

COMMISSION ON ORGANIZATION
OF THE
EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT

GENERAL ACCOUNTING
OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 11, 1953

Dr. Alan Gregg
Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York, New York

CLT OCT 14 1953

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Accepted by me
Oct 18
1953

Dear Dr. Gregg:

As you may know, the Congress has recreated the above Commission, and I have been drafted again as its Chairman.

One of the most important of our problems is the Medical Services of the Federal Government. Under authority from the Commission, I am again organizing a Task Force to examine and make recommendations on this subject.

I have secured the following members of the previous Task Force of 1947-50 to serve again:

Dr. E. D. Churchill, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Dr. Michael DeBakey of Houston

Dr. Hugh R. Leavell of Harvard School of Public Health

General Paul Hawley of Chicago. Former Commander Medical Corps, U. S. Army - former head of Veterans' Administration Medical Service

Dr. Allan O. Whipple of Princeton

And in addition, Dr. Rescoe Miller, President of Northwestern University, formerly head of their Medical School, has accepted membership.

A number of members suggested the choice of a layman to attend to details of organization. Mr. Chauncey McCormick of Chicago has been chosen for this position. Mr. McCormick has at various times been chairman or director of Illinois Child Welfare Commission, Art Institute of Chicago, the Community Fund, and other public organizations.

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At a preliminary conference, the members present requested that you should be invited to join their membership. I am particularly glad to ask you to do so, for you can make a most important contribution in advancing solution of a very difficult and grave problem in our Government.

The following other eminent men, aside from yourself, are being asked to become members:

Dr. Francis Braceland of Hartford, Connecticut
Dr. Evarts A. Graham of St. Louis
Dr. Walter B. Martin of Virginia
Dr. Basil MacLane of Rochester, New York
Dr. Milton Winternitz of Washington, D. C.

In order not to tax your time, in addition to the service of Mr. McCormick, the Task Force will set up whatever research staff is required. Dr. Edwin L. Crosby, Jr. of Chicago has been suggested to head the research organization.

With the development of the information needed, occasional meetings of the Task Force will be required to formulate new inquiries and recommendations.

As an indication of our previous procedure, I send you copies of the reports of the former Commission. Unfortunately, only a part of these recommendations have been adopted by the Government. No doubt these former recommendations will need to be reconsidered but they are in no way binding on the new Task Force, and indeed some of their objectives will need be accomplished in some other manner. And new problems will need solution. But the climate is now more favorable for adoption of recommendations.

I propose a meeting of the Medical Task Force some time in the latter part of October convenient to the members, where additional members representing other branches of the problem may need be selected and possibly the Task Force divided into teams on separate problems. I would be glad to receive your decision by telegram and an indication of what day of the week is most convenient to you for meetings.

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I might add a personal word. It would greatly ease my own responsibilities and be an assurance to the Congress, the President, and the country to have your experience and talents joined with us.

Yours faithfully,



Chairman

Enclosures

Mr. Herbert Hoover

General Accounting Office Bldg

Washington 25 DC

on Oct 16
Rec'd your invitation to start Force on Medical Services
of Oct 11 to join

Glad to receive but cannot now rearrange schedule
to attend meeting in late October. Stay Address

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TELEGRAMS VIA CAMEL

ALAN GREGG