

W. J. Schlink
March 5, 1956

Mr. Manfred Bowditch
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York City 17

Dear Manfred:

I am sorry to turn a deaf ear to any request of yours or to any call to battle, but I draw the line on Mr. F. J. Schlink. First, he would object to any criticism of mine, which is answer enough to your hope that something might be done to bring him into a more informed state. Second, I could not bring myself to have any dealings with him on the level of scientific or technical association. He is a clever, glib-tongued charlatan. He is not concerned with facts or reason, and you will be wasting your time and effort to write to him. Certainly I would be wasting mine. I have had correspondence with him, initiated by him, and then because he didn't get the right answer from me, he became sarcastic and abusive. After I learn that people belong to the scum I never have anything further to do with them.

I read the sheet you attached to your letter. Inasmuch as milk from cattle or human beings contains lead normally up to levels of concentration of 0.02 mg. per liter, I wonder how we are to keep lead out of the dry or condensed product.

The man is right, of course, to be concerned about lead in milk or in any other food, but he appears not to have the slightest concern for the quantitative aspects of the problem, or for its various facets. He mixes facts and fiction, evidence and gossip, without discrimination, and, as I indicated above, he is not interested in learning, only in being agreed with.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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