

June 12, 1944

Mr. L. B. F. Raycroft, Manager,
Public and Industry Relations,
The Electric Storage Battery Company,
Allegheny Avenue and 19th Street,
Philadelphia 32, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Raycroft:

I am sorry that I missed you in Cincinnati, but I would have been glad to have discussed the proposed survey with you so as to get your ideas. I had long since given up any idea of carrying out this survey, and since I had never received any reply to my several letters to you, I came to the conclusion that you had either disappeared from the scene or that you were no longer interested.

The means of obtaining useful information is not entirely clear to me, and I think before I give you a definite answer on whether we will proceed with the survey, I would like to have the benefit of your ideas as to what kind of a questionnaire could be used to obtain the desired results. I must say to you in all frankness any such experience as I have had with a number of battery manufacturers does not give me to feel that we will get anything like accurate or useful information on medical matters from many of them. Several of them, including yours and those under the general direction of Dr. Belknap are likely to be pretty good. I am convinced that quite a number of them have very little idea of whether they have had lead poisoning and what may have been the number of cases. Unless we can get reasonably accurate information on these points as well as some general knowledge of the rate of production or use of material, it will be very difficult to draw any conclusions.

I realize the restrictions that are likely to be put around information issued by the battery companies, and I am deeply sympathetic with the resentment of these and other people in relation to filling out questionnaires. I am so sick of them myself that I hope I see very few of them the rest of my life. On the other hand, unless we can get reasonably good and complete information, I question the advantage of spending any time or any money on such a problem as this.

Despite the above statement, I am very much interested in knowing the facts. If you can suggest some means by which these might

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be obtained, I should be glad to do what I can to get the survey under way.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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