

August 18, 1967

Alton Ochsner, M.D.
Ochsner Clinic
1514 Jefferson Highway
New Orleans, La. 70121

Dear Dr. Ochsner

I was touched by your words concerning the very elementary note on "Hunter, Billroth and Wangenstein," and I appreciated it. Every period has its heroes and Wangenstein, Ochsner, Blalock, Matas etc. were some of them in my era. The editorship of Surgery is an indicator who they were. There is another parallel of the past and present - Surgery vs. the Archiv f. Chirurgie.

Individuality recedes and the idiosyncrasy of so called teamwork is gaining. I wish I could have transmitted the philosophy, the sentiment - and perhaps some information that it contains better and more effectively than in the few short paragraphs, written in my present position - but it perhaps may influence some who are just vegetating in the science and practice of surgery.

Many thanks.

Sincerely

Karel B. Absolon, M.D.

KBA:bc