TO: SUPERINTENDENTS

FROM: David J. Vail, M.D.
Medical Director

SUBJECT: Foreign Medical Graduates - Temporary Certificate

November 15, 1960

Anoka
Fergus Falls
Hastings
Moose Lake
Rochester
St. Peter
Willmar

Gillette
Minnesota State San.
Brainerd
Cambridge
Faribault
Owatonna
Children's Center

At a recent meeting, the Board of Medical Examiners requested that we institute our own screening of applicants who are foreign medical graduates, prior to involvement of the Board of Medical Examiners. The reason for this has been the rather high "mortality rate" of applicants who, after extensive correspondence with the Board and sometimes the granting of the Certificate, turn out to be undesirable and/or not interested in coming to Minnesota. This has come to be a problem because of the recent flood of applications from Great Britain and other British Commonwealth countries. I agreed to process the candidates here in the first instance and to then initiate negotiations with the Board only on those who turn out to be desirable and show clear evidence of interest.

Therefore applicants should be instructed as follows:

1. They should apply in the first instance to this office; we will provide them with the Civil Service form to be reviewed here.

2. If their application is approved here we will contact the Board and ask the Board to send the candidate the application forms and instructions for the Temporary Certificate.

3. The candidate should be instructed that even if approved here they cannot receive a formal appointment until the Temporary Certificate has been granted.

4. In any correspondence which you have with the applicant you may wish to indicate that the matter of ECFMG certification is still undecided, that we have not required this in the past but on applications received after January 1, we will in all likelihood establish this as a requirement.

By way of postscript I might indicate that we are slowly coming to a point where we can be quite selective in our choice of the more desirable foreign graduates. We are also gradually getting up to the level of fifteen such persons agreed upon between the Board and Dr. Cameron some years ago as the limit in Temporary Certificates which the Board would authorize for our hospitals at any given time.