

June 24, 1955

Mr. Manfred Bowditch
Director of Health and Safety
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York City 17

Dear Manfred:

Thanks for calling my attention to the Riker advertisement in Industrial Medicine and Surgery. Needless to say to you, I do not go along with them in certain of their claims nor in their concept of the use of their product in the manner indicated. However, I have had my say about it in print, in at least one professional meeting, in a fairly vigorous exchange with George Maisson, and in further correspondence with Phil Drinker on the article presented by Dr. Ira Manville in the meeting referred to above (an ACGIH session at Buffalo) and offered for publication in the Archives (which after some rewriting has been accepted). I have made my position as clear as I can and I shall not take further issue.

No doubt I shall have more to say and further opportunities for saying more, since this procedure is certain to be taken seriously and acted upon by a number of people with varying attitudes. You may be interested to know that we are making some observations on the influence of the oral administration of the compound on the fecal and urinary excretion of quite a series of metals, including lead, and on the partition of lead in the blood. Just what our preliminary observations will lead to is anyone's guess, but we shall see what we shall see. As you are aware, I am not interested in polemics. They cost too much in time and stress. I am interested in the facts, and in this connection the letter of Tom Shipman, of which you received a copy, is pertinent. It will not be easy to smother or to ignore the facts as they relate to a therapeutic agent as much in the professional eye as is this one.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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