

*Lehman*

January 29th, 1945.

Copy to Dean Meakins  
Dr. Penfield  
Dr. Stephens

Dear Mr. Ross,

In further regard to our discussions on the per diem rates to be paid by the Dominion Government for service patients hospitalized in the Annex to the Montreal Neurological Institute, I have asked the Dean of Medicine and the Director of the Institute to draw up for my own use a comprehensive statement that bears upon the questions raised in your letter to me under date of December 5th.

I am attaching a copy of that statement from Dr. Meakins and Dr. Penfield. You will notice that, leaving aside the question of professional fees which can be settled on any one of the four bases mentioned, per diem rates for hospitalization are suggested at figures of \$9.20 for officers and \$6.90 for other ranks. Quite frankly, from the viewpoint of the University, I am a little perturbed at the fact that these rates do not make provision for the full amount of the increasing costs with which we are now confronted, nor do they make any allowance for heat, light, telephone and other supplementary costs that will arise out of the operation of the Annex. I should, however, be willing to recommend to the Board of Governors that these rates be adopted by the University, if they are accepted by the Department of National Defence, on the specific understanding that they would be reviewed at the end of one year. We keep detailed accounts within the University, and would be able clearly to estimate the amount of any deficits resulting from the operation of the Annex, so that this information would be before you at the end of that year if an increase in rates were requested.

If this memorandum provides all the information that you need, I hope that it will be possible for us within the very near future to have a meeting for the purpose of agreeing on the per diem rates for hospitalization and working out some satisfactory scheme, along one of the four suggested alternatives, to deal with the matter of professional fees.

With renewed good wishes to you, I remain,

Cordially yours,

Alexander Ross, Esq.,  
Deputy Minister,  
Department of National Defence,  
Ottawa, Ont.

