a grand time you must all have together in Switzerland ! Do you know Arthur Stoll in Basel ? He has a great Hodler collection. We are interested in Switzerland because our older son desires to come to Switzerland when he finishes his college work at Madison. He wants to engage in export and import work and is training himself in international economics. This will give us we hope increased personal reasons for liking Switzerland and our many good Swiss friends. You may certainly be proud as a nation of the example you have set for us all.

Elizabeth joins me in best greetings to you all.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

A.M.A.: American Medical Association. Fischer see L. to S. of 7 March 1947. Arthur Stoll (1887-1971) Swiss chemist. Ferdinand Hodler (1853-1918) Swiss painter. “Older son“: Chauncey Leake jr.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 19 May 1949*

Dear Henry:

We are all thinking of you on the occasion of the 22nd annual meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine. Greetings from us all. You may certainly take great pride in the development of this organization, which you founded, and which you carried along so successfully for so many happy years.

To tell you the truth we are floundering a bit in your absence. We need a strong leader such as you were to keep our efforts together. We believe our efforts are important. We have to maintain cultural interest of medicine, if the great tradition of the profession is to be preserved. We must have continued stimulus for our students to appreciate the importance of keeping contact with the humanities. Medicine is a profession which requires a broad humanistic spirit, as well as a firm scientific background. The history of medicine is the best way to achieve this combination.

The Lexington meeting promises to be very interesting. There should be good attendance. But what a fine one I am to talk when I am not certain that I'll be there myself !

We had a very peppy meeting of the Medical Library Association here in Galveston. The meetings were enthusiastically attended, there was lots of discussion about indexing and abstracting, and we had a good time all around.

Elizabeth joins me in sending our affectionate best to you and your family. Here's to you. Keep happy.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

The American Association of the History of Medicine (AAHM) was founded by Edward B. Krumbhaar in 1925, i.e., before S.'s the arrival in the U.S.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 13 June 1949*

Dear Chauncey,

Very many thanks for your good letter of May 19. I am always glad to hear that I am still remembered and that I am missed, but I think that the Association is doing very well. I had several reports about the meeting in Kentucky and there can be no doubt that it was a great success. The atmosphere can be most congenial, and Boston will be a very good meeting place for next year.

Of course it is extremely important to maintain and cultivate the humanistic spirit in medicine. It is not easy at a time when medicine is becoming increasingly scientific and technical, but unless we succeed in producing not only scientifically competent but also cultured physicians with a deep understanding of man in health and illness, in his physical and social environment, medicine will be wrecked by its own progress.

In this great task, I think that men like you who are in responsible positions and have great influence in the formation of students have the most important function to fulfill. All we can do is to provide the raw materials for you.

The first volume of my History is in the press and will be issued in the spring of 1950. At the moment I am writing Volume II and preparing Volume III. It is a gigantic task, fascinating in every respect.

With all good wishes and hoping to see you some day again, I am

Yours very cordially

[Henry]

The appearance of Volume I of *A History of Medicine* was delayed (Sigerist 1951). Volume II appeared incomplete and posthumously (Sigerist 1961).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 30 August 1949*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

Our elder son, Chauncey who has just graduated in economics from the University of Wisconsin is making a tour of Europe this fall in order to get information on European economic conditions, with particular reference to an attempt to promote better trade with this country. We realize of course that we must import more than we do. I have told Chauncey to visit you if he comes to your home city. I hope that we will not disturb you. He is a sensible quiet lad, and I deeply appreciate any information you may be able to give him.

We have had a busy summer. We are in the midst of the tumult of building a new hospital and we are planning a new laboratory building. Fortunately it has been a cool summer for us. We have been enjoying a seminar series on new developments in pharmacology. There certainly are plenty ! With cordial best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Chauncey

Here's hoping the great History is coming well. We miss you !

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 19 September 1949*

Dear Chauncey,

Just a line to thank you for your note of August 30, and to tell you that the visit of your son will be most welcome. I am not an economist, but I see a lot of people from all over the world and hear a great deal that never gets into the newspapers.

We had a beautiful summer, never too hot but somewhat too dry for the garden, and now we are enjoying the fall when the grapes, and other fruits are ripe.

At the moment, I am deep in the second volume of my *History* in which I intend to give India almost as much space as Greece and Rome.

