

May 21st, 1929.

Memo. to Judge Moore on Care of City Patients.

A. W. H.

The new board of the Jefferson Davis Hospital will get into action immediately. There has already been appointed a sub-Committee on expansion of facilities, on which I happen to have been placed. Undoubtedly all proposals will be referred to this committee. The suggestion already brought forward is that certain old buildings from the civic center be moved to the hospital location, to provide room for quarantined patients and for negroes. This would involve cost of moving, of equipment, and of additional personnel.

It is almost certain that the building of a new hospital of some four hundred beds at another location will be forced upon the city. This could hardly take place within three years. It is, therefore, unlikely that anything more than a temporary arrangement will be made meanwhile. I believe that the moment of presenting an offer to care for city negro patients should not be deferred too long, or until the attention of the sub-Committee has fixed upon the old buildings. The proper source of the suggestion should be Dr. Hutcheson, who would convey it to the sub-Committee. If, meanwhile, the Mayor should become favorably disposed, the final steps would be insured success. But I am sure the proposal must reach him by way of the hospital board instead of the other way about.

We could take care of these negro patients at a rate of \$2.50, thus representing a saving of money to the city. This would be increased slightly by use of X-ray, Laboratory and operating room equipment. As for staff arrangements, the Jefferson Davis Hospital staff could designate certain of its members for the care of these charity patients, or arrange with members of our own staff to attend them free of charge. As for space, we would have no difficulty in caring for the number now accommodated in the Jefferson Davis Hospital negro ward.

J. W. Slaughter.

cc WWM 5-22-29 to

JSC (HO-NY)