

Walker Winslow correspondence

Section 76, Pages 2251 - 2280

This collection of papers largely consists of handwritten and typed correspondence between Walker Winslow (also under the name Harold Maine) and his third wife, Edna Mansley Winslow, the bulk of which dates from 1948-1951. The letters can be chatty and newsy, providing details about each of their daily lives and activities, what they were reading or music they were listening to, their work (his writing and therapy, her writing and painting), and other related topics. The letters could also be very self-reflective and analytical regarding their relationship to each other, discussing their sexuality and concepts of fidelity, relationships with others, their health and various injuries and illnesses they each had, money, their mutual loneliness, Edna's drinking, and other topics.

Some of the letters were written while Winslow was working at and writing in Topeka. They were also written while the Winslows lived separately in Santa Fe, New Mexico; various parts of California (especially Big Sur or Oakland); various parts of New York (especially Rochester and New York City); and in Kansas. The letters document the rise and fall of their brief and intense relationship.

Also in the materials are a few of Winslow's typed manuscripts and poems, many with copy-editing marks and annotations or corrections, including a copy of *If a Man Be Mad*, as well as two published versions of the book (one in French). There is also correspondence with friends and relatives of Winslow and/or Edna; Winslow family photographs; some sketches Edna drew, with her handwritten notes on the back, perhaps for letters to Winslow; a letter of recommendation from 1889 for Winslow's father; and extensive correspondence between Winslow and Dr. Karl Menninger. Some of this correspondence regards articles and the book Winslow wrote about the Menninger Clinic; there are also interview notes and transcripts from interviews Winslow conducted with Dr. C.F. Menninger. Topics of Winslow's writings include Henry Miller, psychiatry and life in asylums, and the Synanon Foundation.

Creator: Winslow, Walker, 1905-1969

Date: circa 1943 - 1969, undated (bulk 1948-1951)

Callnumber: Menninger Historic Psychiatry Coll., Winslow, Boxes 1-7

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Walker Winslow correspondence

~~H.A.M.~~
~~W.C.M.~~
Return to Karl

Walker Winslow
(Harold Maine)
Big Sur, Calif.
Nov. 10/51

Dear Don:

As incredible as it may seem the old car and I got here at the same time and all in one piece. It was a rugged trip with just one driving arm. Now I feel a little guilty about leaving all of you in that freezing climate.

The enclosed letters explain themselves. My agent sent them along and said that McCormick wanted to know if there was any use of arguing further with Dr. Blomberg, or if Dr. Will had any further suggestions to make.

There is one thing that strikes me about this letter. In the face of the facts, it is dishonest, however much of a friend of the Manningers Dr. Blomberg may be. There was no "consensus." As I recall there was an even and ambivalent vote. Or, as Dr. Blomberg told Dr. Will, merely an expression of the opinions of a number of "friends" that the book would be ill advised at this time.

At least this letter brings Dr. Blomberg into the position of having rendered an official opinion which is, to me, a refreshing novelty. At any rate, I think that these letters should be seen by Drs. Karl and Will. If you would make copies and return them I would be appreciative.

Believe me, I am grateful for the help you have given me in this and other matters and look forward to the time when we can again have our occasional talks.

My very best to everyone,

as ever

Harold



Walker Winslow correspondence

Harold Maine
% Walker Winslow
Big Sur, Calif.
Dec. 17/51

Karl A. Menninger, MD
Menninger Foundation
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Doctor Karl:

By now you have my card with the news of the Perma-book edition of IF A MAN BE MAD. Now Doubleday have agreed to subsidize me for eight months to do the novel, the outline and sample of which I submitted to them. With the Perma advance I will be able to clear up the debts I've owed for the last year or so and the subsidy will enable me to live here. All seems to be working out very well.

The time scheduled for the novel leaves me free to begin your father's biography in September of next year if we can do so without re-arousing the suspicions of the ethics and education committees. I forwarded Dr. Blomberg's reply to Ken McCormick, editor in chief of Doubleday. The implications in the letter were far different than those relayed to Dr. Will. It made it seem that the APA had voted hands down against the book, which wasn't the case.

