

c

November 15, 1938.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

I have just returned from seeing Ernie Quigley at St. Marys, and I found him a very sick man. The edema swelling in the thigh - femoral vein - has receded and his thigh and leg are normal as far as size is concerned, but whether it is just gravity that has carried this swelling from the leg into the chest I am not sure.

Last night he had a very bad night and a physician was called to give him a hypodermic and morphine, so when we got out there at noon he was still asleep. They must have given him a heavy load. When I got there I found that the physician was called during the night and diagnosed the case as a severe attack of pleurisy, or sometimes it is called inter-costal neuralgia.

It has been several days since he had an elimination and he is so full of gas that I am not sure exactly whether the difficulty is from the gas in the large colon or whether he has complications. I advised Mrs. Quigley to see another specialist, even suggesting definitely that she call Dr. Outland who handled him at Kansas City, and then get a specialist on the thorax. I think he is much sicker than Mrs. Quigley realizes. I said, "By all means you must get a nurse." She said, Well, she could do so much better with Ern than a nurse could that she preferred to handle it. I said, "Well, you need a nurse for the enema and the constant care that he should have to reduce this serious difficulty."

She called Dr. Riley again, her physician, and I rather scared her, by what I said to her. I said, "Mrs. Quigley, you can lose your husband mighty easy", and she said, "Don't scare me like that". I told her I was not trying to scare her but I was trying to warn her that she had a very sick husband.

Of course, I did not manipulate him, but I was happy to find that the swelling was reduced in the leg. But I am not so happy about the chest complications. The physician told Mrs. Quigley it was perfectly all right for me to treat him, but I waived myself