

July 2, 1965

Professor Harry V. Warren
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The University of British Columbia
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Dear Professor Warren:

Thanks for your letter of May 5th, both for its information and for its kind words. I hope we shall be able to meet in the not too distant future.

With respect to my retirement and future plans, I can only say at this time, that I'll be going to Montana for a vacation and rest and some very excellent fishing (dry flies), leaving Cincinnati on July 10. On my return, my wife and I are heading for Santiago, Chile where I shall act as temporary consultant to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (assisting an old friend, J. J. Bloomfield) in setting up an Institute for research and training in occupational and environmental health. I'll return late in November or early in December, and we shall then decide what to do. I'll maintain some connection with this Laboratory, in association with my successor, Edward P. Radford, Jr., M.D., if that appears to be feasible and desirable. I shall, at the least, direct the present experimental work on lead until it can be lodged in good hands. Beyond that I expect to be heavily engaged in writing that has been side-stepped for the past ten or more years.

I am interested in several bits of current work, including that of Sir Ernest Marsden, and I expect, after this year, to be able to review the work of others in a systematic manner that has not been possible for some time. Incidentally, in connection with the alleged exposure to lead in tobacco, through smoking, I should point out a fact that many persons have ignored; namely, that lead (probably certain other metals, but certainly lead) is found in the ash of cigarettes, and

Professor Warren (2) July 2, 1965

only in trace in the smoke. This has been known for some time, but because of the recrudescence of remarks about the degree of exposure to lead based purely on the analysis of tobacco, we had another look at it. I send you, herewith, a typical analytical report. Similar bits of information have been published. It would be helpful if opinions expressed in the literature were not based on unsupported assumptions. It is an age-old fault but one that should be discouraged.

I should hope that arrangements could be made for you to conduct one of our regular weekly seminars some time next year (for which traveling expenses are provided). I shall make no suggestion about it however, until I return, for I want to be here, when and if you visit the Laboratory.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

RAK:meh

Enclosure

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