

December 17, 1952

Mr. Frank M. Stead
Chief, Division of Environmental Sanitation
Department of Public Health
760 Market Street
San Francisco 2, California

Dear Mr. Stead:

Your letter of December 8 on my participation in the program of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in New York on December 2, would seem to indicate that Mr. Magill had some reason in advance for thinking that my contribution to the subject of air pollution would be significant. Actually it was not, since my part in the program was to make a few remarks on the subject in preparation for a panel discussion which, so far as physiological effects were concerned, did not materialize.

I have discussed the subject elsewhere to greater advantage, and therefore I send you, under separate cover, one reprint of an article of mine, and two of articles prepared by other members of our staff, along with carbon copies of certain addresses made at various places.* I hope that these may be of some use to you.

In the talk at New York the only new or different thing which I said, was an announcement of the fact that a group in this Department, under the guidance of Dr. John Phair (Professor of Preventive Medicine in the Department and a well trained epidemiologist) and under the financial sponsorship of the U. S. Public Health Service, is embarking on a study of methods for appraising the hygienic significance of air pollution. We hope to come up with something that might become a pattern for the investigation of community health in this relationship.

I might make an additional comment concerning the legislative approach to this problem. In general, in most parts of the country, legislation, in my opinion, would be uninformed, and premature in that it would be more likely to impede than to advance progress in the solution of the problem. I firmly believe that the best results will be obtained by a cooperative and intelligent technical approach on the part of enlightened industry, a trained group of investigators in the various fields concerned, and health authorities who are prepared to mediate between industry, public and legislative groups, so as to keep matters on a reasonable basis until the facts are much more

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clear than they are now. I realize that this may be impossible under certain circumstances and in certain parts of the country, and I know that legislation or regulation is essential in certain matters, such as zoning, enforcement of compliance by unwilling persons or groups with the ground rules agreed upon between reasonable people. However, I do hope that it will be possible to keep the legislation within the bounds defined by our present knowledge, and not those dictated by public apprehension and clamor.

I doubt that the material which I am sending you will be of much benefit to you, but such as it is I am glad to furnish it. My copies of the typed material are now exhausted, so that if you find it convenient to return them to me after they have served their purpose, I shall have means of fulfilling any further request for them that may come.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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Reprints under separate cover.

Collection and Analysis of Solids in Urban Atmospheres - Cholak, Schafer and Hoffer

The Nature of Atmospheric Pollution in a Number of Industrial Communities - Cholak

Air Pollution and Community Health - Kehoe

* Typed articles enclosed herewith.

The Effects of the Industrial Atmosphere on Workmen and on the Community - Kehoe

The Effects of Prolonged Exposure to Air Pollutants - Kehoe

Some General Aspects of the Problem of Air Pollution - Kehoe

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION
760 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIF.

WILTON L. HALVERSON, M. D.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
648 Phelan Building
December 8, 1952

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
Department of Preventive Medicine & Industrial Health
College of Medicine
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

Mr. Paul Magill of the Stanford Research Institute has told me something of the nature of the talk which you presented in New York on December 2 at the meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers on the subject of the physiological aspects of air pollution.

I would like very much to receive a copy of this paper at your earliest convenience. In view of the regular session of our legislature, beginning January 1, our department wishes to be as currently informed as possible on the status of physiological studies related to air pollution in various parts of the United States.

Very truly yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Frank M. Stead".

Chief, Division of
Environmental Sanitation

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