

December 19, 1956

The Editor
The Providence Journal
75 Fountain Street
Providence, R. I.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of the remarks of Congress-
man Fogarty to be made at the luncheon of the U. S.
Government Agencies Officials and National Health Agencies
Representatives to coordinate plans for fund raising within
Federal establishments, at Johnson & Hummocks, on December
20, 1956, at 12 o'clock noon.

With warm regards and best wishes for a most
happy holiday season, I am

Sincerely yours,

George J. Kelley
Secretary to
John E. Fogarty, M. C.

Same ltr to:
Westerly Sun
Woonsocket Call
Pawtucket Times
Pawtuxet Valley Times
Cranston Herald

SUGGESTIONS FOR MR. FOGARTY'S
TALK ON DECEMBER 20, 1956

In a few weeks six national health agencies will ask for contributions from your personnel. I would like to introduce them to you, to tell you a little about their work and the importance of their work.

The agencies are:

The Cancer Society
The Heart Association
Crippled Children and Adults
United Cerebral Palsy
The Muscular Dystrophy Association
The Multiple Sclerosis Society

The Multiple Sclerosis Society will participate only in Newport County. The Tuberculosis Association and the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation were eligible to participate, but they are not doing so this year because of other plans and circumstances.

Many of your organizations have recently completed excellent campaigns on behalf of the United Fund. Your personnel are to be congratulated for their generosity. Their contributions will be used by agencies which need and deserve their support. However, because of the recent appeal for a united drive some persons may wonder why there are still independent drives.

My work has kept me in contact with several of these agencies and I have come to know and appreciate their reasons for maintaining their independence. In many ways these organizations differ from traditional agencies which were created to provide local services. This does not mean that one kind of agency is any better than the other, but it does mean that they must conduct their affairs differently. The health agencies believe that some of the diseases which have been causing deaths and suffering for centuries can be overcome if sufficient effort is made. They are engaged in the mobilization of maximum efforts against these diseases. Their aim is to save

lives. Experience to date has shown that they are capable and effective. Lives are being saved because of their work and thousands of patients are being helped.

One agency has described this situation by pointing out that there is a difference between "all-time" and "all-out" agencies. The "all-time" organization is relatively permanent. It serves a single community and its growth is keyed to that community. The "all-out" agency differs in that it is dedicated to an "all-out" attack against a particular health problem. When their goals are reached these agencies expect to go out of business.

The natural conclusion of this reasoning is that the "all-time" agency can often join in united drives and secure adequate support. On the other hand, the "all-out" agency usually finds that its chances of expanding are too limited when it places its fund raising in the hands of others, because then it must reconcile itself to growing as fast or as slow as they do.

Time is an extremely important factor for these health agencies. The sooner they reach maximum strength the sooner they will reach their potential for aiding patients who have been struck by vicious diseases. None of them have reached their potential yet. They are all in varying stages of a process of growth. About 5 billion dollars were contributed to various causes in America last year. These agencies received less than 2% of that amount.

Recently, I have been asked, "Are these national health agencies necessary now that Congress has appropriated \$184,000,000. for health research?" I would like to say they are invaluable now just as they have been in the past. They have helped in the saving of thousands of lives, and if they succeed in their work, millions of Americans will benefit. The increased government appropriations mean that for the first time the amount of money available for health research will be adequate. It will be adequate,

however, only if the health agencies continue to carry on their excellent work.

Few people have had a real opportunity to observe the partnership that exists between some of the health agencies and departments of the United States Public Health Service. For example, the close working relationship between the National Cancer Institute and the American Cancer Society. There has been a constant interchange of information and a continuous cooperation between the two. Governor Walter Kohler of Wisconsin referred to this in a recent statement which outlined why the Cancer Society must provide eight million dollars for cancer research next year. On his recent visit to Providence, Dr. Paul Dudley White, the world's best known authority on heart disease, spoke of the continuing need for support of the American Heart Association.

