

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN

GREAT ORMOND STREET, LONDON, W.C.1

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GREAT. HOLB. LONDON

25th August, 1964.

Dear Dr. Kehoe,

On my return from holiday Sir Alan Moncrieff has passed your interesting letter to me. It may be that we have not made our point clear. By the "normal range of lead in blood" we mean the levels we found in a series of children exposed to the environmental lead of a city like London but who have not been chewing at all sorts of objects. I would fully appreciate your conclusions about the levels of lead at which clinical evidence of toxicity definitely is apparent. To my mind, much work remains to be done to determine whether there is any evidence of damage as a result of the intake of lead so that the level in the blood lies between that normally found and the higher levels giving clinical toxicity. These borderline cases may be of great significance in the aetiology of mental retardation.

I am of course familiar with your work and already possess reprints of your Harben Lectures. These were kindly given to me by Dr. Camps. They have, of course, been a great source of interest.

I agree with you that the possibility of lead poisoning is an extremely important one in industry and it is certainly of growing importance in paediatrics. I strongly agree that our aim must be to prevent the possibility of children receiving increased intakes of lead.

Thank you very much for the interest you have taken.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Clayton

Barbara E. Clayton, M.D., M.R.C.P., Ph.D.,
Chemical Pathologist.

Copy to Prof. Sir Alan Moncrieff.

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