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May 25, 1923.

Dear Dr. Vincent:

It is very good of you to have written me from time to time of the progress of your work and of the things of special interest in connection with it. I have before me now letters from you under date of April 16th, 25th and 27th, for all of which I thank you. I would have written earlier, but feared that it was already too late for a letter to reach you before your return to this country. Hence this word of greeting on your arrival, to welcome you home and to tell you how glad I shall be to see you and to hear in your own words of the experiences which you have been having. Apparently, the Health Section of the Conference has been the most successful part of it. Judging from some of the newspaper reports, it has been the only part of real value. I hope, however, that this pessimistic view as to what has been accomplished in the other departments is not well founded. As I came through Boston from Seal Harbor not long since, I saw in the Boston Transcript an article regarding the work of the Conference, which I am enclosing herewith, the marked passage in regard to yourself having given me particular satisfaction.

We finished yesterday three days of meetings of the various boards. Everything went nicely. Mr. Gates put in his resignation from the Foundation, the International Health Board and the General Education Board. After a full and very frank talk with him, in which he stated that he deeply regretted to leave any of these boards, that his interest in them was so tremendous, that the association which they afforded was the most vital thing in his life, but that he felt so strongly the importance of terminating the interlocking directorate of the boards that he was impelled to this action, and after I had presented my view of the case, the decision reached was that in the International Health Board, in which his term of office has expired, we would not press the question of his reelection, that his resignation from the Foundation should be accepted, as it was at the meeting then in session, and that he should remain on the General Education Board for the present, letting the continuation of his relationship there be determined in the light of subsequent events. In accepting Mr. Gates' resignation from the Foundation, the Board expressed itself informally and unanimously as desiring to have the Secretary notify him of all meetings, send him the docket, and invite him to be present as formerly, although, of course, without vote. This, I am

sure, is a wise and proper action, and will, I know, greatly please Mr. Gates.

Dr. Audson spoke to me about resigning from both the boards. I suggested that if he felt he should be somewhat relieved from the responsibilities involved in these memberships, he might think it wise to resign from one board now and retain, for the present at least, membership in the other. This idea met with his approval, and I told him that with his consent I would be glad to think the matter over and express my view as to which board it would be best for him to remain on. He said that other things being equal he thought he would prefer to remain on the Foundation. I shall want to discuss this matter with you on your return.

The two new members of the Foundation, Mr. William Allen White and President Wilbur, were present at the meeting, and seemed greatly interested. That evening the members of the Foundation, of the International Health Board and of the China Medical Board, who were in town, also their wives, dined at our house with Mrs. Rockefeller and me. Last evening the members of the General Education Board and their wives dined with us. Dean Edsell of Harvard attended the International Health Board meeting for the first time.

While giving some attention to affairs, I am not going regularly to the office, and am planning to work not more than part time, if as much, during the balance of the spring. Mrs. Rockefeller and I are taking our four older children to Europe on the 23rd of June. We shall be gone until about the middle of August.

Hoping that you and Mrs. Vincent will reach home in good health, and that your journey may have proved in every way worth while, and looking forward with great pleasure to seeing you soon after your arrival, I am,

Very sincerely,

*John D. Rockefeller Jr.*

President George E. Vincent,  
Rockefeller Foundation,  
New York City.