

October 14, 1950

Dr. Robert D. Maddox
Fisher Body Co.
4726 Smith Rd.
Cincinnati 12, Ohio

Re: Mr. [REDACTED] #5341

Dear Dr. Maddox:

I examined the above man at your request on October 10. I found him to be suffering from lead poisoning with colic and anemia and suggested that he be moved from lead exposure.

The patient has worked for Fisher Body for about four months as a grinder in the "booth". He wears a hood with a supplied air line. The side of the hood hangs open, he says. The inside of the hood is clean, and washed daily. He thinks that despite these precautions "lots of metal" gets in his mouth because he can "taste it on my lips". He works about 41 to 42 hours a week. There has been no previous lead exposure; his most recent job was working for Western Electric installing telephone equipment.

The current complaint is of pain "all over the stomach" for the last five days. He cannot get comfortable because of this constant dull ache. He had to quit work three days ago because the muscular effort of grinding made the pain worse. He has not had a complete meal since the onset of the pain because two or three bites of food would make him feel nauseated. There has been no bowel movement for the last three days and he has slept poorly.

He consulted his own physician, Dr. Frank Perry, two days ago. Dr. Perry told him that the difficulty was due to lead poisoning and gave him some oral medication that relieved the pain, and some sleeping pills.

Prior to his present illness he felt fine. His strength is still good and he has no fatigue or shortness of breath. He has steadily lost weight from the 187 pounds he weighed in the Navy several years ago; but this has not affected his feeling of well being. He has had no operations or hospitalizations.

The family history is non-contributory. The patient is single. His habits are irrelevant. The systems history is negative except for gonorrhoea on two occasions the last of which was treated with sulfonamides.

The patient is a well developed man who is not acutely ill and looks considerably older than the stated age of 28 years. The blood pressure in the right arm and in the recumbent position is 100 systolic and 70 diastolic. The pulse is 60 and the respirations are 8 per minute. The temperature is 97.8°. The weight of 158 pounds is 10 pounds under the ideal for the height of 6 feet 1½ inches. The positive physical findings are of a black line on the lingual gum margins, particularly of the upper

and lower molars and the lower central incisors, where the gums are retracted and infected. There is a grade 1 systolic bruit at the left sternal border. There is a varicocele on the left and an external hemorrhoidal tab.

Laboratory studies show a sedimentation rate of 20 millimeters per hour, with a packed cell volume of 28 percent cells. The erythrocyte count is 3,090,000 and the leukocyte count is 5,000 per cubic millimeters of blood. The hemoglobin is 9.5 grams percent. A differential leukocyte count shows 45% polymorphonuclears, 40% lymphocytes, 7% monocytes, 4% eosinophiles, and 4% basophiles. There are 36 stippled erythrocytes per 50 fields, which is about 2,600 per million erythrocytes. The urine specific gravity is 1.025 and the pH is 6.0. The specimen contains no sugar or albumin. Microscopically there are many white blood cells and mucous threads. The blood lead concentration on July 25 was 0.09 mg. percent and on September 1, 0.10 mg. percent according to your report from the Detroit laboratories. Examination of the blood and urine for lead at the Kettering laboratory will be reported to you in about a week.

The patient should respond well to removal of exposure to lead, an antispasmodic and hematinic therapy. Thank you for referring him to me for an opinion.

Sincerely yours,

Henry W. Ryder, M. D.

HWR:SR

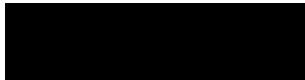
Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.
College of Medicine Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

October 19, 1950

Fisher Body Division,
General Motors Corporation,
Norwood, Ohio.

Attention: Dr. R. D. Maddox

Analysis of Blood and Urine for Lead



\$ 20.00

Analyses performed at the request
of Dr. Henry W. Ryder.