

DECLARE AL

TO CITY HOSPITAL

Nine Physicians and Five Dentists Favor Municipal Hospital Plan.

1418
POSITION CHANGED BY SOME

Sisters of St. Francis Answered Statement by Announcing Intention to Proceed With Hospital.

The following statement issued by doctors and dentists, whose names are signed thereto, was sent Tuesday to the Franciscan Sisters at Clinton. Those signing say they have done so because the sentiment of their families is so overwhelmingly in favor of the municipal project and because the community feeling has been so convincingly expressed in subscriptions of money. This fund is so nearly satisfactory for the building and equipment that they have no option but to make the choice and they have felt it is right that both the Sisters and the public should know that choice. It is therefore published in full in response to frequent inquiries, as expressing the feeling of most of the physicians.

The Statement.

Grinnell, Iowa, Feb. 16, 1918.

Dear Mother Paul:

At the time of your recent visit to Grinnell, we expressed to you our approval of a plan looking towards the opening of a Franciscan hospital here.

Since that time a great many changes have taken place. We feel it is our duty to tell you of those changes and express our judgment in the matter.

Much to our surprise, we found that the present little city hospital had rooted itself deeply in the affections of the people. It is a matter of much city pride that Grinnell has a municipal hospital. As soon as the question arose of closing it hundreds came forward with contributions to enlarge or rebuild. We have the sentiment against

hospital to be operated by the Sisters. Many of our families in they would not patronize such a nominational hospital.

In view of this wide-spread sentiment, and of the strong local belief in the community plan, and in view of the fact that more than adequate funds are now provided by popular subscription, we must withdraw our approval of your hospital project.

We, therefore, wish to express you our unqualified belief in and complete allegiance to the municipal hospital to be built by our own people.

Very respectfully yours

- E. E. Harris, M. D.
- S. C. Buck, M. D.
- O. F. Parish, M. D.
- C. H. Lauder, M. D.
- John T. Padgham, M. D.
- E. C. Bliss, M. D.
- F. M. Cooper, M. D.
- P. E. Somers, M. D.
- E. S. Evans, M. D.
- O. H. Gallagher, D. D. S.
- L. G. Lemley, D. D. S.
- A. J. Brock, D. D. S.
- H. B. Brock, D. D. S.
- W. R. Kinzer, D. D. S.

In reply to this the following communication was received by the doctors from the Sisters:

Clinton, Ia., Feb. 19.

Dr. E. E. Harris, Grinnell, Iowa:

Answering your telegram of the 19th signed by several physicians, will state the Sisters of St. Francis have decided to build a hospital in Grinnell as previously outlined.

Mother Paul.