

January 4, 1971

Mr. Leetourneau
Department of Social Work
State Hospital
Tewksbury, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Leetourneau:

A recent letter from Mr. Elliot Stone, a patient on your New Southeast Ward, mentioned your name as the individual who was looking after his welfare.

I have known Mr. Stone since 1945 when he was one of some 200 men who participated in a study I was doing on alcohol and the homeless man. In 1948, we published a brief life history of Mr. Stone as an example of the Itinerant Inebriate. Since that time, Mr. Stone has kept in touch with me largely through correspondence and has enabled me to maintain a prospective record of his struggles with alcoholism and institutional dependency. I am incorporating this record in a broader study of the problems of institutional dependency which is now being prepared. In view of Mr. Stone's facility in writing and high level of intelligence, his record provides a very valuable form of documentation.

I am writing to you at Mr. Stone's suggestion with the hope that you might be willing to keep me informed regarding his current condition and prognosis. Any information which you can provide will be greatly appreciated. In turn, if there is anything that I can do to facilitate the hospital's task for making Mr. Stone more comfortable, I would appreciate your telling me.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Straus, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman

RS/ml