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336 Vermont Street

West Roxbury, Mass., 02132

Feb. 6, 1972

Robert A. Kehoe

Kettering Laboratories

University of Cincinnati

Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Sir,

In an article in Scientific American, Feb. 1971, written by J. J. Chisolm, M.D. he mentions your studies of lead. He states that 90% of lead ingested in the diet is not absorbed and that under "normal" conditions there is no net retention. In a subsequent sentence he states that the concentration of lead in bones increases with age. If lead is not retained, how does the lead content in bones increase with age? What are the abnormal conditions that lead to lead retention? Dr. Chisolm also speaks of a study in which the fecal excretion in children with severe plumbism has been 44 mgm./day whereas in normal unexposed children lead in fecal excretion was .2mgm./day. This only proves that lead is excreted from these children, not retained.

I am a graduate student at Boston University School of Nursing and I am presently researching the current status of studies of lead poisoning. I would appreciate any information you can give me on lead poisoning and any answers to my questions above. I have enclosed a return envelope. Thank you.

Yours truly,

*Norma I. Halley*

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