



MONTREAL NEUROLOGICAL
INSTITUTE

June 20th 1935.

Dr. Wilder Penfield,
Montreal Neurological Institute,
Montreal.

Dear Dr. Penfield,

Further to our conversation of yesterday I have recorded below some passing thoughts in regard to the Verdun Research Project.

With regard to the cerebral biopsy research it is clear that histological study will have to be made in a much larger series of carefully selected cases and with a greater variety of technical methods. To expedite this work, part time service of a technician would be very valuable or if considered more desirable a full time fellow who is anxious to learn neuro-histopathology or spend time in psychiatric research.

If we can accept the histological evidence then we shall be faced no doubt with the problem of tracing down a hypothetical toxin. This will involve chemical and metabolic studies probably of considerable complexity requiring considerable time from a technician (chemist). This work would no doubt be more easily accomplished in the Neurological Institute and would necessitate sufficient laboratory facilities. Patients at times might have to be transferred temporarily to the Institute for this work to be accomplished.

In addition a certain amount of animal experimentation will need to be done requiring the use of the physiological laboratory.

If sufficient psychiatric cases of a certain type are not available for study it might be possible to obtain specimens with identical technique even from other cities.

Dr. Penfield.

June 20th 1935.

At the Verdun asylum a laboratory is badly needed where routine C.S.F. and blood analyses may be made. A small laboratory has been set up but is quite inadequate and ill-equipped and practically without technical aid.

A new X-Ray apparatus has been installed at the Verdun asylum but pictures are unsatisfactory owing to the inadequate, improvised dark rooms and inexperienced technical worker.

There are no facilities there for post mortem examinations.

Sincerely,

Arthur

ARE/MD