We expect John and Lucia Fulton next week, and will all attend the meeting of the Italian Society of the History of Medicine, that will be held early in October in Milan, under the presidency of our friend Arturo Castiglioni.

With all good wishes, I am  
Yours as ever,  
[Henry]

Castiglioni see L. to S. of 12 April 1934.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 26 September 1949*

Dear Henry:

Here's greetings to you, John and Lucia, your good wife, and our fine friend, Arturo Castiglioni ! What a grand time you will all have at the Milan meeting of the Italian Society of the History of Medicine. We will be interested in having a report of the meeting so as to know what is now being studied.

Please be sure to extend greetings from us all to the members of the Society. Thanks to the good influence of yourself and Arturo Castiglioni, there is continuing a widespread and increasing interest in both the history of science and the history of medicine.

An interesting example occurs here. We are instituting this year a special seminar on "The History of Psychiatry". This will run through the year, and is being offered particularly for the residents in psychiatry, but it will also include others who are interested. We have some twenty residents in psychiatry as it is. The seminar discussions are being organized from two points of view: (1) the influence of various social factors in the history of humanity which have current psychiatric significance, and (2) the development of methods of taking care of mental disorder. Please tell Arturo that we are making good use of his book "Adventures of the Mind". So you see your influence continues to spread ! Tell John that we are getting a fair program together for the Association of Honorary Consultants to the Army Medical Library. We shall miss you.

With best to you all,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Castiglioni see L. to S. of 12 April 1934; *Adventures of the Mind* (Castiglioni 1946).

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 8 November 1949*

Dear Chauncey,

I still have to thank you for your warm letter of September 26. You must have seen John Fulton in the meantime at the meeting of Honorary Consultants of the Army Medical Library, and he probably told you what a very pleasant convention we had in Italy. Our friend Castiglioni was in grand style, a superb president who, in spite of his 75 years, was the first to come and the last to leave at every session. John's paper on Polydore Vergil was much appreciated as the subject was quite new to the members of the Congress. You will find a

report in one of the next numbers of the Bulletin. Of course, I conveyed your greetings to Castiglioni and he also wants to be remembered to you.

I was much interested in your seminar on the history of psychiatry. I gave one once at Hopkins years ago that was very well attended, and I think Dr. Temkin gave one last year. Psychiatrists are usually much more historically minded than other physicians, just as they cannot avoid being interested in social factors, since their case histories deal largely with social relations.

Here, things are going their normal way. We had a beautiful summer with good friends visiting us, and now we have a beautiful fall. I am deep in my second volume and greatly enjoy spending a whole year rereading the Greek and Hindu classics, medical and others.

The more I look at the world the more I believe that the greatest event of our century is the reawakening of Asia, and I think that the Asiatics may teach us a great deal. Japan, that imitated our Western technical civilization ended in catastrophe, while India won its independence through non-violence without hatred. The Asiatic countries, of course, will have to become industrialized to a certain extent to provide basic commodities for the people, but I am confident, that they will do it without giving up their great traditions and without losing their soul.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours very cordially,

[Henry]

Castiglioni see L. to S. of 12 April 1934. Polydore Vergil (ca. 1470-1555) English historian of Italian extraction. Temkin see L. to S. of 8 June 1948.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 9 December 1949*

Dear Henry and Emmy:

Elizabeth and I are very happy to get the fine picture of you both enjoying your garden and revelling in the mountains around you. We envy you. Here it is nothing but flat country, with palms and oleanders, and with warm humid air. But we have good friends, as you do.

We have lately moved down the island about 14 miles from the School to the Stewart Home. It is a huge place, but well suited to the entertaining we have to do. Yesterday we had about 200 as our guests to meet the members of the Board of Regents. What a party. But it is a little hard on Elizabeth, getting in and out for things. Besides, we have ten foot pirates painted on the living room walls !

You will be amused at the course of seminars I am giving on the history of psychiatry. Enclosed are some of the reference sheets. These are admittedly quite incomplete, but they are designed for the residents in psychiatry and for readily available material. I'll appreciate your comments and criticisms.

We are having an interesting series of meetings with the Committee on Medical Indexing for the Army Medical Library. We are hoping once again that the building program for the Army Medical Library will get under-way.

