

912 Broadway
Bayonne
N.J.

September 4.1954.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
The Kettering Laboratory,
Eden Avenue,
Cincinnati,
Ohio.

Dear Doctor;

I have received your kind letter. I am glad that you teach Industrial Medicine for if ever it was needed it is now. I say this, for I have investigated many cases similar to mine and we are all unable to work or just damned rotten fakirs trying to shirk our duty.

I have been from doctor to doctor and all they do is take my money and will not certify that my illness is due to the inhalation of fumes and dusts. Even when the diagnosis proves it.

Fibrosis IS A SYNDROME OF METALLIC POISONING. When these doctors know that I did not need medical attention before 1941, why do they doubt the fact that I inhaled both abrasive dusts and toxic fumes?

I know the subject is controversial but I also feel if there is a doubt it should be on the side of the worker affected.

The Bendiner reports. I was taken before Dr. Martland the noted pathologist and he on looking at the Lab reports told the doctor who took me there that there was a mistake. What the mistake is I have not been told.

Lead fumes so dense that the air was blue down two and three and lower decks where there was no ventilation what ever. The air was stagnant. Men who used blowers could not find enough tubing to discharge the fumes into atmosphere and if they did find the tubes the air resistance in the tubes would be so great as to make the portable blower useless. They nearly always if they did find a portable blower-discharge the fumes from one compartment, into another where men were not working. Often they would just leave the tubes lay on the deck thinking that this method would discharge the fumes.

We were told again and again that the fumes were harmless as you will note in the file. *Page 5-*

The Psychiatrists. It seems that when a doctor is stumped he sends his patient to a psycho and the psycho scares hell out of the victim so much so, that he gives up and saves his dough.

One thing I cannot get straight in my head, is that, when I did see one (on my own hook) he asked me if I experienced nausea? I told him no. Yet many nights I would get up and take bi carbonate and aspirin or lemon to keep from vomiting. The bed seemed to be low at the head. I tried it with levels etc., to my wife's consternation and yet when the ~~next~~ psycho asked me if I found lying in position uncomfortable I told him no.

When he asked me if I vomited I said no. Yet I did so many times even after I tried to prevent it.

I went to Dr. Wally. I told him the same things and then when I realized what I was doing I tried to convince him that something was wrong that I did experience these things. Dr. Wally, as one could assume, looked upon the letter with skepticism.

Every doctor I go to it's chest and heart? Chest and Heart, nothing about the weakness I experience many times during the day the near blackouts from weakness and this past year I have sat down coming in from my rounds and really passed out. This often. Not a faint. Just close my eyes and hear nothing. Nothing about the weakness of my muscles which could prove lead damage and I have not yet been able to get near a neurologist or a toxicologist. Just as soon as I say welding fumes that is enough.

hospitals will not take me in for observation or treatment of abrasive dusts inhalation of metallic fumes. Dr Bergsma of the N.J. Health Dept passes the buck. He did send a representative Dr Marie Senna and she got out from under as soon as she can. She promised to see that I got a copy of her report. It is a procedure, yet I never heard from her nor do I get any responses to my mail other than Dr Bergsma will help any hospital ~~xxx~~ in any Lab work they may ask him for. When I showed them, the hospitals, the letter, they laughed and asked me why he did not see I got to a hospital and got the aid he is pledged to give me.

He will not designate a hospital that will take me in. The results are that I have heavily fibrosed lungs and a bad heart. My muscles are shot and one doctor suggested anemia. There are so many pains and aches that doctors laugh when you tell them of your experiences.

If a guy is not Koo Koo he soon ought to be after receiving this kind of treatment from men who should be more serious.

Dr Jaffin in his report (in the file) takes a nasty stab at me. I have never tried to skin an insurance carrier out of a nickel although on two occasions I did make it miserable for them. Once getting Gov. Al Smith to amend the compensation law of N.Y. after many hundreds of us were denied compensation pending the Insana Decision at Washington. *THIGHT*

INTORY -
Dr Lanza, was swell to me. He read two Xrays of the chest. Report in file. My teeth? The dentist took the impressions at different times I told him to take them at once while my jaws were set. I would get up looking like a chink my eyes slant or my face contorted. Result the uppers have broken three times because the bite is off and now I cement them together with adhesive tape. It works.

The teeth mottled-I have saved.

I have these Xrays and exhibits. A Doctor Potter. Examined many Xrays taken by the T.B. Clinic. Every time the navy took one I contrived to get one at the T.B. realizing that if the navy tried to connive I would have the set at the Clinic for evidence.

