

December 27, 1937

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

My dear Doctor Parran:

You will recall, I am sure, our conversation after you had delivered your very remarkable address at the University of Kentucky last year in regard to the need for improvement in our mental hygiene program in Kentucky.

Governor Chandler expressed a great deal of interest in the problem at the time, and since, with the fine cooperation of Dr. Treadway, the association interested in psychiatry in Kentucky, the committee for mental hygiene and the American Psychiatric Association, he has inaugurated a program which will require several years for completion.

In the development of his plans, he has had the particularly enthusiastic support under the leadership of Honorable Barry Bingham, publisher of the Courier-Journal and Louisville Times, and of practically all of the local press in the State.

The State Medical Association has unanimously approved the development of the program and elected Dr. W. E. Gardner, the State's most outstanding psychiatrist, as its president-elect, at its recent session.

Governor Chandler has been especially favorably impressed by the remarkable success of the U. S. Public Service Hospital, No. 1, at Lexington. I have had the privilege of conferring with him during the last few days, and he is particularly anxious to secure the leadership of Dr. Lawrence Kolb

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Dr. Parran

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for the next year or two, in the perfection of this program.

This suggestion has met with the enthusiastic approval of everyone interested in the subject. The Governor has asked me to say to you that he will turn the matter of selection of personnel over entirely to Dr. Kolb, as well as the guidance of the entire program. If it is found to be necessary, he will do whatever is needed to give Dr. Kolb such assistance as will enable him to undertake this addition to the very great burden he is now carrying, so that he can continue successfully to administer the program in the Hospital at Lexington.

Before writing this letter, I communicated with Dr. Kolb so as to be assured that the submission of Governor Chandler's request to you would be acceptable to him.

Thanking you for the consideration I know you will give to a development that can mean so much, not only to the people of Kentucky, but to every other State in the Union, I am,

Sincerely,

A. T. McCormack, M. D.
State Health Commissioner

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LEXINGTON, KY