THE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER
BOSTON

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
300 LONGWOOD AVENUE
BOSTON 15, MASS.

December 9, 1950

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
Kettering Laboratory
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Docta Kehoe:

On several recent cases of plumbism in children admitted here I've been impressed with the marked iron deficiency type of anemia that they had. It was probably due in some way to the lead because the usual contributing factors as diet, infection, prematurity, hemorrhage were lacking.

Supposedly, lead causes a hemolytic anemia & altho these children also had polychromasia, stippling and reticulocytosis the hypochromasia stood out. The only clue that I could find in regard to the possible etiology was an article in the Boston Journal — 36, 384, 1937 describing an iron-protoporphyrin blocking effect by lead.

As I am well aware of your great interest in lead poisoning I turn to you for any information,

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with lead poisoning - particularly the iron deficiency type. Most general discussions of plumbism are so vague as to the type of anemia + its mechanism. I have read Aub's paper in Medicine - but he does not go into the discussion of the iron deficiency state.

Many thanks for any help you can give me.

Very truly yours,
Leonard Apt, M.D.

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