Elizabeth joins me as always in sending our affectionate greetings to you both.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 8 February 1950*

Dear Chauncey,

It was a very great pleasure to have news from you and to hear that all of you are in good health and well settled in your new home. A party with two hundred guests sounds rather formidable to us here in the country. We have many guests also, but usually only a few at the time. This year promises to bring many friends to Pura. At the end of March, a small group of Swiss medical historians will hold a two-day conference here, with seven papers on the program and plenty of time for discussion. In August in the week preceding the Amsterdam meeting, I expect a group of American and British colleagues for an informal three-day conference. Genevieve Miller is the driving power behind it, and I am looking forward to this gathering with greatest pleasure. I only wish you would come also. If you have any plans of coming to Europe this year, I very much hope that you will include Pura in your itinerary.

Your seminar on the history of psychiatry sounds most exciting, and your reference sheets are excellent, indeed.

I had reports about the situation in Washington. Personally, I regret that the Index Catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Library will be discontinued, because it is very useful for the kind of work I am doing. On the other hand, I must frankly admit that its value for current medical research is very limited. Nevertheless, it will remain a great monument to the U.S. Army and its medical corps; and I am very happy to have a complete set of it, which I use almost daily.

At the moment I am very busy writing the second volume of my History, which, I think, will be very different from anything that has been written on the subject in the past, not only because I am discussing Greek and Hindu medicine in parallels, but because my approach to the subject is rather different. Most books on Greek medicine present the subject as if it had been a branch of philosophy and nothing else; while I am interested in diseases and what has been actually done to prevent and cure them.

We have palm trees here also, but in the last few days their leaves were bent under a heavy weight of snow. It does not affect them, however, because snow never lasts long here, and a few weeks from now the camellias will be in full bloom.

With warm wishes to Elizabeth and yourself, in which Emmy joins, I am

Yours very cordially,  
[Henry]

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“We have many guests“: In the early 1950s S. had about 100 guests per year (Bickel 1997). From 1950-1957 the “Pura Conferences“ served as a platform for the active medical historians in Switzerland; the conferences were continued after S.’s death as “Henry E. Sigerist Conferences“. Genevieve Miller see L. to S. of 8 June 1948. “Situation in Washington“: Regarding the Army Medical Library. “Index Catalogue ....“: A bibliographic work on the medical literature, initiated by J. S. Billings in 1879 and continued by F. H. Garrison.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 6 November 1950*

Dear Henry:

It certainly is encouraging to know that Henry Schuman will issue the first volume of your “History of Medicine“ next year. We are all looking forward with keen interest to the study of “Primitive and Archaic Medicine“. I am glad that you have taken one-eighth of the total effort for this important phase. So often it is neglected. Nevertheless, the basic principles which were derived and used so long ago are still part of our problem today. It is essential that medical men, and particularly medical students, understand this point.

We have been having many meetings recently at the Welch Medical Library in connection with problems of indexing medical literature. This is getting to be an extremely serious matter. We are hoping to be able to apply machine methods to the problem, but I think it will come back to the simple matter of expert judgement, with a lot of hard work in pushing pencils !

You might be interested to know that problems of ethics are becoming matters of serious concern with thoughtful people in this country today. For your amusement I am sending you a copy of something we have been doing along these lines.

Elizabeth joins me as usual in sending our affectionate greetings to you and yours.

Faithfully yours

Chauncey

The first volume of S.’s *History* was published by Oxford University Press in New York. “One-eighth of the total effort“: S. had planned for eight volumes. Welch Medical Library in Baltimore.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 26 December 1950*

Dear Henry:

The first reports on your new book are most enthusiastic. Here’s to you ! May the New Year bring you as rich satisfaction and as much success.

My copy of the first volume of your monumental work has not yet arrived, but I am looking forward to seeing it with much interest.

We are having busy times as you can imagine. We are looking forward to a visit from Henry Viets in January. He will be a real stimulus to us as always.

Elizabeth joins me in sending you and yours our best greetings for the New Year.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

Henry R. Viets (1890-1969) medical historian.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 27 March 1951*

Dear Henry:

We are all joining with your friends everywhere in extending to you hearty congratulations on your 60th birthday. To have come to this distinguished age, and to such a position of scholarly eminence, with so much good cheer and vitality, is always a worthy cause for collegial rejoicing. The point is, of course, that we all hope to be able to follow your good example, and maybe assist to carry on the fine things you are doing.

Hans Fischer in Zurich wrote me of the delightful medical history symposium you had this summer. It must have been very stimulating to all who were there. I hope that many of the subjects which were discussed will be reported upon, so that those of us who are interested may have the benefit of the session.

