

2224 Sassafra St., Erie, Pa., 16502

April 23, 1973

Gov. Milton J. Shapp

Harrisburg, Pa.

Your Honor:

Received in  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

MAY 4 1973

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Ref. to \_\_\_\_\_

Concerning Polk State Hospital:-

First, I am a fullfledged votingAmerican,citizen, aged 83 years, and still very active.

All my life I have worked with all types of people, in Community Welfare and Red Cross family service-all volunteer.

I was cited by the American Cross for fifty (50) years of Voluntary Service.

I have known families where some member of their family is a type that could be in an institution such as Polk State Hospital, but are kept at home with tender, loving care.

One I know was 55 years old-a long time-but with wonderful consideration.

I know some people who have a member of their family in Polk State Hospital-the only reason because they couldn't get proper care in their home;and I have never heard one word against the care or treatment they are getting, and they had nothing but praise for Dr.James McClelland, and his staff.

The cages Mrs. Wohlgemuth "blew up" about, and told the world, were not for punishment, but for their own protection and the protection of others-time has proved that.

I understand that most persons who hold office, like to make "big deals"to show the "home folks" their authority and accomplishment-not always to their credit.

I never criticise without suggestion,  
First, I would suggest that Mrs. Helene Wohlgemuth-Pa. Sec. of  
Welfare at the price the attendants are paid-spend one month each  
24 hours each day)with a group of 10 or more patients, Young child-  
ren, adult females, also males to run consecutively:

Second, that a person who has not become humane in that time  
should be removed from office and replaced.

Third, that any person or persons not satisfied with the care and  
treatment of their person in Polk State Hospital, take them away  
from there.

I am sure they would be glad to release them to their families.  
That would give another person a chance to be admitted, for I am  
sure you have a waiting list there.

I urge you to act immediately to reinstate Dr. James McClelland,  
who has given 15 years of his life in that sort of work.

I am sure you would not serve as he has honourably-even if you  
could qualify.

The enclosed clipping was taken from the Erie "Times", Erie, Pa.,  
Sunday, April <sup>23rd</sup> April 1973, and written by Columnist Ed. Mathews.

My plea is this-reinstate Dr. James McClelland, and, I think an  
apology is in order.

Yours very truly,  
(Miss) Marion Taylor.

*(Miss) Marion E. Taylor.*

*Copies sent to - Gov. Milton J. S-happ,  
Mrs. Helene Wohlgemuth  
also Dr. James McClelland*