

Lead Industries Association

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y. (17)

CLINTON H. CRANE, PRESIDENT
F. H. BROWNELL, VICE PRESIDENT
F. W. ROCKWELL, VICE PRESIDENT
FELIX EDGAR WORMSER, SECRETARY AND
TREASURER

July 8, 1944

Queensland Literature

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
University of Cincinnati
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I take pleasure in returning to you, under separate cover, numerous articles on the Queensland chronic lead poisoning controversy which you were kind enough to mail me last May.

I enjoyed studying it and you certainly saved me a lot of correspondence with Australia by your kind cooperation.

If I can ever reciprocate, please do not hesitate to call upon me. Many thanks.

With kindest regards,

Very truly yours,



Secretary



LE 03446

800001

Lead Industries Association

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK¹⁷, N.Y.

CLINTON M. CRANE, PRESIDENT
F. M. BROWNELL, VICE PRESIDENT
F. W. ROCKWELL, VICE PRESIDENT
FELIX EDGAR WORMSER, SECRETARY AND
TREASURER

June 6, 1944

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
University of Cincinnati
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

On my return from the South I was delighted to find awaiting me a sheaf of articles on the Queensland lead poisoning-chronic nephritis controversy, which I shall study with much interest.

We most certainly shall take good care of all of this material and expect to return it to you intact in the near future.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

F. W. Rockwell
Secretary.



KE 03447

00000

May 23, 1944

19

Mr. F. E. Wormser,
Lead Industries Association,
420 Lexington Avenue,
New York City 17.

Dear Mr. Wormser:

I am sending you herewith a sheaf of articles that will give you much of the material on the Queensland controversy. It seemed simpler to send you the articles than merely to send you the references, since you will find in the articles numerous references which you may wish to follow up. I am also sending the typewritten abstracts and copied parts of certain other articles that are not too easily available.

We do not have extra copies of any of this material, and therefore I shall expect you to take good care of them and to return them all to us within a reasonable time in the not too distant future. I have kept a list of all the things we have sent you, and if they do not come back fairly promptly, I shall expect to heckle you until they do.

I also enclose a card which gives the reference to the article I mentioned on Lead Poisoning in connection with the use of leaded gasoline in army kitchens. This is the only one of this kind that has appeared, and I believe you will agree with me that it would have been much better if it had never been published.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

FAK ef

Enc.

KE 03448

00000

Murray, R. Elliott, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, University of Sydney:
Plumbism and chronic nephritis in young people in Queensland. Service Publication
No. 2, June 26, 1939

McDonald, S.F., Hospital for Sick Children, Erisbane: Primary kidney injury, apparently
due to lead. Med. J. Australia, 2:453, 1931

Chronic lead poisoning. Ibid, 1:572, 1931

The minor manifestations of plumbism in childhood. Ibid, 1:806, 1930

Nye, L.J.J., Brisbane General Hospital: An investigation of the extraordinary incidence
of chronic nephritis in young people in Queensland. Med. J. Australia, 2:145, 1929

A study of chronic nephritis in Queensland. (No reference is given for this publication
and it is not listed in Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus.)

Saturnine renal dwarfism. Med. J. Australia, 2:813, Dec. 26, 1931

Further observations on chronic nephritis and lead poisoning in Queensland, with
comments on the federal official inquiry. Ibid, 2:235, 1933

Fairley, K.D.; Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine:
A review of the evidence relating to lead as an aetiological agent in chronic nephritis
in Queensland. Med. J. Australia, 1:600, May 5, 1934

Smith, S.A.: Some aspects of lead absorption. Med. J. Australia, 2:391, Sept. 26, 1925

Reply to criticism of the evidence given by Dr. S. A. Smith regarding lead poisoning
among Queensland children. Ibid, 1:282, March 11, 1922

Gibson, J. Lockhart: Ocular neuritis, simulating basal meningitis - plumbism. Australasian
Med. Gaz., 16:479, Oct. 20, 1897

Plumbic ocular neuritis in Queensland children. Brit. M.J., 2:1488, Nov. 14, 1908

Reply to Dr. S. A. Smith regarding his testimony in the attempt to make the use of
lead paint illegal because of the effects of it upon Queensland children. Med. J.
Australia, 1:366, April 1, 1922

Turner, A. Jefferis: On lead poisoning in childhood. Brit. M.J., 1:895, April 10, 1909

Queensland Branch of the British Medical Association: An historical account of the
occurrence and causation of lead poisoning among Queensland children, drawn up for
and endorsed by the Council of the Queensland Branch of the B.M.A. Med. J. Australia,
1:148, 1922

Lead Industries Association

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK¹⁷, N. Y.

