

March 12th 1914.

Dear Mr. McKenna,

As the first to make the suggestion which developed into the Cat and Mouse Act, I venture to take the opportunity of making another suggestion, which I firmly believe, if strictly carried out, would put an end, or at any rate greatly lessen the new epidemic of outrages. One of the chief difficulties in dealing with these poor misguided creatures is that of sentiment and a natural repugnance that all civilised people have against women being dealt with roughly by men, and I suggest that these women be dealt with exclusively by their own sex. I would set apart one of the smaller prisons for the purpose and staff it entirely with women, - a lady Governor, a woman doctor and women warders. Their own sex know best how to deal with such cases and the criminals themselves know it, and there is nothing they dread so much as being handled by sane and muscular women. I firmly believe that if this plan were adopted you would hear no more complaints about forcible feeding. I have discussed it with some of the leading member of the profession, including last night, one of the most distinguished neurologists, and with women doctors, and so far they have been unanimous in agreeing that such a plan would be effective. One advantage is that I believe it would require no change in the law.

<sup>in</sup>  
If ~~any~~ addition to the above, but it is not so important, you had some muscular female constables whose special duty it would be to control Suffragettes, it would be an immense help to the male members of the Force.

I must ask you to be good enough in any case to regard this letter as strictly confidential and not in any way to allow my name to transpire in connection with it, although if you wish me to do so, I should be very happy to call and give you the names of eminent medical men and women I have discussed it with. I profoundly sympathise with your difficulties of your position in connection with this wretched business, and I know that <sup>in</sup> anything you can do that would end the present impossible state of affairs you will receive the hearty support and sympathy of the public at large.

Believe me,

Faithfully yours,

from J. T. W. MacAlister  
20 Hanover Square, W.

To the Rt. Honble. Reginald McKenna, M.P.  
The Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.



12 March 1914

Dear Mr. MacAlister,

So far as Wardresses  
are concerned your suggestion  
has already been carried out.

Female Governors and Doctors  
raise a more difficult question  
of policy which has not escaped  
consideration. I am much

obliged to you for writing to me  
and giving me your very valuable



opinion on the point.

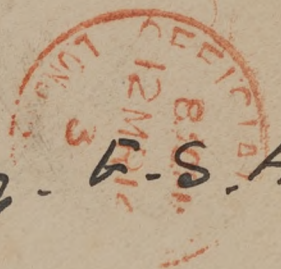
Yours very truly

R. W. Kennan

Private.

Supp. gettes

J. G. W. MacAlister Esq. - U.S.A.



1 Wimpole Street

Carondish Square

W.

Home Sent  
R. R. Evans