

September 3, 1965

Miss Jean Bergerud
Time Magazine
Rockefeller Center
New York, New York 10020

Dear Miss Bergerud:

In compliance with our telephone conversation, I am enclosing herewith a clipping from the Medical Tribune and also a copy of my address. I trust that when you read them you will find something that is newsworthy, either at this point or later.

As I mentioned, we are ready to launch during the next two weeks a program of integrating the membership of the National Medical Association. This will be indicative of the evolved opinion on the part of many doctors, Negro and white, that the NMA can play the role of the clearer voice of progressive thinking in extension of medical care - which will include an advisory role in the implementation of the Medicare Program at this time and in the months and years ahead.

To symbolize this rather vigorous undertaking, we have awarded honorary memberships to Dr. Charles W. Mayo, Emeritus Chairman of Surgical Section, Rochester, Minnesota, and Dr. Henry N. Harkins, Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, and to Dr. Walter Booker, Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacology, Washington, D.C. - the latter an outstanding authority in his field and a Negro.

The names of the members of the Membership Recruitment and Orientation Committee are listed in the clipping from the Medical Tribune.

The second point which I think may be of wide interest is the fact that we are re-activating a liaison committee of the NMA to work with the liaison committee of the American Medical Section, with reference to further attempts at implementing membership in local component societies of the AMA for Negro doctors in certain southern states and for better opportunities in hospital appoints, especially in the south, but also in certain parts of the north.

Of interest may be the fact that we already have more than forty applications of outstanding white doctors, most of whom are members of the faculties of some of the leading medical schools in the country. Represented among them are faculty members of medical schools at Yale, Harvard, Columbia, Cornell, University of Maryland, University of Illinois, University of California, Tufts, etc.

I trust that this may add up to something of interest and thanking you very much for your cooperation, I am

Yours very truly,

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.

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