

C.C.: Dr. A. Wesley Horton (Blind)

May 13, 1957

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. John M. Campbell  
Technical Director, Research Staff  
General Motors Corporation  
Box 138, North End Station  
Detroit 2, Michigan

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I have not heard anything about the status of the general proposal which I made to you (with Dr. A. Wesley Horton) some time ago, or of any consideration which may have been given to it by the Automobile Manufacturers Association. I have understood from a brief and passing conversation with Horton (I've been in and out of the Laboratory so much lately, that I've been unable to talk with any of my staff about anything but bare essentials) that the American Petroleum Institute group has had some idea of interesting the A.M.A. in some of its efforts in this direction. This gave me some concern, since the Medical Advisory Committee to the A.P.I. has had a great deal of trouble getting beyond a survey of the literature (which has been done fairly comprehensively by others and does not need duplication).

It is not my purpose to heckle you, but since I couldn't attend the meeting at Sloan-Kettering, and have taken no action in this matter myself, it occurs to me that if there is anything which I should do now, or plan to do later, to bring matters to some kind of a decision, I'd like to know about it. I am sure that this problem is in for a lot of discussion and for investigation. I am greatly concerned lest what will be done will muddy the waters still further, rather than clarify them, and I have not been impressed by the type of thinking that is going on in a number of circles. I am more than a little disturbed <sup>about</sup> some information obtained in Washington a few days ago which indicates that Dr. Hueper of the National Institutes of Health is on the point of being the guiding hand in the efforts of the Federal Government in this matter. I mention this in confidence and not for quotation and so I have marked this confidential. I firmly believe that the industry (or industries) involved in this would be wise to get their sights directed to the solution on their own behalf, of the relationship, if any, of air-pollution with petroleum hydrocarbons (within certain limits of molecular size and structure), and pulmonary cancer.

In any case, it seems desirable to know where we are in this, and to assure you that we are not disinterested in the outcome of any thought or action which is being taken.

Sincerely yours,

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