COPY.

October 21, 1955.

Dr. Arthur Lindsey,
Sir John Cass College,
Jewry Street,
Aldgate,
LONDON, E.C.3.

Dear Dr. Lindsey,

A cutting from the Daily Express newspaper dated Friday, October 14 1955, includes a statement that the London air is polluted with traces of lead, which comes from the chemical put into petrol to prevent knock, and attributes this statement to a finding by your good self.

It is, of course, well known that small particles of lead are to be found in exhaust fumes, and a great deal of work is going on on this line of investigation in Cincinnati, Ohio. The word pollution, as used in the newspaper, does of course give a somewhat false idea of what is in fact happening, and I would seriously doubt, in spite of the increase in the London traffic in recent times, whether the findings of the original government report on Ethyl Petrol, dated 1930, will have been very much affected in consequence.

However, it is very much my concern to be alerted to this problem, and I would be very grateful if you could give me some idea of what is being considered at the present time with regard to lead-containing anti-knock compounds, and their possible effect on the public. If there has been some further work on this particular section of air pollution, I would be grateful if you could give me some information on it.

Yours sincerely,

P.R. BOYD.
Chief Medical Officer.

PRB/jmr

KE 0010232