

DR. WILLIAM R. GERAGHTY

~~302 EAST PRISTON STREET~~
10 E. Biddle Street
BALTIMORE

April 1, 1938

Doctor Robert A. Kehoe
Laboratory of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Doctor Kehoe:

Attached you will find the requested reprint of the lead case.

I am appreciative of your interesting comment on the administered dose of lead acetate. As far as I can determine, the pill containing one grain each of lead and opium (which is not official) is the only one made by the manufacturing pharmacists and has become the accepted dose. Osler, 6th edition, 1906, gave doses of two grains of lead acetate in treating the diarrhea of typhoid and five grains was commonly employed in England in the first half of the last century in treating intestinal tuberculosis. Cushny, 4th edition, gave one to five grains.

The prolonged use of the lead enormously raised the sum total administered to this patient and I quite agree with you that it would have produced saturnism in a healthy individual. However, with the existing diarrhea and a resection of part of the intestinal tract as in the reported case, lessened intestinal absorption of the lead would be expected. Yet, lowered vitality from active tuberculosis would make him more liable to lead poisoning than the healthy individual.

Please put me on your mailing list for reprints of anything you may publish.

Respectfully yours,

William R. Geraghty

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