

To Dr. Porter from Dr. Flick

Philadelphia,
Nov. 25, 1903.

My dear Dr. Porter:

Your letter of 21st inst. to hand. I am glad to hear of the work you are doing in St. Louis and I trust it will bear good fruit. My experience at the Phipps Institute convinces me that more is to be accomplished by going into the homes of the poor and teaching them how to avoid spreading tuberculosis, than by a crusade against spitting and against closed street-cars and schoolrooms. These minor matters of course should be looked after, but where there is a limited amount of money to expend I think better results would be obtained by the method just suggested. I enclose you a copy of the rules given out by the Henry Phipps Institute which may give you some suggestions. A good plan of campaign is to get up a proper organization with membership dues. We have in Pennsylvania a society called the Free Hospital for Poor Consumptives which has a large membership and annually raises a great deal of money for the care of the consumptive poor. The legislature gives appropriations to the society, having given \$65,000 for buildings and \$50,000 for maintenance the last session. The society raises about \$20,000 a year from the charitable public. It now maintains one hundred beds for tubercular subjects. The generous donation of Mr. Phipps to the consumptive poor really was inspired by this free hospital for Poor Consumptives.

The Henry Phipps Institute will be made the pivotal point for tuberculosis work not only in this country but throughout the world. The Institute had meant to bring the International Congress on Tuberculosis here in 1905 but will do nothing now because of the rivalry between the Clark Bell faction and the Lewis faction. When these two factions, neither of which have done any practical work in tuberculosis, have settled matters between them, we may again take up the movement to bring the Congress here. Under no circumstances however, will we take part in any factional fights.

Yours truly,

Lawrence F. Flick.