

Dear Mr

I have read with concern the article which appeared in the Post and Times-Star on February 26, 1963 relating to the work being carried on at the Kettering Laboratory of the University of Cincinnati and in which I was misquoted.

Certain statements were attributed to me that were without foundation and undoubtedly resulted from a misunderstanding of remarks which I made during an interview last week.

I am particularly concerned with the statement in which I am quoted as saying "nobody is worrying" about the problem of pollution and its effect on public health. To the contrary, the United States Public Health Service, state and municipal governments, large segments of private industry and many technical groups have long been concerned with the problem of air pollution. All have worked intensively on the problem and have already achieved a high degree of success in correcting many existing conditions.

The Kettering Laboratory has devoted a large part of its efforts over recent years to the problem of air pollution and has developed an extensive background as the result of its research studies.

I am also concerned with the statement attributed to me that "Lead pollution is constantly spewed out by car exhausts to the point where the lead content of air has just about reached the saturation point". Again, this statement is not correct. While it is true that lead is discharged into the atmosphere thru the exhaust of motor vehicles, extensive studies at the Kettering Laboratory have shown conclusively that the lead thus discharged is not a threat to public health. I have stated this fact on many public occasions.

There are other inaccuracies in the news story but I am primarily concerned with those I have cited.

May I say, too, that I can well understand the difficulties that confront any writer in handling an extremely technical and complex subject such as this particularly since it involves the field of industrial medicine.

In deference to the work carried on in the Kettering Laboratory in the matter of air pollution research I would appreciate your printing this letter so that the situation will be clarified.

R. A. K.

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