

July 29, 1964

William Weingarten, M.D.
Nassau Smelting and Refining Company
1 Nassau Place
Staten Island 7, New York (10307)

Dear Doctor Weingarten:

I am sending herewith a further report of the findings obtained by the analysis of the urine and blood of six (6) employees of Nassau Smelting and Refining Company.

As you will note, one member of this group, [REDACTED] is now in a dangerous situation, from the aspect of the absorption of lead, and should be removed from all further occupational exposure to lead until the concentration of lead in his blood shall have returned to the upper normal limits.

I may not have discussed with you the problem, which at times is a troublesome one, of informing a man that he is to be transferred to a different job in order to terminate his exposure to lead, at least temporarily. The actual change of employment, which, hopefully, can be affected without change of status or compensation, is, of course, a responsibility of the management. However, the man should be informed of the nature of the situation by the physician, who can and should make clear to him that this is a procedure of preventive medicine, whereby he can avoid being subjected to the risk of becoming ill. We have never seen any ill effects from this procedure, even after it has been repeated on several occasions in the case of the same workman. Obviously, it is important that the situation which results in endangering a man (or men) should be corrected at the earliest possible time. Otherwise, the frequent transfer of men from one job to another is likely to have a profound effect upon the conduct of the work and the morale of the workmen. There is also, of course, the further difficulty that in some types of industrial operations, there are few places to which a man can be transferred with safety and satisfaction. An artificially created job, which enables a man to be kept on the payroll, is no answer to this problem.

There is one other feature of this (and other) reports, to which I should, perhaps, call your attention. You will note that the concentration of lead in the urine does not correspond, comparatively, with that in the blood. This is not astonishing, actually, but it causes concern to some people. The fact is that the concentration of lead in the urine, from day to day and hour to hour, varies appreciably with a number of factors, while that in the blood is stable, changing only gradually upward or downward, with the overall level of the exposure of the individual to lead, and being, to a very large extent (since the blood is one of the tissues) an indication of the general level of the lead content of the entire body. The urine, on the other hand, tends to reveal the current, daily level of absorption. On this basis, you see variability, but you also see a generally high level of daily exposure to lead.

KE 0018723

William Weingarten, M.D. - (2) - July 29, 1964

I am off, after tomorrow, for a month's vacation in the mountains in Montana, and I shall not be available until September second. However, any further analyses which you may require, can be carried out in my absence.

Cordially yours,

RAK:vr

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

Encl.

KE 0018724

Material: Urine and Blood

Submitted: 7-13-64 by Dr. Robert A. Kehoe for Dr. Wm. Weingarten, Nassau Refining Company, 1 Nassau Place, Staten Island 7, New York 10

Required: Lead Analyses

Name	URINE			BLOOD		
	Analysis Number	Volume ml.	Mg. Pb/Liter	Analysis Number	Spectrographic Weight Grams	Mg. Pb/100 G.
[REDACTED] <i>Stacy</i>	64A-3773	116	0.27	64A-3774	14.4	0.06
[REDACTED]	64A-3775	109	0.16	64A-3776	10.1	0.045
[REDACTED]	64A-3777	133	0.10	64A-3778	14.7	0.065
[REDACTED]	64A-3779	110	0.14	64A-3780	16.9	0.05
[REDACTED] <i>Walt</i>	64A-3781	30	0.18	64A-3782	16.1	0.12
[REDACTED] <i>Walt</i>	64A-3783	112	0.12	64A-3784	9.8	0.06

*One tube; both analyses run from same sample.

Interpretation

The analytical findings, especially those in the blood of [REDACTED] that he has absorbed a dangerous amount of lead. His occupational exposure to be terminated summarily.

[REDACTED] are near the threshold of danger. Their exposure to lead should be reduced in intensity, or duration, by their transfer involving less exposure to lead, or by shortening their work-day or work-week.

The three other men are in no danger at present, although both blood and evidence of their occupational exposure to and absorption of lead.

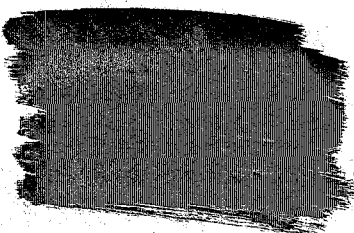
Signed: *[Signature]*

KETTERING LABORATORY
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
EDEN AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45219

July 29, 1964

To: Massau Smelting and Refining Co.
1 Nassau Place
Staten Island 7, New York
Attn: William Weingarten, M.D.

For: Reimbursement of the Kettering Laboratory for the
analyses of the urine and blood of the following
employees for the determination of lead



12 analyses at \$12.50 each . . . \$150.00

KE 0018726

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