

fifty-two (5²) miles of slum area in Chicago, the total area all over the City, extending as far south as 63rd Street, and takes in that area from Halsted Street over to South Park fifty-two (52) square miles, taking into consideration north, west and south side.

SENATOR WALLACE: We thank you very much.

(witness excused)

MR. HENDERSON: Doctor Falls.

MR. HAREWOOD: Will you raise your right hand.

A R T H U R G . F A L L S

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined in chief by ~~232323~~ Mr. Harewood, and testified as follows:

Q What is your name, please ? A Arthur G. Falls.

Q Licensed to practice medicine in the State of Illinois ?

A Yes.

Q What Hospitals are you connected with, Doctor ?

A With Provident Hospital and the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium.

Q You are a Physician ? A Physician and surgeon.

Q What is your address ? A 5917 South Throop Street.

Q Thank you.

SENATOR WALLACE: Doctor Falls, the Commission understands that you have a statement to make in reference to the condition of health and the availability of hospital facilities for Negroes in Chicago, and the problem of training and the employment for Negro doctors and nurses in Chicago.

A I am aware of the fact that time is an element, I have prepared here a report, and I would like to read from the report.

(reading)

"Although the comparison of Negroes, who constitute 10% of the population with the white population, which constitutes 90% of the population, is scientifically unsound, for the sake of the specific job of the Commission, this primary statement may be made:- That the morbidity and mortality rates of the Negro population in Chicago generally exceed those of the white population, and that the widest variations are in those diseases which best lend themselves to prevention, and are included in two main fields:

1. Respiratory Diseases, as tuberculosis, pneumonia, Influenze, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough etc.

2. Venereal Diseases, as Syphilis and Gonorrhoea.

There is no evidence that this situation is due to factors of racial susceptibilities, but rather to the following factors:

1. Inadequate Housing
2. Severe Over-crowding

3. Inadequate Food

4. Lack of Understanding and Lack of use of available medical resources.

In relation to venereal diseases, it is important to realize that because Negroes use public facilities to a greater extent than members of the white population, the variation in incidence of infection seems to be much greater than it actually is.

PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES:

Our attention to these agencies is on the basis of two questions:

1. To what extent are the facilities of these agencies available to Negro patients ?

2. To what extent is opportunity afforded for training and for service of Negro personnel ?

It is recognized that in some fields Negroes may have equality of opportunity with other segments of the population in the use of existing facilities, but that these facilities may be inadequate for the whole city and particularly inadequate for Negroes on the basis of increased need.

BOARD OF HEALTH SERVICES:

1. INFANT WELFARE:- Facilities for infant welfare service are available to Negro patients with no evidence of discrimination. Negro doctors and nurses constitute part of the personnel in clinics which handle large numbers of Negro patients. It is not know whether they are present 202 in clinics in other areas.

2. PRENATAL: The situation in these clinics is as described for infant welfare.

3. SCHOOLS: Negro physicians are employed by the Board of Health as Civil Service employees operating in some schools in the city. It is not known whether they are to be found in schools without a preponderance of Negro students. A recently developed dental program in the schools, operated jointly by the Board of Health, the W. P. A. and the Chicago Dental Society, includes a few Negro dentists and clerks, all located in schools with a Negro population.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION: The sanitary inspection by the Board of Health is woefully inadequate throughout the City and particularly in areas of highest Negro concentration. It is not known whether Negroes constitute part of the personnel.

5. SOCIAL HYGIENE CLINIC: An extensive service is rendered by the Municipal Social Hygiene Clinic whose patient population is about 90% Negro. There is no discrimination in the medical service given to Negroes. Four colored physicians are employed, one of whom is Chief Clinician. The Chief Statistician also is a Negro. Negro nurses, technicians and clerks are employed and are not limited to the handling of Negro patients.

6. MAIN OFFICE Some Negroes are employed in the main office of the Board of Health.

COUNTY SERVICES:

1. COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL: There is no evidence of discrimination in the admittance of Negroes to the Cook County Hospital. In fact, Negroes constitute a large percentage of the clientele. There have been a few Negro internes, but no Negroes have ever been members of the staff. No colored nurses have ever received under-graduate training, however, students of Provident Hospital spend six months of their training period in the Hospital. Some post graduate training also has been available. It is reported that a previous bar to residence in the Nurses Home has been removed.

2. OAK FOREST INFIRMARY: The Infirmary has had a discriminatory policy with a certain number of beds allotted for Negroes. County officials however, have promised that this will be eliminated. No colored doctors or nurses are known to have been employed.