We have had a hard winter. Our vaunted palms and oleanders were devastated by a couple of freezes, and spring seems slow in coming. We had a remarkable visit from Henry Viets in the midst of one of the freezes. With the electricity and phones out, we had no pumps for our water supply down the island, and it was rather rugged with us. Henry said that never in his wildest dreams had he thought that he would have to get his wash water by collecting pails full of ice from palm trees.

Recently at a session in Birmingham where we were discussing scientific standards and the origin of measurement, I couldn't help but comment on what you call the "incantation" or the "spell" for the measuring cup described in the Hearst Papyrus (212). You remember that this refers to the "Horus Eye" and equates the measuring cup with that which "Horus has measured his eye". Do you know the important study by G. Moller, "Die sechs Teile des Horus Auge [sic]", (*Ztschr. Aegypt. Spr.* 48: 101-106, 1911) ? In this Moller shows that the hieratic symbols for the fraction of the hk.t can be brought together symbolically for a representation of the "Horus Eye". The suggestion is made that this was a device to assist in learning the symbolism particularly with regard to equating the hk.t system with hnw system, as shown in Rhind Papyrus 80.

This is an interesting little point, and I think it bears on the proposition that the magical aspects of the "incantations" in the medical papyri may have had a rational background. Here's another little job to do !

May you have many long years of real happiness to carry forward the work you are doing so well and in which you are so happy.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

S.'s 60th birthday was on 7 April 1951. H. Fischer and H. R. Viets see L. to S. of 7 March 1947 and 26 December 1950, respectively.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 20 October 1951*

My dear Chauncey:

I wish you to know how very delighted I was to find your name in the volume of GESNERUS dedicated to me on the occasion of my birthday. I am very grateful to you for having contributed a paper to this ‚Festschrift‘ which was a real surprise and made me very happy as a testimony of friendship. I found your paper very interesting and I am ashamed to say that I knew very little about James Blake. I only had a vague recollection of having encountered his name in Harris’ book, but now I feel that I know him and he certainly will have a niche in my ‚History‘. Thanks also for the very kind and generous words with which you introduced your paper.

You may have heard from Fischer that we recently had a very good meeting of the Swiss Society of the History of Medicine at Lucerne. We had two English guests, Underwood and Guthrie and we hope that someday you will be in the region when we meet. We had hoped to be able to welcome Shryock and John Fulton also who both were in Europe at the time, but unfortunately they were unable to join us.

We had a somewhat disturbed summer on account of illness of my daughter Erica who is a librarian at the World Health Organization in Geneva. She first had measles at the tender age of 32 and she had hardly recovered when she came down with typhoid - the last disease you would be looking for in Switzerland. Chloromycetin worked wonders, the temperature was down in 48 hours, but she was very sick for five weeks nevertheless and recovery was very slow.

Otherwise we had the great pleasure to see old friends her [sic], the Shryocks, Zilboorg and family and Iago Galdston, Ruth and Max Fisch and others so that I feel up to date with medico-historical gossip.

The work is going on steadily. My first volume had a good reception. A German and an Italian edition are in preparation and the publishers are negotiating for a French and a Spanish edition. I am working hard on Vol. II and if all goes well it should come out in 1952. It is a gigantic piece of work but very satisfactory.

I hope all is going well with you. I always enjoy your monthly bulletin.

With warm greetings I am

Yours as ever

[Henry]

Gesnerus: Swiss Journal of the History of Medicine and of Sciences; L.’s paper (Leake 1951). (Harris 1932). H. Fischer see L. to S. of 7 March 1947. Underwood see S. to L. of 26 March 1946. Shryock see S. to L. of 30 November 1940; he became S.’s successor in Baltimore. Chloromycetin, the first broad-spectrum antibiotic (no longer in use). Zilboorg see L. to S. of 23 April 1942. S. was over-optimistic regarding the appearance of Volume II (Sigerist 1961). “Your monthly bulletin“: Probably L.’s monthly “Calling Attention To“.

New names mentioned:

Blake, James (1814-1893) physician and pharmacologist in London and California

Fisch, Max H., professor of philosophy, University of Illinois

Fisch, Ruth B., medical historian ?