CLINTON H. CRANE, PRESIDENT
F. M. BROWNELL, VICE PRESIDENT
F. W. ROCKWELL, VICE PRESIDENT
FELIX EDGAR WORMBER, SECRETARY AND
TREASURER

May 17, 1944

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Bob:

61-1001/17-
1001
In St. Louis last week you were kind enough to tell me about an investigation you recently conducted on the use of ethyl gasoline for army kitchens and mentioned a medical paper on the subject. I have forgotten the reference and wonder if you would be kind enough to let me have it so that I can add that paper to my library on the subject.

In the same general connection I would also like to have the reference to the Australian work which followed up the alleged connection between chronic nephritis and lead poisoning and which indicated that the nephritis was due to scarlet fever.

I thoroughly enjoyed the discussion we had last week on lead and am already looking forward to our next meeting.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

F. E. Wormber
Secretary.



KE 03450

BCC: Mr. R. C. Champlin
Dr. R. A. Kehoe ✓
Mr. E. W. Webb

June 27, 1944

Mr. F. E. Wormser, Secretary
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Wormser:

Re: Lead Poisoning Publicity

I have noted with interest my copy of your circular letter of June 16 to the Board of Directors of the Lead Industries Association on the above subject, together with the enclosed letter of May 21 from Mr. P. E. Sprague, Vice President of the Glidden Company and a Director of Lead Industries Association.

I have taken the liberty of discussing this subject with two of my colleagues in the Ethyl Corporation, namely, Dr. R. A. Kehoe, Director of our Medical Department, and Mr. Ralph C. Champlin, Director of our Public Relations Department, who have had considerable experience in our Corporation's policies regarding the subject of publicity of our product, tetraethyl lead.

If it would be of any assistance to the Directors of the Association, in arriving at a policy for popular publicity on lead poisoning, both of these gentlemen are agreeable to accompanying me to the next meeting in which this matter will be discussed. I might add that we have had a fair amount of experience and have given considerable thought to this matter as it concerns Ethyl's public relations.

Meanwhile, it would seem to me, by and large, that the lead industry may have some room for improvement in getting its house in order with regard to industrial hazards and industrial hygiene before it takes the further step of education of the public to the hazards of lead. While I do not have too much specific information on this point, I am under the impression that there is much room for improvement in the field of industrial hygiene within our operations.

I feel that we are never in a sound position to take our story to the public until we have demonstrated our ability to handle our own affairs within our own industries.

LE 03451

June 27, 1944

It also seems to me that the method which is used to bring this subject into the public mind must be carefully weighed. Education on the use of the products for each phase of the industry might be a preferable route. For example, in the handling of tetraethyl lead we first tried to do all we could in the field of industrial hygiene in our own plants. Then we extended this to the use of the material by the refiners, educating them thoroughly in the safe methods to be applied. The final step was to educate the public. All of this resulted from a build-up of many years of hard work. It seems to me that any program which might be undertaken to cover these three aspects of education in one step rather than three steps might lead into trouble.

Mr. Sprague mentions specifically the Michael O'Brien case. It is my belief that to publicize this case through the medium of trying to prove that lead was not the primary cause we would lay ourselves open to considerable controversy in the press, because certainly there are a sufficient number of legitimate cases of lead poisoning of children and it is hard to prove to the public what is truth and what is fiction. I for one am somewhat against this type of approach.

Time does not permit me to go into all the aspects of our thinking in this matter, but as I have stated in the foregoing, should you wish me to comment further at the proper time, say at the next Board meeting, or should you like me to bring some of my associates to the meeting who have had considerable experience in such matters, I should be glad to contribute as much as possible to the question.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Schaefer
Vice President