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March 25, 1938

Dr. A. C. Cranch
Union Carbide Company
30 East 42nd Street
New York City

51539

Dear Dr. Cranch:

I have just returned from a vacation to find your letter of March 3rd referring to the proposed study of the effect of manganese dioxide upon susceptibility to pneumonia. With certain modifications, your proposals are agreeable and satisfactory.

It will not be possible for us to expose animals to two concentrations of manganese dust simultaneously as this would necessitate devoting two dust chambers to this puspose. If you desire to use both low and high concentrations, we will have to make one after the other.

You suggest that we keep track of fertility, the blood picture and the urine. I do not think this would add much information and there are very good reasons for believing it might offer difficulties. We do not allow any of the animals exposed to dust to breed as this introduces a factor whose effect is hard to evaluate. Furthermore, it tends to overcrowd the cages, which we seek to avoid.

Blood counts in guinea pigs are of no value unless they are repeated at very frequent intervals and continued over long periods. These small rodents show great individual variation and occasional counts on different animals would be of no significance. It would prove too expensive an undertaking to warrant our doing so for the compensation which you propose.

Urine examinations cannot be made in these small animals unless we resort to catherization and this I would hesitate to do because of the danger of infection. One cannot use metabolism cages for the collection of urine in a dust room. I would therefore suggest that this item be omitted.

Your other proposals are entirely satisfactory except that I might add that the tissues of all animals will be examined microscopically and that bacteriological studies

will be made of the lungs of any animals which show evidence of pneumonia.

With these modifications, the Saranac Laboratory will undertake the study which you propose for the sum of $5,000 plus an additional sum of $2,000 to cover the cost of erecting another dust room.

The snow is gone and the ground is sufficiently soft so that we could start excavating at any time. We will be ready to start the experiments as soon as we receive your authorization.

With very best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Leroy U. Gardner, M.D.
Director

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