

S t ö f e n

Gewerbeaufsichtsamt
für den Regierungsbezirk
Montabaur

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29. Okt. 1964

Az.: Tgb.-Nr.

(bei Antwort stets angeben)

Gewerbeaufsichtsamt Montabaur

US Department of Health,
Education, and Welfare
Public Health Service
att. Mr. Elbert C. Tabor

W a s h i n g t o n , D. C.

U S A

Dear Mister Tabor,

I thank you very much for your letter of September 25, 1964, ECT: eb, and for the report under the same cover. I studied the report with great interest and felt to know much more about the problems afterwards. I appreciate your allowance to feel free to call on you again, as ~~my~~ my doubts have not yet been eliminated. Although the definite report has already been completed, I'm encouraged to write you my experiences and the results to which they have brought me:

- 1) As factory inspector of this district, I traced a severe lead disease of a little child in the neighbourhood of a metallurgic lead plant (scientifically verified), a lot of abortions (statistically verified) and a high consume of purgatives (confirmed by druggists).
- 2) By publications in scientific German reviews I was referred to a Soviet publication on the influence of very slow lead dust concentrations on the health of the population in the neighbourhood of factories which is allowed by the Soviet government in the neighbourhood of such factories (0,0009 mg/m³).
- 3) I traced a Soviet study which says that plants desirously absorb lead from the ground. This experience was confirmed by the "Landesanstalt für Immissionshygiene und Bodenbenutzungsschutz" of Essen. These studies disprove the elder opinion, that lead compounds are not absorbed on behalf of their unsolubility.
- 4) German and American scholars have proved that ancient Rome perished by lead which the Roman women incorporated by several ways, so making themselves sterile.
- 5) On the way to Japan via Moscow-Khabarovsk-Nakhodka in May 1964 I spoke with several motor-engineers, students and taxi-drivers who agreed in telling me that the Soviet government has forbidden tetraaethyle lead in motor fuel since 1956.

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6) I read that cows who grazed in the neighbourhood ~~xx~~ of highroads with considerable traffic gave birth to calves which died within short time.

7) The lead concentration in the atmosphere of Western cities is much higher than the allowable values in the USSR.

8) In May 1964 I was told by a an American geophysician (Prof. Smith, Caltech, Pasadena, Cal.), that Prof. Patterson of Caltech, later MIT, Cambridge, Mass., has found out, that the ancient Romans have suffered from unfavorable influences of lead on their mentality. Unfortunately I got no answer, when I wrote to Prof. Patterson.

The conclusions to which I come by all this are theses:

1) It should be tried to make out the scientific basis for the decisions of the Soviet Union concerning the allowable lead concentration in the atmosphere and the applying of TEL in motor cars. May be the lead depots in the bones of women by inhaling are mobilized by a pregnancy, enter the blood of the mother and are prevented - on behalf of the high lead content ^{are} from reaching the embryo, such causing the abortions which ~~is~~ known as a consequence of lead incorporation. This possibility is not disproved by the statement of Mr. Kehoe that the lead concentration in the blood and the urine of the average American has not ~~been influenced by~~ the lead exhaust of the car engines. May be also that the Soviet medicine is afraid of the unknown effects of combinations of lead, with other poisons, which probably are not expressable as an addition of the effects of both single.

increased
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2) If the lead content of the air in the USA has been favorably influenced by the diminishing consume of coal, this does not mean, that things have gone the some way in other countries. Perhaps in Germany the coal had less lead.

3) It should be studied, if abortions on behalf of lead occur in heaps. At least in Germany the increasing rate of abortions seems to be a severe problem. If the German medicine has hitherto not dealt with the possibility of a connection with lead, this doesn't mean that such a connection doesn't exist.

4) The lead exhaust of motor cars is as far as I know brought down by rain down~~xxx~~ to the ground and accumulates there, making it more and more dangerous.

Unfortunately the German science is rather undisposed to deal with Soviet scientific results. I have made the experience that in the Soviet Union the will of the political forces to keep the population healthy is much ~~more~~ stronger than in this country. This circumstance fills me with preoccupations for the future of Western civilization. It encourages me however that the unforgettable Mr. Kennedy has proved by the Terry report that America too wishes to have a survey on the dangers which threaten her biological future, which is so important for our future too.

I should be thankful, if you could inform me, what your resp. Mr. Kehoe, on my ideas.

I have multiplied translations of Russian studies into German; one of them dealing with the influence of industrial lead pollutions on the health of the adult population of the neighbourhood, the other one on the influence of such pollutions on the health of children in the neighbourhood. If you wish to have them, please let me know.

I hope I have not bothered you and remain

yours truly

Adrian

PS

I apologize the many mistakes.
My copyist does not speak English,
of course.

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