Don Lawder said that you would have someone collecting biographical material from Dr. C.F.. I hope this is so, since it would be of great help when it came time to do the book. I also hope that we can see some way of starting it in the fall of next year, or perhaps earlier. I don't expect to spend over six months on the novel.

It seems to me that the Perma-books edition of IF A Man will enhance my position. This is one of the more dignified pocketbooks and it is also owned by Doubleday. It seems to me that they are doing all that they can to increase my prestige and get my name before more people.

I will forward you copies of both the British and Perma editions as soon as they come out. I am also ordering a copy of Hermann Hesse' Siddhartha -- a beautiful book.

With very best wishes for the Season and many thanks for all of the help you have given me,

Sincerely

Harold



Walker Winslow correspondence

*Kam
Fine!*

*Lawder
to file*

December 21, 1951

Dr. Walter Baer
410 Main Street
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Walter:

I wish I had gotten to see you a little longer in Chicago. I keep hearing good things about the developments at Peoria, and I know that will continue because of you. The whole state system of Illinois is going to benefit from having you as their assistant director.

My brother Will told me that you had expressed some sympathetic indignation at the attitude some of our colleagues have taken, which has made it rather more difficult for us to do the job we would like to see done, not only for the Foundation but for psychiatry at large over the nation. I think this book that Doubleday was trying to have written about my father and his vision and his life work would have been a splendid thing, and I feel very badly that they prevented them from doing it by prohibiting us from cooperating with them.

My brother thought you might be interested in the fact that we have become so gun-shy about this that we are leaving over backward to avoid trouble. Sometime ago an organization called Psychological Book Previews asked me for an outline of my new book, which I gave them and they printed a little article about it as indicated by the enclosed reprint. They offered to send me some reprints and did so, but when they came I felt that I could not, with a clear conscience, distribute these little announcements of the book with my picture printed on them as they had done. Consequently, on all except a few dozen, I had my picture blocked out in order to avoid criticism. I am enclosing some copies to show you what I mean. You can keep these -- maybe some members of the staff will want to read the outline and use the book. Doctor Robbins of the Menninger Clinic is planning to use it and we are using it at Winter. I believe the Navy is planning to use it -- at least Doctor Raines is going to use it at Georgetown Medical School where I assume some of the Navy boys are working.

Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs

Karl Menninger, M. D.

Walker Winslow correspondence

December 21, 1951

Mr. Harold Maine
c/o Walker Winslow
Big Sur, California

Dear Harold:

I am very glad indeed that your book is to be reissued by Permabook. I'll be very glad to see it when it comes out, and appreciate your offer to send it to me. I don't know that there have been any new developments with the A.P.A. I am sure Mr. Lawder will keep you posted as things develop.

Please forgive this short letter -- the Christmas season is upon us and we are all just as busy as usual.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs

Karl Menninger, M. D.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
ADLAI E. STEVENSON, GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE



GENERAL OFFICE
SPRINGFIELD

January 10, 1952

FRED K. HOEHLER, DIRECTOR
ROBERT H. KLEIN, SPECIAL DEPUTY TO THE DIRECTOR
HORACE E. THORNTON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
EDUCATIONAL AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICE
WALTER H. BAER, M. D., ~~DEPUTY~~ DEPUTY DIRECTOR
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
WINFIELD F. MEYER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE
MRS. BLANCHE E. FRITZ, SPECIAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Dr. Karl Menninger
The Menninger Foundation
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Dr. Karl:

This is to thank you for your letter of December 21st and for the reprints of the outline of your new book. I think it is pretty terrible that members of our profession have taken the childish attitude that they have regarding matters of publicity. I believe that it is fairly universally agreed that you and your brother Will are the leaders of our specialty in medicine and that you symbolize all that is good in psychiatry. I believe that we ought not permit the present situation to continue and I plan to talk to Dr. Bartemeier this week whom I hope to see at Manteno regarding this matter. I believe the very least that ought to be done is that the Committee of the A.P.A. be changed and that the membership of that Committee be made up of individuals who are more mature and more sensible.

