

MELLON INSTITUTE, 4400 FIFTH AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA. 15213

August 19, 1965

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
Director, The Kettering Laboratory
University of Cincinnati
Eden and Bethesda Avenues
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

This is to thank you again for your kindness in agreeing to meet with Dr. Jensen and me last Saturday to discuss our country's research needs in the area of Environmental Health. It was most interesting and profitable to me to be able to hear you and Dr. Jensen consider the toxicology of lead from different vantage points. Don Fowler's participation was also very helpful, especially in regard to practical considerations concerning research in the lead industry.

From our discussion, it would appear that several approaches are needed:

1. Better observation, evaluation and reporting of environmental and occupational health data on populations whose absorption of lead has been quantitated over a long period of time, using epidemiological techniques to identify and measure any insidious effects on health or to document their absence.
2. Product oriented studies of the trends in environmental health and contamination. The organic lead producers of anti-knock compounds over the past 40 years have pioneered in this area and set an example of what is possible through cooperative efforts between private industry and government. Other examples may also be cited of successful programs in the chemical industry. The most important barriers to progress, may be overcome through improved application of existing knowledge, and our chief need is for improved leadership rather than additional data.
3. Changes in body systems induced by chemical exposure are being studied in a number of university and private laboratories. An overall evaluation should be made of what is being done, in an effort to insure systematic coverage of the most important facets of research, and to help avoid "gaps" which are almost certain to occur otherwise. As mentioned by Dr. Jensen, benefits to be gained include a better understanding of basic human physiology and gen^{et}rophic variations, as in the case of maturation of hemoglobin in the presence of elevated lead levels in the body.

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Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
August 19, 1965
Page 2

Your letter of August 16, summarizing your feelings concerning the role of the US Public Health Service National Environmental Health Sciences Center is appreciated. It will lend considerable support to the recommendations I have made, and I shall be able to use it at the meeting of the Research Triangle Institute panel next week.

It was a real pleasure to see you looking so well after your well-deserved vacation in Colorado. Best wishes to you and Mrs. Kehoe for a safe and interesting trip.

Sincerely yours,



Robert T.P. deTreville, M.D.
Managing Director

deT/dp

P.S. I have just received the copy of the 8mm movie film of you and Mrs. Kehoe in General Hall's office, following your award of the U.S. Air Force Certificate of Appreciation, and it is enclosed. My apologies for the delay. I didn't expect it to take so long.



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