Galdston, Iago (1895-1989) medical historian at New York Academy of Medicine

Guthrie, Douglas G. (1885-1975) British medical historian

Sigerist, Erica (1818-2002) S.'s elder daughter

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 1 November 1951*

Dear Henry:

How nice to have your fine letter of October 20th and to know that you have seen so many of your old friends this summer. You may be very proud indeed of the warm tributes extended to you on the occasion of the Festschrift in your honor. It was a joy for us all to work together to extend this well deserved expression of esteem to you.

We are sorry to learn of the illness of your daughter. She has had a rough [sic] time with both measles and typhoid. Certainly one would never expect to find typhoid in Switzerland !

John Fulton is having an exciting time at Louvain. You must have seen him by now. I saw Shryock and Henry Viets at a meeting recently in Washington of the Committee on Indexes to Current Medical Literature. This Committee is doing lots of good work. Sanford Larkey and his group have a splendid research project under-way. Doctor Wilemina [sic] Himwich has written very keenly on the many difficult problems involved in adequate indexes to current medical literature.

One of the main problems is scope. How much of knowledge is encompassed by the term "medicine" ? This is a very important problem. My position is that an adequate index to current medical literature should include medical articles of significance no matter where published. This requires a little expert searching from time to time, but I think it is well worthwhile.

Elizabeth and I had an exciting time in Mexico City on the occasion of the 400th Anniversary of the founding of the University of Mexico. There is excellent interest in the history of medicine, particularly on the part of J. J. Izquierdo, Professor of Physiology, and Doctor Francisco Guerra, Professor of Pharmacology. The latter has an amazing historical collection. He has practically everything that has ever been published in Mexico on medicine up to the beginning of the Revolution. He has prepared a splendid bibliography of Mexican contributions to medicine to 1833. He also has an extraordinarily fine bibliography and manuscript with reproduction of title pages, for Spanish-American medicine to 1821. Guerra is an almost fanatic aesthetic [sic], but he really has the material.

It is good to know that your work is going so well. We will all rejoice when the second volume appears. Elizabeth joins me in sending affectionate greetings to you and yours.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

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Festschrift for S.'s 60th birthday see S. to L. of 20 October 1951. Louvain, university town in Belgium. Viets see L. to S. of 26 December 1950. (Himwich 1954). Izquierdo see L. to S. of 27.5.1940.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura ?, 22 April 1952*

Dear Chauncey,

Your book arrived and I was delighted to receive it. It is an extremely interesting work and a great document to the history of yellow fever in the States. What a keen observer and courageous doctor Dr. Ashbel Smith was ! His account reads extremely well, and I found his case histories fascinating.

What an excellent idea to add those chapters on “The Man who Conquered Yellow Fever“. More than ever it made me realize how much we lost in Josiah Trent. It is a tragedy that he died so young. We have so few young people in the field, and particularly also among the collectors of ancient medical books. He was following in the footsteps of Osler and Cushing, and Fulton recently gave an enthusiastic account of the Trent collection as he saw it at Duke.

Things are going their customary way here. Volume II of the History is growing, and will go to the press this summer. At the end of the week I am leaving for Bologna where the Italian Society of the History of Medicine is holding its annual meeting, and Jerome Webster will be awarded a well-deserved degree for his splendid book on Tagliacozzi. From Bologna we plan to go to Florence. The illustrating of my second volume is a headache, but I hope to find some good pictures which are still missing.

If you ever come to Europe I very much hope that you will include Pura in your tour. I hope to see John Fulton, Zilboorg and a few other colleagues in the course of the summer, and I need not tell you what a joy it would be for all of us to see you and your wife.

With all good wishes and many thanks for a most fascinating book,

I am,

Yours very cordially,

[Henry]

Yellow fever (Smith/Leake 1951). Cushing see S. to L. of 5 February 1935. “Duke“ University in Durham, NC. Zilboorg see L. to S. of 23 April 1942.

New names mentioned:

Osler, William (1849-1919) professor of medicine at McGill University, Johns Hopkins, and Oxford, England

Smith, Ashbel (1805-1886) “Father of Texas medicine“

Tagliacozzi, Gaspare (1546-1599) Italian surgeon and anatomist

Trent, Josiah (1914-1948) surgeon, collector

Webster, Jerome (1888-1974) plastic surgeon, historian, bibliophile

In a letter of 30 October 1952 Leake wrote to John Fulton: “We understand fully what you mean when you say that Henry Sigerist has difficulty keeping his work going in the face of so many visitors. He and his wife are such marvelous hosts. A little change now and then is always welcome, but it is impossible to keep constantly at good work if one is interrupted too often.“

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 12 November 1952*

Dear Doctor Sigerist:

At the meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges in Colorado Springs the first of this week, the Smith, Kline and French Laboratories in Philadelphia arranges a splendid exhibit of medical prints. This exhibit was handled in connection with a cocktail party, and the resulting affair was a delightful and informative one. A copy of the description of the exhibit is enclosed.

