

Smith Center, Kansas
June 22, 1938.

Dr. Forrest Allen
Lawerance, Kansas

Dear Sir:

I am writing you at the suggestion of Waldean Hooper of Smith Center. I talked with him Sunday (J.19) at which time he gave me your adress, and he thought if I told you my condition, you might be able to give me some helpful information about Warm Springs, Georgia.

I am a boy 18 yrs. of age. In the fall of 1936, Oct. to be exact, I had Infantile Paralysis. When I began to feel better I was paralyzed from high in the small of my back down, and my right arm was partially paralyzed. Since January 1937 I have been using this arm constantly. At the present time, outside of being smaller than the other arm and a slightly crooked thumb, there is no outward appearance that this arm was ever paralyzed.

I am able to move my legs a little and they seem to be gradually getting better. The most serious trouble is in my back. The paralysis started in the small of my back, almost completely annihilating all muscle tissue in that part of my back. (I had had kidney trouble for a yr. previous to this time and I think this is the reason the paralysis struck so hard in the small of my back.) This left my back very weak at this place. Due to this weakness I have been unable to walk even with leg braces and crutches.

Sometime during the month of March (38) a slight curvature of the spine has started in the small of my back. The Doctor I have been going to says it will take two spinal bone grafts to straighten my back and if I understand it right would make my back rigid at this place. These operations are dangerous. I knew two girls who died a few hours after similar ~~oper~~ operations were performed.

Waldean said you had been to Warm Springs; and would be glad to give me any information that you could. I would appreciate any information that you could give me.

Sincerely yours

Howard Barnes
Smith Center,
Kansas .
R R #3 Bx. 13