

#1 -

1133 Chester Pike

Received in
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Quinn-Tamm, Dec 1902

Apr 19/73.

APR 23 1973

Ms. Helene Holmgren -

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Ref. to

Where have you been past fifty
years? It appears this was your first visit to a
Mental Hospital.

When I was 12 or 13 yrs old - my mother and
aunt would visit the poor and mental hospital at
Schuylkill Haven Pa. to see neighbors or friends who
were confined. Many of the vicinies were sitting on floors
in cubicles. However had no props. Many were in
straight jackets walking around. Some crazy committing
antics. some ^{with} sex or mind. As much from my experience.

A good friend of mine was employed at
Hermersville, Pa. She related many of the antics and
attacks and how they were taken care of.

Last summer my wife and I visited "Fair Area"
near Lima, Pa. Visited a neighbor confined there due
to poverty, etc. Located her in a room - 40 to 60
women. noticed many were strapped to their chairs -
some in high chairs. they ~~to~~ were in a world of
their own. Informed they sat in this room from
7 or 8 o'clock in A.M. to 9-10 o'clock P.M.

#2 -

While passing thru noticed nurses and attendants - estimated at about 30 standing ~~at~~ around large desk - socializing - chatting - putting in time while patients had very little attention - only once in an hour and half one attendant come around and escorted a ~~fat~~ patient from room, This attendant you could not miss - it appeared had a tumor from navel down - she looked like she was 8 1/2 mos pregnant.

My advice to you - get out of ~~the~~ office - and make more visits to Mental Hospitals, instead of relying on someone to appraise you of conditions,

Yours truly,
Emil J. South.