

January 6, 1949

Dr. A. S. Lecklider,
Fisher Bodies Plant 23,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Doctor Lecklider:

I am in receipt of your telegram of January 6. I am replying by letter since I cannot comply with your request (since I do not have reprints of the Boston Symposium), and since it occurs to me that your purposes might better be served otherwise. This last point calls for some explanation.

I judge from your request that you would like to have the best available information on occupational lead poisoning for the use of physicians with whom you are associated in your work. If this is the case, I think you will find better material available elsewhere. On this account I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the Report of the Committee of the American Public Health Association, which in my opinion is by far the best and most authoritative discussion of occupational lead poisoning that is to be found in the English language. The Committee, of which I had the honor to be chairman, reviewed this whole situation carefully and made its report in 1943. The composition of the Committee was such that almost every point of view was represented, and controversial material was largely excluded. Some few significant contributions have been made to the subject since the issuance of this report, but little or no new material was introduced at the Boston meeting. Actually it would have been quite impossible to cover the subject adequately in such a meeting as that which was held in Boston, and it would be agreed by all concerned that a number of subjects were not even touched upon.

I do not have all of the reprints of the papers given at that conference, but I am sending you a copy of my contribution to the Symposium. It is entirely possible that the combined reprints can be obtained from the editors of Occupational Medicine, and if you like, I shall try to find out whether this is the case so as to see if the reprints that you have requested can be obtained. You may have some specific purpose in mind that I am not aware of, and possibly this could be done. On the other hand, I think the report would serve your purposes better, and I can send you 25 copies of the report (the green booklet sent under separate cover). Or, alternatively, you can obtain them from the office of the American Public Health Association at the address indicated, at a cost of 75 cents per copy.

Another possibility is that I could send you 25 sets of reprints giving various of the papers of this Laboratory. I send a series of these, although not all of them, as examples of the type of

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information that is available. I do not mean to suggest by this that all of the recent contributions to the subject have been made in this Laboratory, but I think it is fair to say that the most important of them have had that origin. We are preparing a series of papers on the lead metabolism, which will deal with the problem of deleading, and a number of other similar practical problems, and reprints of these can be made available as they appear. Incidentally, for your information, since this matter has been in controversy for a much longer period than it deserves, we have established beyond any doubt, that deleading cannot be successfully accomplished by any of the means that have been recommended for that purpose. In fact, it is quite clear at this time, that the only therapeutic agent which has any appreciable effect on the lead metabolism is EAL. Unfortunately, there is no evidence that its use for this purpose contributes in any material way to the advantageous treatment of lead poisoning.

If you will let me know your wishes with respect to any of these reports and reprints, I should be glad to do my best to carry them out.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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Reprints under separate cover.

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REPRINTS "CONFERENCE ON LEAD POISONING BOSTON 1946" IF
YOUR OFFICE PLEASE ADVISE WHERE OBTAINABLE SEND

DR A S LECKLIDER
FISHER BODIES PLANT 23
DETROIT MICHIGAN

should be obtained from A.M.A., 535 N. Dearborn St.,

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