January 12th, 1943

Colonel Ross Millar, Medical Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Colonel Millar:

Principal James has received a letter from Honorable Minister Ian Mackenzie which suggests that he may have misunderstood certain relationships. One paragraph states that "The Department retains Dr. Penfield as consultant and we have received excellent service, and so on". I know of no understanding between the Department and myself.

Unless the Department is willing to take the initiative in increasing facilities at the Institute we shall have to begin to refuse admission to patients from the Department of Pensions and National Health, much against our will. Certainly unless some other arrangement is made it will be impossible to call the M.N.I. a treatment centre for the Department.

In case a special hospital or hospitals should be created by the Army, it seems to me that it would hardly relieve the need of special treatment centres in the D.P.& N.H. If you utilize existing hospitals such as ours it is quite likely that the standard of treatment in them may be well above what can be achieved that are built up from scratch.

Yours sincerely,