

THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION
570 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Officers

Hon. John N. Garner, Hon. Chairman
Fred Stone, President
Oscar Lawler, Vice-President
Rex Beach, Vice-President
Ulric Bell, Vice-President
Jesse H. Jones, Treasurer
James G. Blaine, Ass't Treasurer
E. V. Rickenbacker, Secretary

Wickersham 2-3988

July 21-1937

Executive Committee

Owen D. Young, Chairman
Amon G. Carter
Will H. Hays
Patrick J. Hurley
Jesse H. Jones
Ulric Bell
John W. Elwood, Secretary

Mr Amon G. Carter,
Fort Worth Star Telegram,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Dear Mr Carter:

It has been called to our attention that there is a hospital operating at 6970 North Clark Street, Chicago, under the name of WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL. It was incorporated February 2-1937, under the laws of the State of Illinois. The incorporators are Dr Frank Deacon, F. Schroeder and J. Rogers.

Prior to the above date, this hospital had been closed for various periods of time. At one time, it was known as the ROGERS PARK HOSPITAL; at another time, ROGERS PARK COMMUNITY HOSPITAL. Before incorporating in 1937, and after the death of Will Rogers, the hospital took the name of the ROGERS -POST HOSPITAL. It is not recognized by the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, and, we are advised, isn't in any too good standing at the present time.

Since the MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY has been conducting its Annual Drive, and since the Chicago hospital changed its name to the WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, it has been attempting to raise funds, capitalizing on Will Rogers' name.

The list of the Board of Directors and Trustees does not contain the names of any nationally known Chicago people, but it does have on it a number of well known Chicago politicians. This does not have any particular significance, as it is the practice of various outlying hospitals in Chicago to use politicians for the purposes of exploitation.

A representative of Warner Bros. Circuit talked to two of the people who are listed as Directors and Trustees, one of whom is a Judge. This man stated that because he was acquainted with one of the doctors on the staff of this hospital, he permitted them to use his name for prestige.

All of the information on this subject, which has been gathered by Warner Bros. and R-K-O, has been submitted to Colonel Hartfield, who believes that THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION could enjoin the use of the name WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL in Chicago, if they acted promptly. Colonel Hartfield suggested that a meeting of the Executive Committee of THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION be called at once to authorize White & Case to communicate with some well known firm in Chicago, such as Messrs Winston, Strawn & Shaw, and ask them if, as a matter of courtesy to the Commission, they will endeavor to arrange to have the name of this hospital changed, or, if the trustees of the hospital will not change it, to bring an injunction suit.

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Mr Amon G. Carter,

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Since it does not seem possible to get a meeting of the Executive Committee at this time of year, this letter is going forward to you Air Mail. Will you, therefore, be kind enough to wire me authorization to act upon Colonel Hartfield's suggestion, and also give me the benefit of any recommendation you may have.

Sincerely yours,

John W. Elwood
John W. Elwood, Secretary,
Executive Committee.

RECEIVED
JUL 22 1937