As a profession we simply can not permit this hindrance to the very important work that you and your brother are so qualified to do in furthering all the aims of psychiatry in this country and elsewhere.

I count it a very real privilege to be permitted to know and associate with you and if you will have me, I will enlist as a Buck Private in your Army.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Walter H. Baer

Walter H. Baer, M. D.
Deputy Director
Mental Health Service

WHB:al

Walker Winslow correspondence

January 16, 1952

Dr. Walter H. Baer
Department of Public Welfare
Springfield, Illinois

Dear Walter:

I am very much touched by your letter of January 10. I do hope you will talk to Doctor Bartemeier, because I am troubled in my heart about this book that the Education Committee got so worked up about. I am not so concerned about all that furor in the Ethics Committee about the Life article, because I did what was right and I know it was right and I know it helped the state hospitals all over the country, and I don't give a damn if some idiot in the Association wants to believe I am getting private patients out of the deal. I could sit here on my fanny and see private patients all day long. The fact is that I see one private patient a day just to keep my hand in, and we turn away 90% of the people who apply anyway. What in the devil would we want to try to get more patients for?

Well, anyway, to get back to that book, this fellow Doubledays sent out here was a sensitive, intelligent fellow who spent months here and completely won our confidence. He had himself been a patient and then he had been a psychiatric aide in a number of hospitals, and I know his heart was in the right place and he was an excellent writer. He thought the character of my father was something to write about these days, because Father had stood for education and help to the helpless, relief of suffering and so forth. My father was not a captain of industry and he was not a money maker. He inspired us boys to work at the same thing he had worked at and as a result of his inspiration and his self-sacrifice and his example, we built up a little clinic here and a school and a few other things.

All right; Doubleday wants this fellow to write a book about my father and what became of his idea and his ideas. This writer wanted to make the point that inspiration bears fruits and that big manufacturing plants aren't the only things in the world that grow up in America. He wanted to show that there was another kind of success and that Father had exemplified it.

Father is ninety years old and this fellow wanted to write this book about Dad and the development of his idea while Father was still alive and could help him. Doubleday wanted him to write the book.



Walker Winslow correspondence

Dr. Baer, Springfield, Ill.
Page Two, January 16, 1952

We didn't offer to pay him a penny toward the book. All he asked of us was our help in getting the facts straight and our permission to interview people.

We told him he ought to ask the Education Committee, which is headed by a pretty sensible fellow, Bill Bloomberg. Well, for some reason or other the Education Committee gets in a tizzy. For reasons that are totally unclear to me, they seem to think it would be harmful for the American public to read about a man like my father and harmful to the Menninger Foundation to have the facts about our development printed. I don't know why. I am not ashamed of anything except that we ought to have done better than we have done, and we are still trying. I don't see why we shouldn't cooperate with the guy if he wants to write a book and somebody wants to pay him for it. I would be proud to have anything we have done here used in any way it could be used to further the care of the mentally ill and counteract the apathy of the public about it.

I don't think the Education Committee is down on us -- I think they are really good friends of ours, but I think they have some kind of cock-eyed idea that we want some advertising or something. I don't know what they think. I can't understand it. All I know is that my conservative brother doesn't feel we can do a thing so long as they take that attitude. We can't even talk to this writer. We can't let Father talk to him. If I were Doubleday, I would be tempted to blast the American Psychiatric Association in the belly and show an example of obstructing the truth that would put everyone of them to shame. I know that wouldn't be the right tactics, but I am just bewildered and provoked about it to that point.

I am touched indeed when you say you would like to associate with us, enlisting as a buck private. We would like to have you in a good deal higher echelon than a buck private, but we will take you any way there is. I will appreciate anything you do in discussing this matter with my dear friend Barty, who is himself, for reasons that are not clear to me, prejudiced against it.

Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs

Karl Menninger, M. D.

Walker Winslow correspondence

Inter Office Memo *January 24, 1952*

Date Sent Feb. 14, 1952 Date Rec'd _____ Date App. _____

To: WCM

From: Donald Lawder

Subject:

Can we get together with Dr. Karl and discuss this. It seems to me there would be a definite possibility of our getting to go ahead with this.

