

J. S. CULLINAN
HOUSTON, TEXAS

March 18, 1933.

(Bld) HOUSTON NEGRO HOSPITAL

S. A. Starkey, Street & Bridge Comm'r.,
City Hall,
Houston, Texas.

My dear Commissioner:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 17th which I note has been passed on to your Superintendent with instructions that the conditions reported be corrected and your added paragraph in regard to taking care of the filling as opportunity offers, all of which I am sure will be greatly appreciated by the white Advisory Board and the management as well as by the patients being moved to and from the hospital.

I am particularly appreciative of the last paragraph of your letter in which you mention this being the first independent negro hospital erected in this country; that, as far as we know, is correct, and had a strong appeal to the then Mayor of Houston (Holcombe) and you Commissioners in providing the land and entering into a contract for maintenance as well as to the Advisory Committee and the management in undertaking to make this unit a model in appearances, in efficiency, and in economy, that might be an incentive to other cities and communities in undertaking like demonstrations for this heretofore, as applied to hospitalization, grossly neglected race. As a matter of fact, while little known to the citizenship of Houston, its results are rather widely known to officials having to do with such matters in other States; further, Julius Rosenwald, with whom I talked shortly before his death, was greatly interested and was developing ideas and plans for a rather extensive promotion of such institutions through the Rosenwald Foundation.

While on the subject, we have another institution in Houston that as far as I know is the first of its kind, that has created and continues to create widespread interest, that is, the Autry Memorial Hospital School, which has done and is doing a magnificent work under the most capable direction of Miss Mae Aldrich.

Finally, your assurance of cooperation and support is very heartening to those of us who are interested in the practical side of improving conditions for our citizens, regardless of race, creed or color, and thereby attempting to brighten the dull drab of human existence which lack of vision and wisdom has brought about.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) J. S. CULLINAN

(Bld) Ho-CFC-NC-MCW-AC
JYP-Dr.JWS-RC

JSC-CZ

Mrs.Jas.L.Autry-Miss Mae Aldrich-Mrs.W.P.Hobby
Nurse Bright