

September 29, 1971

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

George Cotzias, M.D.
Medical Department
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, Long Island, New York 11973

Dear George:

It is a long time since we have seen each other or corresponded, and in the interim, we have had little of any kind of association. I regret this, for, while I have continued to be very busy in my alleged retirement, I have certainly had much less association with medical colleagues generally and virtually none with yourself.

The occasion for my writing is not a highly significant one, but I confess to a very great curiosity about one of your associates, Paul Craig, and I know no way of finding out anything about him, than by writing to you.

Incidentally, I have met and been very much impressed with the personal charm and the balanced judgments of another of your people there - G. M. Woodwell, Ph.D.

But my contacts with Paul Craig's actions have arisen out of his somewhat intense feeling (I cannot say cerebration) about the use of tetraethyllead in gasoline. I encountered him first in a Petition, in which he was joined by Claire Patterson and several others, to have lead banned from use in gasoline. A few days ago, I read his article in the Saturday Review. Since I know nothing of his relationships, if any to you, I can speak of him freely without any possible intended slight to you, if he should be among your personal friends.

However, I am very curious about the mental quirk that makes it possible for a presumably well-trained scientist to make broad statements, as of fact, based on nothing better than hearsay, and taken from a complicated field of phenomena, and of knowledge with which he is not at all familiar.

Please remember me kindly to Mrs. Cotzias, and bear me in mind in your own consciousness. Moreover, if for any reason, or delicacy, you wish not to satisfy my curiosity about this man, forget that I ever raised the question. I should be old enough in experience by this time to encounter human incongruities without dismay.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
Professor Emeritus of
Occupational Medicine

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