MF-216-3-50

Walker Winslow correspondence

COPY

January 15, 1952

Dear Bartie:

I don't want to put you on the spot, but I would like to write you not as president of the American Psychiatric Association but as an old friend of the family and Governor of the Foundation. I still think there is a good deal of advantage in that C.F.M. book that Doubleday wants to write. I realize you are worried about it and think we ought not to help, but the probabilities are that it is going to be written whether we like it or not and it seems to me better for us to help it than to take a non-cooperative attitude. What I would like to know is whether or not the Ethics Committee has any written guide at the present time which such cooperation would violate. I would like to know just where we really are about this matter legally. The American Psychiatric Association is not making much use of my services any more and I don't see how I could be any worse in the dog house than I already am. At any rate, I would like a little avuncular advice from you.

Sincerely yours,

Karl Menninger, M. D.

Dr. Leo Bartemeier
8-259 General Motors Bldg.
Detroit, Michigan

Walker Winslow correspondence

COPY

sent to Maude

January 21, 1952

Dr. Karl A. Menninger
The Menninger Foundation
Topeka, Kansas

My dear Karl:

Your cooperation with Doubleday Publishing Company in the preparation of a book about FATHER would not violate any written guide of the Ethics Committee. A recent conversation with Tom Heldt confirms your opinion.

Tom reminded me of a letter he had written some six months ago in which he stated he saw no objection to the preparation and publication of this volume, but that he had advised that laudation be kept in abeyance as far as possible. He said he had copies of this letter distributed and perhaps you received this letter.

I hope this answer to your letter of January 15th is satisfactory. If you have further questions regarding this problem, I will be glad to try to answer them.

Sincerely,

/s/

Leo H. Bartemeier, M. D.

Walker Winslow correspondence

Inter Office Memo

January 24, 1952

Date Sent 2-4-52

Date Rec'd _____

Date Ans. _____

To: Don Lawder

From: KAM

Subject: Attached letter

The sentiment where I was was definitely in favor of encouraging Harold Maine to return and undertake this task. I think you should discuss it with Will. I will be glad to be there.

MF-216--6-51



Walker Winslow correspondence

Walker Winslow
(Harold Maine)
Big Sur, Dec. 27/51

Dear Don:

I got your Christmass greeting written in red ink. Very appropriate. So should mine be. My creditors probably all had holes in their stockings.

What goes on in Topeka? I haven't had any word from anyone, except for a couple of notes from Jack Dunagin and your greetings. Was there any comment on the letter I sent you? Is everyone off of me for some reason or other? I'm curious.

My situation is looking up. IF A MAN BE MAD is being issued by Permabooks before June. The money from this will get me entirely out of debt. In the meantime Doubleday has me on a monthly subsidy for eight months. I told them that it might be possible to start the CF book by then and that I would have the current book finished in that time. Since the Permabook should reach a large audience it seems to me that my position with the biography will be enhanced.

Anyway, I'd like to start the CF book in the coming Fall sometime and hope that the research you had spoken of takes place in the meantime. If there is some new and unusual block against me I should know about it before I make plans too far in advance.

I hope that all goes reasonably well with you both at home and at the office. I miss our bull sessions and it would be good if you could be in on some that take place here. Henry has started a book and is working along with me. His example keeps me from getting too lazy.

My best to your family. Let's hear from you,

as ever

Harold

Walker Winslow correspondence

January 14, 1952

Mr. Walker Winslow
Big Sur, California

Dear Harold:

Don Lawder has just shown me your letter of December 27, in which you say you haven't heard anything from anyone in Topeka except Jack Dunagin. I wrote you myself a few weeks ago. Did it miscarry? I congratulated you upon the fact that your book was being republished and made some comments on your other activities out there. I can tell you a little about the goings-on here if you like. Most of my time has been spent reading proofs on my new books, and my publishers are in a chronic state of irritation and resentment because of the changes I am making in it. I can't help that, however. It is going to be as good as I can make it up to the last moment.

