

February 17, 1969

Mr. Jule Gordon, Chairman
Committee of the Progressive Hair Dye Industry
Room 510-11
60 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Gordon:

Your letter of January 23 has not gone unnoted, but I've been out of the Laboratory most of the time since December 17th, although in touch with my office and secretary continuously, and back in Cincinnati for a few days at a time on two occasions. On both of these, I've been concerned with so many things all at once, seemingly, that only the most urgent items of correspondence have been attended to. I have heard nothing from Dr. Fitzhugh, and I suspect that any decision that could be postponed in Washington Official circles has been postponed during the new regime.

I am sending you herewith a copy of my letter to Dr. Fitzhugh, for there is no reason for withholding it. If I had any reason for delaying (and I had none in any valid sense), it was because I gave him an opportunity, as you will note in the last sentence of my letter, to say anything he might wish to say to me alone, in connection with the entire matter. It is no secret, however, as you will appreciate.

Just what might be the significance of his delay, beyond the suggestion above, I would not attempt to fathom, but I dare say we shall hear from him shortly. It is unlikely, I should think, that any further reorganization within HEW will have affected him.

Cordially yours,

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

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enclosure
Dictated but not read

P.S. I shall be back in Cincinnati, as my headquarters, after March 10th, as matters seem now to be shaping up. I give you the address at which I can be reached directly, should there be any reason for your doing so. Mrs. Kehoe and I are in an apartment (#3) at 947 Green Street, San Francisco, California 94133, where I have an excellent opportunity to work almost uninterruptedly at my desk. The telephone number is (415) 474-5724.

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December 23, 1968

O. G. Fitzhugh, Ph.D.
Toxicological Advisor
Division of Toxicological Evaluation
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Food and Drug Administration
Washington, D.C. 20204

Dear Doctor Fitzhugh:

We have finally completed the investigation of the lead-containing hair dye, and I am sending five copies of a report in which the experiment is described and the results are detailed. A much longer period of time than I anticipated has elapsed since we (you and I) talked together. There were several reasons for the delay, but the most potent of these arose out of my altered status in the Kettering Laboratory. This is of no great consequence to you, and I shall not make further explanation, beyond saying that I am sorry to have been partially responsible for some stress on your patience, as well as that of the people who came to me about this in the first instance.

I shall be interested in your appraisal of the work done and the report rendered. While I shall be out of my office for the next month or so. You can address me as usual and my secretary will forward mail and messages to me, promptly. I shall acquaint her with my full address and telephone number as soon as these details are settled, and should you wish to get into direct touch with me, I hope you will do so.

It is the expectation of the Chairman of the Committee (representing the industry) that he and one or more of his associates, as well as I, will meet with you and such of your associates as may be desirable, at an (early) mutually convenient date, for such discussion as may be required. Obviously, the time and place, as well as the character and substance of the meeting, are yours to determine. If, indeed, for any reason, you should wish to direct questions or comments to me, alone initially, I shall hold myself in readiness to meet your wishes, as far as I am able to do so.

With kind regards,

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

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