

Negro P H Workers
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
(Conced)
Sincerely yours
M. O. Bousfield

June 3, 1937

Dear ~~Mr. Wheeler~~ Your letter addressed to Mr. Embree has come to me for reply. I hardly know what to tell you because it seems to me that in the present development of public health work among Negroes, you are in a difficult position.

Perhaps you know that funds appropriated for public health work in the Social Security Act are for the development of complete county health units. These units are to be manned by a health officer, sanitarian, public health nurse, and a clerk as minimum requirements.

Apparently, your training has been along the line which would fit you for a position of sanitary engineer. I have grave doubt that there will be such a position open to a Negro for sometime to come. Except for the public health nurse, there is going to be great difficulty in placing Negro personnel who are not graduates of medicine.


You should complete your medical work for two reasons: first, because it is your best chance to get into public health work if that is what you wish to do, and, next, because the number of Negroes graduating in medicine has decreased to the point where it is now highly important that something be done to stimulate young men to go into the profession.

I regret that scholarships are nowhere available for the undergraduate study of medicine. At the present time, such assistance as the Julius Rosenwald Fund is giving in the field of public health is confined to medical graduates who are assured of positions when their training has been completed.

Very truly yours,

MOB:rh

Mr. Albert H. Wheeler
218 Lincoln Way
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