We are making a log of changes in the curriculum of the School and I think we are going to do a much better job of teaching.

Quite a number of the young doctors want to stay with us and I think we may be able to place them in the State Hospital and Winter.

Contributions to the Foundation are coming in at a rate better than a thousand dollars a day, so we feel fairly optimistic about letting the contract for the new wing sometime this month.

I still want to see the Dr. C. F. book written, but I don't know how to find out anything new about it. I will talk with Lawder and see if we can do something.

Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs

Karl Menninger, M. D.

Walker Winslow correspondence

C O P Y

January 15, 1952

Dear Bartie:

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KM/dfs

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Dr. Leo Bartemeier
8-259 General Motors Bldg.
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Walker Winslow correspondence

January 16, 1952

Dr. Walter H. Baer
Department of Public Welfare
Springfield, Illinois

Dear Walter:

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Walker Winslow correspondence

Dr. Baer, Springfield, Ill.
Page Two, January 16, 1952

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Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs

Karl Menninger, M. D.



Walker Winslow correspondence

LEO H. BARTEMEIER, M.D.

8-259 GENERAL MOTORS BUILDING

DETROIT

2

January 24, 1952

Dr. Karl A. Menninger,
The Menninger Foundation
Topeka, Kansas

My dear Karl:

Your cooperation with Doubleday Publishing Company in the preparation of a book about FATHER would not violate any written guide of the Ethics Committee. A recent conversation with Tom Heldt confirms your opinion.

Tom reminded me of a letter he had written some six months ago in which he stated he saw no objection to the preparation and publication of this volume, but that he had advised that laudation be kept in abeyance as far as possible. He said he had copies of this letter distributed and perhaps you received this letter.

I hope this answer to your letter of January 15th is satisfactory. If you have further questions regarding this problem, I will be glad to try to answer them.

Sincerely,

Bartie.

Leo H. Bartemeier, M.D.

LHB:CJ

W-H-S
Lawder =



Walker Winslow correspondence

February 19, 1952

Mr. Walker Winslow
Big Sur, California

Dear Harold:

I have intentionally kept myself pretty naive about this whole business of psychoanalytic theory and so I don't fully understand the psychopathology behind my long delay in answering your letter. I suspect, however, that a part of it is related to the very unsatisfactory state of the biography project at the time you wrote and the fact that I was hard-put to explain to you what then appeared to me to be a real lack of progress in this matter. The fact is that this whole thing had become, as you know, so ridiculously complicated that it was impossible to give a straight forward answer to anything.

Or at least it was. Dr. Karl has in the last few days sent over to me some further correspondence with Dr. Bartemeier which should be some reassurance to you that the thing is opening up as we had hoped it would. (Dr. Bartemeier's letter refers to another letter supposedly written by Dr. Heldt, but we have not received a copy of it as far as I can find out.) I am enclosing copies of this correspondence. Dr. Karl sent it on to me with a note that I should get together with Dr. Will and himself to discuss it and perhaps decide on future action. Dr. Will has been out of town most of the time since and I haven't been able to set up this meeting. He's out of town at the moment and will be back in a few days and I hope we can then come to a decision which will enable you to plan definitely. I think we could. Meanwhile I've been meeting with Dr. C. F. on a regular schedule making half hour recordings on a dictaphone and these have been transcribed. We are beginning to accumulate a bit of a library although the darn machine messed us up on a couple of times and didn't record properly, so the continuity is a little bit askew. However, I intend to go back and pick up where I missed out. The whole thing is being pretty much structured by Dr. C. F. himself. He is taking this thing very seriously and between sessions he sits down and makes notes and then when we get together he practically makes a half hour talk on some phase of his life or experience. In a way I suppose this method is better in this particular case than the straight interview because it helps to get the dates out a little more exact at the stage of the game than we might if he had to give the answers spontaneously out of his memory. It is gradually getting a little more informal and I think more as we get the main structure down we may change the procedure a little bit and make it more of a give and take. Some of the records are really honeys and would be an inspiration to you to see. If this thing is decided on as a definite project, I will send you what I have and will continue



Walker Winslow correspondence

Walker Winslow

-2-

February 19, 1952

sending them as I get them so that you can see them and write back to me suggestions as to subjects and things you want me to talk about with him.