Here's hoping everything is going well with you. We are busy with a meeting of the Tropical Medicine Society.

There was much discussion at the AAMC meeting regarding the maintenance of the cultural tradition in medicine. This gave a fine opportunity for promoting the idea of medical history, so that instruction in the field could also cover medical economics, medical ethics, and the philosophy of medicine. It was amusing that there should be such concern over failure to get the idea of practicing preventive medicine across to students. The trouble is economics. With the fee system arranged for income on the basis of treating sickness, how can a doctor honestly want people to be healthy ? The retainer fee system could be used, but would require a change in the principles of medical ethics so that doctors would not be expelled from county societies for making retainer fee arrangements.

We are having lots of fun with Dorothy and Wilson who are here now going to school. Best as ever.

Faithfully yours,

Chauncey

AAMC: Association of American Medical Colleges. Wilson Leake: L.'s younger son.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 5 March 1953*

Dear Chauncey,

I meant to write you long ago to thank you for your letter of last November and for the beautiful catalogue *Ars Medica* by the Smith Kline and French Laboratories. When the letter came I was in England for several weeks giving the Heath Clark lectures at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, a lecture in Manchester and an address to the Osler Club. Then I was at home for a few days only, and had to leave again to attend a meeting of WHO in Nancy. And ever since that time I have been catching up with correspondence and other work. I must bring out three books this year. Volume two of the History of Medicine, the Heath Clark lectures that the London branch of the Oxford University Press will publish and a new enlarged edition of one of my early books, The Great Doctors. This with a few papers and book reviews that I have to write keeps me very busy. Now I just finished reading your Logan Clendening lectures and this is a reminder that it is high time I wrote you. I need not tell you I read the book with the keenest interest and find it extraordinarily absorbing. I learned a great deal from it, particularly what you wrote about drug measurement, and I shall use and quote your book in the next edition of my first volume and if possible also in the

foreign language editions. A German and an Italian edition are in the making and I think the publisher is negotiating about a Spanish and a French edition.

Ancient Egyptian medicine is a fascinating subject and we are fortunate in having such excellent manuscripts. I hope your book on the Hearst papyrus will come out soon because this undoubtedly would be a very important contribution. I hope Grapow will continue his work, and in Jonckheere we have a very enthusiastic younger man working in the field.

On the subject of Mesopotamian medicine the last word has not been said, and I expect that new cuneiform tablets will be found sooner or later which may change our views of Assyro-Babylonian medicine.

All is going well here and if you ever come to Europe I hope you will find the way to Pura. Of course I am looking forward to making a visit to the States, but I would like to get the first three volumes of the History out before I take to the road, as they are the most difficult ones that require the greatest amount of philological work.

With warm regards,

I am, yours very devotedly,

[Henry]

Osler see S. to L. of 22 April 1952. WHO: World Health Organization; branch of U.N. in Geneva. Heath Clark lectures (Sigerist 1956). Logan Clendening lectures (Leake 1952). Hermann Grapow, egyptologist. Jonckheere see S. to L. of 23 February 1948. During his Pura period (1947-1957) S. never returned to the U.S. after 1947.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 10 March 1953*

Dear Henry:

It is a pleasure to think of you and your happy family resting serenely and pleasantly in the good work that you love so well in your pleasant home. We all envy you ! Of course, you enjoy getting out on the road, and it was wonderful that you had the opportunity to spend such a happy time in England. We will all be looking forward with keen anticipation to the Heath Clark Lectures.

It is good to know that you are getting out an enlarged edition of “The Great Doctors“. This is an important contribution, and I hope that you’ve had a lot of fun revising it.

It is amazing that you will have three more volumes of the great History of Medicine this year. That is a grand achievement. It is particularly exciting to learn that you will have a German and Italian edition, and that there is a possibility for a Spanish and French one. This is great !

