

— Kehoe MSS
Box 99

August 14, 1973

Professor Sir Charles Dodds
48 Sussex Square
London, W2 2SP
England

Dear Dodds:

I am most grateful for your letter of August 2nd, and I think I should explain myself to you, in view of our long association.

The fact is that I have not recovered entirely from my feebleness of body following my near-bout with the angels, and I'm not certain that I shall recover completely. However, I believe that somewhat more time and patience will be required to tell me just what to expect.

Some time ago (about three years, in fact), I had some middle ear trouble (it occurred spontaneously, it seems) which brought on a considerable degree of imbalance. This has improved to a point at which it seems likely to persist, and to my very great chagrin, I am no longer as active in a trout stream as I should be to do effective fly-fishing. I am not planning to return to the West American Wilderness until I am better balanced. Not only is the pleasure of fly-fishing greatly diminished, but also it is a bit of a risk which gives Lucile much too much concern when and if I head for the mountains and wilds. My other problem, aside from a certain unreliability (lack of memory, reactivity and a degree of emotional instability) is a fair degree of visual impairment (a very slow development of cataract, with need for overmuch illumination for reading).

On this account, I feel much safer at home or very near home than abroad. I'm working daily, at not too heavy a pace, and I am optimistic about the future, despite a certain caution which I know, is not much in character. I can well afford to stay at my desk, as much as possible for I have much to do by way of publishing some of the things that have been dealt with a bit too briefly and sketchily, or not at all. This, fortunately, I can do, without getting into an intense state of mind.

Again, let me say how nice it was to hear from you, and I shall look forward to seeing you without undue delay.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

RAK:wb

FROM PROFESSOR Sir CHARLES DODDS, Bt., M.V.O., F.R.S.

49, SUSSEX SQUARE,

LONDON, W2 2SP

2nd August, 1973.

01-723 0498

Dr. R.A. Kehoe,
Highland Towers,
Apartment 1504,
1071, Celestial Street,
Cincinnati,
Ohio 45202, U.S.A.

My dear Kehoe,

I was very disappointed to get a letter from Barry telling me that your medical condition makes it unwise for you to travel to this country this Summer. I was greatly looking forward to seeing you and am so sorry to hear that you have these difficulties. With a bit of luck, and rest and treatment I feel sure that they will lessen as I am sure that the Kehoe spirit will always survive.

I see Barry from time to time, although of course as you know I have retired from the position of consultant, but I am still very interested in the lead problem and have been able to maintain contact and actually initiate a number of clinical investigations, particularly in the geriatric field. Quite apart from the fact that I belong to this category, I do feel that from the pharmacological, and particularly the commercial pharmaceutical point of view, it represents a greater potential market for the future. I have collected a series of registrars and housemen who are prepared to work for ad hoc payments and I have been able to do some quite interesting things. I have always used the same organisation to investigate lead levels in children and I am glad to say that the investigations that I have been able to do with some money provided by the company, proved quite frank cases of lead poisoning in children was not due to atmospheric contamination but was due in every case to paint, water and particularly, as has come out recently, from improperly glazed earthenware jugs. Many of these have been bought as holiday souvenirs on the continent. I would very much like to pursue this.

Do let me know how you go on, either directly or via Barry.

With best wishes to you and kind regards, and also in memory of our many happy years of association,

Yours sincerely,

Charles