

Dibble

Tuskegee Institute

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE
ALABAMA

Caus today

JOHN A. ANDREW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

November 3, 1961

Dr. Leonidas H. Berry
416 E. 47th Street
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Leonidas:

This note comes to thank you sincerely for talking with my son, Robert, while you were attending the recent meeting of the American Gastroenterology Society.

Robert, as you know, is a graduate of Mt. Hermon Prep School in Massachusetts, did his college work at Grinnell, a small school in Iowa, and his medical work at Howard. He then had a rotating internship at Cleveland City Hospital and a year in surgery. He was able to get a residency in the field of internal medicine that he wanted to do and has been a resident at Crile General Hospital since that time. He will finish his formal training on June 30, 1962.

As he told you, he is interested in gastroenterology and has an opportunity for a fellowship under a Doctor Roth who is the Chief of the Service at Crile General and also teaches at Western Reserve. I believe that Robert says that Dr. Roth is anxious for him to stay there for a year's fellowship in this field.

In the meantime, Dr. Charles H. Brown of Cleveland had been to Tuskegee and appeared on our clinic program and while here he had dinner in my home. He appeared to be interested in Robert; and I am sending you, confidentially, a copy of a letter that he sent me. Looking through this letter you can see that it is the same old story. While he appears to be very friendly, there is a question in my mind whether or not he is willing to go all out for this. I might add that I had some experience with the Cleveland Clinic before, and while we have many friends there, there are a few people who are determined that Negroes should not enter there for training. Am I right in my interpretation?

This points up another important area and that is that we have to keep up the fight for complete integration in all areas. Robert told me that as of yet there are no Negro members of the American Gastroenterology Society. Certainly I cannot conceive of your not being a member with all the work that you have done in that field; as a matter of fact, you are one of the pioneers.

Since it appears that Dr. Roth so much wants to give Robert a fellowship to continue his work there with him, I am writing him today advising that this is the thing I think he should do. He already knows Dr. Roth and I understand that he is a fine man with wealth in his own right and is interested in Robert.

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I am sorry to bother you with all this personal matter, but I was so happy that Robert had an opportunity to meet you and get the benefit of your advice that I am taking the liberty of writing you confidentially.

Would like to say to you that this is the 50th anniversary of the John A. Andrew Clinical Society and the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital. You have not had a paper before our group in a long time and you have given many years of service to this institution. Why don't you come down?

Sincerely yours,


Eugene H. Dibble, Jr., M.D.
Medical Director

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