I am convinced that these men are right. The adoption of Social Security legislation in the late 1930's provided large sums of money for welfare purposes; yet it did not, as some persons predicted, eliminate the need for voluntary agencies interested in welfare problems.

Private agencies and government agencies each have advantages in the health field. Working together they can accomplish much more in much less time than either could accomplish alone. The private agency has flexibility that allows quick changes in policy or program when research opens up new "leads" or provides new "clues." The national health agencies also can provide risk capital needed to develop new areas of research and they can make long-term commitments for ten years or more that cannot be handled by the federal government. On the other hand, with the establishment of the National Institutes of Health the federal government took an historic step forward. The United States now has an over-all health program that is worthy of a nation that is leading the world in the fight against disease. It is fair to say that the fight against killing and crippling diseases could not have reached

its present magnitude or intensity if Congress had not voted the funds needed. The progress made to date is much more than just encouraging. People are alive and well today who could not have been helped just a few years ago. It is estimated that there are now over 400,000 cured cancer patients in the United States and the rate is increasing each year. I couldn't even guess how ^{many} heart disease patients have been helped by progress in medical science.

Rhode Island has been selected as the location of a research project on cell examinations for uterine cancer. The project is only a few days old. In fact, the official announcement of its opening has not been released. However, more than 100 examinations have already been made and it is expected that the volume will soon increase to about 1,000 examinations per week. A similar project conducted in Memphis, Tennessee, has shown that we can expect to discover about one early case of cancer for every 200 women examined. Through this project scores of examinees will be given a better chance for survival. Experience has shown that most of the cases of cancer found in this way are curable.

The United States Public Health Service has allocated about \$70,000 of its current appropriation for this project. The American Cancer Society helped in the development of the technique that will be used and the local Division of the Cancer Society is providing valuable assistance in the promotion of the project locally.

It is easy to plead the cause of the health agencies before the public or before an interested group like this. We are all human beings who are subject to, or who have children who are subject to the diseases these agencies are dedicated to combat. They have the support of many of the nation's most prominent medical men and scientists. Many distinguished business, industrial and labor leaders have endorsed their work.

For more than a year Philip R. Young, the President's advisor on per-

sonnel matters, has headed a committee which studied the national health agencies and their fund raising policies. On several occasions the matter has had the personal attention of the President. President Eisenhower has announced his philosophy of "true voluntary giving" and has firmly endorsed the inclusion of eight of the national health agencies in a voluntary joint solicitation of federal personnel.

In this matter I am in full accord with the President and I am certain that you are too. These agencies are giving to us far more than we can ever give to them. We all know that they are helping to increase our chances for a longer and healthier life. Our President was restored to health after a serious heart attack. Our Secretary of State is back in action after a brush with cancer only a few weeks ago. These are examples of what is happening all over our country. But, if we just look at the matter from a very materialistic point of view the facts still point directly to the value of a greater investment in health by each of us.

Progress in medical science is making our country stronger, it has helped to create our present prosperity, it has helped us assume our position of leadership in the world and it will help to keep us there. For example, the Cancer Society has helped to establish an international association of prominent medical and non-medical leaders from various parts of the world. Information is freely exchanged through regular channels. Over a period of time American leadership in the field of medical science can very possibly produce effects more lasting and better appreciated than the Marshall Plan. For one thing, here we have a "two-way street" which allows other nations to contribute valuable information that is helpful to us. And the benefits of any new weapons in the fight against disease are not temporary. As they are developed they are added to the doctor's armamentarium and they are available for generations to come.

Developments that are clearly for the benefit of all mankind will solidify friendships and can help to break down enmities. Who will want to fight the nation that gave life and hope to his own child?

You and I represent the personnel of our national government. The national health agencies that I have been speaking of are our partners. I join President Eisenhower in urging that you do all that you can to help them because of the many ways in which they will be helping you.

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