Dr Potter lost them as well as pelvis xrays that showed markings that Drs could not diagnose. Some years ^{LATER} I had pelvis Xrays taken again and the marking are still there but not so pronounced. *THE NAVY LOST THEIR SET. PAGE 87*
I do have an Xray taken in 42 that shows there was a definite change in the years after.

When I started to protest in the dispensaries at the navy yard and I had the attack where my vocal chords were badly frayed as if mice were chewing on them (that is what Dr Feinberg said in describing my ailment) He put me to bed on quiet treatment. No talking not even whispering or I would lose my voice. See his certificate File.

Then the medical and the Hygiene depts started to wonder and from that time every man had peripidical xrays The pipe coverers of whom I was one got one every six months. The sick passes in file were given to me and four other men who had to go to Brooklyn from Bayonne for five days with sputum and *T.B.* check ups. One had heart one was discharged with T.B. and I had an old pleurisy. The man with T.B. went up N.Y. State. I read where T.B. bugs cannot survive under fluoride and wrote Gorker who gave it to his doctor and after more rigid examinations it was decided Gorker did not have T.B. See his letters in file Health of Arc Welders. This book was mentioned to me at the Marine Hospital. In the A.M.A. Journal 9/11/48 appeared an article page 156 boosting this book to the HighHeavens. The Journal states that the book proves that men are not made ill from welding fumes. Yet the book is full of apologies for ignoring many vital tests and observations. I think I have properly revealed this book and will send you a copy of my review if you care for it.

Now take the Kaiser Ship yards investigation. Here is something very different. Even these doctors apologise for not doing a thorough job but the job they did do, was so important that the state of Oregon changed their Comp Laws making all illnesses due to work compensable. *BUT WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO?*

In Jersey we fought for all coverage but what good does it do us after got it? Either the doctors do not want to help us or in many more instances they do not know an industrial case when they see one. The law says they should report these cases but they don't.

The U.S. State Dept states that less than 3% increase in insurance damages have resulted since the changes in the law of various states. No wonder.

Now I waxing pesi mist.

You said you might be able to help me.

Boy you got a mouth full. If you care to take the time to go thru this stuff. I am so serious about this, that I am accumulating data that I hope soon to put in a book for the benefit of laymen, men and women who are sick and do not know why? Lets take Tricloroetheylene. This solvent is bad enough

when used in tanks for cleaning but the other night I used a drill press in the shop where I am a watchman and I find that the stuff is blended in with the cutting oil. Here we have finger contact as well as the heat of the drill sending up fumes.

I can send you the xrays I have, also the copy of the Kaiser shipyards investigation of which there are two pages in the file page 24 and 24a.

I can send you my teeth with the xrays or them while in my jaws.

The rest you have in the file. I have indexed and cross indexed the contents for quick reference.

What I want is a certificate that will state my condition is caused by close proximity to my work. You will note that Dr Halpin chief medical examiner for the U.S. Employees Comp Comm., states I was not a welder. I did not have to be. We often held clamps etc for the welder to tack. We worked right over him or near him. We worked on while the room was so full of smoke the welder would walk out for a blow and come back when the atmosphere was cleared up. How? Mostly by filtration thru the lungs of the mechanics, tin smiths, pipefitters, carpenters, painters etc., working in the compartments.

I have submitted certificate after certificate and all the response I get is similar to pages 61 62 & 63.

I will pay you but it will have to be on instalments. I am only a watchman. I am unable to do any strenuous work but as it is I climb after four trips the height of a 24 story building and walk ~~four~~ 16 blocks up a steep incline.

The doctor at the plant who examined me gave me a break. He told me under no circumstances was I to move fast or run. I had plenty of time to make the round and to take all of it. That ~~is~~ I had only a certain amount of reserve energy and to use it would mean collapse.

I will also make a bargain with you.

I feel certain, ^{after} ruling out all possibilities of a phobia or possession or hallucination that I am a victim of abrasive dusts and welding fumes.

I will will ^{to} your college my body after death for your complete analysis of brain bone and tissue on condition that no part of it is to be preserved but that every part of it will be returned to my son who will have it cremated and under the further conditions that all findings will benefit my wife (with whom I do not live. She could not stand my uncalled for temper) and son and ^{RESORTS} shall be the property of all medical men and not the property of a chosen few.

Very truly

Charles W. Hancock

Charles W. Hancock

P.S. Those Doctors who should be able to help you most are Doctors Largay, Feinberg and Greicco whos addresses are in the file. or Dr Arthur Largay 935 Avenue C Bayonne N.J. Dr Harry Feineberg 964 Avenue C bayonne and Dr Emil Greicco 19 West 22nd street Bayonne N.J.