General news as to what's going on with me: there isn't really much. Mary's profile has shrunk considerably since you were here and the cause of its original distortion has turned out to be a very handsome, although somewhat cantankerous, little boy born November 17 and named Wallace. This keeps me home evenings and awake nights and late to work in the mornings. Otherwise, life is relatively unchanged.

I hope your novel is coming along better than this bloody biography. At least you don't have to clear it with anybody. I'm anxious to know how it makes out though and next time you have occasion to write me let me know. I'll write you just as soon as we have this get together with Dr. Will regardless of what the outcome of the meeting.

Hang on,

DL/mh
Encl.



Walker Winslow correspondence

Wern

March 26, 1952

Dr. Wilfred Bloomberg
Cushing V. A. Hospital
Frammingham, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Bloomberg:

We are still being importuned by Doubleday to cooperate with them in this book about Father, and are being made to feel increasingly foolish defending a position which we ourselves feel is untenable; namely that as psychiatrists we cannot furnish accurate factual information to a reputable writer. I understand very well the friendly feelings which motivated you last year to recommend to us that we refuse to cooperate with Doubleday on this project. You gave us this advice at a time when that awful LOOK article was plaguing us and was stirring up so many hot feelings, and in view of this the advice you gave us was sound and we have followed it.

Since then, the situation appears to me to have changed for the better and, barring some unforeseen calamity, should improve even more during the two years or so which would be required before such a book could actually be published. I have therefore written a letter to Tom Heldt asking him for an official statement on the ethics of the matter in order to clear the decks for us to go ahead. If you see any objections to this, by all means let me know, although I must tell you that it is my conviction that the over-all public relations of psychiatry can only be harmed by any further dilly-dallying around with this thing.

Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs
cc to Dr. Heldt
Dr. Bartemeier

Karl Menninger, M. D.



Walker Winslow correspondence

W. C. M.

March 26, 1952

Dr. Thomas J. Heldt
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Doctor Heldt:

About a year ago Doubleday and Company asked us if they could assign one of their writers to do a biography of my father. This was about the time that damn LOOK article was stirring up such a fuss, so we thought it best to be over-cautious in our dealings with Doubleday, even though we saw no intrinsic harm in the project as they suggested it. As a matter of fact, we felt — and still feel — that this story of medicine and psychiatry growing up in a typical American manner would actually redound to the credit of the psychiatric profession.

At any rate, we wrote a letter to Dr. Wilfred Bloomberg, the chairman of the Committee on Public Education, and asked him for his advice in the matter. He did not give us a definitive yes or no, but advised us that he thought it would be unwise to cooperate with Doubleday at that particular time. We heeded his advice and told Doubleday that we could not go ahead with the project. It was our good fortune that Doubleday's attitude to us and to psychiatry was a friendly one for, as you know, it would have been the simplest thing in the world for them to have compiled an inaccurate and inimical book simply from hearsay and things that have already been written by and about us. Doubleday has not forgotten the project, however, and has dogged us several times during the year, more especially in the last several months, for our sanction to go ahead while Father is still able to help them.

Because of this pressure from Doubleday, I recently wrote Doctor Bartemeier and asked him if he felt the situation had changed sufficiently for us to cooperate on this thing. He wrote back indicating that you had circulated a letter to the effect that you saw nothing wrong with the project "provided laudations were kept in abeyance." He also told us that he himself knew of no written A.P.A. policy which would forbid the project. Since Doctor Bartemeier is one of the Trustees of the Menninger Foundation, I hardly think it would be fair to him to act on his say-so alone, and so I am writing you, as Chairman of the Ethics Committee, to ask whether you see anything unethical in our undertaking to furnish Doubleday with the necessary



Walker Winslow correspondence

Dr. Heldt, Detroit, Mich.
Page Two, March 26, 1952

factual material, interviews, etc., which their writer may need to insure an accurate book which will reflect well on psychiatry as a whole. I am also writing again to Doctor Bloomberg, since he was involved in this in the first place, but obviously his answer will be from a different point of view.

