

March 25, 1943

Dr. H. H. Schrenk,
United States Bureau of Mines,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Schrenk:

Thanks for your note of March 15, concerning the acceptance of three of the papers at the Rochester meeting. I think there is no question that two of these papers can be limited to either 15 or 20 minutes, as you wish. The one on cyclohexane and similar compounds represents a study of six of these compounds, and it will be quite difficult to present the information even in a sketchy fashion in 15 or 20 minutes. It would be a help to us if you would set a definite period of time as the maximum time available. Dr. Treon will then cut and prune his material to fit the time precisely. If he could have half an hour, I think he could do the job rather well. If this is not possible, he will do as you wish, but I should prefer to have him know exactly what he is up against and to plan not to exceed his time by even so much as one minute.

If I might make a suggestion, I think we will probably find it necessary to be a little hard-boiled about time limits. I approve of having some leeway in the program, but I think it should be for discussion and not to allow someone to double the time allotted to him. In my experience, the best meetings are those in which no opportunity is given for the last speaker to be squeezed off the program just because someone has been too careless to know just how long his paper will take to present. We have had no great difficulties in the meetings of our organization, but I believe it is about time to begin to develop good habits in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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