

Dr. M.O. Bousfield
Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Harvard School of Public Health
55 Shattuck St.
Boston, Mass.
May 5, 1937

*Negro Physicians
(Corres)*

*I believe this is one job
which must be
done in this country*

<i>MOR</i>	<i>5/6</i>	<i>MOR</i>	<i>5/14</i>
<i>ERE</i>		<i>ERE</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>(Perry - Univ B)</i>			

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My dear Doctor Bousfield.,

I have read and re-read your most gracious letter several times. Your great humanitarian spirit and your desire to start me in the field of Public Health combine to make me feel recreant to the call of duty were I to turn down such a fine offer. Well do I understand that those who engage themselves in Public Health cannot expect full compensation for the effort expended. As a matter of fact the desire to serve has been a greater impelling force to me than the chances of making money. During my ~~days~~ of practice and combined with my position in the Medical Corps of The Army I was able to make in the neighborhood of \$4000 a year. I resigned such a position to enter Harvard.

About five years ago I took out an endowment policy for \$20,000. The premiums for this policy alone amount to more than \$700 a year. Coupled with this I have the expense of the house for my mother and nephew. My father died before I finished my internship. However, my huge overhead has never deterred me from accomplishing what my heart desired.

It has not been my aim to burden you with my difficulties or prey upon you with any maudlin sentimentality, but merely to let you appreciate my position.

You have already promised me \$2500 a year as my salary. I have figured it out and find that I could manage adequately with \$3000. This is not due to any attempt to hold out, because I can see the great possibilities in the position. I know full well that the dollar goes farther in the south than in the north. However, due to the fact that the major portions of my salary would go for bills in the north it would not enable me to profit by the southern money valuation.

That small increase may loom large but I believe that I can save you that much money on the other end, We could save money by doing our own Wassermann and Hinton reactions on our patients. At the present time I am doing intensive work in this field of Venereal Diseases.

I hope, Doctor Bousfield that you will give this consideration and not look upon me as one who is trying to grab all he can. This letter is written in good faith. It would permit me to enter upon the work with vim and enthusiasm relieved entirely of all financial worries and able to devote all my thoughts to the great program that you are launching in the southland .

Kindly let me learn of your decision at an early date. Thanking you for the consideration that you have shown me in making this position possible I am

Yours sincerely,
William B. Perry
William B. Perry, M.D.

