

BIOCHEMICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Massachusetts General Hospital
Fruit Street, Boston 14

Aug. 14, 1959

Ans. 9/9/59 ✓

Dear Levin:

I am sorry to discover on re-reading your letter that it was sent already a month ago and was not answered earlier. You have, however, in the meantime received Dr. Clark's letter with his definite offer. This letter may have puzzled you a little with regard to a certain caution in the phrasing. This needs an amplification and can be understood better with the somewhat difficult interrelationship between Hospital and Harv. Med. School as a body found. The Hospital, being part of the school although an independent unit, had to contact the Dean on this appointment. The Dean wanted the offer to be phrased this way, namely as invitation to come for a try. This will give the Harv. Med. School an opportunity to make it appear as if the final appointment is made partly by their initiative. The Hospital considers this - in other words - a permanent appointment as far as itself is concerned and would

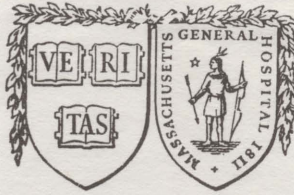
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have rather made the offer without the allusion of "with the very likely prospect of the position becoming a permanent one" which in the next sentence is then modified by saying that the Trustees and staff of the Hospital hopes that you will come and stay! - This is what everybody here hopes for. I can say for myself, that I could frankly not think of any more welcome successor than you. I told you that I have had happy years here. You will feel here at ease and soon will come to appreciate the environment of this institution as a rather specially kind and eager one.

Now, it so happens, that one of the members of the Research Committee with whom you lunched when you were here, Dr. Ray Adams, will be in Buenos Aires next week and will try to see you. He is the chief of the Neurology Department at the Hospital and he will be able to tell you more and answer questions you might have. He will be staying at the Plaza Hotel. He gives a lecture and stays only for two days - arriving Sunday, Aug. 18, 9⁴⁰ p.m. by air and leaving Tuesday, Aug 20, 11³⁰ p.m. with flight #202, Panamerican. He has your address



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but you might want to leave a message for me
at the Hotel.

I am now already with one foot in New York.
The laboratory is moved, i.e. the little that we
take with us. Most of the equipment remains,
but most of the people have gone off for a vacation
and those who come with me for finding a place
to live. Officially, I will be gone on Sep. 1 and
start on Sept 3 in N. Y.

With very good wishes

Yours sincerely

John L. Johnson