

542/5/16

RICHARD C. GILL

P. O. Box 281,
Palo Alto, California.

May 24, 1945.

Dr. Harold R. Griffith,
3445 Northcliff Avenue,
Montreal, Canada.

Dear Dr. Griffith:

First of all, please accept my apologies for an exceedingly delayed reply to your greatly appreciated letter of April 25. I have been slightly under the weather, however, and am only now catching up on my correspondence.

Incidentally, thanks a million for the perfectly grand and glowing inscription you were kind enough to write on the reprint of the Canadian Medical Association article included in your letter. It was very thoughtful of you. I shall be looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to a reprint or so of the J.A.M.A. article when they are ready.

As regards the Chondodendron tomentosum mention in the article, I do hope that I haven't upset you unduly about it. For the nonce, until the situation straightens out somewhat, I am not as yet taking the matter up with Squibb. I have been advised that, for the moment, the most I can obtain from them is their letter of certification, a photostatic copy of which I have already sent you.....and which, I have been further advised, amply testifies to the fact that -- by their own signed statement -- all Intocostrin is made from my own material with the sole exception of that one small batch of tomentosum substance which was distributed to a few physicians and then withdrawn owing to its unsuccessful aspects.

Where they were apparently unethical, lies in the fact that they failed to notify the profession about the withdrawal of this one small batch, despite the fact that they, by the terms of their contract with me, had to inform me of the truth of the matter. Incidentally, although you didn't mention it, I do hope that the photostat of their letter substantiated the matter for you.

Dr. Griffith,
5/24/45.

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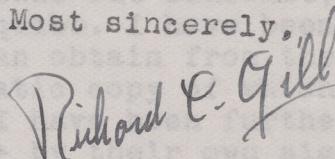
P. O. Box 384,
Palo Alto, California

Please believe that I entirely sympathize with your reluctance to publish a correction of the statement although I do hope the photostat cleared matters, at least in your own mind. Therefore, let's put the matter on the table for a while until I am able to tackle this, and several other similar acts of theirs, with Squibb in person.

Ad interim, I am certainly grateful to you, as you can well believe, for your kindness and affability in the matter, and I'll keep you informed of any developments as they occur. Please rest assured that our correspondence on the subject has been kept absolutely confidential by me. Some time ago I wrote Dr. Cullen about his own mention of tomentosum but, of course, with no reference whatsoever to our own correspondence on the subject.

Meanwhile, as always, all power to your grand work with curare. I am hoping that soon — despite all obstacles — the drug will have an even wider and sounder spread than ever, if I can only complete some negotiations that are under way. If I am successful I am sure that, as curare's pioneer user in anesthesia, you will be pleased with the results.

Most sincerely,



Richard C. Gill

RCG:rl