

February 28, 1940

Mr. J. B. Kille
Maryland Casualty Company
220 Seybold Building
Miami, Florida

Dear Mr. Kille:

After seeing various people in Jacksonville on last Saturday, and obtaining certain items of information which I required, I made it a point to call on Dr. Oetgen. Dr. Oetgen was somewhat disturbed by the information which I gave him and he was also somewhat disturbed that he had had no previous information which would lead him to believe that the situation of the type which developed in the case of Mr. [REDACTED] could occur as a consequence of cleaning gasoline storage tanks. I was able to assure him that this was not at all surprising since such cases had been quite rare. However I promised to send him two articles which give complete descriptions of the clinical picture in tetraethyl lead poisoning. Unfortunately I neglected to jot down his address so that I am sending these articles to you with the request that you forward them to him with my compliments.

Our investigation of this unfortunate occurrence is proceeding systematically and in comparatively short order I hope to have all of the loose ends so as to formulate a conclusive and comprehensive picture. My investigations at Jacksonville have established beyond any reasonable doubt that the lead which we found in the samples analyzed was actually present in these tissues prior to death. I feel that there is no doubt that this man's death was due to a serious exposure to tetraethyl lead.

My conversation with the physicians in Jacksonville has convinced me that none of them have any axe to grind in the matter, and indeed they quite promptly agreed to hold up any further discussion of the case until the complete details could be worked out. I found no evidence that any of these men had any other than a perfectly normal and proper professional point of view about the matter.

Very truly yours,

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Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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