June 1, 1948

Mr. R. T. Lindh 2840 Aldrich Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Lindh:

Recently I have called to public attention the need for substantial improvement by way of increased personnel and in other respects as to the care of the mentally ill in our state institutions. I consider the care of the 10,500 patients one of the greatest moral issues facing the people of Minnesota and have made it my number one administrative problem.

For the purpose of securing the best possible guidance in presenting the need for improvement to the public and Legislature, and to help formulate the most constructive program possible, it is my desire to appoint a Citizens' Mental Health Committee, consisting of Minnesota's outstanding civic leaders.

You would be rendering a great service to the people of Minnesota if you would serve on this committee. Such service, of course, would have to be based on a desire to render a public service as there are no funds available for the payment of expenses, committee meetings, or any activities of such a group.

I greatly need your advice and counsel in connection with the many problems relating to mental health which will arise in the crucial months ahead. I would appreciate getting your answer as quickly as possible, as I desire to call a meeting of the entire committee as soon as all responses are in.

Under separate cover you have been sent an invitation to participate in a mental hygiene leadership institute at the University of Hinnesota Continuation Center on June 7, 8, and 9, in cooperation with the Minnesota Mental Hygiene Society. I requested that you be sent this invitation for purposes of acquiring further background in this field. If you find yourself unable to attend, I hope you will suggest a substitute to the institute.

Sincerely yours,