

STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW YORK
DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER

• DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

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Dr. K. Bahadur
Allahbad
India

Dear Krishna,

We all enjoyed your very lovely Season's Greeting Card. It was most lovely. My very Best Wishes to you and your family.

As I told ~~you~~ you in my last letter we were planning on attending the International Congress in Switzerland. My wife and I went [we left the children with my accommodating sister and her family] and enjoyed ourselves. Before the meeting we visited Paris, Rome and Florence for several days each. Then on to the meeting in Interlaken and Lucerne. The few days before going home were spent in Amsterdam. We decided on this tour and the trip itself over the past two years. We went with friends of ours; he happens to be a biochemist also. We are now planning for the next Congress in Sweden, in 1972.

The sight-seeing part of the trip was excellent. The weather was superb and Europe was not crowded. All the regular tourists had left for home. The meeting was not such a success. I have been to better organized meetings. The papers were presented under very poor conditions.

We came back to NY on Sept. 13 and school started on Sept. 14. I was not directly involved in the basic teaching to the medical students. We give a truncated course. I gave a special seminar session for seven weeks of one - 2 hour session a week. We discussed 4 topics each session. The title of the course was Macromolecules and Disease and we covered such topics as flagella formation, Phage formation, some inborn errors of metabolism, blood clotting and dissolution, hemoglobinopathies, biochemistry of aging, Complement, and immunoglobulin structure.

Now that the course is over I am trying to get some research done as I once again have a technician.

I have recently had a chapter in a new book published. The book is "The Analytical Chemistry of Nitrogen and Its Compounds, from John Wiley and it is chapter 15. The new Handbook of Biochemistry should also have a table of data which I contributed. Two papers have been accepted for publication so I am busy.

The money situation is very bad. Grants are almost

non-existent. Only one fellow in the department has a grant and it is for 10000 dollars. I have applied with some clinicians for a grant on blood clotting and platelet structure. Our school is in a very odd situation. We have no president or dean of the medical school. The man holding these two positions fell ill and resigned. Our department does not have a chairman and several other chairmen are either retiring or leaving. New positions can not, in some cases, be filled as there is a "stoppage" on filling positions or even getting replacements. We are cutting back on our library purchases for the departmental library in order to save money to have for research. Fortunately I have all the equipment I need for the help I have and I have a small amount of money from the school for a few purchases. I do not believe that I will be going to too many meetings or traveling anywhere as the school funds for this purpose are not available. I was able to have the school pay for my trip to the Swiss meeting this past year.

New York City is free of snow from its last big snow-fall but we are expecting some more snow in the next few days. I dislike the cold so winter is a terrible time for me.

All the Very Best for the New Year

Sincerely

Donald

Donald Kirschenbaum

P.S. I was never paid for the last 2
books of their reading & reporting.
I would appreciate it if you
would check on this. Thank you
DK