School of Hygiene and Public Health
310-312 West Monument Street

Baltimore, Md.

April 5, 1922.

Dr. Louis I. Dublin,
American Public Health Association,
1 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Doctor Dublin:

I have your letter of March 30th, and have just finished going over the summary reports which accompanied it.

The first criticism I would make of the reports sent is that they are too long and that eighty cities abstracted in this manner will make too great a bulk of material.

In reading the reports over I have wondered whether or not it is advisable to comment either favorably or unfavorably upon the situation as it exists in the individual city. I feel that Doctor Emerson's comments, while in the main sound and justified, are in a sense a violation of our promise to keep individual and specific information confidential. The implied criticism of the present health commissioner of New York and similar statements will, I am sure, cause an unfavorable reaction.

While I agree with you that it is difficult to avoid a "dull uniformity" of statement, we must remember that the function of the Committee is to study present practice in health administration and not to give gratuitous advice to individual cities. I hesitate to speak so unfavorably of what impresses me as really a very valuable and delightful set of summaries. For my own reading I should enjoy very much seeing the complete set but for the purposes of the Committee I think a more direct statement of facts in regard to each city is essential.

I am devoting practically all of my time now to working over the material you sent me and am much interested in it. I foresee only one difficulty and that is that each subject offers such inviting opportunities for study that it is going to be difficult to bring them within any reasonable compass.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) A. W. Freeman, M.D.,