January 10, 1966

Farny

Mr. E. R. Farny
6943 Five Mile Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45230

Dear Mr. Farny:

I enclose a report and a bill for the analytical services involved in the examination of the sample of water which you supplied. With respect to the bill, I am mindful of my failure to warn you in advance of the cost of carrying out such analyses, and since this factor may have some influence on your consideration of my further advice, I suggest that you let me know whether it is burdensome. We do not let costs stand in the way of the acceptance of certain professional responsibilities, unless they are completely beyond our resources. On the other hand we undertake to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket costs that are incurred in tests or investigations that are not directly within the purposes for which the funds of the Laboratory are earmarked.

I would suggest the following procedure for certain further observations. You should wait until several additional rains during the next two or three months have washed your roof and eavetroughs (while the paint is aging), and then, in the midst of a good rain, collect another specimen of water (preferably of somewhat larger volume) for examination.

Meanwhile one of us will make a visit to your neighborhood and determine whether there is a likely source of lead that might be reaching your roof in currents of air. We have good reason for looking into such incidents as this, in search of factors that may influence, even slightly, exposure to lead of persons in the general population. Moreover, we shall wish to follow up this matter by the procedure suggested above, even if you hesitate to incur any further costs.

It may be that we shall consider it wise for you to clean out your cistern, and to determine the lead content of any sediment in it. However, before putting you to that trouble and expense, I would like to determine the lead content of the entering water some two or three months hence. You need not be afraid to use the water during such a period of time, although it might be just as well to obtain a specimen of this water for analysis at this time.

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Let me hear from you at your convenience. The Laboratory is hooked up with the General Hospital (Medical Center) Centrex System, the number of which is 372, while my extension is 5781.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

RAK:wp

enclosures

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