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THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE OF ST. LOUIS

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ST. LOUIS, MO. March 13, 1935.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Dr. Kehoe:

I have read over the reprints very carefully and have enjoyed them very much. Some of them I had already read in Journal form.

Regarding the analysis of lead in viscera, I beg to hand you, herewith enclosed, a brief abstract of what I have written regarding the ordinary analysis. Will you kindly check this and see whether I am right in this?

If you will give me the exact details from the point - "carry on the regular analysis from this point" - I shall appreciate it very much.

There is another point I would like to discuss with you, namely, stippled cells and lead poisoning.

As you probably know, I spent some time with Schilling in Berlin and translated his book "The Blood Picture" from German into English. While with him, I became impressed with the importance of the thick drop method of determination of basophilic punctation, and have used it ever since. For many months I carried out a series of blood examinations on all employes of a lead industry here, making about seventy-five examinations per month on employes in the industry. Having done this for over a year and using the thick drop method, I had an opportunity to compare the thick drop method with the thin smear and found ample corroboration of Schilling's views, namely, that in many cases basophilic punctation is much more easily determined in the thick drop than it is in the smear. I should like to ask your opinion of this and whether or not you have any data similar to this, or any experiences of this kind.

Thanking you, and with very kind regards, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

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Analysis of Lead in Viscera.

Except where material contains quantities of calcium and fat.

Weigh.

Introduce suitable quantities into 800 c.c. Pyrex Kjeldahl flasks, with 10 to 20 c.c. concentrated Nitric Acid,

7 c.c. concentrated Hydrochloric Acid,

20 c.c. concentrated Sulphuric Acid.

Take down to a char over electric burner.

Destroy the char by additions frequently of small amounts of concentrated Nitric Acid.

Near the end of the process

Add 5 c.c. 60 per cent perchloric acid.

Add additional nitric acid until no char appears on evaporation to fumes of Sulphuric Acid.

Evaporate the material to small amount or volume.

Treat with 10 c.c. concentrated Hydrochloric Acid

and

200 c.c. water.

Boil to dissolve the salts, rinse out the flask, using hot water, into a 600 c.c. flask.

Carry the regular analysis on from this point.

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