

2705 S. W. English Court,
Portland 1, Oregon,
December 10, 1954.

Honorable Wm. C. Strand, Director,
Office of Territories,
U. S. Interior Department,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Strand:

When I last wrote to you about a week ago I had hoped that I would not have to bother you again for a while, but apparently it did not turn out that way. As I have mentioned previously, things are bound to happen around here, and one never knows what these characters are up to or what they are going to try to pull off next. One day last week at lunch Junior said something about something which he had seen in an Alaska paper that would distress me, but about that time Dr. Dowling came to the table and he changed the subject. Not wanting to give him the satisfaction of showing any curiosity, I did not remind him about it or mention it again. Of course, I knew that it would not be necessary. About two days later one afternoon apparently according to a well rehearsed plan Wayne, Junior and Thompson marched into my room. Junior sat down in front of me and spread out the clippings, Thompson sat by the wall next to the window, and Wayne stomped back and forth past my left side like an irate bantam rooster while he delivered himself of a tirade against Doctors Anderson and Albrecht with much vituperation. The other two tried to chime in at the same time, so that they all practically talked at once. The idea was to impress me that the Department and I were being attacked and not they and that I would have to do battle. I casually read the clippings and told them that I did not know of anything I could do and that I did not intend to do anything. At that Wayne said that if Dr. Haskins were here he would have grabbed his hat and coat and would be walking to Anchorage to make Anderson eat his words. My smiling retort was that that would be a rather long, cold walk. There was talk about a libel suit, Doctors Wilson and Gambee not taking that, and the like. When they had it all off their chests they marched out like they had entered. This morning I found a copy of Wayne's December 8th letter to you on my desk. When Wayne came in at noon I asked him what he meant by informed persons knowing what. He said that he meant persons who are familiar with the terms of the contract and the like. I do not think that I was accurately quoted, but what I said was more like that perhaps Dr. Anderson had been misquoted or that he might have been a little careless in his choice of words. The reference to staffs is certainly an exaggeration. I cannot think of anyone, except Thompson perhaps, who even ^{would} be interested or much less could be bothered. I will reserve further comment on that letter, because what I would say would be rather blunt and would not sound good. Late this afternoon Wayne and Junior came in with a copy of a letter about giving at least two weeks notice on all patients to be discharged which they wrote for my signature after talking to Drs. Parran and Clark and which I reluctantly signed at the time just to be good natured and stated that if I did not comply with that letter when discharging patients we would have to write another letter stating that we were not doing so. That certainly would not apply to and be necessary in all cases, and I told them so, and further told them that I would handle each case according to indications and needs, and that where two weeks or even longer would be necessary it would be allowed. Then, a few minutes later this afternoon as I was preparing to go home Wayne and Junior again came in to see me. This time they had what appeared to be a rough draft of a letter to you about the correspondence and the like which they handed to me to read while they talked fast trying to tell me that they would not mail it to you if I agreed to their terms as Junior had previously tried to sell them to me. It was full of inaccuracies and misstatements and made references to letters being pilfered from the files. I told them to mail it and that the pilfered letters were in your office because I want-

ed you to see some of them. That stopped them cold and they did not know what to say. As they left the room they muttered something about they guessed they would have to mail it after all. After that I went home. Do you notice their hit and run tactics; how they try to gang up on one; how they try to confuse and stampede one; how they try to catch one off guard and by surprise at unusual times; how they try to intimidate one; how they try to bargain with one; and the like. There is so little difference between the three of them that they might as well be one, except that Junior appears to be the ring leader. Junior seems to think that he has most at stake, and I guess he has. He wants it to run fifty-two years more, pass it on to his young son and perhaps grandson. He has'nt independently salted his several millions yet. I think that fellow should have stayed in the hosiery mill. Thompson would be a good riddance too. In their talk they try to give the impression that all this was mandated to them by Parran and Tallman. They expect this all to be covered in the Report and are trying to jump the gun. They are trying to force issues. I believe they should be stopped. I believe that I should be backed up right down the line. If they are allowed to go on, no telling where they will stop. They might try to move in on you and take over, or the Alaska Health Department, or whatever else. They expect to write their own bills and contracts, and have and do everything on and at their own terms. They are power and money hungry. They are ruthless and without conscience. They would spare no one or stop at nothing to gain their ends and how they would like to get me. I happened to think that the Report says that the records are well kept. That is not true for the statistical, biographical, sociological, etc., part of them, which is so difficult to gather in and which I have been compelled to try to do, and which your office is interested in. The one little girl who has to be relied upon for assistance is not interested, has too many other things to do, etc., for me to get a very satisfactory job done on them here or for transmittal to your office. I some times wonder who is going to flip their lid first. Now I will have to see what they will come up with next. Now is a good time to knock off before I say any more or too much or several other things which I really think. Sorry to bother you. Forgive me if I bored you.

With best wishes and personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

G. F. Keller
George F. Keller, M. D.