

April 12, 1943

Mr. G. E. Johnson,
International Smelting and Refining Company,
East Chicago, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I have your letter of April 5, and I am very sympathetic toward the purpose you have in mind. It is very difficult, however, to do what you plan to do briefly without giving misinformation and without producing misleading impressions. Most of the things of this sort that have been put into such books are worse than nothing at all. On the other hand, this is a very good place to introduce useful information, and certainly engineers and technical people should have some accurate information on this subject.

The only suggestion which I can offer which has any hope of being useful is that I send you the material as yet unprinted, that will appear in an official report of the Committee of the American Public Health Association, of which I am the Chairman. We are attempting to provide an authoritative report on various aspects of the problem of industrial lead poisoning, and the material is almost complete. It consists of more than 100 pages of typewritten material, but it is written in a style which lends itself to easy interpretation, and I think you would be able to get from it a very clear idea of the present status of the problems of exposure and control. If you agree that this would solve your problem, I should be glad to forward the material to you. This will be an official report, and you will be at liberty to quote from it directly if you so desire.

If you should wish to send the material which you use to me for comment or criticism, I should be glad to give you such assistance as I can along this line. I make this suggestion because I am interested in seeing that useful and precise information be made available to the people who need it. Needless to say, you need not refer your material back to me, unless it seems advantageous to you to do so.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.