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FORENSIC PATHOLOGY
LEGAL MEDICINE

15 May 1969

Miss Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12 St.
New York City, New York 10014

Dear Sylvia:

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 1969. It is always good to hear from you and to be brought up to date concerning the activities of the critics and the "apologists".

Unfortunately, I probably shall not have time to write the kind of letter that I would like to submit to the New York Times Magazine inasmuch as I am all tied up between a political election and my professional and personal obligations (I am running for Coroner in order to protect the office until such time as the State adopts a Medical Examiner System).

There have been repercussions from Russell Fisher concerning my testimony. Of course, he has acted in his usual "behind-the-scene" fashion. Most specifically (thus far!) he was responsible for my not being elected to the Executive Council of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences at the February Annual Meeting in Chicago. I plan to confront him with this at the appropriate time and place.

I certainly agree with you that the national news media deliberately chose to more or less ignore my testimony. It's really too bad, not because of my personal pride or prestige, but because of the obvious damage that the testimony could have done to the WCR.

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I'm sorry about your difficulties with Weisberg. It would have been tremendous if you could have worked with him in getting together a magazine article. It is too bad that he so zealously guards his work and that unfortunately, he is not a particularly good writer.

I have not heard from anyone at all recently, so that I do not know whether Fensterwald plans to bring action under the Freedom of Information Act. Do you think it would be a good idea?

I shall be testifying for Dr. Noguchi in Los Angeles next week. He has really been professionally and personally slandered. The medical schools and certain segments of the County Medical Society would like to "take over" the office in order to fit it into their basic research programs (i.e., obtaining large funds from the Federal Government). Tom's action will be before the Civil Service Commission for the purpose of getting back his job.

I, too, am discouraged about our situation, and I wonder if there are any possibilities of a breakthrough left.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,


Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D.

CHW/njs