

negro Physicians
(Cones)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Dr. Alexander has had eight years of general practice of medicine with some limited hospital connections, and at present has a well established office practice along with a three-bed, licensed lying-in-hospital, called the Aspiranto Health Home. The beds are used for convalescent and not-too-sick patients, for tonsillectomies and for normal obstetrical cases. At this Health Home, also, the patients learn principles of health and how to carry on when they return to their own households.

She has been increasingly aware of the need of the people of her community for public health facilities and teaching, through the lack of understanding and consideration by hospital authorities and subordinates toward the needs of Negro patients, the ability of Negro physicians, and the relation of these physicians to the health of the city. She feels that the time has come for a forward public health movement for the benefit of Philadelphia Negroes, and that she should drop her practice for a time in order to take up disciplined study and research with the view of getting into form her convictions, theory, and larger dream for fuller service in the field of public health and adult education.

For a research problem Dr. Alexander would prepare a public health program on an interracial basis for a poor community in a large city (Philadelphia) in an area where the people are nearly all colored and isolated and yet largely dependent upon private or public philanthropy, - a program to help overcome the ignorance and reticence concerning venereal diseases, mental deficiencies; to give sex education, parent guidance, mental hygiene, vocational guidance and adult education to leaders of communities and to the under-privileged as well.

She proposes to conclude some studying begun under Dr. Bossard at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School (sociology) in child welfare and human ecology, then to do work at the Yale University School of Public Health and Institute of Human Relations. While at Yale she would also like to do some work under the guidance of Dr. Lindeman of the New York School of Social Work in adult education. Later, if possible, she would like to study the public health systems of Norway, Sweden and Germany.

From Charles Johnson

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