3. COOK COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH: The recently developed Cook County Board of Public Health is known to have employed one colored nurse and has at least one Negro physician from the Illinois State Department of Health co-operating. So far as it is known, no discrimination against colored patients is intended.

4. COOK COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICE: This agency is not known to discriminate against colored patients and does have

three colored physicians employed. No discrimination against colored patients.

MUNICIPAL TUBERCULOSIS SANITARIUM:

1; DISPENSARIES: There is no discrimination in the services afforded Negro patients in dispensaries. Negro nurses are employed in dispensaries not limited to areas of high Negro concentration. Negro stenographers and clerks are likewise employed. No Negro physicians are on the regular staff of the dispensaries, but several Negro doctors are working in the dispensaries under the W. P. A.

2# CASE FINDING SURVEY: A newly developed activity of the Sanitarium has a mixed personnel. Two Negro physicians supervise the work operating from the headquarters of the Sanitarium under the leadership of the Superintendent of Dispensaries. Both white and colored nurses are employed. Opportunities for training of nurses in X-ray technic is being given, which is of particular importance to Negro nurses because of the limited access to such training by Negro nurses. There is no discrimination in the services afforded to Negro patients. Rather, Negroes particularly have benefitted from these activities.

3. SANITARIUM: The Board of Directors of the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium have issued specific instructions barring discrimination against Negroes in the filing of applications for admittance to the Sanitarium. There are an

increasing number of Negroes being admitted but the bed space for the city as a whole is inadequate and the need is felt mostly by the Negro population. There are no regular Negro nurses on the staff of the Sanitarium, but several are employed through W. P. A. These nurses are not limited to serving colored patients. There are a large number of Negroes employed in maintenance and in W. P. A. projects on the grounds. There are no Negro doctors on the regular staff of the Sanitarium, but one physician is receiving post graduate training in thoracic surgery and is a member of the operating team. This physician has met with no discrimination in any way.

4. RIVERSIDE: Negro patients are admitted to this institution, but no Negro doctors are on the staff. It is not known whether Negro nurses are present.

5. POST GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR PHYSICIANS: The comprehensive Post Graduate School for Physicians represents a distinct forward step in public health activity. Although the course is part of a city-wide program, the overwhelming majority of the physicians who have finished the course have been Negro physicians. The two colored members of the staff are members of the faculty of the school.

FEDERAL AGENCIES:

The health program of the N. Y. A., and of the draftees is in process of formation and it is not known to what extent

Negroes will be included in the program as personnel. Negroes will be given service, but it is not know whether such service will be free of discrimination. Investigations might be made of the extent to which Negroes are included in the administration of the following medical services:

1. Maternal Health Act
2. Child Dependent Act
3. Crippled Children's Act.

CHICAGO RELIEF ADMINISTRATION:

Negroes are served by the Medical Relief Service of the C. R. A. without discrimination. However, the Administration does meet difficulty in securing adequate hospitalization for its Negro clients. Negro doctors participate in the medical program. Through organized opposition, Negro doctors caused a discriminatory regulation to be removed.

CHICAGO STATE HOSPITAL:

One colored physician is on the staff of this institution. It is not known whether colored nurses have been employed.

PRIVATE HEALTH FACILITIES

1. COUNCIL OF SOCIAL AGENCIES:

There are Negro members of the Health Division of the Council and also of the executive committee of the Health Division. This body has concerned itself with the health problems seriously concerning the Negro population, and has exhibited a fair and impartial attitude looking toward the amelioration of existing discriminator practices. However, this body can

only make recommendations, as it has no power over existing health agencies.

2. HOSPITALS:

a. CATHOLIC: The most flagrant evidence of discrimination in the field of health is found in Catholic Hospitals. With the exception of St. Vincent's Asylum, there are none which admit Negro patients without question. A few will admit them under pressure. So far as it is known, there have never been any colored internes or nurses in any Catholic Hospital in the City. There is one colored physician on the staff of one hospital, but he was not known to be colored at the time of admittance. It is felt that discrimination in Catholic institutions is an important factor in the maintenance of discrimination outside of those institutions because of the number of Catholics who hold important positions, some of whom reflect the attitude of the institutions.

b. PROTESTANT and JEWISH: That there is discrimination in Protestant and Jewish hospitals is apparent. However, some of them have furnished considerable bed space to Negroes. St Luke's, on a segregated basis; Michael Reese and Women's and Children's, occasionally; and Presbyterian, quite frequently. The following hospitals have promised to make bed space for Negroes available: Wesley, Chicago-Lying-In, and Mt. Sinai.

