

in which the patient finds himself, because a mental condition like this is not like typhoid fever or an organic disease which runs its own course irrespective of the environment. I feel if this patient went back to a strictly prison environment we would be likely to have a florid development of further symptoms, suicidal attempts, perhaps hallucinations, further delusions. Whereas if it were possible to give this man an absolutely ideal environment with removal of all the worries to which he is subject, it is quite possible that he might make a complete recovery.

- Q Doctor, may I ask you one thing more. Your opinion is to some extent based on the threats or promises of suicide? A. Yes, sir.
- Q And that means a threat of some voluntary action on the part of the defendant. Now, the only time when he attempted to injure himself while under your care was that episode of March 21st? A. Yes, sir.
- Q And you found that to be due to a transitory condition of emotional tension. Did you mean by that it was practically involuntary? A. Well, that is merely a description of the behavior without entering onto a hypothesis as to what actually caused the behavior. It might have been a definite desire to kill himself. It might have been on the otherhand a desire to impress the attendants and the doctors with his distressed condition.
- Q Yes. A. And I could not be absolutely sure as to the motivation of the act.
- Q Well, at that time, at the time you made that report of March 26th, did you regard that as an involuntary or voluntary act on the part of the patient? A. It seemed to me to be an act