

August 30, 1922.

F. Ryan Duffy, State Commander,
The American Legion,
Ebd du Lac, Wisconsin.

Dear Commander & Comrade:-

There is a rumor circulating that the Medical Officer in Charge, Major Lawrence Kolb, of U.S. Veterans' Hospital #37 here at Waukesha is to be transferred. I am writing, not my sentiments alone, but the unanimous feeling of our comrades of W.T. Murphy Post, hoping this report is erroneous. I will state as Commander of this Post that the relations existing between Dr. Kolb and our organization has been most cordial and pleasant. We have had oftentimes to appeal to him in regard to conditions which we felt were not as they should be and needed correcting. At times our requests were confirmed by Dr. Kolb, revising opinions or decisions made by others than him and it is true that he denied some of our contentions. All of his decisions appeared to us as given of a purely honest and conscientious view as he saw it. At no time has he displayed any personal feeling nor allowed any factor but the merits of the case to be the factors which governed his decision. He enjoys the confidence of the patients to a marked degree and we feel that with the class of patients which comprises by a vast majority those hospitalized here, this is quite an advantage to their improvement and aids materially in their cure.

We therefore wish you to consider this as an earnest protest against the reported contemplated change and sincerely urge you take steps with our National Commander arresting this move for we feel that the effect of a change will be a considerable one to our comrades who are now so unfortunate as to be in the hospital here and their conditions would be temporarily held up by the coming of a new Medical Officer In Charge; and until his policies and views were known controversies and misunderstandings are very liable to arise which would give unpleasant notoriety to both Legion members as well as hospital organization.

Trusting you will see fit to concur with me in protesting against the transferring of Dr. Kolb, I am

Very truly yours,

Vincent D. Mahoney,
Post Commander.