

October 30, 1962

Mr. N. W. Kirschke
Manager, Engineering Range Department
General Electric Company
Major Appliance Division
Appliance Park
Louisville 1, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Kirschke:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 29th, and to express my regret at the impasse at which we and your people appear to have arrived.

We would have been pleased to have rendered the necessary service to your Company, as we have done hitherto in a number of instances involving other units, and I am sorry, therefore, that this could not be done. My reaction, however, is one of amazement, if not of shock, at the nature of this situation. It is the first time, in our experience of more than thirty-two years, that such a thing has occurred. Not only have we been entrusted with a very considerable number of very valuable items of confidential information, but we have been expected by those who have sought our advice and aid to act in an entirely responsible manner in relation to the public interest. Aside from our technical knowledge and experience, these are the only assets which we possess and they are wholly crucial to our present and future in the field of industrial and public health.

I am nothing short of astonished that the principle of faithfulness to a professional code and to the public interest, which we must sustain, as a matter of fact and of record, is not clearly evident to yourselves and your legal advisors.

I trust that I shall not be regarded as being either argumentative or self-righteous in expressing myself in this vein. This is no such gesture of irritation or piety. Rather, we have been involved in medical and hygienic controversies for many years and we simply cannot afford to be vulnerable to any attack on our public or professional position.

Very truly yours,

N 6791

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

P.S. I shall look into the matter of out-of-pocket expense

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