I feel a little apologetic about thrusting this request on you since the problem seems so well covered by existing policies. After all, there is no essential difference between the request for information from a reputable newspaper and from a reputable book publisher, and I conceive it as part of our professional duty to make accurate facts available in either case. I also have the assurance of the publisher and the writer he has selected -- for whatever it is worth -- that laudations will indeed be kept in abeyance. However, this business has become so involved that I feel we must turn to someone like yourself to cut the Gordian knot.

Sincerely yours,

KW/dfs
cc to Dr. Bloomberg
Dr. Bartemeier

Karl Menninger, M. D.

P. S. I should like to make clear again that we are not authorizing this book and I do not intend even to look at the material. We are merely deciding whether or not we cooperate or refuse to cooperate with the publisher and writer.



American Psychiatric Association

W. M. Winslow

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION AND RELATIONS
Cushing VA Hospital - Framingham, Mass.

April 1, 1952

Dr. Karl Menninger
The Menninger Foundation
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Karl:

I have your letter of the 26th about the current status of the book about your father. As you know, our opinion was advisory, and I agree that the situation has changed. This is merely to acknowledge your letter and to tell you that I will place the correspondence in the file where it will be available if anybody raises any questions.

Best personal regards.

Yours faithfully,

Bill

WILFRED BLOOMBERG, M.D., Chairman
Committee on Public Education and
Relations



Walker Winslow correspondence

RUSH

Date Sent: February 6, 1954

Inter Office Memo

To: Mr. Lawder

From: Dr. Karl

Subject:

April 24, 1952 *Bojor file*

Dear Don:

I found this very important document among my father's papers.

Walker Winslow correspondence

Harold Maine
April 24/52

Dear Doctor C.F.:

I would like, as clearly as possible, to give you some idea of my ideas, ideals and the general aims of the book upon which we are working. I quite agree with you that it would be disrespectful to you to simply probe into your memories for whatever material, novel or serious, that might be brought to the surface. We should know where we are going and reach that goal by the most direct route.

My feeling about biographical works is that they should give depth to the works of historians; that is, from the real and meaningful lives of ~~men~~ we can see those nuances of moral, spiritual, social and scientific struggle that are otherwise lost and thus can offer no inspiration to the ~~men~~ who come after. When a man who is still living history can at the same time offer up a rather large segment of the life of, say, the past sixty years the service he is rendering is invaluable. Men never live closely enough to the history that has created the patterns in which they must function. Most often they look backward into a time at least a hundred years previous to their own. The gap that is left, the cultural lag, is it seems to me the thing that creates much repetition of effort, not to speak of confusion.

It is not my intention to probe into the deeply personal life of you and your family, nor is it my intention to look for the novel, the picturesque or the cute but shallow anecdotes. As a scientist you can guide me in a search for the significant

Walker Winslow correspondence

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details of the past that have a direct bearing on the "here and now" of things. In the last sixty year your name has moved from the "shingle" before your first office into the eyes of the world. Out of your family life, your spiritual beliefs, your community position, has come a force that has inspired your sons and hundreds of young physicians who have worked with them and you. I know of your modesty and I respect it. We need not embarrass you by dwelling too much on your achievements in detail. What we want, I think, are the details of those forces in your life that have wrought so much change.

You may[#] question the importance of all of this, but it is my belief that a knowledge of what has happened in the last sixty years is of great importance if those who carry on during the next sixty years are to fully understand the tradition from which they sprung.

At another time I will give you in more detail the outline of the book I can now see. But I would like at all times to draw both inspiration and guidance from you. I will respect your time. When ever you feel I am being wasteful of it tell me so in short order.



