

March 9, 1948

Dr. Willard Machle,
714 Chrysler Building,
New York City 17.

Dear Bill:

Thus far I have been unable to get any of the tissues from the body of Seybold. There seems to have been some little difficulty, but I have gone around this and have written directly to Dr. Beven, whom I know, for I suspect that if anything is available, he will not hesitate to let me have it, not as a matter of record, but as professional courtesy. Whatever comes of it will be passed along to you in due course.

I shall be off tomorrow to California where I speak to the State Academy of Medicine on the evening of the 13th. I shall spend several days, but I expect to be back in my office not later than the 25th. I have been dreadfully crowded, and therefore have not been able to prepare the memorandum on various aspects of our medical performance in a competitive field. However, this matter, if not unimportant, has become less important with time, in that I am now wholly convinced that any action taken by Rankin and his group, which would be unsatisfactory from our viewpoint, would be a matter of inexperience and misjudgment rather than of purpose. I have had occasion to deal with Rankin on certain internal situations, and his awareness of the situation, and his willingness to take appropriate action are much advanced over what one would have suspected earlier. All in all I am not particularly disturbed by the situation. Nevertheless, I realize that certain details have to be clarified, and while I have the material on my desk, I have not had a minute's time to do anything that was not absolutely necessary.

I have failed to reply to the several rather important things in your letter of February 6, but I have not neglected them completely. I have talked with Mrs. Campbell about the bibliography which you would like to have, and although she is snowed under with work, she will undertake to help you out in every way that is possible. Her files are up to date, and she will be able to help you considerably. Just how much and how soon will depend on a number of factors, but she manages to get through with a great deal. With reference to xylidine we have an unpublished toxicologic report which might be useful to you, and you are probably aware that Neal and his group have published on this subject. Monomethylaniline is in the same category, and we have some information on it.

As to a summary of the situation with respect to the mishandling of leaded gasoline, in various parts of the world, I have a fair amount of material gathered together, but it has not been summarized. With my present load of work I cannot predict when this will be done.

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Thanks for keeping me informed about Tony Lanza's show.

I expect to hear from Wolf of the A.E.C. in the near future. You will have seen a copy of my letter to Mr. Morse, which states the situation in relation to them.

At present I am not planning to go to the Industrial Congress in England, not because I would not like to, but because I have not the time to do it. I might be compelled to reconsider.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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