

CONFIDENTIAL

July 31, 1951

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. George A. Benington
Mr. W. W. Cooke
Mr. Clyde D. Marlatt
Mr. William Harode

Mr. O.Y. Tarr
Mr. A. E. Van Vort
Mr. T. C. Waters

On July 24th I had a conference with Dr. Scheele, the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service concerning the proposed publication of a report of the clinical examination of employees of the chromate plant in Ohio.

Just previously, I had a discussion on this same subject with Dr. Miller, who is head of the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the Public Health Service, and he told me that he and his staff felt the same way about the Harper-Mancuso report as I did.

There were present at the conference besides Dr. Scheele, Dr. Williams, Assistant Surgeon General in charge of States Relations, Dr. Miller, and myself. I made a brief statement pointing out to Dr. Scheele that the report in question, while it represented a lot of painstaking and detailed work, contained a considerable number of assumptions which were purely a matter of opinion and that the publication of such assumptions would give rise to a great deal of misapprehension and false impressions. I stressed further that both the Public Health Service and other agencies depended upon the cooperation of industry in order to successfully pursue their investigations in the general field of industrial health and that if they needlessly antagonized industry, they would be unable to count upon such cooperation. I also suggested that all studies of industrial plants be handled by the personnel of the Division of Industrial Hygiene so as to obviate having representatives from different Federal agencies visiting an establishment for the same purpose. I pointed out that the Division of Industrial Hygiene had a year of experience in this work and had built up through the years a high degree of confidence on the part of industry which greatly facilitated their work. Dr. Miller stated that the Harper-Mancuso report contained statements at variance with the report shortly to be published by his Division which contained the results of their studies of chromate plants.

The Surgeon General pointed out that he had no control over anything that Dr. Mancuso, who heads up the Division of Industrial Hygiene in the State of Ohio, might wish to publish but he did have such jurisdiction over the officers in his own Department.

Dr. Scheele finally stated that he would not make a decision himself but would refer the matter to Dr. Sobrell who heads up the National Institute of Health and to Dr. Williams, the Assistant Surgeon General. The National Cancer Institute is one

of the component parts of the National Institute of Health, all of which is a Division of the Public Health Service.

Our conference was very pleasant and I suspect that the subject matter was not entirely new to either Dr. Scheele or Dr. Williams. I will keep you informed if I hear anything further.

A.J. Linco, M.D.

4/11/46

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