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Defendant's Exhibit 649: Sam Sheppard Letter To Howard Lamb

Sam H. Sheppard

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May 21, 1954

Dr. Howard Lamb,
c/o The Lamb Memorial Hospital,
1560 Humbolt St.,
Denver 18, Colo.

Dear Howard:

I understand that Dr. Scherbarth is leaving County Hospital within the next few weeks. While I was in California in March I discussed the possibility of his returning to Denver for practice with your Clinic. I am not sure of his plans but I hope that he will realize the opportunity in your office.

If, however, Dr. Scherbarth or other neurosurgeons are unable to come to Denver I should like to propose a possible plan whereby I might be of help to you in your clinic. I have been extremely busy here associated with our group and continue to be so. However, I have been fortunate enough to work with one or two men who are now able to handle a great deal of the minor neuro and traumatic problems and also handle a great deal of the workup in relation to the major problems. This has been extremely helpful to me and has enabled me to make side trips to Grove City, Pennsylvania, Youngstown, Akron, etc. for work in those cities. If you were in the need of services of a neuro-surgeon I could probably fly to Denver for approximately a week to ten days out of each month. During this period my assistants here could handle emergency problems and work up elective cases. At the same time I might be in a position to train members of your Clinic to handle the minor neuro and traumatic problems and also handle a portion of the workups on the major cases. The week’s stay in Denver I could devote to neurologic and neurosurgical cases and handle any surgical cases that were lined up during the month.

This is sort of a wild dream but it might be worth considering. Such a plan could be worked out on a salary basis or an individual patient charge basis. If this plan sounds reasonable to you I would be happy to make the trip to Denver sometime this summer or sooner and discuss the particulars with you. My willingness to carry out such a plan, if it were practical, is based on the fact that I am more interested in my
work than in my social and recreational activity. A month and a half ago I almost had Chappie talked into returning to Cleveland and working with me here, which would have made this plan a natural. He, however, ran into complications in regard to leaving Los Angeles which were somewhat expected. We may work together yet.

I will be interested in your reaction to this letter.

Best personal regards.

Fraternally,

Sam

SHS/c