

2705 S. W. English Court,
Portland 1, Oregon,
December 13, 1954.

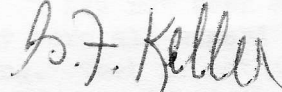
Honorable William C. Strand, Director,
Office of Territories,
U. S. Interior Department,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Strand:

Saturday, December 11, 1954, was a field day at Morningside. I heard that both Coes and Thompson put in a long, hard day writing letters, memoranda, reports, and what have you. Both stenographers were worked hard and long getting it all done and out and in the mail. Of course, most things are done there on Saturday and at other times when I am not around. The lesser stenographer was sick today, apparently as an aftermath from Saturday. To be exact, she had diarrhea and I believe because she does not like what is going on. In fact, she told me so. The stenographers are supposed to be off on Saturday, but they are usually called in on their days off for that sort of thing. I don't think Mrs. Mickelson cares so much, because that makes her more a part of things. This morning I found that Thompson had written nineteen letters last Saturday. At least, that is the number of which copies were on my desk or that I was slapped in the face with. How many more that I hav'nt seen, I'll probably never know. The ones I saw had accumulated during the past three weeks. The oldest one that he answered was dated November 18th. The rest were more recent, but there were more that were dated in November than in December. I had not seen any of them until I saw them with his replies this morning. They were all signed Medical Director. There was also one written to you about clothing. That is nothing new. I have kicked about the overalls ever since I came here and insisted that the patients should be dressed like other people. Now they feel forced to make a little start in that direction and say Tallman suggested it and they want to get credit for it. What they would like best of all would be to get out of buying the clothing in accordance with the contract and have someone else furnish them. They would like to have relatives provide or patients pay for their own clothes. Most of Thompson's correspondence was replies to letters. Several were otherwise, like the one to you. Last Saturday they also moved the filing cabinets with the patients' records out of my room and put them in the room occupied by Lazelle, Mrs. Hockenberry and the part time typist. I hav'nt checked if they keep them locked now or have locked me out. I think that your office is entitled to see things out of patients' files if we see fit. Several times today when I wanted to see a patient's folder I asked to have it brought to me. That's another kick in the face. One more comment on the December 8th letter about the testimony. That is about the neatest job of twisting, screaming, evading the issue, trying to hide behind somebody, ducking for cover and shelter, passing the buck, and the like, that I have ever seen or heard of. This morning I also got a refined copy of the December 10th letter to you and a supplement of the same date. As I have already said in connection with the rough draft, it is exaggerated and inaccurate, and mostly just plain bunk. I trust that they will not be furnished with copies of my personal and confidential letters and reports to you. Several years ago they requested and practically demanded of the Department that they receive copies of all my letters and reports and that I not be permitted to report anything personal and confidential. Needless to say, their request or demand was flatly denied them by the Department and they have been unhappy about it ever since. This morning I also received an interoffice communication which I am enclosing. This is the first of its kind, and things are getting very formal. It is apparently something else Junior brought from the hosiery mill. The document is very confusing and is apparently intended to be so. All thru it, Coe seems to be ordering me. Note particularly the last long paragraph dealing with trans-

portation requests, notices, summaries, etc. You may rest assured that I do not see plenty copies of letters they write or have written and which I know or have known about. I would like to suggest that your office send anything of a personal or confidential nature to my home address, especially if I may happen to be on leave. I would not trust it coming to the "hospital". I have never known anything here except attempts to impede and sabotage my work and efforts on their part since I have been here. That is why I am denied and refused satisfactory stenographic, secretarial or clerical assistance by them in direct opposition to the terms of the contract. Mine or our part of the patients' records are sadly neglected by them and that apparently quite deliberately on their part in an effort to be resistive and uncooperative. They want to make it difficult and make it appear that I am not doing a good job. The two patients which I recieved inquiries about today are cases in point. The recent hysteria apparently has been induced by a fear that the meat house might be coming down soon. Anyhow, something apparently has stimulated them to pretend that they want to perform, take and get all the credit, and make someone else look badly. They are apparently trying to salvage the wreck. There has been a rather vicious dog atmosphere around here lately. I am surprised that I have not encountered some goons yet. I do not think that I will need a body guard though. It does appear as though they are trying to push me out the back door nevertheless. I would call it all rather unscrupulous and unprincipled. That is about what has to be expected considering what we are dealing with. I wonder how much longer that situation is going to be permitted to thrive. I would like to be around at the finish so that I could laugh. The hour is late and I am weary. So much for now.

Sincerely yours,



George F. Keller, M. D.