

DR. H. E. LEE

S. M. E.  
Ancient Order of Pilgrims  
Suite 205 & 206 Pilgrim Building  
Houston, Texas

Nov. 26, 1928.

Dr. J. W. Slaughter,  
Houston, Texas.

*No Negro Hospital  
Management*

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of today, I beg to state that my own intelligence would dictate to me that as Chairman of the Staff, I had no right to define your duties nor to lay down rules and regulations for the conduct of the hospital. I have known all the while that such duties rested in the hands of the various Boards and Committees connected with the Hospital as officials. But, I do feel that as Chairman, I should have sufficient intelligence to interpret laws and regulations handed down to me for execution. Upon that premises, I took the position that doctors operating in the Hospital, other than members of the Staff, should be admitted as per the regulations encouched in the by-laws, which were accepted and approved by the Board. If some conditions have arisen wherein the laws heretofore adopted, failed to meet the issues at hand, they have only to be amended and I will gladly execute them to the best of my ability, as in that way, only, will the Staff know where its authority begins and where it ends. }

Be it known by all concerned, that my record for forty nine years as a citizen, reflects the fact that I have never shown any disposition to disregard law, whether as its subject or its executor. As Chairman of the Staff, I shall contend for regard for the laws of the institution, as it is only in that way, that the rights of the least as well as the greatest, will be respected.

As to my competency, I would suggest that it occurs to me that covering a period of twenty-eight years in the active practice of medicine and surgery, availing myself of every opportunity for development and associating with the leading hospitals of America, I should have acquired some knowledge of Staff organization and Staff rights, at least.

Less my position and contentions might not be clearly understood by the various Boards and Committees, I am sending all communications and replied thereto to the heads of these departments.

I regret your failure to rightly interpret my letter of November 24th, in that you construed it an attempt to define your duties and to lay down rules and regulations for the conduct of the Hospital, rather than to question your act as in conflict with the law.

Respectfully,

cc WWM 11-27-28 to

JSC(HO-NY)

*H. E. Lee*