3. CATHOLIC CHARITIES:

The Chicago Catholic Charities get funds from the Illinois Emergency Relief Administration. So far as it is known, no discrimination is known in the administration of relief to Catholic Negroes. However, no colored social workers or other workers are employed. The services of colored physicians generally are not known to be employed.

One agency in the Charities, the Catholic Home Bureau, does employ the services of colored physicians and renders the same service to its colored children as to others.

4. INFANT WELFARE SOCIETY:

This Society has not been working in areas of high Negro concentration. So far as it is known, no Negro doctors have been employed by this agency.

5. VISITING NURSES ASSOCIATION:

This agency employs Negro nurses and one Negro supervisor. It does not discriminate in its services to Negro patients, but it does follow a policy of assigning Negro nurses only to Negro patients which results often in a white and colored nurse operating in the same territory and each is limited to one definite group.

6. CHICAGO TUBERCULOSIS INSTITUTE:

This organization has a Negro Department with two Negro workers in charge. The activity of this agency has centered mainly around areas in which there were few Negroes. Colored doctors have not been employed by this organization and so far

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as it is known, colored nurses have not been employed.

7. RED CROSS

This organization maintains a dental unit on the west side. It is not known whether any Negroes have been served. No Negro dentists have been employed.

MEDICAL SCHOOLS

1. NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY: This University has barred the Negro students for several years. There is one colored physician on the staff. A colored woman is also employed in the Pathology Laboratory.
2. UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO: This University admits an occasional Negro student, but practices discrimination against them by sending them to Provident Hospital for clinical clerkships and other courses. Colored physician are on the staff in the Eye Department, and in the Pathology Department.
3. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS: This University admits an occasional Negro. So far as it is known, they are not discriminated against in the courses offered. Two Negro physician are on the staff. One Negro is employed in the Pathology Department, one in the Department of Pharmacology and one Negro dentist previously was on the dental staff. In the Illinois Research Hospital no colored internes or nurses are present.
4. LOYOLA UNIVERSITY: This University admits an occasional Negro, but seems to show a tendency toward a more liberal

attitude. Two Negro physicians are on the staff. The dental school with which the University is affiliated does not admit Negro students, nor are there any Negroes on the staff.

5. POST GRADUATE TRAINING: Opportunities for post graduate training are closed to Negro physicians in most cases.

NOTE: The exclusion of Negro doctors from hospitals and medical schools has been defended usually by those institutions on the grounds that there is a great deal of resistance on the part of white patients to being served by Negro personnel. There is little evidence to substantiate this. It is more likely that discrimination is based upon individual prejudices of administrators, and upon the effort of the medical personnel to limit competition.

SUMMARY:

There seems to be a definite trend in Chicago toward more wide spread incorporation of Negroes in public health programs both as patients and as personnel. However, the need is still great for expansion of public health facilities, much as the securing of ambulances, the creation of public tax-supported clinics in areas of greatest need and the extension of school health facilities for families in low income groups. Since a large percentage of the Negro population is in the low income group, these needs are felt particularly by this segment of our population.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. An intensive promotion of new housing and rehabilitation of existing housing.
2. Rigid enforcement of the sanitary and building codes.
3. Development of a well-organized program of health education on a state-wide basis under the leadership of the Illinois State Department of Public Health, with co-operation of existing local health agencies.

This program would include lectures, radio talks, movies, demonstrations and development of clearing-houses, such as District Health Centers, which would be able to guide persons to existing agencies.

4. Increased appropriations for medical care for low income groups which will include a large segment of the Negro population.
5. Support of proposed plans for decentralization of the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium, and of the Cook County Hospital.
6. An extensive program of training of Negro personnel and incorporation into all public health programs.
7. An organized program for the complete elimination of all racial barriers in all public and private institutions.

(conclusion of statement)

MR. WIMBISH: Doctor Falls, the type of private hospital, and institution privately owned hospital, as over against
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other Hospitals - City, County and State - how many have we over the City such as the Cook County Hospital, the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium and the Illinois Research. I want to ask some questions on this .

A Yes.

Q Since most of the colored population, according to what you say, are poor and not able to pay for these services, I want to know if patients are discriminated against at the Cook County Hospital. Do you know if at the Cook County Hospital they discriminate against Negroes ?

A We have had no evidence from time to time, not from the admittance department anyway as far as the Cook County Hospital is concerned.

Q I mean are Negro patients separate, placed apart, segregated from the rest of the white patients ?

A They have no established policy in that regard. We have seen Negro and white patients side by side.

Q Is it true that you see any number, that you find many instances where colored patients are grouped together, all on one floor ?

A No, that is not true. I know that is not true, they don't on a basis of color necessarily.

