UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
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G LABORATORY OF APPLIED PHYSIOLOGY
OLLEGE OF MEDICINE—EDEN AVENUE

December 23, 1948

CABLE ADDRESS: KETLAB, CINCINNATI
TELEPHONE: UNIVERSITY 2665

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe,
Kettering Laboratory.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed please find a preliminary draft of a paper on "The Effect of Lead Exposure, Lead Poisoning, and BAL on the Concentration of Lead in Human Plasma." This is the first of a projected series of papers based on the data that have been accumulated in the Laboratory over the last 15 years.

The next paper would be on "The Factors Effecting the Concentration of Lead in the Erythrocytes and the Urine." We have sufficient data on the fecal concentration of lead to write a paper on the total metabolism using certain of the groups of man we have studied. A subsequent paper would deal with clinical lead poisoning. We would discuss the symptoms of lead intoxication, the signs, and the association between the signs and symptoms. The factors effecting group and individual susceptibility would be measured and discussed. The effect of therapy, including removal from exposure, BAL, citrate, calcium, sodium ammonium chloride, sodium bicarbonate and potassium iodide and concomitant disease would be, in large part, quantitatively assayed. The complications and course of lead poisoning would conclude the paper.

The last paper would be on the control of lead poisoning. This would consist of two parts, the first, the prevention and the part played by the laboratory and clinical findings in aiding in the prophylaxis, and second, the treatment, in which the relief of the symptoms and the effect of deleading procedures would be discussed.

Unfortunately, it will not be possible for me to write these papers before the first of the year as I had

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originally planned to do. While I am disappointed I am not too surprised because it has taken me a long time and study along devious paths to get the clinical and statistical background to properly integrate the magnificent data which is in our hands. I think that the first paper, which I am enclosing herewith, is a good example of the unique value of the statistical methods which I have applied to the data.

It would be with great reluctance that I would leave the work in this present unfinished state. In the first place, I think the work should be done because I think it will prove to be the most authoritative and valuable work that has yet been done in this field. In the second place, I don't think that anybody else but me has the time, the background and the understanding of the statistical methods that are necessary to complete the study. In the third place, I have spent a vast amount of time in learning how to tackle this problem and this time would be wasted if I could not finish it. Lastly, my scientific reputation depends largely on the quality of the work that I publish and this reputation is of the utmost value to me.

I think it would take at least several months and probably half a year for me to finish this project if I could spend as much time on it as I have in the last year. I would like to know if you agree with me that the work should be done and that I should do it.

Some time before the first of the year I would also like to know if anything has come of the projected study in the field of respiratory disease that you mentioned to me earlier in the month.

Sincerely yours,

Henry W. Ryder, M.D.

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encl

Merry Christmas, & best wishes for the New Year -
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