

Lead Industries Association

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April 20, 1949

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D., Director
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
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Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your illuminating letter of April 15. Your guess as to the identity of the visitor referred to in mine of March 29 is quite correct. Though the questions raised by him are now closed insofar as I am concerned, I would be amused to know what the story is on this man. I sized him up as of the "chronic kicker" type.

As to Frank Princi and his proposal, all who know him seem quite enthusiastic about the lad and my own single adverse criticism concerns his desire to toss prophylaxis and treatment into a single basket, which is just what he wanted to do a year ago when he was so superenthusiastic about BAL.

Since I do not for a moment consider myself qualified to pass upon the more intricate technical aspects of animal experimentation, I have naturally turned for advice to those who are. Here I find two schools of thought - the canine and the murine - the former greater in number but the latter basing their choice on what seemed to me the important facts that strains of mice of known susceptibility to lead are available; whereas, until Pete Little has gone a long way further, the average lab dog can be no more than a mutt with a great big question mark on his collar.



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Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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No one here is thinking in terms of "a few hundred dollars." My suggestion of mice rather than dogs was in the light of what I have just said and so that a far greater number of animals could be used. Actually, I think and have said that Princi underestimates the cost of what he wants to do. And when it is decided who, if anyone, is to do it under our auspices there will be no more thought of trying to dictate either methods or reports of findings than there has been in the work at Johns Hopkins and Harvard for which we have footed the bills.

All whom I have consulted, with the exception of Pinto, who made the suggestion, have felt that the work with strontium would be futile, and Pinto himself told me in Detroit that you were so minded, a viewpoint which your present comment hardly dispels. So if we go ahead with this at all, my hunch is that we will ask that our funds be restricted to work with the pyro-catechindisulfonate, a substance ^{about} which, God knows, I know even less than I do about strontium.

Thanks again for your always helpful advice on these and other subjects.

Sincerely yours,



mb/sd

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