

State of Minnesota

Bepartment of Social Security

Division of Public Institutions Clobe Building - 4th and Cedar

St. Paul I

University of Minnesota December 12, 1950

Dr. Ralph Rossen Commissioner of Mental Health. 403 Physicians & Surgeons Bldg. Minneapolis 2, Minnesota.

Dear Doctor Rossen:

Recent correspondence with Dr. Enberg of the Faribault School has raised the question again as to .why w

do not receive more cooperation from the State Institutions in respect to the release of unclaimed bodies for anatomical teaching. Two years ago following a conference with C. J. Jackson we received real assistance from the Superintendent at St. Peter for which we have been most grateful. (At the same time the fee for transporting bodies from places 50 miles from Minneapolis was raised to \$75.)

Disappointingly, no other institution has supplied us regularly. Prior to Dr. Miller's appointment, a considerable number of bodies were obtained yearly from Anoka, The cutting off of that source has seriously curtailed our work. Previous to that time we were able to assign a body for dissection to two students. This is the desirable arrangement. Now the best we can do is four medical students to a cadaver or six dental -students*

The pressure for larger medical classes is increasing steadily. In addition should the national emergency require a return to the accelerated program, we would be unable to meet the situation if the institutions continue their present attitude toward the provisions of the State Anatomical Act. We have offered to assist their autopsy record. by furnishing reports on cadavers obtained from their institutions but this has had "little effect.

finally, in view of the service which our staff gives to these institutions, is it not reasonable for us to ask for the cooperation of all superintendents in this fundamental requirement for the training physicians? The Medical School of the University of Indiana, which 1 visited recently, obtains virtually all its anatomical material from state institutions.

Sincerely yours,

Harold S. Diehl Dean University Medical School

