

January 16, 1945

Mr. E. C. Farnes, Secretary,
American Industrial Hygiene Assn.,
Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co.,
East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Barnes:

I hasten to reply to your letter of January 12 and the questionnaire. I have marked only questions 3 and 4 and I wish to comment on these as well as questions 1 and 2.

I do not feel that the holding of our convention in April can be regarded as essential. It may be desirable and it would certainly serve a number of useful purposes. The only question, therefore, is whether the useful purposes outweigh the disadvantages, and that in my opinion can only be answered by those who are determining what and how much is to be accomplished by the reduction of travel. Consequently I am in favor of making application, and merely stating the several advantages that will accrue to experimental workers and professional personnel in having a meeting. I would not be disposed to make any very strong representations but merely to state the facts.

With reference to the A.M.A. and its attitude toward the Congress on Industrial Health, I do not see that our opinions or reactions need be influenced thereby. If various groups begin jockeying with each other on the subject of who should and who should not have meetings in relation to their relative importance, there will be a series of cat and dog fights. I do not see that this has anything to do with the issue. I think this is not a matter for us to decide or for us to have strong feeling about. Personally, I should be relieved of a great deal of work that I do not have time to do if the convention is cancelled. However, I do not want this personal feature to enter into the issue. Our effort should be in the direction of the most complete cooperation with the government. This involves our giving them all of the information that is necessary to decide the issue.

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As to the possibility of regional meetings, I am not very enthusiastic. These are possibilities, however, and could be arranged for and carried out if it seemed desirable.

I think this covers my general reactions, and therefore I need not say anything further under the heading of question 5.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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