

December 13, 1968

Mr. Jule Gordon, Chairman
Committee of the Progressive Hair Dye Industry
Room 510-11, 60 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Gordon:

Please accept my thanks for your detailed letter of December second. I am especially grateful for your suggestions, to which I react in the following paragraphs:

(1) I am pleased to eliminate the remark about the specific response to the hair dye, in terms of coloration. It is unnecessary, and in addition it is not entirely correct according to your more extensive observations.

(2) I think it unlikely that the inference of which you speak is "clear," with respect to the origin of the furuncle. I would not even think of such an inference, except as the idea is advanced that such might be the case. However, I have no objection to altering the sentence so as to exclude this possibility.

(3) I hardly think it necessary or wise to "squeeze" the data of Tables 1 and 3 for its maximum yield of evidence. We are not in so vulnerable a position as to make use of the facts beyond their obvious meaning. Moreover, if we should have to argue the case (which is unlikely) it is good to have something in reserve. It is wise, I think, to err on the side of understatement, if at all.

The same is true of your comment as to "in the same degree." You will note that I have interposed "at least," which, I think, makes the point without excessive emphasis.

(4) Thanks for the correction of our error. Just how this entered into Table 1 is not apparent. However, I have observed, over the years, that errors of this type and even more serious errors appear at times, despite the utmost care.

I shall follow your suggestions with respect to the numbers and disposition of copies of the report, and will let you know what comes of my communication with the personnel of F.D.A.

Also, in due course, I'll send you a statement of the cost of the investigation. I'm off to Palm Beach with Mrs. Kehoe for an indeterminate stay. As soon as I have a telephone, I'll let you know through my office (we are taking an apartment of a friend, in which a telephone is to be reactivated).

My brief trip to Europe was somewhat strenuous, but everything worked out on schedule, and the outcome of the several matters involved was wholly satisfactory.

Please accept my best wishes for the Holiday Season.

Cordially yours,

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

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