

DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY
CORNELL UNIVERSITY MEDICAL COLLEGE
1300 YORK AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

July 22, 1946.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
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Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

The points raised in your letter of July 16th touch upon aspects of editorial policy which are certainly important. I take it that you feel that Dr. Deichmann's paper ought to be published even if it contains only confirmatory data. To this I am inclined to agree, especially in regard to information relating to a compound of such practical importance as DDT. The best outlet for such papers is another question.

As you know it is the policy of The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics to devote space only to original observations of pharmacologic interest. These may concern new drugs, mechanisms of action, or therapeutic effects, but should represent some advance in the field of pharmacology.

As I remember Dr. Deichmann's paper it does contain some new points of pharmacologic interest, but since some of these were side issues as you indicate they might need to be more fully documented before publication. Toxicity data and evidence bearing on the mode of action, if confirmatory of other work, would need to be presented very briefly or perhaps given only passing mention.

I agree that evidence bearing on the toxicity of DDT is of great interest at the present time, but confirmatory work of this nature might be more appropriately published in other journals more concerned with practical applications such as the Journal of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology. We have the same problem in connection with work done in this laboratory. I suppose that during the past two years experi-

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ments on toxicity and mode of action of DDT have utilized more than a thousand cats, but the work falls so closely in line with results already reported that I doubt if we shall submit it for publication. The work was none the less worthwhile since it served a purpose when information was needed by the armed forces and is doubtless now reflected in present civilian applications.

In conclusion let me say that I hope that Dr. Deichmann's work will be published. I believe that it records facts which could form the basis of a paper for The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, perhaps with some additional evidence along the lines suggested by Dr. Wallace.

Sincerely yours,

McKeen Cattell
McKeen Cattell

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