

Negro Physicians

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~~SECRET~~

December 13, 1935

Dr. M.O. Bousfield
Associate Medical Director
Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

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My dear Dr. Bousfield:

I have delayed writing to you to thank you for the interview you granted me until I could tell you something of my effort to secure state or city recognition or assistance. I am sorry to say I have not made considerable progress in this regard. I felt that I had to let my own interests rest until some local political issues were settled.

A group of Republican citizens planned to wait on the newly-elected Mayor to solicit an appointment of a Negro in the Public Health Department. I understand that my own name had been suggested, among others, for this appointment. I am told the committee, headed by Dr. Barnes, decided upon Dr. Barnes for the appointment. Dr. Barnes invited me to go with the citizens to see the Mayor. This visit has not yet come off. A few days ago the newspapers announced the appointment of Dr. William C. Hunsicker as the new Director of Public Health. I plan to call on Dr. Hunsicker next week to acquaint him with my Project.

I have made definite inquiries concerning the possibilities of getting State recognition and aid, as you suggested.

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I am planning to go to Harrisburg early in January to see Dr. Dexter, the woman member of the Governor's cabinet (State Department of Public Health). Somehow I do not feel that I can hope to get a Federal appointment such as you say I must have. It seems to me I shall have to wait action on the part of the Milbank Memorial Fund, and that I must use all the influence I can to ^{get} local and State authorities ~~acquainted~~ acquainted with my Project and concerned to see it put over. I should welcome any further advice you might give me, and I thank you once again for the enjoyable lunch and visit of November 14th.

Very sincerely yours,

Virginia M. Alexander

V.M. Alexander, M. D.

VMA:n

* I talked with people in New York during the Thanksgiving holiday. They tell me that Federal appointments to the Public Health Department can come only after training and experience in the field. It all seems such a closed field to me. I think my one sesame will be the Yale training; and I do believe I can get in and can make good there; then if Milbank will be ready by that time to start things in North Philadelphia, see what I shall be able to do for Public Health for our race. I am excited over the possibilities!

Please see me again when you come East.

Yours, V.M.A.

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