

August 20, 1945

Mr. John F. McMahon,
Managing Director,
Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America, Inc.,
4400 Fifth Avenue,
Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. McMahon:

I have your letter of August 10 and I appreciate your interest in what I might have to say about industrial health from the point of view of German practice. Certainly if there was anything of unusual interest to be said, it might be advantageous to present it at the meeting of your Foundation. I am grateful to you for thinking of me in this connection. On the other hand, my somewhat tentative reaction to your suggestion is that it would scarcely be worth taking the time of your meeting to do. People are always interested in strange and unusual experiences, and one might be able to make an interesting talk along this line. However, that is hardly the purpose of your meeting, and I think that there would not be enough meat in it to justify the time taken. I think it is fair to say that there is nothing new or unusual in German practice and procedures in the field of industrial hygiene. From the point of view of industrial toxicology there was somewhat more to offer, but as you may well expect, the investigations in this field were concerned much more with war materials than with normal industrial products. Inasmuch as it would not be possible for me to discuss this phase of the subject, I am afraid there would be very little to say that would have any real usefulness.

Perhaps I am letting the mountain of work now on my desk influence me somewhat in connection with your kind suggestion. It may well be that Meiter will think differently about it, and if he should, I should be willing to have the question reopened if you choose to do it. On the other hand, from what I saw I am convinced you will find him in agreement with me. We have very little to learn from current German practices in industrial hygiene and safety.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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