Walker Winslow correspondence

COPY

SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE, M. D.
3537 -- 78th Street
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

May 23, 1952

Mr. Harold Maine
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Maine:

I am sorry that we did not meet when I was in Topeka recently, for I might have told you what little I know about Dr. Menninger's professional life much better than I can by letter. I came to Topeka in 1904, but for some years I knew the doctor only by reputation. We were both members of the First Presbyterian Church and in that way became acquainted. Later, by good fortune, we were both elected elders of the church and I came to know him better.

We used to have some interesting sessions, especially, the meetings, (usually dinners) when our wives met with us at Dr. Esteys home.

Dr. Menninger early impressed me with his deep religious convictions, even when some of us were inclined to treat lightly the subject under discussion. He was always a good student of medical progress, which was made evident on several occasions when I consulted him. I had selected Dr. Maguire as my family physician before I really knew Dr. Menninger, so, I cannot speak of that relationship, but I know that he had a large and devoted clientage, which is eloquent praise for his practice in the art of medicine.

Mrs. Menninger's book has an abundance of material that you can, perhaps, feature in a new way, such as when they were married at Holton, when, leaving the building and crossing the snow-covered lawn, the doctor suddenly disappeared into an old abandoned well. Mrs. Menninger, telling about their marriage at one of our dinner sessions, was saying that neither of them had anything new in their wedding clothes, said, "the only thing the doctor had on when we were married, was a new necktie", meaning of course the only new thing. The session and their wives were in near hysterics for the next ten minutes.

I have always thought of Dr. Menninger as a very cordial, likeable, serious, determined and studious man, whose allegiance was first and primarily to God, his home and his profession, for in such loyalty, he could best serve his clientele, his church and his country.

Walker Winslow correspondence

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For many years he was Dr. Estey's physician, also for many ^{no} ~~per~~minent people of Topeka.

He was very fond of flowers, and I am certain that he has done more to beautify the homes yards and the parks of Topeka, than any other person.

While I am very fond of the doctor, I have tried to be quite objective in the items mentioned. I hope you may find them of some value in your book.

Please remember Mrs. Crumbine and myself to the Menningers when you see them.

Very truly yours,

//S/ Samuel J. Crumbine

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Walker Winslow correspondence

Don Lawler

F. D.

July 15, 1952

Dr. Thomas Heldt
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Doctor Heldt:

I am awfully sorry to bother you but as the Chairman of our important Ethics Committee you are an official to whom we look for counsel. We very much want to learn your answer to the letter I wrote you on March 26. Perhaps this has slipped your mind. I hope you don't mind my reminding you in this way.

Sincerely yours,

KM/dfs

Karl Menninger, M. D.



FORM 4587

*Wm
Lawder*

Henry Ford Hospital

DETROIT 2, MICHIGAN

Dr. Karl Menninger
The Menninger Foundation
Topeka, Kansas.

August
26
1952.

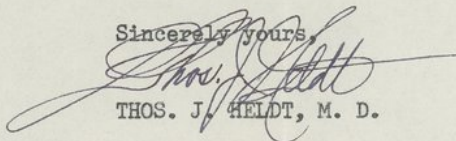
Dear Doctor Menninger:

I am still in the Hospital and away from my files, but my secretary addressed you and your secretary obligingly sent a copy of your March 26th letter to me.

I recall that letter now very clearly and remember that I postponed immediate reply in order that I might review the matter a second time with the Committee on Ethics when we met in Atlantic City early in May. The consensus of Committee opinion then, as at our earlier meeting on March 12th, was to the effect that the brothers Menninger and their father should cooperate with Doubleday in producing an appropriate biography of Dr. C. F. Menninger. The Committee on Ethics did sound this word of caution, -- that laudations be held in abeyance. The writer personally and some of the other members of the Committee judged that it would be permissible to make proper record of the pioneering efforts of the father, but further judged it highly advisable that the brothers Menninger avoid commendation and laudation with all possible effort.

I addressed a letter to Dr. Bartemeier incorporating in it this opinion of the Committee so I am sure that both he and the secretary of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Gayle, must have the point of view of the Committee. Dr. Walter P. Gardner of St. Paul, present Chairman of the Committee on Ethics, also has a copy of that letter.

Sincerely yours,



THOS. J. HELDT, M. D.

TJH:ML