

FREDERICK S. McKAY, D.D.S.

9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York

June 5, 1939

My dear Dean -

Apparently your report on caries in relation to Fluorine has stirred up some excitement, particularly in California. I don't know whether any of the repercussions have reached you yet but it seems that it has somehow come to the attention of Mr. Hearst who wants to know what about it: fluorine causes mottled enamel; mottled teeth are less subject to decay than normal; so we are going to feed fluorine to children to stop decay and so bring on mottled enamel!

At any rate he wired one of his men here to look into it for the purpose of an article to appear in his chain of publications and we had a confab this afternoon, accompanied by a man from Public Relations Committee from First District Dental Society.

I will probably have a chance to go over what he writes before he sends it in for publication.

I gave him the two articles you sent me a few days ago on the Illinois survey and Fluorine in Relation to Caries, so please send me another copy of each.

Best regards,

Frederick S. McKay

Duplicate

June 7, 1939

Dr. F. S. McKay,
9 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N. Y.

(Through the Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases)

Dear Doctor McKay:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of June 5, 1939 referring to the lay interest in the publication of May 26th relative to the possible relation of domestic water and dental caries. I fail to see why there should be such a public interest in a paper that reaches no conclusions and makes no recommendations.

I know, however, that you will handle the matter in your usual conservative manner and trust that the publicity pertaining to this work will be held to the barest minimum.

In accordance with your request two reprints of this study are enclosed. With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

H. T. Dean,
Dental Surgeon, USPHS

HTD:PEL
Enclosures
Respectfully forwarded:

R. E. Dyer, Chief
Division of Infectious Diseases