

# CITY OF SYRACUSE

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FRANK J. COSTELLO  
MAYOR

EDMUND J. W. NOWINSKI  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

September 10, 1947

Mrs. Margaret Downes  
426 Kirk Avenue  
Syracuse, New York

Dear Mrs. Downes:

With all the letters of criticism coming into this office, it sure was a treat to receive your note this morning. I want you to know I deeply appreciate it.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

*Frank*

142 Steward Ave. Syracuse, N. Y.  
May 8 - 1947.

Mrs. John Downes,  
St. Francis Hospital,  
Evansville, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Downes:

No doubt you will be surprised to receive a letter from me. My daughter-in-law Marion Knapp was telling me about you. I recalled some of the physical difficulties you had while you were at Porter and how bravely and efficiently you struggled along with them. All in all, they gave me, along with the excellent teaching work you did, and with what Marion has told me - an idea that you are surely superior.

I am indeed sorry that your old trouble has recurred and that you have to spend time in a hospital to get fixed up. But I sense your spirit while at Porter and it is the right spirit. Anyhow we must think we can. That is sometimes half the battle.

Please accept my sincere wishes for your

very early recovery. I wish I might do something for you. If you think of anything, I am sure it will be done with great pleasure. While at Porter - you were so efficient in your work and went about in such a straight-forward way - asking for so little and doing so much that somehow I feel in debt to you. Maybe - sometime I can be of service to you.

With very kindest wishes - Believe me - Most Sincerely,

Ada S. Knapp

*A principal under whom M.B.D. taught.*