

June 18, 1938

Mr. Lester B. Roberts
Casilla de Correo No. 1704
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dear Mr. Roberts:-

Thanks for your letter of June 7th and for its information concerning Chile, Brazil and Venezuela. I wrote Dr. Weiss some time ago, accepting his resignation with regret but suggesting that if he found it impossible to continue in his work, that he might return to you the volume with articles on lead poisoning for your future use for his successor. I hope the situation is as you suggest, namely that Dr. Weiss has resigned merely because of inactivity, for in that event he will probably be willing to resume his relationship with us if and when the commercial situation justifies it. That would be the ideal solution of the problem. If you have occasion to see him, I hope you will assure him that I do not want him to return the book to you if he really wishes to keep it.

Concerning the article which you enclosed with your letter, it is scarcely fair to say that it is a comprehensive statement of the situation and that it shows a very profound understanding of the problem. In fact I should be disposed to think that it is the work of a somewhat dogmatic and somewhat inexperienced person. Although most of the facts stated are essentially correct, the emphasis is distinctly incorrectly placed. You may find that the two authors of this article are quite well informed and that they will be able to put you in touch with a satisfactory consultant for us, but I suggest that you go rather slowly since I should prefer to have a soundly trained doctor with no preconceptions about the problem than to have a somewhat poorly informed person who starts out by regarding himself as an expert in this field. Sound judgment with respect to lead exposure is based only on experience, and I should be very skeptical as to the wisdom of engaging a man who knew the subject only from the literature,

and had not had sufficient experience to temper his judgment.

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With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

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Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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