

Stoneboro, Pennsylvania

April 23, 1973

Mrs. Helene Wohlgemuth
Secretary of Public Welfare
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Received in
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

MAY 7 1973

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Ref. to _____

Dear Mrs. Wohlgemuth,

I am writing in regards to the firing of Doctor McClelland at Polk State. I feel that this was too severe and perhaps too hasty. It could be that the information we receive thru the news media is rather limited.

I think perhaps the thing about this incident that upset me most was the suggestion, credited to you, in the paper, that drugs should be used to control these people. I am very much opposed to anyone suggesting publicly that drugs offer a way of life for even these unfortunate creatures. If I had a child like this, I would rather that it be as aware as it physically could be to this world, yes, even from a "cage", than to live in a world all alone made of drugs. My children, thank God, are all normal healthy teenagers and everyday they are bombarded with information that is supposed to convince them that drugs are not the answer to anything of value. I feel this remark was ill-advised and untimely. Since the opinions of the public are usually not considered, solutions to the problem need not be discussed with the newspapers

Tell me, Mrs. Wohlgemuth, has anyone ever suggested that we start to drug convicts to control them? Aren't they like these people in that they may

not be left to their own devices because they are not responsible?

I wish you peace and hope that all of your decisions will not result
in such uproar.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Henry A. Pearce, Jr.

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Box 25

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