Honoring

Karl A. Menninger, M.D.
William C. Menninger, M.D.

for their

THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE

to

KANSAS AND THE NATION

K.P.H.A.
SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE BANQUET
Lawrence, Kansas
March 31, 1955
HONORING THE DOCTORS MENNINGER

The Kansas Public Health Association honors two of Kansas' most prominent sons, the brothers Dr. Karl A. Menninger and Dr. William C. Menninger, as the 1955 recipients of the Samuel J. Crumbine Award.
THE SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE AWARD

The first Samuel J. Crumbine Banquet was held in 1946, when Dr. Crumbine returned to Kansas as the honored guest of the Kansas Public Health Association at its annual meeting. Dr. Crumbine was the crusading pioneer health officer who became famous as a result of his campaign to abolish the common drinking cup, and who was the spearhead of the attack on two other disease carriers—the housefly and the common roller towel.

It is only fitting that the life and accomplishments of this pioneer in public health be memorialized by honoring, in his name, other workers who have contributed in similar fashion to the health and well-being of their fellow citizens, both in Kansas and throughout the Nation.

The honored guest in 1947 was Dr. Clarence H. Kinnaman; in 1948, Dr. Charles H. Lerrigo; in 1951, Professor Earnest Boyce. In 1952, the Samuel J. Crumbine Award was established and a medal was presented to Dr. E. V. McCollum, as well as to past honorees. The Crumbine Medal was last presented to Dr. Earle G. Brown in 1954.

THE DOCTORS MENNINGER

Dr. Karl A. and Dr. William Menninger are native Kansans. Their father, the late Dr. C. F. Menninger of Topeka, long dreamed of establishing a medical clinic in company with his two sons; he lived to see his vision become a tremendous, living reality.

Karl Menninger began his formal education in the Topeka public schools. He attended the University of Wisconsin, and then entered Harvard Medical School, graduating cum laude in 1917. After an internship in Kansas City, he returned to Boston, attracted there by his interest in psychiatry and the work of Dr. Ernest Southard.

Joining his father in Topeka in 1920, Dr. Karl and his father established a psychiatric clinic firmly based on the principle of group practice.

Meanwhile, Will Menninger had received his B.A. degree from Washburn University, an M.A. from Columbia, and had entered Cornell University. Upon graduation he returned to Topeka where he joined his father and brother in 1923.

From the beginning, the Menningers have done much more than operate a clinic. They traveled throughout the State, holding clinics, speaking, and working with many groups to make possible the improvement of services for the mentally ill. They have been tremendously successful in attracting talented people to work with them, and work with other groups is still one of the main orders of business with the Menningers today.
Dr. Karl has been heard to say that good psychiatry can be practiced in a barn—with the right staff. He should know. It was not long after the clinic was established that the Menninger's downtown offices were filled to overflowing with patients—and they found it necessary to move. They also wanted to start a hospital, and to do so it was necessary to move outside Topeka, as it was illegal at that time to operate a mental hospital within the city limits! So they bought a farm on the edge of Topeka, remodeled the house and barn for offices and space for patients. They hitched the barn, a hamburger stand, and a gasoline station together to make an office building, and rebuilt an old stable for the nursing staff. In the meantime they were busily recruiting and training a staff.

From this beginning, the Menninger Clinic has grown into a hospital, a clinic, and then into a school for the treatment of children with emotional behavior problems. Always convinced of the necessity for investigation and study, the Menningers have always conducted a research program; today this interest is reflected in the work of one of the best research centers in the country.

In 1941, the Menninger Foundation was established as a nonprofit organization for psychiatric treatment, education and research. Within the following few years, all of the properties—land, buildings, books and equipment—were turned over to the Menninger Foundation as gifts.

Today, the Menninger Foundation employs approximately 370 people—more than one-third of them professionally trained. Around the Menninger Foundation has developed a psychiatric community—unique in the United States, if not in the world. Because of the staff and training facilities of the

Foundation, the Veterans Administration has been able to develop a large center for the training of psychiatrists and psychiatric personnel.

When the people of Kansas became aware of the need of a revolution in their mental hospitals, it was the existence of the Menninger Foundation which made possible the obtaining and training of staff within a few short years.

Successful as practitioners of psychiatry in the broadest sense of the word, Doctors Karl and Will are also successful authors. Dr. Karl is the author of "The Human Mind," "Love Against Hate," and "Man Against Himself," all of which have been widely read and enthusiastically received.

Dr. Will has written "Psychiatry in a Troubled World," "You and Psychiatry," "Psychiatry, its Evolution and Present Status," and a number of successful booklets for young people.

Both Dr. Karl and Dr. Will are internationally known; many honors have come to them. Dr. Will has been president of the American Psychiatric Society, and of the American Psychoanalytic Association; he is senior consultant to the Army Surgeon General in psychiatry, and is a member of the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America. He has been a member of the Committee on Human Resources of the Research and Development Board, of the National Advisory Council of the United States Public Health Service, and of many other public and welfare groups.

Dr. Karl has been president and secretary of the American Orthopsychiatric Association. He organized the Central Neuropsychiatric Association—served as its president—and was
one of the founders of the Kansas Association for Mental Health. He is a director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene; a member of the Advisory Board on Health Services of the American Red Cross; a consultant on Neuropsychiatry to the Veterans' Administration, and consultant in psychiatry to the States of Illinois and Kansas. Dr. Karl directs the training program of the Menninger Foundation, and of the associated programs in the State and Veterans' Hospitals in Kansas.

The Kansas Public Health Association honors Doctors Karl A. and William C. Menninger for their services to the people of Kansas, and the world, in the field of psychiatry. In recognition of the incalculable benefits derived from the energy, the vision, and the genius of two of Kansas' most famous sons, the Kansas Public Health Association takes the greatest pleasure in presenting the Samuel J. Crumbine Medal as a token of this Award, for 1955, to Doctors Karl and Will—the Doctors Menninger.

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1954-1955 Executive Committee

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