We are interested to learn that you are thinking about a trip to this country. Be sure to let us know when this may develop. We would like greatly to arrange for you to come here. We would be happy to have you and your wife stay with us. We would be able to take care of your travel expenses in a fair fashion, so as to help make the trip well worthwhile. We probably could arrange for some other sessions for you in this part of the country.

Elizabeth joins me in sending you both our best greetings. We think of you often. We miss you. Yet somehow we feel close to you through your good letters and through reading again the great things that you have written.

With best as ever,  
Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Publication of the Heath Clark Lectures took years (Sigerist 1956). S.'s planned trip to the U.S. see S. to L. of  
5 March 1953.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 22 December 1954*

Dear Henry and Mrs. Henry:

Elizabeth and I were thinking of you last evening, as we often do. We had received your charming Christmas greeting, and it recalled the many happy times that we have been with you and inspired by you. We were hoping that we could arrange somehow to get to see you again. Unfortunately, it never seems possible. Why is it that distances are so great, and travel so expensive? On the other hand, maybe we should be very thankful that we have such ready means of communication, and that we can express ourselves and our feelings toward each other in appropriate symbols. What a wonderful invention language is!

We had a very delightful visit from Sir Lionel and Lady Whitby of Cambridge. He is Master of Downing College, and was President of the first world Conference on Medical Education last year. As you know he was responsible for introducing the sulfa drugs into Britain, and he is a great authority on blood disorders. He was most stimulating in his talks to our students, and he and his wife are very gracious guests. It was a real delight for us to have them, and they recalled to us very vividly some of the happy times we had with friends abroad.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is meeting in Berkeley. This recalls many happy occasions of the past also! I have the responsibility of handling the section on the history and philosophy of science. My vice-presidential address is going to be on "Scientific Ideals and Standards in Relation to National Loyalty and Security". This is a serious subject, and I am not sure that I am going to be able to handle it appropriately. However, I am planning to talk in generalities, avoid specific case histories and personalities, and see what happens.

Certainly we must do everything we can to try to avoid authoritarianism. This is our greatest danger. It can strike us from without, but it also can grow so insidiously and powerfully within.

Elizabeth joins me in fond greetings and affectionate regards to you. May the New Year really be a rewarding and satisfying one for you.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Apparently L. was not aware of S.'s serious illness and hospitalization in the fall of 1954. Lionel Whitby (1895-1956) British pathologist and hematologist. The revolutionary sulfa drugs were discovered in Germany and France and from there spread to Britain and the U.S.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 7 July 1955*

Dear Chauncey,

I am grateful that you sent me a carbon of the letter addressed to Izquierdo. I greatly appreciated the privilege to read this beautiful book in the manuscript.

I was glad at the news that you are giving up administrative work and that you are going back to pharmacology, the history and philosophy of medicine. I was also glad to hear that you recently became interested in Samuel L. Mitchill. He was a great man and as you say did about the same for the United States as Montana [sic] did for Mexico. I crossed his path when I became interested in the history of truffles and quoted quite a passage from his works in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine 1944, 16 : 402-209 [sic].

I was very sick, having suffered an attack of cerebral embolism which kept me three months in hospital, but from which I am almost fully recovered.

With kindest regards,

I am,

yours sincerely,

[Henry]

Izquierdo see L. to S. of 27 May 1940; his book (Izquierdo 1955). In L. to Izquierdo of 17 June 1955 we read: "You have probably heard that I am giving up administrative work. It is simply getting too unpleasant. Maybe I can enjoy again trying to do something in pharmacology and in the history and philosophy of medicine." Samuel L. Mitchill (1764-1831) scientist. Luis Montaña (1755-1820) Mexican physician and medical historian. Truffles: (Sigerist 1944c).

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*Leake to Sigerist, Galveston, 14 July 1955*

Dear Henry:

We are very sorry that you have been sick, and it is good to know that you are fully recovered. Take it easy ! Write gently, but keep on ! We think of you and your family often, and a warm light always come to us when we do think of all that you have done, and of the great stimulus that you have been to us.

Elizabeth and I are leaving Texas. We are going to Columbus, Ohio, where Charles Doan is developing an admirable Health Center. There I will have a chance again to try to develop a pharmacology laboratory, and also to do some work in the history and philosophy of medicine.

