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OUR REF. MU/K.1.

YOUR REF.

DR. PHILIP BOYD
Chief Medical Officer

June 29, 1956.

R.A. Kehoe,
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology,
University of Cincinnati,
College of Medicine,
Eden Avenue,
CINCINNATI 10,
Ohio,
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Kehoe,

We have recently been trying to find some published literature on the question of daily variation in lead excretion, and so far in this country have drawn a blank on the subject. I wonder if you could possibly ask your librarian if she has reprints of any work that has been done in the United States with reference to the possibility of diurnal variation or variation with regard to feeding. I should be most grateful if I could get some information on this subject as soon as possible.

I have been meaning to write to you for some weeks now, but have been extremely busy and have not wanted to disturb you over what I know is also a very busy period for you. However, you will I am sure be interested to know that we have unfortunately had one mild case of tetraethyl lead poisoning at Ellesmere Port, resulting from the accidental disconnection of a man's air line, and inadequate safety supervision. Unfortunately the problem has not been a simple one, as we ourselves in the Medical Department cannot be blameless in this matter. It is an unfortunate thing that the doctor who examined this case failed to make use of the observation that the man had been discharged from the Army some years previously on psychiatric grounds. The result is now that, while there is little likelihood of lead in any form being responsible for his present symptoms, he is still on the sick list with a typical neurotic picture. The case has had the salutary effect on local management of bringing home to them much more closely the reality of the problem that, in spite of much effort, they have not yet fully appreciated.

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Dr. R.A. Kehoe.

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I have further to report that we have also had an unfortunate episode in tank cleaning. In this respect four men have been poisoned and have presented quite an interesting medical picture as well as taxing our ingenuity in one case at least in preserving the life of the man. One or two interesting features have demonstrated themselves in this small group, and I am at present engaged in writing the story up for publication. All four men involved are well on the road to recovery. They were not, of course, our employees.

I have been wondering whether or not you will be coming over to Finland next year for the international congress. I have no doubt it will be better organised than the last one held in Naples, but realising how occupied you are, you may not judge it worth attending. If, however, you are planning to come over for it, we shall look forward intensely to your spending some time with us. On the other hand, if this is not possible, or maybe even if it is, I have been wondering whether it might not be profitable for me to visit the States some time next year, and spend a week or two in Cincinnati and elsewhere. There seems a great deal of information which I would like to have in one or two fields, and I really had no opportunity last year on my way through to South America of doing any study work. However, this is thinking well ahead of time as yet.

I hope that you and Mrs. Kehoe are very well and enjoying life. I am always having enquiries from many people in your regard, and I know that many would like me to send you their good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

With every personal good wish

*from
Philip.*

PRB/jmr

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