

December 6, 1927.

Dr. Carleton Simon,
The Blackstone,
50 East 68th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Simon:

I am greatly surprised to hear that Lambert has been put on the committee to investigate the merits of Narcosan and you and Harris have been ignored. Lambert will probably dominate it because he is fluent and it would not be human to expect him to reverse himself. I would like to know the names of the other men. They may be good, but unless they have studied and had experience with drug addicts, it will be easy to mislead them.

I said before that no investigation that tries narcosan against other forms of treatment except the so-called ^{code} turkey treatment will be of any value. The patients should be treated exactly the same way except that every other one that comes in should get narcosan and every other one pinkish water, and all should believe that they are getting narcosan. The observations should be made by several impartial and unbiased physicians and not by persons who visit the place once a week to get reports from a biased, uncritical source.

The chemical composition of narcosan should be studied and Horowitz's original work, if he did any, should be gone over. He talks in several articles about what he found, but he gives only conclusions such as any one could give by sitting down at a desk and writing them out without doing any work at all.

Scheib The doctor I referred to in my last letter is Dr. Scheib. I know that Scheib is not a physician, although he apparently doesn't completely know it. In any event, he apparently thinks there is something wrong with any physician who can not see the merits of narcosan.

I have not yet talked with McCoy or the Surgeon General about your suggestion as to a separate investigation, but I rather think their attitude would be that ^{the} merit or demerit of nostrums are things that the Bureau of Chemistry was created to determine and that there is no real reason for the

*Copy for
Dr. Kuhl*

Public Health Service to prove that narcosan is a fraud, even though it is known to be so. I think, however, that the Service would lend aid to an investigation such as is being carried out in New York if requested to do so, and would even detail me for the work.

The Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, as you know, passes on drugs and if Horowitz is honest enough to want the truth, he would be willing to submit narcosan to them for consideration. I suggest that you and Dr. Harris make this suggestion. It will at least cause the narcosan people to show their colors.

You doubtless know that the A. M. A. turned down Lambert and Tilney's article that was later published in the Medical Journal and Record. You might write to Fishbein and tell him what is going on. He may be interested.

An article showing the uselessness of narcosan appeared in Colorado Medicine for November. If you can not get this, I will engage to have a copy made and sent to you. I do not know whether or not I will be able to get to New York before Christmas. I will try to make it, because I would like to talk to you and Commissioner Harris about the situation as has been suggested.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence Kolb
Surgeon

LK/VHM