Q You don't find that true, more or less, colored and white patients together ?

A I don't know that, I have found it quite often, through

out the entire department.

Q Do they have any doctors or nurses ?

A No internes, none on the staff.

Q Now Cook County Hospital is run from funds from the State ? A From the County.

Q Yes. A Yes.

Q Now M. T. S., Doctor, you know tuberculosis is quite prevalent, or seemingly said to be so among the Negro population, is there any discrimination there ?

A I can say definitely that there is no discrimination there I can say further that the Board of Directors has issued orders to all employees that there be no discrimination.

Q I mean as far as applications are concerned for admission ?

A As far as applications go, at the present time, I am afraid I cannot discuss that. So far as I know there is no discrimination.

Q Are there colored doctors on that staff ?

A On the regular staff ?

Q At the Hospital ? A At the Hospital, one colored doctor.

Q Any nurses ? A Several colored nurses from W.P.A. none on the regular staff.

Q Do they practice discrimination as to assigning beds, and other facilities ?

A Not supposed to be the police at the present, as far as

I know, I would say "no."

Q I know you would know doctor, I want to ask you this question and would like for you to give us the necessary information.

A Yes.

Q We want to determine, as to waiting patients to get in M. T. S., in many instances you have to wait until a patient is dead before you can get him in there. I want a definite statement along that line, as we have been told that there is discrimination practiced there, that they do not want Negro patients and take them very reluctantly, and that there is a decided difference in the treatment to the detriment of the Negro patient.

I am just seeking information from you, to the end that we might make some recommendations.

A I can answer some of the question. I do know that the policy of the M. T. S. is not take take in anyone likely to die shortly; in other words, the policy at the present is admit to rooms those earlier cases.

I do know as a fact that there are a number of Negroes who have been admitted in the Sanitarium, and are receiving the same care anyone else receives. Case I have in mind the patient was admitted a little over a month after she was found to be in that condition, and those are the more desirable cases.

MR. WIMBISH: In reference to the Illinois Research Hospital have they any colored doctors or nurses there, on their staff ?

A There are two Negro physicians on the Staff at the University, I don't know about being on the staff in the Hospital proper.

Q At the Hospital proper ? A I don't know if this physician is operating at the Hospital.

Q You have found patients discriminated against there ?

A I don't know that I have.

MR. HENDERSON: Doctor Falls, regarding the institutions you have mentioned, and some you did not mention, of the Hospitals in this City, there are Hospitals you named exempt from taxes ?

A I think so.

Q Do you know of these getting funds from the State ?

A I don't know. I do know that some of these Hospitals take in relief clients, and others from I.E.R.C.

Q Do you know of any other subsidy ?

A I do not.

Q Now when these Hospital are conducting an examination - in the emergency rooms, if a man is brought there, he is due more than just an ordinary examination, and the fact that he is without funds should in no way influence the service he is entitled to ?

A No.

Q On that basis, do you feel that any Hospital that gets that consideration from the State, tax exempt, and other benefits, which institution in turns discriminates against a race of people, that some steps taken, some measures employed to prevent that, to prevent any such institution from discrimination of persons on account of race, creed or color ?

A I don't believe any institution, operating for profit or not, should be permitted to discriminate.

Q Now, what do you think as a suggestion to the Legislature which would prevent tax exempt institutions from discriminating persons because of race, color or creed ?

A Well, I am not as familiar with some of these things as the attorneys here and members of the Legislature. If there is not, at the present time, legislation that definitely prohibits such institutions from discriminating, there should be. We have laws preventing Restaurants and Hotels from such practices, and I think there should be such Legislation applicable to Hospitals, particular tax exempt institutions is what I had in mind. The law should apply to all Hospitals, whether privately owned, endowed or otherwise.

Q Thank you.

SENATOR WALLACE: We thank you Doctor Falls, and we will excuse you.

(witness excused)

MR. HENDERSON: Dr* Herman N. Bundesen ?

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DR. E. F. WOODSON, practicing physician, after being first duly sworn by Mr. Harwood, testified as follows:

MR. WALLACE: Dr. Woodson, you are here for the purpose of obtaining some facts and the commission would like to ask you some questions relative to your activities.

MR. HENDERSON: How long have you been in East St. Louis?

A Approximately three years

Q We are interested in finding out about hospital facilities available for negroes.

MR. HAREWOOD: What school did you graduate from?

A Howard, Washington, D. C.

Q Where did you do your internship?

A City Hospital number two, St. Louis

Q How long have you been practicing?

A Approximately three years.

