



THE "GREATER N. M. A. SPECIAL PROGRAM" MEETING
DETROIT, AUGUST 1949. 1927-1933 PROGRESSIVES' OUR CHALLENGE

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July 18th, '49

Mr. J. S. Cullinan,
Petroleum Building,
Houston, Texas
Dear Mr. Cullinan-

Hennrich Negro Hospital

Recently I was a visitor in your city and had the pleasure of seeing the wonderful building which you out of the bigness of your heart have given to the negroes of Houston and dedicated it to the negroes of America.

As I read the bronze plate my heart was filled first with sadness at the great loss that you had sustained in the death of your son in the world's war. Your experience is that of hundreds of other American fathers. I did not share such but my heart goes out in sympathy to those who were so unfortunate. Personally, I feel that a man could not sacrifice his life for a more noble cause than that of American principles and American ideals. As I recall, one of the first reasons for your taking this wonderful donation for the purpose of negro uplift was to stimulate in the negro a spirit of self help.

I sincerely trust that as my people read that plate that they may get the proper interpretation of that statement. It carries with it much significance. It is impossible to help any individual, race or nation that does not show a disposition to help themselves. As I see it, with such assistance that comes to us, it places upon us a responsibility to use the help for the purpose that it was given. In other words it is not as much the help as we are concerned as it is a proper use of the same.

On behalf of the National Hospital Association, an organization among my people for the purpose of stimulating a desire for better facilities along hospital lines for the development of our men, the training of young women for a life of real service among us and better care of the sick and greater prevention of maladies that are rapidly depopulating us, I wish to sincerely thank you for this expression of good will and your effort to help.

Hoping of having the honor of seeing you sometime,
I am very sincerely yours etc.,

Edward Ferry
E. Edward Ferry

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