

May 17th, 1930.

Dr. Stephen Leacock,  
The Old Brewery Bay,  
Orillia, Ontario.

Dear Stephen,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 14th. You must not think of trying to come to McGill this month, nor until the autumn. You must spend the intervening time regaining your health. I have seen Hemmeon more than once, and it is his intention to stay here until the 15th of June, when, he says, everything will be arranged for the coming year.

Hemmeon looks better now than he has ever looked for years. He is putting on weight and it is a good thing. He told me this morning that he weighs 182 lbs. and that he never felt better in his life. Last fall, when I induced him to consult with Rabinovitch, he was greatly worried about himself and he looked it. One could see at a glance that he was apprehensive and Rabinovitch's assurance to him that he was all right meant as much as anything else.

One thing that I want you to get into your mind, Stephen, is that there is nothing wrong with you that will not respond to sensible treatment. The person to be sensible is yourself, for you, more than anyone else, must be your own doctor. You have plenty of will power, in fact, you are almost stubborn; and now I would like to see you exercise a little of this will power over yourself. You will recall that I did not want you to go to Orillia at the time you went; but you were bound to go, and Willy Turner was weak enough to allow you to have your own way - in fact, I believe that is why you have him as your physician. I knew that if you got up there you would not come back for this observation in a hospital,