

8-17-33

R: Mr. [redacted], (age 53) - agent for Johnson Co.
North Judson, Ind. North Judson, Ind.

Mr. Kell^r, proprietor of Keller's Service Station at North Judson, and [redacted] of Mr. [redacted] customers gave the following information - he is 48 yrs of age and has lived in N. Judson all his life and knew Mr. Hawkey well.

Mr. [redacted] the agent for Johnson Oil Co in that territory has lived in [redacted] since all his life - he Johnson Oil Co for 8-9 yrs and knows to that a tank wagon driver & salesman for Standard Oil Co (Ind.) He had always appeared healthy - had a large family (8 or 9 children) two of whom are married - and was well known about the town. Six weeks ago Keller said he became sick "had sore throat" & went to bed - he was later able to get up to help but soon developed a weakness that kept him in bed. Keller said he had "creeping paralysis from too much rest" and in his opinion did not have pt. poisoning. For a time doctors did not know trouble (Dr Fisher has been his doctor there - out) but soon started treating him for lead intoxic. Keller said then he developed pain in lower abdomen, cramp, diarrhea. He was treated,

Keller asked patient if he had any pain and he said at no time did he have a myoclonus, tremor, or pain in joints - mentally he was clear. Dr R B Jones, La Porte, Ind. saw him on one occasion and did some lab work. Keller said patient kept rubbing hands together while waiting, him there while he could flex & extend arms & legs he could not grasp anything & hold a glass - He could only sit up on side of bed momentarily and if he tried to stand would immediately fall to floor - Keller said that only in the disease the patient said he was never going to get well - Towards the last he became drowsy, wanted to sleep much of the time and had to be aroused - when aroused he was mentally clear - said he called his family in as a group & then individually & told them what to do and promptly died. (Today one son is delivering gasoline in the company truck & has just stopped at station).

M. Keller knows little else - states Dr Foster is one of town doctors about 50 yrs of age - been there for years.

Dr Foster who saw patient thru-out illness states:-
About six weeks ago patient had a severe pain in lower abdomen, some indigestion & diarrhea from which he recovered - generally that had been healthy as was family -

A few evenings later gone & some of family to a pasture
parently to hunt mushrooms when he had a similar intestinal
disturbance - he went home - to bed - seen by Dr Fisher and
on then one became worse - he immediately became weak and
could never walk without help - Dr Fisher said he developed a
hot & foot dry and that at all times his weakness was only in
arms and legs - ^{after} about 21 weeks when he did not improve he was
sent to Dr R.B. Jones at La Porte Ind who did some lab work

and was reported as : uricacyrus - neg -
Hemoglobin - 55%.

stiff cells - not enough
to consider abnormal

uricemia (blood) on two occasions - neg -

uric - neg for Ht.

was anything other than above findings present to indicate it as cause.

now Dr Jones only once & came town & to Ted - the R had
a milk, K I, & provided for themselves - this was stopped and
supporters threatened given to end. On one occasion Jettied saw a
propagator who made him feel worse & again when Dr Foster was away
saw a Dr Oakes in a neighboring town on one occasion who gave him
a bad time at the time. Dr Foster said that in his opinion

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was getting too much Arsenic as when he saw him a few days later
seems were very pretty & he had several G.I. trouble & he attributes
early seed fairly to this (?) when taken off he soon felt
in (a F. I. he said to me - tell him this with the understanding it would not be repeat

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The patient became worse in a few days & became drowsy -
mentally clear when aroused - Dr Fisher saw him within a few
minutes of when he died & talked to him & talked to the
family a few minutes before death - Immediate cause of death
was not known - said "he just died".

(Test entered the picture at outset when patient said he came in
contact w/ ethyl gasoline & Dr Fisher said since he has fairly typical
neurological findings he called it due to lead but never intimated
it being gotten in gasoline).

Dr Fisher had no history & written notes on the case and had not done
any blood work or spinal fluid - An autopsy was not done -
The doctor did not urgently request one and he states the family
would strongly oppose one - What lab. work was done which was little
(only on one occasion) can be had from Dr R. B. Jones, Holy Family Hosp.
La Porte Ind.

if it is necessary in the future to obtain same.

Dr Fisher states he wants no court action & that as much
as he has no proof for a diagnosis of lead poisoning he has
signed "multiple sclerosis" as cause of death.