

DR. DONALD C. BALFOUR
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

October 18, 1945

Brigadier General Fred W. Rankin
Chief Consultant in Surgery, U. S. Army
Office of the Surgeon General
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Fred:

I can assure you that your letter has been received by the members of the staff with a deep appreciation. It came at a time when they needed an uplift of some kind for we are in the same state of a let-down which has come to everyone, both in and out of the armed service. The expectation that the close of the war would bring some relief in the terrific load everyone is carrying has not, as yet, materialized, and it has been perhaps more difficult for the staff than at any other time to keep up the pace which they have been going for the past four years. The message from you and the Surgeon General, showing as it does that the efforts have been appreciated, will do much to make the road easier until we reach some sort of normal conditions here.

Your letter has already passed through various committees, including the Board of Governors and the Graduate Committee, and at the meeting of the Clinical Society last Thursday evening, Doctor Randall, chairman, read it aloud. The expressions I heard on all sides proved what I have said above, namely that this will give us a boost for some time to come. I know that the whole staff, particularly the surgical staff, would join me in our sincere thanks for what you have written.

Yours sincerely,



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