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E. LEWY

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DR. ERNST SIMMEL  
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GLADSTONE 6946

May 8, 1945

Dr. Ernst Lewy  
118 East 70th Street  
New York 21, New York

Dear Dr. Lewy:

I am very sorry to hear that you were sick with pneumonia, but I am happy that this pneumonia precipitated your decision to change the East for the West and to come to Los Angeles. As you remember, I was always in favor of your joining our group here and regretted that mere legal considerations made it necessary that you decide to go to New York.

Of course, the legal situation has remained the same officially. However, through the emergency needs of the war, the practical scene has changed quite a bit. I don't think that anyone cares any more about the psychoanalysts here and whether they have a California medical license or not, since we are needed.

Fenichel and I, both unlicensed people, are working by invitation at the official Los Angeles Psychiatric Service. I, myself, on invitation by the Dean of the medical school, helped to organize the Los Angeles Psychiatric Rehabilitation Clinic for Ex-Servicemen, and now I belong to its staff. Both clinics will need to increase their staffs and surely will welcome you.

Working in these clinics will immediately give you a good standing in the community. You will gain this very quickly anyway, because of your good reputation and your personality, in addition to which you have an American medical license from other states.

Of course it is advisable to observe, as far as possible, the more former rules, since in my last discussions (in the beginning of the war) with the Attorney General's office, I was told that they would abstain from interfering concerning the psychoanalytic situation of laymen and non-licensed men since "time will take care of this problem". What he obviously meant was that some time in the future all the present lay and non-licensed analysts will die out.

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dreams which I have very frequently caused by the war. I think very often about my hypnotic experiences concerning the discharge of aggressions. I regret very much that "my dummy" experiments in 1917 are mentioned in the literature only as some curiosiae and that nobody takes it up again taking into consideration our present day knowledge about the significance of the aggressions for all kinds of character deformations, including the psychoses. Since I do not have the opportunity to work in a hospital here. I often find myself in my day dreams working in the Menninger Hospital, experimenting with the dummy - like the devil. Therefore, it would give me, at least, great satisfaction if I could talk about my ideas with men who are the only ones at the present time working in a similar spirit. But for the time being I am at a loss to see how I can get away from here.

You wrote me the month of December is not suitable to your group. The only time that would seem feasible to me - and that is not sure - would be that period between Christmas and New Year, when I might take a Christmas vacation. Let me think a little more about this and then I will answer officially to Doctor Geleert, as Doctor Hawkins asked me to do.

Under separate cover I am sending you a reprint of my paper on "Psychoanalytic Treatment in a Sanitarium". This paper, as I see it today, gives only a general outline of my concept of the problem. Today I would write it more specifically and more systematically.

With my best regards to you and your wife and my other friends, I am

Cordially yours,



Dr. Ernst Simmel.

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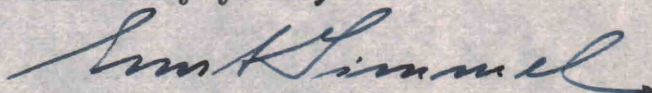
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This was before the emergency. -So come and you will be welcome. We shall help you and you will help us.

I am looking forward to seeing you and Maria soon.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Ernst Simmel

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