

PARRAN

U. S. Public Health Service Hospital,
Lexington, Kentucky.

January 10, 1938.

PERSONAL

Surgeon General Thomas Parran,
U. S. Public Health Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Parran:

In further reference to your personal letter concerning the desire of the Governor to have me take charge of the developmental program for mental hospitals and mental hygiene in the State, the subject discussed in it hardly needs more attention from me since it has been acted upon by the Bureau and a solution reached which I heartily approve. I did, however, say that I would write again after interviewing the Governor and I feel that you might be interested in knowing just what his attitude is. I talked with him about an hour Saturday morning. He seemed to be pleased with the arrangement suggested but apparently when I left still had an idea that I would be running things. This, however, need not cause any concern.

The Governor told me that after we get a plan worked out here he will call a special session of the legislature to put it through. He sincerely wants to do something of permanent value to the State and I believe that we have an opportunity to do a constructive bit of work that will be of lasting credit to the Service. It has already been announced in the newspapers that the Service is going to send an expert here to take charge of the situation. This announcement was made by Commissioner of Correction Frederick A. Wallis, but the Governor told me early in the morning that when the plan of action was finally formulated he wanted to make an announcement to the papers which he would first submit to me for approval. If he does this I will attempt to prevent him from over-emphasizing my part in the program. I believe that Wallis got his information from Dr. McCormack, whom I also saw Saturday.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Lawrence Kolb,
Medical Director,
Medical Officer in Charge.

LK:gp