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DR. PHILIP BOYD

Chief Medical Officer

OUR REF. MU/K.1.

YOUR REF.

October 21, 1955.

Dr. R.A. Kehoe,
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology,
University of Cincinnati,
College of Medicine,
Eden Avenue,
CINCINNATI 19,
Ohio,
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Kehoe,

Since my last letter to you, dated August 19, Mr. Bevan has just recently suggested that I send you the enclosed cutting from one of our daily newspapers. I am not quite sure what Dr. Lindsey has or has not done, and have written to him to find out. Meanwhile, I am passing the cutting to you for your interest.

As I mentioned in my ^{recent} last letter, I would be very grateful indeed to have some information on the question of air pollution as it involves both diesel and gasoline exhausts.

We have been exceptionally busy here the latter part of this year, and our problems, while continuing to a great extent as before in terms of hygiene, have centred perhaps more on the question of human relations and management. This was, of course, to be expected in a place of this size and sudden evolution. We are, however, weathering our many storms, and I have every confidence of our settling down quite happily. I hope personally to be resident in London by the end of the year.

I hope all is well in Cincinnati.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Philip

Can gas men called in for car fumes probe

ARE THEY KILLERS? DOCTORS ASKED

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

POISON gas experts have been called into a probe of the harmful effects of car and bus exhaust fumes. The experts, from the gas defence station at Porton, on Salisbury Plain, will help a panel of doctors set up by the Medical Research Council.

Doctors and scientists will check whether certain poisons in smoky air are partly responsible for the increase in lung cancer, bronchitis, and some nervous complaints.

If the doctor's suspicions are confirmed, methods to reduce the poisons to a safer level will be devised.

A score of laboratories and hospitals is already at work and the number is to be greatly increased.

London Transport, which operates more than 5,000 diesel buses a day, has agreed to help.

A team

A team at the Fuel Research Station, Greenwich, under Dr. Albert Parker is to work with the Motor Industry Research Association in investigating the nature of the chemicals in diesel exhaust gas.

At Sir John Cass College, in London, Dr. Arthur Lindsey has already found a cancer-forming agent in soot scraped from diesel exhaust pipes.

Dr. Lindsey has also found that London air is polluted with traces of lead which comes from the chemical put into petrol to prevent "knock."

A team led by Dr. Ernest Wilkins of Greenwich is measuring the amount of the poisonous gas carbon monoxide which comes from petrol-engines in different London streets. Dangerously high densities have been recorded in Blackwall Tunnel.