MR. HENDERSON: Doctor, we are interested in finding out just the available hospital facilities in East St. Louis for negroes. On the basis of your experience would you discuss that problem, whether there are sufficient facilities to your knowledge or whether they could be improved?

A Well the hospital facilities for the negroes in East St. Louis are very inadequate at the present time. We have only two hospitals in East St. Louis proper, that take negro patients and both of them are private hospitals; that is Christian Welfare Hospital that has a total bed capacity of five for negroes; that is they have five beds only at the present time that negro patients can

use for hospitalization. St. Mary's Hospital has approximately 23 to 25 beds and when I say 23 to 25 beds I mean for negroes and they have two or three bassinets for infants

MR. PARISH: What is the total bed room at St. Mary's?

A I think it is around 450

Q What is it at the other hospital?

A Around 65 to 70

MR. GREENE: These two hospitals that admit negroes are the only two hospitals in East St. Louis?

A Those are the only two in East St. Louis. Of course we have a County Hospital too

MR. HENDERSON: That is in Belleville

A Yes

MR. FOSTER: Then you just have the two hospitals in East St. Louis?

A Yes

Q Do they accept patients that are sent by the City and County?

A They accept Relief patients

Q And are most of these colored people who go there Relief patients?

A I would say sixty percent

Q And only segregated in one section of the hospital?

A Well at St. Mary's they are segregated in what they call the old wing there

Q And there is a limited number of beds?

A Yes

Q And you think they are not adequate?

A No.

Q How about emergency treatment?

A Well for emergency treatment, they will give you emergency treatment but will not give you a bed. Once in a while you may persuade them to make some arrangements on that particular colored side I am talking about St. Mary's for colored patients, but that is a rare case. As a matter of fact quite frequently we have to send emergency patients to St. Louis in order to give them satisfactory hospitalization.

Q Would you say the hospital facilities generally for the general population are inadequate?

A So far as beds, yes.

Q I mean do the hospital facilities serve the white population adequately?

A I think so, yes. Surely more satisfactorily than the colored

Q Yes but I was wondering if it is acute?

A Not as acute as we have I am positive.

MR. GREENE: This other hospital -- how far is that?

A Belleville is about thirteen miles.

Q Are any negroes from East St. Louis transported to Belleville?

A Yes.

MR. HENDERSON: Doctor, do negro physicians practice in both hospitals here?

A Yes they are members of the staff and bring their patients there

Q So far as you know do negro physicians practice in the County

hospital?

A No negroes in the County Hospital at all

Q Do you know whether it is a rule of the County Hospital or that negroes haven't taken advantage of it?

A I can't answer that question. It seems to be a precedent. They have one negro nurse there. They had about three negro nurses there at one time but haven't had over one colored professionally employed at the County Hospital.

I would like to qualify the statement of Dr. Farrier. Dr. Farrier said 75 percent of the venereal cases are colored. That is true but the reason for that is -- I am only saying that to clarify that. It doesn't mean that 75 percent of the negroes in East St. Louis have venereal diseases, it means about 60 percent of the negroes that are reported is because they don't have the funds, whereas the white patients will go to private physicians and do have funds to stay away from the clinic. Therefore that is what happens to all these cases of negroes; they take them to the clinic and the colored cases at the clinic preponderate. I would like to clarify the statement as to tuberculosis. We have a very fine way of diagnosing tuberculosis but we have no way of treatment, only in the home which is very inadequate.

MR. FOSTER: Do any of the industries maintain hospitals for their own employees?

A They have no hospitals but do provide them with hospitalization.

Q In private hospitals?

A Only those hospitals we spoke about.

MR. HAREWOOD: Do you have any fresh air sanatorium?

A No, we haven't any at all, as a matter of fact the County Hospital acts as a melting pot for tuberculosis and a stopping point, we might say, for patients mentally unbalanced and for any other case. Naturally, private hospitals do not take tuberculosis patients and if a patient does get to where he absolutely has to have a hospital he is usually sent in to Belleville, which is not a tuberculosis hospital, it is just a County Hospital where they take everything.

And further affiant sayeth not.

GEORGE W. HECKLE, Manager of the Illinois State Employment Bureau, Pleasant Ridge Grover, Maryville, Illinois; after being first duly sworn by Mr. Harewood, testified as follows:

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Heckle, when I was in your office the other day I thought I would get some statistics from your office on unemployment compensation and on the number of placements in the East St. Louis area. We are particularly interested as to the extent negroes are coming into these communities, however those statistics were not available. With your experience as being part of the largest employment office in the State, would you approximate the types of positions in which you are able to place negroes and the types of industry which accept them?

A In the City of East St. Louis?

Q And if they draw from you -- the surrounding regions, if