

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY DENTAL SCHOOL

DEAN'S OFFICE

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY BUILDING

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

May 19, 1909.

Dr. Frederick S. McKay,
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Dear Doctor:-

I received your letter yesterday and have read it with some care. I suppose your term "mottled marks" upon the teeth means the variation of white and the ordinary tooth color mingled more or less, and that the brownish colors are the stains that you speak of. I am very much surprised at your report of about 90% of cases being mottled. While I expected that to be higher than the brown stains, I did not suppose the cases would reach such a large percentage. Of course that is the remarkable feature of the cases in your community - the number. Cases come in here to us occasionally, and whitish spots on the teeth are not very infrequent.

The examination I have made of the teeth you sent shows conclusively the nature of the trouble histologically. It consists in the failure of development of the cementing substance between the enamel rods. In most of the teeth that I have thus far seen, the enamel rods themselves are complete. In your examination of cases was there anything that would cause the segregation of the cases in which there were marks upon the teeth, rather than children with no marks? Was there anything that would cause those with marks to come to you in preference to those who had no marks? Unless great care is used there might be a grave error occur in that way. Children with marks and anxious to have something done, would more readily

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present themselves perhaps than those who have no marks on their teeth. I simply speak of this as a precaution in estimating the percentage.

As to how I want these figures reported to me, I will say that this is unimportant, so that the data is arranged in a way that I will understand, and some of this may be done after I arrive on the ground. Of course I will be very anxious to see a considerable number of these native-born children. I am not going to succeed very well in the photographing of these teeth in color. The efforts thus far have not been very satisfactory, but I would like to have a few more cases for the purpose of cutting histological slides.

As to the hotels, I think it would be very desirable for me to be in the hotel where the meeting occurs, during the meeting at any rate, and possibly if I have time before or after, I might be at some of the very fine places which you mention, but I suppose I could visit those even if I staid in the hotel in the city. I am not a person who needs very much to be done in the way of entertainment. I received the literature you sent with reference to the region, and I am sure I will find much delight in some of your surroundings.

As to the time I will leave here for your city, I cannot yet make out. The month of June is going to be a very busy month. I will be lecturing every day and shall have to make out my reports up to the first of July, and it will take me a little time - how

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much I cannot now tell. I shall make the endeavor to have everything ready to do it as rapidly as possible. I wish to thank you for the very kind words you have said as to the care you propose to take of me while I am with you.

Very truly,

G.V.B. Black

G.V.B.