The idea of a Health Center intrigues me. This affords an opportunity to turn attention away from disease, and to direct activity to the much more important project of promoting optimum health for everyone. This is an extremely challenging concept, but I think it may in the long run work out. Certainly the average practicing [sic] physician will have to get over the proposition of sitting back and waiting for sickness to come along. We must do something more aggressive in its control, so that we can try to get the benefit of optimum health as far as each individual may go.



Elizabeth joins me in warm greetings to you and yours. We hope that everything will continue to prosper with you and bring you ever increasing satisfaction from the tremendous success of your endeavor.

Faithfully yours,  
Chauncey

Charles Doan (1917-1988) and the Ohio State University College of Medicine Health Center.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Columbus, Ohio, 2 September 1955*

Dear Henry:

Dr. Maurice Visscher has asked me to act as chairman of a general committee to explore the proposition of preparing an appropriate exhibit at the Congress of Physiology to be held in Brussels next summer on "Founders of Physiology". This is a difficult assignment. It is hoped however, that you will assist. The effort will be quite informal.

Dr. John Fulton of Yale has already learned that the Congress Committee may want to assemble the bio-bibliographical material for distribution as a souvenir to those who attend the congress. This would be similar to the volume publication by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Ill. (Founders of Neurology) describing the exhibit prepared by Dr. Webb Haymaker for the Paris International Congress of Neurology.

There is enclosed a copy of a letter to Dr. Visscher which gives further information regarding what has been done so far. There is also enclosed, some sheets with names of various contributors to physiology who might be considered for inclusion in the proposed exhibit. These are taken chiefly from Stirling's "Some Apostles of Physiology" (Manchester, 1902), from Dr. Liljestrand's discussion of Nobel Prize winners in physiology and medicine and from Garrison-Morton's "Medical Bibliography" (London 1943).

It will be appreciated if you will indicate whether or not you think the various names proposed should be included or not. It will also be appreciated if you will make any additional suggestion that may occur to you. Further, it will be appreciated if you will indicate two or three of those you wish to see included that you might be willing to write a short sketch about. This should be around 300 words and should include bibliographical references to the important contributions made by the individual.

It will help greatly if you can get this back to me by air mail as soon as possible. You can realize that it will be quite a job to prepare the material for exhibit purposes and in a manuscript form for publication. Your help is urgently needed and we all will be very grateful for your interest and advice.

We are liking our new place here very much and there is plenty of good stimulus for good work.

With cordial best wishes, I am,  
Faithfully yours  
Chauncey

Letter-head: The Ohio State University. Department of Physiology.

Maurice B. Visscher (1901-1983) physiologist. *Founders of Physiology* (Leake 1956). Charles C. Thomas, publisher. *Founders of Neurology* (Haymaker/Baer 1953). (Stirling 1902). *Nobel Prize Winners* (Liljestrand 1946). “New Place”: Columbus, Ohio.

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*Sigerist to Leake, Pura, 3 November 1955*

Dear Chauncey,

Can you forgive me for letting you down so shockingly ? When your letter arrived I was in Zurich busily engaged in rehabilitation exercises, and since I came back to Pura I have been swamped with work on my second volume, which I must finish at last after a long interruption. This is why I cannot write any articles for you right now.

However late it is, I am sending you back your questionnaire. Perhaps it confirms some other people’s judgement. I find that Stirling’s choice is very good.

Once more I ask you to be excused.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours ever,

[Henry]

Questionnaire and Stirling see L. to S. of 2 September 1955.

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*Leake to Sigerist, Columbus, Ohio, 8 November 1955*

Dear Henry,

Thanks for your real help on the Physiology Exhibit. Knowing you were busy I did not want to bother you, - but [?] I did not want to miss your advice either ! Here’s hoping vol 2 is rolling along. Take it easily and comfortably !

It is fun being on a Big Campus - but tough squeezing into a 5 room apt ! And I do not like the bleak cold ! Elizabeth joins in sending [?] best greetings to you & yours. The physiology [?] project is coming well -

As ever

Chauncey

Letter-head: The Ohio State University. College of Medicine. Office of the Dean.

This longhand letter seems to be the last one of the Sigerist-Leake correspondence which may be surprising regarding the fact that S. lived for another one and a half years. In May 1956 S. received a letter which L. had sent to all consultants for “Some Founders of Physiology“. In it L. concludes with the hope to see all these colleagues at the International Physiology Congress in Brussels in the summer of 1956. Thus, it is possible that L. seized the opportunity to visit S. in Pura in that summer.

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