

THE MENNINGER FOUNDATION
TOPEKA, KANSAS

FOR PSYCHIATRIC EDUCATION
. AND RESEARCH

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April 24, 1946

Dr. Ernst Simmel
555 Wilcox Avenue
Los Angeles 4, California

Dear Doctor Simmel:

Doctor Karl turned over the paper on Doctor Fenichel which you wrote, to me, to get a reply for you as quickly as possible about the possibility of publishing it in the BULLETIN OF THE MENNINGER CLINIC.

I have just received a report from all of the members of the Editorial Committee and I believe the best procedure will be to tell you exactly what they said so that you will see their problem.

Doctor Karl said, "It is good but it is too long. If it can be cut to ten pages or less, I would favor publishing it." Doctor Knight said, "If Doctor Simmel will permit cutting this paper down (particularly in the first half of it) I would favor publishing it in the BULLETIN. It is a warm, original, unsteretyped tribute and needs only to be shortened and toned down in a few places. It is true that not all BULLETIN readers know of Doctor Fenichel or will be interested in him. But I have the feeling that his new book will become an authoritative and basic text for hundreds of students and candidates, and I would anticipate a growing interest in this paper about him."

Doctor Brenman said, "I think this is one of the most honest and interesting eulogies I have read and favor publishing it. I agree with Doctor Karl and Doctor Knight that it should be cut down. I am sure that even people who did not know Fenichel would find it interesting reading. Can't we ask Doctor Simmel to cut it himself to about ten pages?"

I think that this states the situation very clearly and I hope that you will feel that it is possible for you to make the deletions necessary to fit into our space requirements. Most of our papers do not run more than eight to

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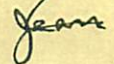
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ten pages, although we did publish a chapter from Doctor Fenichel's book before his death. Another thing that we have to consider is that a paper of this length must and does stand on its own merit as a scientific contribution, since we could not of course publish it merely as a eulogy at this length. I would suggest therefore in cutting it that you cut out the purely eulogistic material, which is very appropriate to the occasion on which you gave it but is less appropriate to a paper in a scientific journal, and that you retain the less personal--it is hard to find a word--because I like the personal references, but perhaps I mean the more analytic portion.

You know so much better than I what is important that I leave it in your hands and hope that we will see it again very shortly.

Please remember me to Mrs. Simmel and to other friends in Los Angeles. We think of you often and hope that you will be at the meeting in Chicago.

Sincerely yours,



Jean Lyle Menninger

JLM:aa