

November 8, 1968

Mr. Jule Gordon, Chairman
Gordon-Evans Sales Co., Inc.
60 East 42nd Street
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Gordon:

You have been wondering, no doubt, what has become of the report of our experimental work, and since I shall not be able to get it to you by the end of the week, I think it best, as a matter of courtesy, to explain the delay.

It has been occasioned by the work required to get out the data of our prior (and continuing) observations on the urinary excretion of lead. Sixteen (16) subjects have been involved in experiments, the preliminary (or control) observations of which have extended over considerable periods of time. Eleven (11) of them have given us day-by-day data on the urinary excretion of lead over the entire period of time represented in the spring and summer months - that is beginning at the first of April and extending to the first of September.

I have charted the data concerned with the concentration of lead in the urine of these normal individuals during the entire period of the control observations. I have then taken the individual results at regular seven day intervals (simulating those of the hair-dye experiment) and have set them down in a table comparable to Table I of the first draft of the report. Then for my own satisfaction, I have made charts showing the trends of the weekly results. (These will not be included in the report but they enable me to see the relationships quite clearly.) The variability of the results, and the trends are so much like those shown by the subjects of the hair-dye experiment, as to be quite convincing.

All of this has taken time, for I have thought it desirable to do, myself, all the work of extracting the data, and assembling them in various ways for comparison. I just finished the table for the report this morning, and will have to use the balance of the time today and Saturday to make the adjustments in the report that are now required. I am sure that you will be pleased by the outcome of this additional work, and that you will consider the delay to be justified as I do. It is one thing to be convinced of the facts in such a situation as this, and quite another, at times, to be able to convince others. We could, and probably should, have designed this experiment in such a manner as to provide its own comparative evidence. I didn't think it necessary to do the work so required, or to incur the expense, but I didn't take fully into account the necessity for obtaining over again, the required for purposes of comparison. I don't mind having had to pay the penalty for this, but I regret the loss of time occasioned thereby. The report will be along shortly.

I am going abroad (London and Amsterdam) for two weeks beginning on November 24, so that I shall not be able to plan with you, if you should so desire, a visit to Washington to confer with F.D.A. personnel. I dare say, however, that this can

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wait. I shall return home on December seventh. However, if you have anything of importance to say to me before I leave, you will be informed now of my schedule.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
Professor Emeritus of
Occupational Medicine

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