THE WELLCOME TRUST

(CREATED BY THE WILL OF THE LATE SIR HENRY S. WELLCOME)

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3rd November, 1959.

I have gradually been getting through the accumulation of material which was waiting for my attention when I got back into my office on October 26th. Your letter had just arrived, and, of course, I well remember the preliminary discussion which I had, and enjoyed, with you and your colleagues at the Montreal Neurological Institute.

At the moment I can only say, as we already agreed indeed in Montreal, that the idea of a system of Wellcome Trust exchange Fellowships in Neurology, between neurological centres in this country and your own Institute as representing Neurology in Canada, is one which, in general, appeals to our interests. We shall not be able to make any real decision about such a scheme until the Meeting of the Wellcome Trustees on January 18th; but you may be sure that it will then be given very careful and sympathetic consideration, in competition with such other applications as will then be before us. As I have no doubt we explained to you, we are now receiving so many important applications from different parts of the world, that we find it necessary more and more to adopt a scheme of reserving for consideration at halfyearly meetings, any which are not immediately urgent; so that we may not too greatly compromise the chances on their merits, of some which have been received rather later than others.

There is one point in the description of the scheme, as put forward in your letter, that is practically certain to raise some question, when your application is discussed in detail. As your sketch of the plan stands, the nomination of Fellows, either from Great Britain to work in your Institute, or from your Institute, or perhaps other centres of neurological research in Canada, appears to be concentrated in your own hands; though the nominations made by you would then be forwarded to our Trust for consideration and confirmation. This does not seem, as it stands, to leave any opening for the possibility that suitable candidates, for working with exchange fellowships in your Institute, might, from time to time, be brought to our notice by one or another of your distinguished colleagues in neurology in this country. I think you

will agree that it would be appropriate, in drawing up a scheme for submission to the Trust, to provide for the possibility of suggestion from either side. If somebody is brought to our notice here, we surely ought to have the opportunity of submitting the name to you, if the evidence in his favour seems reasonable to us, in order that you should then tell us whether he would be acceptable in your Institute; and, similarly, of course, we should depend on you to nominate suitable Canadian candidates. In the latter case you would very likely have made advance enquiries as to whether your nominee would be acceptable in a particular British centre, and the submission of the proposal to us would be largely a matter of formality. On the other hand, you might, in a particular instance, nominate a particular expert, and ask us to make enquiries with regard to centres here willing to accept him. main point, however, that I want to suggest to you, is that the plan would probably look more acceptable to my Co-Trustees, if it provided for the possibility of a nomination from this side, to be submitted for your consideration if it has our approval prima facie. Let me have just a note on this point when you have had time to think about it. take it for granted that we are keen to consider your scheme.

We are still full of joyful and heart-warming memories of our visit to you and others in Montreal. We had rather a boisterous passage home in the SYLVANIA, with two days on which even the ship's log recorded a "strong gale and high seas". We came through, however, without any disaster, and arrived home in good shape.

Yours very sincerely,

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