

RAGNAR J. NESS, M. D.
354 METROPOLITAN BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO

March 11, 1941

Dr. Willard Mackle
5940 Winton Rd.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Bill:

Thanks for the letter. I was very happy to hear from you. It looks like Cincinnati has been in the spotlight the past few days with airplane crashes and janitors refusing to turn on the heat. I lost no time in looking over the list of casualties in the airplane accident and was pleased to find your name missing.

You probably are anxious to know how [REDACTED] is progressing, and I must say right now that his convalescence since leaving the hospital has been uneventful. At this time he has no complaints to speak of. He has gained over ten pounds in weight in the past week with a good return of his appetite and strength. He has had no trouble in sleeping since coming home. A few days ago he went to Idaho Springs, where he took some hot mineral baths together with drinking a lot of so-called "radium water". The day following he felt well but had a return of the metallic taste to quite a marked degree. Do you think there is any connection?

Just yesterday I presented his case to the students at the school, and we had a very interesting clinic on lead poisoning. Cummings also presented a mild case that he had picked up from a similar plant operating in Englewood, Colorado. His exposure was through cutaneous absorption and had about 0.36 Mm Pb/Liter of Urine.

KF 0021303

RAGNAR J. NESS, M. D.
354 METROPOLITAN BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO

Dr. Willard Mackle - 2

I expect to present this case to the local Medical Society sometime next month. What do you think about me writing it in the form of a paper including the other men that were exposed? With the data that you have, about all I would have to do is copy it and get credit for an article, unless you had planned on doing the same thing yourself. Any suggestions that you might have will certainly be appreciated.

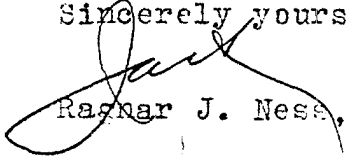
[REDACTED] specimen is, most likely, in your hands by now and I am anxiously awaiting to hear what you find his level to be at this time. I hope that the container was satisfactory; if not, advise me what type of bottle I should use for collection of future samples. How about a blood specimen?

The other boys have not put in an appearance since you left, but I have heard from Loehr that they are more or less symptomless. Brice was in the other day and advised me that he was making some alterations in the old plant with the thought that he would reopen for operations as soon as he could get some idea as to how stiff the code would be. From what I can gather the local attorneys for the Ethyl Corporation are on his trail.

I have been hoping to inherit some new lead difficulties in order to get you out here again so that we could renew our friendship with old Judge McKenna. Ruth is gaining steadily every day and it won't be long before she is her normal self.

Awaiting to hear from you soon, I am

Sincerely yours,


Ragnar J. Ness, M. D.

RJN/emb

KE 0021304